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/19/1032

Re: Property at 59 Westbank Road, Macmerry, East Lothain, EH33 1PL ("the Property")

#### Parties:

Lar Housing Trust, 15 Petreavie Court, Pitreavie Business Park, Dunfermline, KY11 8UU ("the Applicant")

Mr Craig Fisher, Ms Lisa Wright, 59 Westbank Road, Macmerry, East Lothain, EH33 1LP ("the Respondent")

**Tribunal Member:** 

Maurice O'Carroll (Legal Member)

Decision (in the absence of the Respondents)

The First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Housing and Property Chamber) ("the Tribunal") determined that an Order requiring payment of the sum of £3,441.45 by the Respondents to the Applicant will be granted

## Background

- 1. By application dated 1 April 2019, the Applicant sought an Order for payment in respect of rent arrears in the sum of £1500. By application dated 29 May 2019, the Applicant sought to amend the terms of the originating application in order to update the amount sought to take account of further arrears.
- 2. The application to amend was served on the Respondents by first class post on 29 May 2019 and also by means of Recorded Delivery post. The Recorded Delivery intimation was signed for on 30 May 2019. The period of notice required by rule 14A of the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland Housing and Property Chamber (Procedure) Regulations 2017 ("the rules") was provided to the Respondents. Accordingly, the Tribunal allowed the amendment.

# The hearing

- 3. A Case Management Discussion ("CMD") was held on 13 June 2019 at George House, George Street, Edinburgh at 2pm. Ms Nicola Caldwell of Messrs TC Young solicitors appeared on behalf of the Applicant. There was no appearance by either of Respondents or anyone on their behalf.
- 4. The Tribunal had sight of the Sheriff Officer executions of service informing the Respondents of the date and time of the CMD and also advising them that any decision that could be made at a full hearing could also be made at the CMD. In the exercise of its discretion in the circumstances, the Tribunal decided to proceed with the hearing at the CMD.
- 5. At the CMD, Ms Caldwell outlined the circumstances giving rise to the application.

## Findings in fact

- 6. The Applicant is the heritable proprietor of the Property.
- 7. A short assured tenancy was entered into between the Applicant and Respondents on 19 May 2017 and has continued by means of tacit relocation since the expiry of the initial term.
- 8. The rent payable at the start of the tenancy was £750 per calendar month. In May 2019, the rent was increased to £762 per calendar month.
- 9. A rent statement was provided showing the extent of unpaid rent as at the date of the CMD. As noted above, the sum originally sought was £1500. By the date of service of Notice of Proceedings that sum had increased to £2,679.45 By time of the CMD the sum outstanding had increased to £3,441.45
- 10. The Tribunal accepts that final statement as spoken to by the Applicant's solicitor as being accurate and that therefore the sum sought is due and owing.
- 11. The Tribunal is further satisfied that all procedural requirements in terms of the 2014 Act and the rules have been satisfied by the Applicant.

#### **Decision**

12. In light of the above findings in fact, the Tribunal has determined that an Order for the sum sought will be granted.

### 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.

M.O'Carroll		
Legal Member/Chair	13 June 2019 <b>Date</b>	