

We're here to help you with your housing
and homelessness queries.

July 2019 eBulletin



Announcing the NHAS Autumn Roadshow 2019

Our roadshow dates are now confirmed. In September and October, we'll be at the below locations. More news to follow, including a line up of expert speakers and workshops around the most recent housing legislation, so stay tuned and save the date!

Liverpool
17th September 2019

Newcastle
24th September 2019

London
3rd October 2019



FREE EVENT

LEGAL UPDATE

WORKSHOPS FROM
LOCAL AUTHORITIES
& NHAS

EXPERT PANEL

NETWORKING
LUNCH

NATIONAL
HOMELESSNESS
ADVICE SERVICE

WWW.NHAS.ORG.UK

Service updates

Information

Updates July 2019

Homelessness Reduction Act 2017: summary of main duties [HRA Flowchart](#)

Fact sheets updated July 2019

- [Prisoners: keeping your home](#)
- [Prisoners: housing on release](#)

July blog: [Homes \(Fitness for Human Habitation\) Act 2018 \(or The Homes Act for short\)](#)
by Beki Heaton, NHAS consultancy line adviser

Training

Coming soon – scheduled courses for Local Authorities!

Currently, local authority training is delivered entirely as inhouse training, however we're going to introduce a programme of scheduled courses in quarter 3.

The scheduled courses will complement the in-house training offer, and the intention is that this will allow your housing options teams to book small numbers of staff on to a scheduled course.

We're in the process of finalising the schedule, and will post more information in our next bulletin.

If you have any questions in the meantime, email nhas@shelter.org.uk

Go to www.nhas.org.uk/training for more information about the courses and when you can request training to be delivered in-house. Log in and go to the training calendar to book a place online and to see if there is anything else available for you to book on to.

Bitesize

All of our NHAS Bitesize packages have been updated and refreshed. You can book yourself on to the bitesize through our training booking system Accessplanit. The bitesize packages are designed to be completed in your own time, but generally take around 30 minutes. Log in to the website, and go to [Training / bitesize](#) to find out more

[September 2019 webinars](#)

Consultancy Line

Welfare Benefits and Housing Debt Team

Did you know that on the NHAS consultancy line we have a Welfare Benefits and Housing Debt team? We can give telephone advice on Housing Benefit and Universal Credit Housing Costs.

We can also provide advice on the following:

- Universal Credit - basic checks on eligibility and entitlement
- Possession action by social landlord for rent arrears
- Possession action due to mortgage arrears
- Possession action due to arrears on a loan secured on the property
- Possession action due to bankruptcy - although not on bankruptcy itself

[Welfare Benefits and Housing Debt Team case study](#)

How to contact us 0300 330 0517 or webchat www.nhas.org.uk you can call between 9am and 6pm from Monday to Friday for specialist advice related to housing, housing debt and welfare benefits



Focus on: Veterans

[Exploring the Experiences of Partners of Veterans with Mental health Difficulties Attending a Group Psychoeducation Support Intervention: A Qualitative Study](#)

[Researchers say benefits sanctions should not be imposed on veterans](#)

[Research funded to understand why ex-Service personnel commit serious](#)

News, updates and statist

- Secretary of State James Brokenshire made a [written statement](#), setting out updates to the government's plans to deliver 300,000 homes a year. This includes £2.85m for 19 new garden villages and publishing the response to their technical consultation on reforming the leasehold system.
- [Statutory Homelessness in England](#) This briefing paper provides statistics on statutory homelessness in England and explains local authorities' duties to assist homeless households.
- [Help to Buy: Equity Loan scheme – progress review](#) The Help to Buy: Equity Loan scheme (the scheme) aims to support the delivery of the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government's (the Department's) strategic objective to "deliver the homes the country needs", through increasing home ownership and increasing housing supply. It is the Department's largest housing initiative by value
- [Decent and accessible homes for older people](#) All-Party Parliamentary Group for Ageing and Older People report
- **More than 4,000 women with mental health problems to benefit from peer support** The projects will particularly benefit women experiencing multiple disadvantage – for example those experiencing mental health problems, homelessness, drug and alcohol misuse, abuse and violence, family breakdown, offending or a combination of these
- **Benefits or barriers?** Making social security work for survivors of violence and abuse across the UK's four nations
- [Individuals to be protected from 'devastating impact' of problem debt](#) A new Breathing Space scheme will protect individuals with problem debt, with those in mental health crisis to get further protections while they receive treatment.

FCA partner PPI deadline reminder campaign - [sharing information and guidance with your audiences](#) guidance and information to help people understand PPI, including how they can check if they had PPI and how to claim back money. The FCA are particularly keen to remind people that complaining is free to do and they can do it themselves.

Username: partner
Password: aN2FhPEV

- Knowyourmoney.co.uk has published a new for 2019 comprehensive guide to **bank accounts for prisoners**. [You can find the guide here](#)
- [Prison Release Protocol Guidance research report](#)

[Shelter Legal](#)

What's new

- [Civil/criminal courts and tribunals](#)
 - [Duty of public authority to refer](#)
 - [Support for mortgage interest](#)
 - [Right to reside](#)
 - [Allocation of PRPSH properties](#)
 - [Sale and rent back schemes](#)
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Consultations

The MHCLG have launched a [consultation into tenancy deposit reform](#). They are looking for evidence on the challenges faced by tenants affording a new deposit when moving, exploring innovative approaches to address this deposit affordability problem, and looking at wider improvements to the way the deposit protection process works

[Redress for purchasers of new build homes and the New Homes](#) MHCLG are seeking views on delivering a New Homes Ombudsman for buyers of new build homes. This consultation closes at 11:45pm on 22 August 2019

Thank you for reading,

The team at NHAS

Who we are

We are here to help local authorities, local citizens advice, public authorities and advice agencies with their housing and homelessness queries. Working together with the aim of preventing homelessness, we give expert advice, training and support to those working at the frontline

Our telephone consultancy service is open 9am – 6pm Monday to Friday, 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.