



Cornwall Responsible Landlord Scheme Agents Guide

Benefits of the scheme?

- The first time a Rental Standard outlining what privately rented accommodation should offer has been created for Cornwall.
- On-line resource featuring the latest information and guidance
- Driving up the quality of private rented property by setting a standard
- Provides help to reach the new Cornwall Rental Standard
- Providing Agents with the right information to make the right choices and give the right information
- Access to the advice of the Council's Private Sector Housing Team

What does it cost?

Free Membership

Need more help?

For more information, advice and details on on how to join the scheme please contact:

Telephone: 01209 615629

Email: rlsc@cornwall.gov.uk

This scheme is being administered on behalf of the partnership by Private Sector Housing, Housing Service, Cornwall Council.

If you want help or advice on how to produce information in alternative formats or interpreter services please phone **01872 322594** or email equality@cornwall.gov.uk.

If you would like this information in another format please contact:

Cornwall Council
County Hall
Treyew Road
Truro TR1 3AY

Telephone: **0300 1234 100**

Email: enquiries@cornwall.gov.uk

www.cornwall.gov.uk



What is the Cornwall Responsible Landlord Scheme?

The scheme is a voluntary registration scheme for landlords and lettings agents operating in the private rented sector in Cornwall. The scheme is designed to support private landlords and lettings agents and promotes high standards.

Why does the scheme exist?

Cornwall has a high percentage of non-decent rented homes so this scheme has been devised to work in partnership with landlords and lettings agents to help them make privately rented homes in Cornwall meet minimum requirements on a voluntary basis.

How will the scheme raise standards?

The scheme introduces a rental standard for the private rented sector. The 'Cornwall Rental Standard' generally reflects the minimum threshold the Council will accept to demonstrate legal compliance. Agents who manage properties falling well short of the standard or choose to ignore it altogether will be more likely subject to enforcement action.

What are the incentives?

- Scheme members are able to distance themselves from rogue landlords or agents.
- Celebrates quality, safe and compliant private rented property.
- Helps to raise the standard of poor private rented property.
- Cornwall Council and Lettings Agent Associations are working together to provide this online resource.
- Recognises you as a business that is operating or seeking to operate in a professional manner.
- Improved access to training and education.
- Scheme members will receive details of any funding opportunities and will be provided with information on incentives, government grant schemes and other financial assistance.
- Encourage take up of good tenants, while reduces tenant turnover and evictions.
- Disputes with tenants can be reduced and any problems that do occur can be promptly resolved.

Does the letting agent or landlord sign up?

Both lettings agents and landlords are encouraged to sign up to the scheme, but it is permissible for a letting agent to solely sign up as a member of the scheme and enjoy the scheme benefits.

Getting it wrong – The costs?

Reviewing your property against the Cornwall Rental Standard could save you time and money.

By removing hazards from your property you reduce the risk of harm being caused but also you are less likely to face formal action being taken by the local authority or injury claims from tenants.