

Welcome to the Autumn/Winter newsletter

The newsletter contains information that you need to be aware of as a landlord or agent. If you have any news or views that you would like included in future editions please let us know!

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Private Rented Sector Enforcement



Within the Private Sector Housing team both Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) Officers and Landlord Registration Officers have enforcement powers available to them.

The HMO team can issue Suspension of Rent Notices where a property is found to be in HMO use without being licensed and Amenity Notices which can compel landlords to carry out repairs and other work.

The Private Landlord Registration Unit can issue Rent Penalty Notices where a property is found to be privately let and is not registered. These notices can be used where a landlord's registration expires and they fail to renew it. Since July 2017 over 1000 Rent penalty Notices have been issued in respect of expired applications.

Where landlords continue to operate unlicensed or unregistered premises they will be referred for prosecution.

Committee Decisions

Reports on the fit and proper status of landlords have been considered by the licensing and Regulatory Committee since April 2016. The most recent committee hearing in March 2017 examined 11 cases and the outcome was that three cases were withdrawn, four cases were continued and four cases resulted in the landlord's application for registration being refused or removed from the register. The main concerns surrounding these four cases were criminal convictions and property conditions, including fire, electrical and gas safety.

Appeals to Sheriff

A decision from Glasgow Sheriff Court in August 2017 upheld the Licensing committee's decision to remove a landlord from the register. The court considered the matters which the committee had regard to and agreed the decision was appropriate and proportionate.

















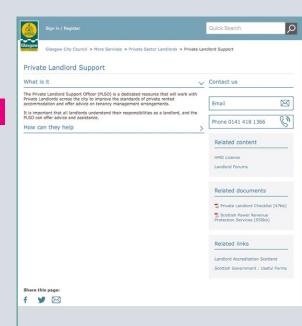
Private Landlord Support Officer



A new resource for Private Landlords and Tenants across the city

The Private Landlord Support Officer (PLSO) has been appointed by Glasgow City Council to work with Private Landlords across the city. This officer works as part of our Private Sector Housing Team which includes the Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) Team and Landlord Registration. The main aims of the PLSO are to help landlords improve the standards of private rented accommodation. All landlords should understand their responsibilities. All private rented properties must meet the tolerable and repairing standard. The PLSO will assist landlords in meeting and maintaining these standards.

For more information visit www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=21518



Landlord Registration



Remember to update your details

It is important to notify us of changes to information contained in your registration including your email address. All correspondence is now issued via email, where we hold this address, including reminders of when to renew your registration.

Find out more about Landlord Registration www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=18272

Renewal of registration - how to do this online

To renew your registration online you should visit www.landlordregistrationscotland.gov.uk

If you experience any difficulty in accessing your account or having difficulty matching your property addresses please contact the landlord registration team at privatelandlordregistrationunit@glasgow.gov.uk or on 0300 343 0414

We will be pleased to help.















Govanhill Acquisition and Repair Programme

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Over 200 properties have now been acquired by Govanhill Housing Association under the acquisition and repair programme which has been jointly funded by the Scottish Government and Glasgow City Council. This has enabled the Association to acquire properties and carry out the necessary repairs in order to bring them up to standard for social renting. The Association has also taken 39 closes into factoring management.

Following the initial two year pilot programme (April 2015 to March 2017) which targeted four tenement blocks bounded by Calder Street/Westmoreland Street/Dixon Avenue/ Annette Street the initiative is now being extended over a four year programme to a wider area in South West Govanhill covering 18 tenemental blocks in total.

The initiative is not just about acquiring and repairing properties – the acquisition programme enables Govanhill HA to increase its ownership and implement more effective management and maintenance arrangements.

The Association's strategy is to acquire more properties and consolidate its ownership in the priority target areas and they are willing to receive expressions of interest from any owner of property within the target area. The key priorities for the Association in the coming year is to acquire flats in closes which it already factors or where it already has ownership, but other properties may be considered at a later stage. If the Association is interested in purchasing a property it will instruct the District Valuer to provide a Market Valuation which can then be discussed with the owner and may also be able to offer tenancies to existing sitting tenants as part of the acquisition process ("subject to circumstances").

If you are interested in selling your property to Govanhill Housing Association then please phone **0141 636 3674** for further information.





















