



Decision with Statement of Reasons of Alan Strain, Legal Member of the First-tier Tribunal with delegated powers of the Chamber President of the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Housing and Property Chamber)

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

Chamber Ref: FTS/HPC/CV/22/2922

Re: Flat 2/1 1 MacKinlay Street, Rothsay, Isle of Bute, PA20 0AY (Property)

Parties

Mr John Laird (Applicant)

Ms Lorna Barr (Respondent)

Whyte Fraser & Co (Applicant's Representative)

Tribunal Member:

Alan Strain (Legal Member)

Decision

The First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Housing and Property Chamber) ("the Tribunal") determined that the application should be dismissed on the basis that it is frivolous within the meaning of Rule 8(1)(a) of the Procedural Rules and that it would not be appropriate to accept the application in terms of Rule 8(1)(c).

Background

1. The application was received by the Tribunal under Rule 111 on 10 August 2022.
2. The application was considered by the Tribunal and further information was requested by letters of 1 November 2022, 12 December 2022 and 11 January 2023 as follows:

“Before a decision can be made, we need you to provide us with the following: 1. Please provide a copy of the whole tenancy agreement. 2. You have indicated that the CV case is to relate to rent arrears only. Please provide an amended application form, with the reference to utility costs removed. 3. Please provide a rent statement which does not include the utility costs.”

The letters of 12 December 2022 and 11 January 2023 were reminders. No response was received to any of the requests for information.

Reasons for Decision

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

"Rejection of application

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;·
(c) they have good reason to believe that it would not be appropriate to accept the application;

(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. 'Frivolous' in the context of legal proceedings is defined by Lord Justice Bingham in ***R v North West Suffolk (Mildenhall) Magistrates Court, (1998) Env. L.R. 9***. At page 16, he states: - *"What the expression means in this context is, in my view, that the court considers the application to be futile, misconceived, hopeless or academic"*.

5. Rule 111 of the Tribunal Procedure Rules provides:

111. Where a person makes any other application to the First-tier Tribunal by virtue of section 71(1) (First-tier Tribunal's jurisdiction) of the 2016 Act, the application must—

(a) state—

- (i) the name and address of the person;
- (ii) the name and address of any other party; and
- (iii) the reason for making the application;

(b) be accompanied by—

- (i) evidence to support the application; and
- (ii) a copy of any relevant document; and

(c)be signed and dated by the person.

The Applicant has failed to provide necessary information. The Tribunal could not grant the order sought.

6. Applying the test identified by Lord Justice Bingham in the case of ***R v North West Suffolk (Mildenhall) Magistrates Court*** (cited above) the application is frivolous, misconceived and has no prospect of success. Furthermore, the Tribunal consider that there is good reason why the application should not be accepted. The application is accordingly rejected.

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.



15 February 2023

Legal Member/Chair

Date