

We're here to help you with your housing and homelessness training, advice and information needs.

December 2019 eBulletin

Service Updates

NHAS & HMPPS Joint Learning Event

NHAS and HMPPS held a joint learning event in November 'Offender Homelessness: A Learning Workshop for Offender Management Practitioners'. Presentations of the day can be found on the portal pages of the NHAS [website](#) under NHAS Roadshow Resources. You can also read the 5 Things We Learned at the Offender Homelessness Learning Workshop blog [here](#).

Training

Most popular NHAS scheduled course now open to local authority attendees

As highlighted last month all NHAS courses, briefings and webinars taking place after 1 January are open to all our audiences. This includes our most popular 'Housing Foundation' course, attended by over 1,300 delegates this year.

Housing Foundation is a two-day introductory course for trainee advisers and others who want to develop their housing knowledge. Day one focuses on housing status, possession orders, proceedings and evictions. Day two looks at homelessness and housing options. Delegates can book on one, or both, days.

Go to <https://www.nhas.org.uk/training> to view available dates and book your place.

Free training for groups of staff

All NHAS courses can be delivered free to groups of 8-16 staff at a time and location to suit you. If your organisation doesn't have enough delegates, you could invite staff from local organisations to join you. If you want to do this, please agree a couple of possible training dates with your partner organisations and guarantee at least eight delegates before submitting an enquiry to nhas@shelter.org.uk

January webinars

We have over a dozen topics on our January webinar programme, now open to all audiences, including:

Advice on Tenancy Deposits – 14 January 2.30-3.45pm

Vulnerability – 15 January 10.30-11.45am / 2.30-3.45pm

Suspending a Warrant – 21 January 2.30-4.00pm

Under Occupancy Rules – 27 January 2.30-3.45pm

Assured Shorthold Tenancies: S21 Notices – 31 January 2.30-4.00pm

Login to the training portal at www.nhas.org.uk/training, go to course search and pick 'web' as the course type for a full list of available webinar titles.

Resources

Updated Factsheets

- Advice Guide: [Are you worried about your mortgage?](#)
- Factsheet: [Applying as homeless: people from abroad](#)
- Factsheet: [Habitual residence test](#)
- Factsheet: [Does your landlord need a court order?](#)

Cobranded Factsheets

- [Finding a safe place to live](#) in partnership with [Surviving Economic Abuse](#)
- [Homelessness factsheet](#) in partnership with [National Debtline](#) and [Citizens Advice](#)
- [Mortgage Arrears factsheet](#) in partnership with [National Debtline](#) and [Citizens Advice](#)

Coventry Frontline Network

Zoë Titchener, Frontline Network Co-ordinator, Coventry Citizens Advice spoke to NHAS about the St Martin's Frontline Network which aims to build relationships, share best practice, develop solutions, and communicate the experience and views of frontline workers. Read the full article by Zoë [here](#).



Focus On: Consultancy Line

We have now extended webchat availability with longer opening hours and more advisors, to use webchat go to our [website](#).

[NHAS Webchat Case Study: Establishing Security of Tenure](#)

This case study looks at how the team helped a local authority establish the security of tenure in the context of a client applying for homelessness assistance.

[Under 25 Care Leavers & The Shared Accommodation Rate](#)

The Shared Accommodation Rate of Local Housing Allowance (LHA) reduces the amount of Housing Benefit or Housing Costs Element of Universal Credit a single person under the age of 35 can claim for a private rented property. Read the full article [here](#).

[Universal Credit and Third-Party Deductions](#)

Third party deductions are by no means a new concept to our benefits system. They have been around since the 1970s. they were originally introduced to reduce the risk of fuel supply disconnections. Read the full article [here](#).

[The Localism Act, SWEP & Local Authorities](#)

Many rough sleepers may turn to the council for help over the next few months. Housing officers faced with difficult conversations may be grateful for a reminder about the s.1 Localism Act 2011, which gives local authorities a general power to accommodate. Read the full article [here](#).

How to Contact the Consultancy Line:

0300 330 0517 or webchat www.nhas.org.uk

You can call, or webchat, between 9am and 6pm from Monday to Friday for specialist advice related to housing, housing debt and welfare benefits.

