Decision with Statement of Reasons of the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Housing and Property Chamber) under Section 16 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2014

Chamber Ref: FTS/HPC/CV/19/2713

Re: Property at 115 Carrick Road, Lochside, Dumfries, DG2 9PZ ("the Property")

Parties:

Novantie Ltd, Grierson House, The Crichton, Bankend Road, Dumfries, DG1 4ZS ("the Applicant")

Ms Lynne Toner, 115 Carrick Road, Lochside, Dumfries, DG2 9PZ ("the Respondent")

Tribunal Members:

Nairn Young (Legal Member) and Gordon Laurie (Ordinary Member)

Decision

The First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Housing and Property Chamber) ("the Tribunal") determined that

Background

This is an application for an order for payment of rent arrears alleged to be owed by Respondent to the Applicant in terms of her assured tenancy at the Property. It called for a hearing at 2pm on 31 January 2020. The Applicant was represented by two of its employees, Ms Irene Callander and Ms Dorothy Grassom. The Respondent was present in person and was represented by Mr Kevin Weald.

- Findings in Fact
- The hearing followed upon two case management discussions. The earlier of these took place on 19 November 2019 and was attended by the Applicant's representative and the Respondent. The parties agreed the following facts;

- a. Dumfries and Galloway Housing Partnership Ltd is the heritable proprietor of the Property in terms of Land Certificate DMF18836.
- b. The Respondent is tenant of the Property in terms of a short assured tenancy between the Applicant and the Respondent.
- c. The term of the tenancy is from 1 September 2017 to 1 March 2018 and month to month thereafter.
- d. The rent due in terms of the tenancy agreement is £509,16 per calendar month payable in advance. The rent had been increased to £521.38 with effect from 1 August 2019.

In addition, the following facts were established at the hearing:

- h. The Applicant rents the Property from Dumfries and Galloway Housing Partnership Ltd. in terms of a lease dated 5 January 2011 and deed of variation dated 11 January 2011.
- At the date of the hearing the Respondent had rent arrears of £5847.66.
- Preliminary Matters
- 2. In advance of the hearing, the Applicant had made an application to amend its name to 'Novantie Ltd.". The application had been raised in the name of 'Dumfries and Galloway Housing Partnership Ltd.'. The Respondent's landlord is 'Novantie Ltd.'. The Respondent had no objection to this change.
- 3. While this application was presented by the Applicant as an amendment, the Tribunal was of the opinion that it should more properly be dealt with as an application for a party to be substituted in terms of rule 32 of the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland Housing and Property Chamber Rules of Procedure 2017. In terms of that rule, it ordered the substitution of Dumfries and Galloway Housing Partnership Ltd. with Novantie Ltd..
- 4. The Applicant also requested an amendment of the sum sought in the application to £5847.66, being the amount outstanding. The Respondent did not object to this amendment and the Tribunal consented to it.
- Reasons for Decision
- 5. The Respondent owes the Applicant arrears of rent of £5847.66. An order for payment of that sum should therefore be made.
- Decision

Order granted for payment by the Respondent to the Applicant of the sum of £5847.66 (FIVE THOUSAND, EIGHT HUNDRED AND FORTY-SEVEN POUNDS AND SIXTY-SIX PENCE STERLING).

Right of Appeal

In terms of Section 46 of the Tribunal (Scotland) Act 2014, a party aggrieved by the decision of the Tribunal may appeal to the Upper Tribunal for Scotland on a point of law only. Before an appeal can be made to the Upper Tribunal, the party must first seek permission to appeal from the First-tier Tribunal. That party must seek permission to appeal within 30 days of the date the decision was sent to them.

Nairn Young	_S FEBRUARY	2020
Legal Member/Chair	Date	