

DECISION AND STATEMENT OF REASONS OF PETRA HENNIG MCFATRIDGE LEGAL MEMBER OF THE FIRST-TIER TRIBUNAL WITH DELEGATED POWERS OF THE CHAMBER PRESIDENT

Under Rule 8 of the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland Housing and Property Chamber Rules of Procedure 2017 ("the Procedural Rules")

in connection with

Case reference FTS/HPC/EV/25/0472

Parties

Miss Fiona Ballantyne (Applicant)

27 Cotburn Crescent, Burntisland, Fife, KY3 9JD (House)

- 1. On 3.2.25 the First Tier Tribunal for Scotland Housing and Property Chamber (FTT) received the application, which was made under rule 109, which relates to tenancies under the Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Act 2016 (the 2016 Act) and stated as the ground applicable ground 1. The attachments to the application were a one page document described by the applicant as "signed notice to quit" and a home report.
- 2. The file documents are referred to for their terms and held to be incorporated herein.

DECISION

3. I considered the application in terms of Rule 8 of the Procedural Rules. That Rule provides:-

- 8.—(1) The Chamber President or another member of the First-tier Tribunal under the delegated powers of the Chamber President, must reject an application if –
- (a) they consider that the application is frivolous or vexatious;
- (b) the dispute to which the application relates has been resolved;
- (c) they have good reason to believe that it would not be appropriate to accept the application;
- (d) they consider that the application is being made for a purpose other than a purpose specified in the application; or
- (e) the applicant has previously made an identical or substantially similar application and in the opinion of the Chamber President or another member of the First-tier Tribunal, under the delegated powers of the Chamber President, there has been no significant change in any material considerations since the identical or substantially similar application was determined.
- (2) Where the Chamber President, or another member of the First-tier Tribunal, under the delegated powers of the Chamber President, makes a decision under paragraph (1) to reject an application the First-tier Tribunal must notify the applicant and the notification must state the reason for the decision."
- 4. After consideration of the application, the attachments and correspondence from the Applicant, I consider that the application should be rejected in terms of Rule 8 (c) of the Rules of Procedure on the basis as the Tribunal has good reason to believe that it would not be appropriate to accept the application.

REASONS FOR DECISION

- 1. The lodging requirements for an application under rule 109 (b) include the requirement to lodge (i) evidence that the ground or grounds has been met, (ii) a copy of the notice to leave given to the tenant as required under section 52(3) of the 2016 Act, (iii) a copy of the notice given to the local authority under S 11 of the Homelessness (Scotland) Act 2003 as required in s 56 of the 2016 Act
- 2. The applicant has not provided a S 11 notice to the local authority as required in rule 109 (b) (iii).

- 3. The applicant has not provided a valid Notice to Leave as required in rule 109 (b) (ii). The Tribunal interprets this requirement as referring to a document that on the face of it may be a valid Notice to Leave. The requirements for a Notice to Leave are set out in s 62 of the 2016 Act (1)References in this Part to a notice to leave are to a notice which—

 (a)is in writing,
 - (b) specifies the day on which the landlord under the tenancy in question expects to become entitled to make an application for an eviction order to the First-tier Tribunal,
 - (c)states the eviction ground, or grounds, on the basis of which the landlord proposes to seek an eviction order in the event that the tenant does not vacate the let property before the end of the day specified in accordance with paragraph (b), and
 - (d)fulfils any other requirements prescribed by the Scottish Ministers in regulations.
- 4. The relevant regulations are the Private Residential Tenancies (Prescribed Notices and Forms) (Scotland) Regulations 2017,which state that in terms of regulation 6 a Notice to Leave has to be in the format of schedule 5 of said regulations. Schedule 5 prescribes that certain information has to be included with the Notice to Leave such as how to obtain advice, who to speak to about homelessness and the precise calculation of the notice period in part 4 of the Notice to Leave prescribed form. The document lodged by the applicant as the "signed notice to quit" does not provide all that information and is not in the prescribed format. It is thus not a Notice to Leave as defined in S 62 of the 2016 Act.
- 5. It would not be appropriate for the Tribunal to accept an application which is incomplete and does not meet the lodging requirements in terms of rule 109 of the Procedure Rules and the requirements for a valid application stated in the 2016 Act as set out above.
- 6. For the avoidance of doubt, this decision does not prevent the Applicant lodging a fresh application once all the necessary documentation is available.

What you should do now

If you accept the Legal Member's decision, there is no need to reply. If you disagree with this decision:-

An applicant aggrieved by the decision of the Chamber President, or any Legal Member acting under delegated powers, 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. Information about the appeal procedure can be forwarded to you on request.

Petra Hennig McFatridge

Petra Hennig McFatridge Legal Member 4 March 2025