Housing Matters



Issue 133 December 2019

What's new?	1
Feature Getting triage right	2
Article Charging orders and different types of ownership	6
Case brief Breaking starter ASTs - Livewest Homes Ltd v Bamber	8
Factsheet Does your landlord need a court order?	10



Specialist support
on housing advice

[Download issue 133](#)

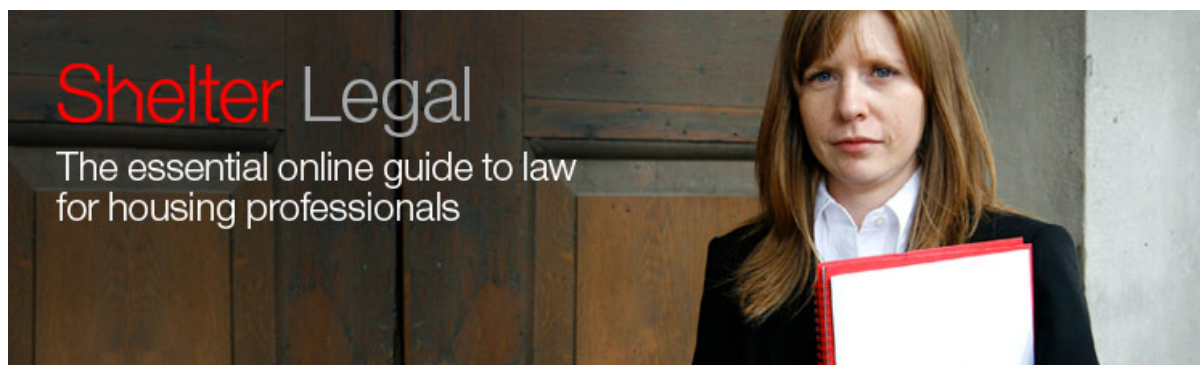
In this issue:

- The 'What's new' page brings you up to date with various items of news related to housing and homelessness, including [new case law](#) and ongoing government consultations.
- Nicola McEwen walks us through a triage form for tenants in rent arrears to explain the importance of effectively triaging clients for legal casework by finding out as much as possible about their circumstances as soon as possible.
- Alexa Walker considers the effects of charging orders on different kinds of property ownership.
- Anna Socci explains the outcome of the Livewest Homes Ltd v Bamber case – a significant Court of Appeal decision on termination of fixed-term assured shorthold tenancies (ASTs) granted by social landlords in England.

News, Updates and Statistics

- MHCLG: [Count of Traveller Caravans, July 2019 England](#)
- Office for National Statistics Disability and Housing UK 2019: [Housing outcomes](#) for disabled adults, with analysis by age, sex, impairment type and country using Annual Population Survey (APS) data.
- Home Aloners: [The true cost of living alone in Britain today](#). Community Led Homes is launching 'More Than Housing', a campaign to support communities to make supportive, affordable, secure homes, together.

Shelter Legal

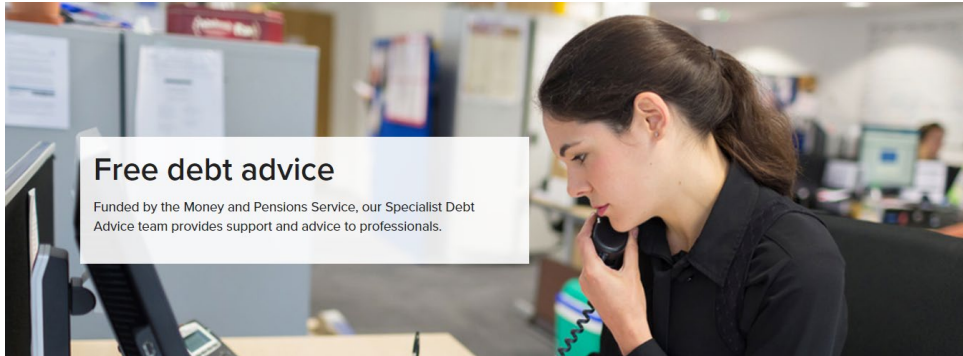


What's New

- [Self-employed persons](#)

- [Right of first refusal: leaseholders of flats](#)
 - [Violence from any person](#)
 - [Wales: final duty](#)
 - [Eligibility for support](#)
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Specialist Debt Advice



Our specialist service provides free, expert guidance to free advice agencies in England & Wales. We can support you with any client debt cases. This includes:

- comprehensive referencing for complex cases
- clarification on new laws
- answers to technical queries
- a second opinion

[Web enquiries](#) can be made 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Our telephone service is open 9am – 5pm Monday to Friday. Call us now on 03300 580 404.

Find us at www.shelter.org.uk/debtadvice

Thank you for reading,
The team at NHAS

Who we are

We're here to help you with your housing and homelessness training, advice and information needs. Working together with the aim of preventing homelessness, we give expert advice, training and support to those working at the frontline

Call us on 0300 330 0517 or use the webchat option on our website if you need support with housing, housing debt & welfare benefit enquiries. Our trainers deliver training courses across the whole of England and our website holds a wealth of information, including past eBulletins, factsheets and guides to assist you with your housing and homelessness queries. You can find out more here: www.nhas.org.uk

You are on the NHAS mailing list

If you'd like to be added to or removed from our distribution list, or have problems accessing any of the materials in the bulletin, please email nhas@shelter.org.uk

Please remember to add nhas@shelter.org.uk to your email address book to ensure that our emails are not placed in your junk mailbox.

NHAS is funded by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. We support the prevention of homelessness by enabling frontline providers to deliver good quality housing and homelessness advice.