



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/20/0511

Re: Property at Flat 1, 16 Dunkeld Road, Perth, PH1 5RW (“the Property”)

Parties:

Mr Steven Stewart, Chas Stewart Plumbing Ltd, 16 Dunkeld Road, Perth, PH1 5RW (“the Applicant”)

Mr Jack Botham, Flat 1, 16 Dunkeld Road, Perth, PH1 5RW (“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. The Hearing took place by teleconference due to the covid-19 pandemic.

Attendance and Representation

The Applicant was present and unrepresented.

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 on 29th July 2020.

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 what knowledge if any they had of the Respondent having any entitlement to any relevant benefit. It was confirmed that to the Applicant’s knowledge there had been no entitlement to any relevant benefit and that the Respondent he believed was working.

The Applicant 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 Notice to Leave was validly served on 7th January 2020. As at that date the rent arrears were around £2240. The relevant notice to the Local Authority had been made with reference to same in the Application. Significant rent arrears since commencement of the tenancy in June 2019 have accrued. The Respondent has made one payment in June 2019 of £700 and no payments since then. The monthly contractual amount due by the Respondent to the Applicant in terms of the tenancy is £420. As at date of the hearing rent due was £5600 and no payments of rent had been made since June 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 on 29th July 2020 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 had a valid Private Residential Tenancy with the Respondent.**
- 4. The Tribunal was satisfied 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 and on the evidence before it 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 Respondent.

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.

Karen Kirk

19th August 2020

Legal Member/Chair

Date