Enhanced Enforcement Area (EEA)



Glasgow City Council secured enforcement powers under Section 28(2) of the Housing Scotland Act 2014 to tackle housing conditions and improve regulation in the private rented sector in the Govanhill area of Glasgow. Following these powers being granted, an Enhanced Enforcement Area was designated to four blocks within South West Govanhill in September 2015.

Glasgow City Council recently applied for a further 14 blocks within the Govanhill area to be designated as an Enhanced Enforcement Area and the request has been approved by the Scottish Government.

The extension of the EEA designation will apply for a minimum period of five years and consists of an additional 14 blocks bounded by Calder Street, Victoria Road, Dixon Avenue and Cathcart Road.

Get more information on what this will mean for landlords here www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=21862



A step-by-step guide to letting out your property



As a landlord how can you be sure that you are meeting your responsibilities?

There is a lot to think about when letting out a property so to assist you a checklist is available on the Glasgow City Council website. Search private landlord support or click this link www.glasgow.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=38809&p=0 for more information.

















Environmental Services Govanhill



Govanhill has a dedicated Neighbourhood Manager.

The Neighbourhood Manager will be working with the local community, officers within Land and Environmental Services and their Partners to address issues affecting the public in Govanhill

The main areas to be addressed are:

- · Keeping the area clear of illegal fly tipping;
- Monitoring the condition of back courts, open spaces.
- Reviewing the impact of pest control interventions.
- Working closely with other agencies to improve the environment.



The Neighbourhood Manager said:

"moving forward I wish to develop a broad awareness of local issues within the neighbourhood and develop a strategic approach to tackle these"

If you notice something in your area that you wish to report please phone the Govanhill Hub on **0141 276 5002**.

















New 'Private Residential Tenancy' comes into force on Friday 1 December 2017

The introduction of the new Private Residential Tenancy means that it will no longer be possible to create an assured or short assured tenancy from 1 December 2017 onwards (existing tenancies that were taken out before 1 December 2017 will continue to operate under their current status).

The Scottish Government has produced the following useful links:

Landlord Information

Private residential tenancies: information for landlords

It is the law that a landlord must give their tenant(s) a written tenancy agreement. The Scottish Government has produced a 'Model Private Residential Tenancy Agreement' to help do this which includes both mandatory clauses and discretionary terms which a landlord may or may not choose to include. A link to the new model tenancy is below.

www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/10/3669

When a landlord uses the 'Model Private Residential Tenancy Agreement' they must also provide their tenant(s) with a copy of the 'Easy Read Notes for the Scottish Government Model Private Residential Tenancy Agreement' which explain all of the different parts of your tenancy agreement. A link to the Easy Read Notes is provided below.

www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/10/3671

A digital version of the Scottish Government Model Private Residential Tenancy Agreement that can be completed online, is also available on the Scottish Government website.

If you have any questions please send them to PRSTenancies@gov.scot. New 'Private Residential Tenancy' comes into force on Friday 1 December 2017.



















Letting Agent Code of Practice and Registration

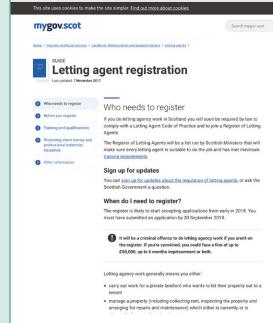


From Wednesday 31 January 2018, letting agency work in Scotland must be delivered in a way that complies with the Letting Agent Code of Practice. The Code sets out the standards of practice that must be met, and includes specific requirements around how clients' money should be handled. It also makes it compulsory for the letting agency to have Client Money Protection and Professional Indemnity Insurance.

Agencies will also be required to undertake training and must also apply to be registered as a letting agent. This registration scheme will be managed by the Scottish Government.



You can get more information at www.mygov.scot/letting-agent-registration/



If you would like to receive this information in your language please contact us on 0141 424 5909.

Ak by ste chceli mať tieto informácie v slovenskom jazyku, prosím kontaktujte nás na telefónnom čísle 0141 424 5909.

Dacă doriți să primiți aceste informații în limba Dumneavoastră, vă rog să sunați la numărul de telefon 0141 424 5909.

آپ کو آپ کی زبان میں اس بار ں میں معلومات حاصل کرنا چانتی نیں تو ، 5909 424 0141 کریں.

Jeśli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać tę informację w swoim języku, prosimy o kontakt pod numerem 0141 424 5909.











