

DECISION AND STATEMENT OF REASONS OF JOSEPHINE BONNAR, LEGAL MEMBER OF THE FIRST-TIER TRIBUNAL WITH DELEGATED POWERS OF THE CHAMBER PRESIDENT

Under Rule 8 of the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland Housing and Property Chamber Rules of Procedure 2017 ("the Procedure Rules")

Case Reference: FTS/HPC/CV/23/4179

33 McLean Place, Paisley ("the Property")

Sharon Clark, 56 Caroline Terrace, Corstorphine, Edinburgh ("the Applicant")

Harley Dunlop, Address Unknown ("the Respondent")

- 1. The Applicant seeks an order for payment in terms of Rule 70 of the Procedure Rules and Section 16 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2014. A rent statement was lodged with the application. The Applicant did not provide a current address for the Respondent or a copy of the tenancy agreement.
- 2. On 18 December 2023 and 1 February 2024, the Tribunal issued requests for further information. The Applicant was directed to provide an address for the Respondent or submit an application for service by advertisement with a trace report from a Sheriff Officer. She was also asked to provide a copy of the tenancy agreement. The Applicant provided a copy of the agreement but it was illegible and she has failed to submit a legible copy in response to a further request. The Applicant has also failed to provide an address or submit an application for service by advertisement.

Decision

3. After consideration of the application, the Legal Member considers that the application should be rejected in terms of Rule 8(1)(c) of the Procedure Rules which states that an application must be rejected if the Tribunal has "good reason to believe that it would not be appropriate to accept the application."

Reasons for Decision

4. Rule 5 of the Procedure Rules states that an application "is held to have been made on the date that it is lodged if, on that date, it is lodged in the manner as

set out in rules.....65 to 70,... as appropriate". In terms of Rules 5(2) and (3) the Chamber President or a Member with delegated powers must assess whether the "mandatory requirements for lodgement have been met" and "may request further documents". Rule 5(4) and 5(5) require an Applicant to submit an application for service by advertisement where the address of the Respondent is not known, with evidence of attempts to obtain an address. Rule 70 requires an Applicant to provide an address for the Respondent and a copy of any relevant document.

5. The Applicant has failed to comply with Rules 5 and 70 of the Procedure Rules. Furthermore, her failure to comply with the requirement to provide an address for the Respondent, or apply for service by advertisement, means that the application, if accepted, could not be served on the Respondent. In the circumstances, the Legal Member is satisfied that there is good reason to believe that it would not be appropriate to accept the application. The application is rejected on that basis.

What you should do now

If you accept the Legal Member's decision, there is no need to reply.

If you disagree with this decision -

An applicant aggrieved by the decision of the Chamber President, or any Legal Member acting under delegated powers, may appeal to the Upper Tribunal for Scotland on a point of law only. Before an appeal can be made to the Upper Tribunal, the party must first seek permission to appeal from the First-tier Tribunal. That party must seek permission to appeal within 30 days of the date the decision was sent to them. Information about the appeal procedure can be forwarded to you on request.

Josephine Bonnar, Legal Member

13 March 2024

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