



Decision with Statement of Reasons of the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Housing and Property Chamber) under Section 51 of the Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Act 2016

Chamber Ref: FTS/HPC/EV/22/4342

Re: Property at 32 McNeill Terrace, Loanhead, EH20 9JU (“the Property”)

Parties:

Mr Michael Gallagher, 7 Kirk Brae, Longridge, Bathgate, EH47 8AH (“the Applicant”)

Ms Julie Gallacher, 32 McNeill Terrace, Loanhead, EH20 9JU (“the Respondent”)

Tribunal Members:

Neil Kinnear (Legal Member) and Elizabeth Williams (Ordinary Member)

Decision

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

Background

This was an application for an eviction order dated 6th December 2022 and brought in terms of Rule 109 (Application for an eviction order) of *The First-tier Tribunal for Scotland Housing and Property Chamber (Procedure) Regulations 2017* as amended.

The Applicant sought an eviction order in relation to the Property against the Respondent, and provided with his application copies of the private residential tenancy agreement, notice to leave and proof of service, section 11 notice and proof of service, and various correspondence and proposed property sale agreements.

All of these documents and forms had been correctly and validly prepared in terms of the provisions of the *Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Act 2016* and the *Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020*, and the procedures set out in those Acts appeared to have been correctly followed and applied.

The Respondent had been validly served by sheriff officers with the notification, application, papers and guidance notes from the Tribunal on 23rd March 2023, and the Tribunal was provided with the execution of service.

Case Management Discussion

A Case Management Discussion was held at 14:00 on 27th April 2023 by Tele-Conference. The Applicant did not participate, but was represented by Mr Bryan, solicitor. The Respondent participated, and was not represented.

The Respondent confirmed that she did not oppose the granting of the order sought, and was in contact with her local authority about obtaining public sector housing.

Mr Bryan explained that due to a change in the Applicant's personal circumstances involving his health, which Mr Bryan explained to the Tribunal in more detail, and the fact that he was now retired, the Applicant was withdrawing from the rental market and selling the Property.

Statement of Reasons

In terms of Section 51 of the *Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Act 2016* ("the Act") as amended by the *Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020*, the Tribunal is to issue an eviction order against the tenant under a private residential tenancy if, on an application by the landlord, it finds that one of the eviction grounds named in schedule 3 applies.

Para 1 of Schedule 3 to the Act provides that it is an eviction ground that the landlord intends to sell the let property. The Tribunal may find that this ground applies if the landlord (1) is entitled to sell the let property, (2) intends to sell it for market value, or at least put it up for sale, within 3 months of the tenant ceasing to occupy it, and (3) the Tribunal is satisfied that it is reasonable to issue an eviction order on account of those facts.

The Tribunal was satisfied that ground 1 had been established. The landlord was entitled to sell the Property, and intended to sell it.

The Tribunal was satisfied that it was reasonable to issue an eviction order. The Respondent did not oppose the order sought.

Decision

In these circumstances, the Tribunal made an eviction order against the Respondent in this application.

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.

N Kinnear

27th April 2023

Legal Member/Chair

Date