Housing and Property Chamber First-tier Tribunal for Scotland



Decision with Statement of Reasons of the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Housing and Property Chamber) under Section 51(1) of the Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Act 2016 (hereinafter referred to as "the 2016 Act") for an Eviction Order.

Chamber Ref: FTS/HPC/EV/20/1716

Re: Property at 10 Balmoral View, Rattray, Blairgowrie, PH10 7BB ("the Property")

Parties:

Mr Stephen Cardwell, c/o Foxbridge Way, Normanton Industrial Estate, Normanton, Wakefield, WF6 1TN ("the Applicant")

Mr David Coral, 10 Balmoral View, Rattray, Blairgowrie, PH10 7BB ("the Respondent")

Tribunal Members:

Karen Kirk (Legal Member)

This Hearing was a Case Management Discussion fixed in terms of Rule 17 of the Procedure Rules and concerned an Application under Section 51(1) of the Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Act 2016 (hereinafter referred to as "the 2016 Act") for an Eviction Order. The purpose of the Hearing being to explore how the parties dispute may be efficiently resolved. The purpose of the hearing was explained and it was understood a final decision on the Application could also be made.

Attendance and Representation

The Applicant was represented by Ms Vicky Carver, A7R Robertson & Black, Whitehall chambers, 7 Bank Street, Blairgowrie, PH10 6DE.

The Respondent did not attend the Tribunal and no written representations had been received. Service of the Application had been affected appropriately by Sheriff Officer.

Preliminary Matters

There were no preliminary matters.

Decision (in absence)

The First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Housing and Property Chamber) ("the Tribunal") granted an Eviction Order against the Respondent under section 51(1) of the Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Act 2016.

Matters Arising

The Tribunal confirmed with the Applicant's representation that no contact had been made by the Respondent to them in respect of the Application. She confirmed that no payments had been received to rent since September 2019 and further they had been unable to gain access for a gas safety inspection.

The Applicant's representative made oral submissions in support of seeking grant of an order under section 51(1) of the 2016 on the grounds of rent arrears. It was noted the relevant notice in terms of Section 50 (1)(a) of the 2016 had been sent. The relevant notice to the Local Authority had been made with reference to same in the Application. No payments under the tenancy had been made since Sept 2019. There had been no contact with the Respondent for some time either to the Applicant or his representatives. As at date of the hearing rent due was more than £5000 and no payments of rent had been made since Sept 2019.

Reasons for Decision and Findings in Fact

- 1. The Tribunal was satisfied that a decision could be made at the Case Management Discussion and that to do so would not be contrary to the interests of the parties having regard to the Overriding objective. The Respondent had received notification of the proceedings by Sheriff Officer and had not challenged same by written representations or attendance.
- 2. The Applicant sought an Order for Eviction on the grounds of rent arrears.
- 3. The Tribunal was satisfied that the Applicant was the heritable proprietor of the Property as a copy title was lodged with the Application.
- 4. The Tribunal was satisfied on balance that the Respondent was in terms of Schedule 3, Part 3 Ground 12 of the 2016 Act at the beginning of the day the Tribunal first considered the application for an Eviction Order on its merits in arrears of rent by an amount equal to or greater than the amount which would be payable as one month's rents under the tenancy on that day and has been in arrears of any amount for a continuous period of up to 3 or more consecutive months.

- 5. Further the Tribunal was satisfied on a balance of probabilities that the said arrears are not wholly or partly due to delay or failure of payment of the relevant benefit.
- 6. The Tribunal found that the requirements of Ground 12 of Schedule 3 to the Act had been met.
- 7. Further the Tribunal was satisfied that in terms of Section 52 of the 2016 Act a valid Notice to Leave had been given to the Respondent by valid means and the Application had been raised after the correct notice period.
- 8. The Tribunal noted the Local Authority under the 2016 had been notified.
- 9. Accordingly, in terms of Section 51 of the 2016 Act the Tribunal granted an Eviction order against the Respondents.

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.

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14 October 2020

Legal Member/Chair

Date