



Preventing homelessness and improving housing through expert advice, training and support to those working at the frontline

Here to help local authorities and advice agencies on 0300 330 0517



[Consultancy Line](#)



[Housing Debt Casework](#)



[Training](#)

Thank you to all who attended our Autumn Housing Symposia. The information is now on the website, [log in to access the symposium presentations](#), click on the link 'Homelessness prevention and good practice' in the welcome portal. Watch this space for future Housing Symposia in Spring 2018.

Homelessness Reduction Act

- [Government actions a further step in homeless prevention](#). New guidance to make sure local authorities intervene earlier to help prevent families and individuals becoming homeless in the first place.
- [Consultation on the draft homelessness code of guidance document from government to local authorities](#) This consultation closes at 5pm on 11 December 2017
- [Information on the new burdens funding](#) local authorities have been allocated to implement the Homelessness Reduction Act
- Homelessness Reduction Act 2017: we'd like your [examples of personalised housing plans](#)
- Our Q3 dates for the Introduction to the Homelessness Reduction Act webinar are filling up quickly, [log in to view the calendar](#) and book your place

Stats/Updates/etc

- [Households in temporary accommodation – England](#) - House of Commons Library has published a briefing paper providing background information on the increase in the number of homeless households placed in temporary accommodation by English local authorities and outlines various initiatives and issues associated with this increased use of temporary accommodation
- [Forces Help to Buy Scheme](#) - The Ministry of Defence has published latest statistics for the Forces Help to Buy scheme for September 2017
- [Safety of residential tower blocks – letter to building owners](#) - DCLG have published a letter sent by Tamara Finkelstein, Director General, Building Safety Programme, to private residential building owners requesting information about their buildings
- [Universal credit statistics](#) - Department for Work and Pensions has published statistics relating to universal credit to 14 September 2017. The number of people on universal credit as of 14 September 2017 was 610,000. Of these 230,000 (37 per cent) were in employment.

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In this edition:

- Article: Understanding residential leases
- Article: Surrendering a tenancy
- Case brief: Trindade v Hackney
- Feature: London Youth Gateway
- Factsheet: Introductory council tenancies

Other useful items include an update on understanding residential leases and London Youth Gateway

[Recent homelessness and allocation cases](#), and cases from other areas of law which may have significance for homelessness decisions.

Recently published

- [Councils reminded of their duty to homeless families following Ombudsman investigation](#)
- [HB Bulletin G10/2017](#) - Department for Work and Pensions published its latest HB bulletin, including coverage of HB decisions by the Upper Tribunal and new legislation.
- [Financial Lives survey 2017](#) - the Financial Conduct Authority's setting out selected findings from their first large-scale tracking survey of UK consumers and finance in the UK.

[Private rented sector and universal credit](#)

The National Landlords Association stated that research by the association showed that only two in ten landlords say they are willing to let to tenants in receipt of housing benefit or universal credit. This is said to be down from 34 per cent at the start of 2013. For more details

Consultations

- [Affordable homes](#) - DCLG have launched a consultation on improving the existing home buying and selling process in order to make it cheaper, faster and less stressful. Closes on **9 November 2017**
 - [Improving the home buying and selling process: call for evidence](#) - DCLG is seeking views and suggestions for improvement from anyone who has an interest in the process. Responses to this call for evidence will help the government to formulate its future work programme of improvements. Closes on **17 December 2017**.
 - [Proposed reduction in frequency of the Forces Help to Buy Official Statistic](#) - DCLG are seeking external users' views on reducing the frequency of the of the Forces Help to Buy Official Statistic. **Closes on 16 November 2017**
 - [Protecting consumers in the letting and managing agent market: call for evidence](#) - seeks views on the regulation of letting and managing agents and the approaches government could take to implement any such regulation. **Closes on 29 November 2017**.
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NHAS updates

NHAS training

[Log in](#) to view the latest webinar topics and dates including our new **Introduction to the Homelessness Reduction Act webinar**.



Webchat Facility

Access to housing consultancy via Webchat is a popular way for members to get free advice. Chat to a housing professional by going to www.nhas.org.uk and clicking on the 'live chat' button.

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.

Regards,
The NHAS Team
www.nhas.org.uk

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