

## **Maes Emlyn Redevelopment: FAQs**

### **What are we doing?**

Maes Emlyn is a former sheltered housing complex in Y Rhyl. The previous residents have all moved out and the site is currently empty. Long term, we plan to consult on and submit planning applications to redevelop the site into houses. Short term, we are proposing to repurpose Maes Emlyn to serve as temporary emergency accommodation for people in Denbighshire who are experiencing homelessness.

### **What do you mean by homeless people?**

People who do not have a permanent, safe, or secure living situation may be considered homeless. People can experience homelessness for a variety of reasons, including:

- Due to an emergency such as a flood or a fire
- Due to a relationship breakdown
- A change in circumstances such as losing a job or becoming unwell meaning they can no longer afford their mortgage or rent
- Mental or physical health problems, including substance misuse

Homelessness can happen to anybody at any time.

### **Why are we doing it?**

- We have large numbers of households in Denbighshire who for various reasons find themselves homeless and we want to be able to provide a good standard of temporary emergency accommodation for them. This will form part of a range of provisions available such as temporary accommodation for those who are rough sleeping and need shelter overnight and specialist supported accommodation for people with specific support needs such as fleeing violence.
- Finding temporary emergency accommodation for people experiencing homelessness can be difficult, and the Council currently relies on local Hotel or Bed

Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg. This document is available in Welsh.

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& Breakfast (B&B) businesses to help us meet this need. This type of accommodation is not suitable for day-to-day living, and temporarily housing people in Hotels or B&Bs reduces the amount of accommodation available for tourism

- We would like to be able to temporarily house people in specialist accommodation with a range of on-site support services that will allow us to safely support them to move into permanent accommodation

## How many homeless people will be accommodated in Maes Emlyn?

There will be 24 units of temporary emergency accommodation provided in Maes Emlyn. Most of these will be for single people or couples with no children.

## How long do you anticipate homeless people living in Maes Emlyn?

Overall, we plan to use the site for around 5 years.

The use of the main building within Maes Emlyn for people experiencing homelessness is intended to be a temporary measure until a tenancy can be found for them. During the time people are provided with temporary emergency accommodation in Maes Emlyn, we will be supporting those individuals to access any support they may need and to provide activities and development opportunities to gain the confidence and skills to secure a permanent home and have the right support to keep their tenancy.

By providing intensive support to individuals temporarily accommodated in Maes Emlyn, we anticipate that they will be able to move into their own tenancy quicker than is currently happening in Bed & Breakfast style accommodation. The aim in Maes Emlyn is to ensure everyone who is accommodated there is supported to engage with the right help and gain the skills to move into a permanent home and keep their tenancy.

Utilising the main building in Maes Emlyn, is intended to be an interim measure of around 5 years to help us provide good quality temporary emergency accommodation for people experiencing homelessness. Maes Emlyn will allow us to reduce our reliance on Bed & Breakfast style accommodation.

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### **Is Maes Emlyn going to be used for people choosing to come and live in Rhyl from outside of the area?**

When someone presents as homeless in Denbighshire, we always establish whether they have a connection to the local area. If they don't then we will support them to return to their local area, unless they are fleeing violence/abuse and need to be kept safe.

Wherever possible we try to accommodate people as close as possible to their local community, so most of the people we support in Rhyl are from the local area.