

Tenancy agreement for your views

Gateshead Council and The Gateshead Housing Company are looking to get your views on updating the tenancy agreement.

What is the tenancy agreement?

It is the legal contract between the landlord (Gateshead Council) and its tenants (you) specifying the terms and conditions of the rental agreement.

Is it important?

Yes – very important.

Not only does it spell out your responsibilities as a tenant, but it also shows the legal responsibilities Gateshead Council has as your landlord.

By signing your tenancy agreement you agreed to a set of conditions on how you will maintain your home, keep up with your rent and how you, your family and any visitors will behave.

... it shows the responsibilities the council has as your landlord.

Why change it?

The tenancy agreement was last updated in 2008 with the help of tenants and other interested groups.

Changes to legislation and how homes are managed means it is time to review and update the agreement again.

We would like current tenants, as well as those looking to move to Gateshead Council's homes in the future, to give their views.

Over the coming months we will organise drop-in sessions and provide regular updates in Council News, the housing company's newspaper and online.

What changes could be made?

As we said above, changes to legislation and how homes are managed means the agreement needs reviewing.

Potential changes, including some based on what residents have told us since the last update, are:

- Changes in legislation (the law)
- Updates on antisocial behaviour, gardens, fences, hedges, repairs, improvements, animals, communal areas, equality, diversity, charges and gas servicing.

Following consultation events, tenants will be sent details of the proposed changes and be asked for their views.

All comments received will be considered and, where appropriate, included in the new agreement, which will then need to be approved by Gateshead Council.

Tenants will then be sent details of the approved changes at least 28 days before the new agreement takes effect.

We have organised drop-in sessions where you can find out about changes to the agreement.

If you can't make it, but still want to give us your views, then get in touch with our Involvement Team, see their details below.

Talk to us ...

Come and talk to us at:

Birtley housing office - Monday, 28 October between 10am and 12 noon; and Friday, 8 November between 2pm and 4pm

Blaydon housing office – Friday, 25 October between 10am and 12 noon; and Monday, 4 November between 2pm and 4pm

Dunston housing office – Friday, 25 October between 2pm and 4pm; and Friday, 1 November between 10am and 12 noon

Felling housing office – Thursday, 31 October between 10am and 12 noon; and Tuesday, 5 November between 2pm and 4pm

Gateshead Civic Centre – Wednesday, 30 October between 10am and 2pm; and Wednesday 6 November between 10am and 2pm

Leam Lane housing office - Friday 1 November between 2pm and 4pm; and Friday, 8 November between 10am and 12 noon

Wrekenton housing office – Monday, 28 October between 2pm and 4pm; and Monday, 4 November between 10am and 12 noon.

To find out more contact the Involvement Team on **0191 433 5357**, e-mail **involve@gatesheadhousing.co.uk** or visit **www.gatesheadhousing.co.uk**