## Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

## **Tenancy Agreement**





If you or someone you know needs help to understand or read this document, please contact us:

Telephone: 01709 336009 Email: councilhomes@rotherham.gov.uk

Ak vy alebo niekto koho poznáte potrebuje pomoc pri pochopení alebo čítaní tohto dokumentu, prosím kontaktujte nás na vyššle uvedenom čísle alebo nám pošlite e-mail.

ئەگەر تۆ يان كەسنىك كە تۆ دەيناسى پنويستى بەيارمەتى ھەبنت بۆ ئەودى ئەم بەلگەنامە يە تنبگات يان بىخوننىتەود، تكايە پەيودندىمان پنود بكە ئەسەر ئەو ژماردىلەي سەردوددا يان بەو ئىمەبلە

إذا كنت انت أواي شخص تعرفه بحاجة إلى مساعدة لفهم أوقراءة هذه الوثيقة، الرجاء الاتصال على الرقم اعلاه، أو مراسلتنا عبر البريد الإلكتروني

اگر آپ یا آپ کے جاننے والے کسی شخص کو اس دستاویز کو سمجھنے یا پڑھنے کیلئے مدد کی ضرورت ھے تو برائے مهربانی مندرجه بالا نمبر پرهم سے رابطه کریں یا همیں ای میل کریں۔

اگر جناب عالی یا شخص دیگری که شما اور ۱ می شناسید برای خواندن یا فهمیدن این مدارک نیاز به کمک دارد لطفا با ما بوسیله شماره بالا یا ایمیل تماس حاصل فرمایید.

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People or companies who work on our behalf.
This is transferring or giving another person the tenancy of the property.
A tenant of a registered social landlord (such as a housing association) who
has an assured tenancy.
Local council offices which are open to the public. You can find them across
Rotherham.
A tenancy which has reduced rights to those of an introductory tenancy
because of a court order. Under certain circumstances we may apply to the
court to have a secure tenancy reduced to a demoted tenancy.
This is heating and hot water that is supplied through a shared heating system
and you are responsible for paying the associated costs. See Service charge.
Includes any contractor, agent or anyone employed by us.
A tenancy under section 107a of the Housing Act 1985 or . A flexible/fixed
term tenancy is a secure tenancy that lasts for a fixed period of time.
Includes lawns, hedges, flowerbeds, trees, shrubs, outside walls and fences.
A tenancy under Part 5 of the Housing Act 1996, which usually covers a trial
period of 12 months.
A Council tenant who has an introductory tenancy.
A person who pays you money to let them live in part of your property  Your neighbours include:
<ul> <li>Our other secure and introductory tenants,</li> <li>Everyone living in the area near your property, including people who own</li> </ul>
their own homes and rent privately, and
Housing association tenants
A husband, wife or someone who lives with you as a husband or wife. 'Partner'
also includes a partner of the same sex.
If no clauses of the tenancy agreement are breached, a periodic tenancy is
usually a tenancy for life
The home you live in, including any garden and associated outhouses,
excluding shared (or communal) areas.
Parents, children, grandparents, grandchildren, brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts,
nieces, step relatives and adopted children.
A tenancy under Part 4 of the Housing Act 1985. We can only ask the court to
end the tenancy for specific reasons that the law sets out.
This is a charge we make when we provide services for you, such as a laundry
or when we clean shared areas. You must pay services charges as part of
your tenancy agreement.
A tenant who has a secure tenancy.
The parts of the building, which all tenants may use, for example, stairways,
entrances, landings, shared gardens, lawns and landscaped areas. These are
sometimes called communal areas.
A car bug larry matarbika biovals or other magne of transportation
A car, bus, lorry, motorbike, bicycle or other means of transportation.
A car, bus, lorry, motorbike, bicycle or other means of transportation.  Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council.

#### Part 1 - Terms and Conditions of your Tenancy

#### 1. Living in your Home

- (a) You must live in the property as your only or main home. If you are a joint tenant, it must be the only or main home of at least one of you. On accepting this tenancy you are expected to end your legal interest in any other property anywhere in the world within 6 months of becoming a tenant. If no steps have been taken to end your legal interest you are in breach of your obligations within this agreement.
- (b) You must tell your Area Housing Officer if you are going to be away from your home for more than four weeks. This is so we know you have not moved away permanently.
- (c) If this is your first tenancy with the Council then it will be as an Introductory Tenant. As an Introductory tenant you are not allowed to take in lodgers and you will not be eligible to purchase the property under the 'Right to buy' scheme. The introductory status will remain for 12 months. However, the Council has the right to extend this period to 18 months in total should concerns be raised around your suitability as a tenant; for example if you, your family or visitors cause a nuisance or a disturbance to other residents in the area.

#### 2. Rent

- (a) Your tenancy is a weekly tenancy which runs from Monday to Sunday. It starts on the date shown in Part 2 of this agreement. The first complete weekly period starts on the date shown in Part 2 of this agreement. The weekly rent is due on each Monday in advance. You owe rent from the first day of your tenancy. This means that if you started your tenancy on any day other than a Monday, your first rent payment will be due on that first day of your tenancy and is worked out in proportion to the number of days in that week that you will hold your tenancy. The amount of rent for the first week or part week of your tenancy is shown in Part 2 of this tenancy agreement. The amount of weekly rent after the first week or part week is also shown in Part 2 of this agreement.
- (b) Joint tenants are equally responsible for all the rent and for any rent arrears.
- (c) We may complete credit searches in regard to prospective and existing tenants.
- (d) It is your responsibility to apply for Housing Benefit if you think you may be entitled to this. It is also your responsibility to inform Housing Benefit of any changes in your circumstances that may affect your entitlement. Failing to comply with these responsibilities would be a breach of your tenancy.
- (e) If you are convicted of offences relating to fraud in regard to Housing Benefit or Council Tax benefit then you will be in breach of your tenancy agreement.
- (f) We may alter the rent and other charges after giving you notice of our intention (please see 'A Guide to Your Home' for details).
- (g) If your property has a communal facility or other additional charges related to the property (such as Rothercare) and/or district heating attached to it (as identified upon tenancy sign up), then this is a mandatory charge which cannot be removed if you no longer require or use the facilities.

#### 3 Nuisance and Anti-Social Behaviour

(a) You are responsible for the behaviour of every person living in or visiting your home. This includes your children, visitors, occupants and lodgers. You are responsible for their behaviour in your home, on surrounding land, in communal areas (stairs, lifts, landings, entrance halls, paving, shared gardens, parking areas) and in the locality around your home.

(b) You, other residents of your home, lodgers or visitors must not behave in a way that causes or is likely to cause a nuisance, annoyance or disturbance to any other person in the locality of your home.

#### **Examples of nuisance, annoyance or disturbance include:**

- Playing loud music at any time of the day or night (see point (c) below)
- Having the television too loud at any time of the day or night (see point (c) below)
- Loud arguing and door slamming
- Carrying out DIY or other noisy household activities late in the evening or during the night
- Dogs barking
- Dogs or other pets fouling in gardens, public spaces and streets
- Installing outside lighting that is likely to cause a nuisance to others
- Littering, or allowing your litter, (including cigarette stubs) to blow into another person's garden or communal area
- Foul and abusive language
- Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour
- Setting fires in the garden of the property that cause heavy smoke or noxious fumes or odours
- Selling, possessing or distributing drugs; including prescription drugs that are not intended for you or members of your family; or allowing the property to be used for the cultivation of cannabis
- Dumping rubbish on non-official 'dump it' sites (fly-tipping)
- Playing ball games close to someone else's home or vehicle and causing them annoyance
- Using or allowing the use of unlicensed motorbikes and scooters at the property
- Malicious communications e.g. nuisance perpetrated over social media networks

This is not an exhaustive list.

- (c) Loud music or having the television/radio too loud is when it is audible to other households outside the boundary of your property or garden, or in shared communal areas; and is causing or is likely to cause a nuisance.
- (d) You, other residents of your home or your visitors must not harass any other person in the locality of your home.

#### **Examples of harassment include:**

- Racist behaviour or language that offends other people
- Using or threatening to use violence, including domestic violence
- Using abusive or insulting words or behaviour
- Using animals to threaten, intimidate or harass other people
- Damaging or threatening to damage another person's home or possessions
- Writing threatening, abusive or insulting graffiti
- Doing anything that interferes with the peace, comfort or convenience of other people
- Hate Crime
- (e) You, other residents of your home or your visitors must not use your home, any communal areas, or the locality, to carry out any illegal activity. 'Illegal' means any activity that the law prohibits and makes a criminal offence. If you (or other residents of your home) commit a criminal offence (excluding traffic offences such as speeding fines) and are found guilty by the courts, a breach of tenancy will be issued for illegal activity and may result in seeking repossession of the property.
- (f) You, other residents of your home or your visitors must not cause any damage to our property or write graffiti on our property. You will be charged the cost of repair or replacement.
- (g) You, other residents of your home or your visitors must not interfere with any security and safety equipment in communal blocks, for example by jamming security or fire doors open,

removing or damaging smoke/fire alarms and sensors, or letting strangers in without identification.

- (h) You, other residents of your home or your visitors must not be violent or threaten violence against any other person, whether they are living with you or in another property. You must not harass, use mental, emotional, physical or sexual abuse to make anyone who lives with you leave the home. If a person leaves the home because of domestic violence we may take action to end the tenancy.
- (i) You, other residents of your home or your visitors must not use abusive or threatening language or act in a violent, aggressive or abusive manner towards the Council's members, officers or agents.

#### 4 Obtaining Written Permission

Where you are required to obtain written permission, you must send a written request to the Council which clearly outlines the reason for the request for permission. Permission will only be given in writing. We will not unreasonably refuse permission and will give our reasons in writing if we do. Any permission may be subject to conditions. If you do not comply with any conditions, this will be a breach of your tenancy agreement.

#### 5 Lodgers and Overcrowding

- (a) You must not take in a lodger without our prior written permission unless paragraph (b) below applies
- (b) If you have a secure tenancy (periodic, flexible or fixed term) you may take in a lodger provided that this does not make the property overcrowded.
- (c) You must not allow your home to become overcrowded, as defined in the Housing Act, 1985. If you allow your home to become overcrowded you will breach the terms of this agreement.

#### 6 Furniture and Floor Covering

- (a) If you are taking a furnished property the items listed in the Inventory attached to this agreement belong to us.
- (b) You must keep the items in the inventory in good repair and condition and must pay for the cost of replacement of any item damaged (allowing for fair and reasonable wear and tear) by you, members of your family or any visitors to your home.
- (c) If any of the items are stolen you must report the crime to the Police and obtain a crime reference number. You must then notify the Home and Property Services Team of the theft along with the reference number.
- (d) When you terminate your tenancy you must make sure that all the furniture that belongs to the Council remains in the property when you leave. We will conduct a visit to make sure that all the items that we provided throughout the fixed term period remain within the property.

#### 7 Right to Buy

- (a) If you are a secure tenant you may have the Right to Buy your home.
- (b) Certain properties are excluded from the Right to Buy.
- (c) Please read 'A Guide to your Home' for more information about Right to Buy.

#### 8 Adaptations

- (a) Any adaptations to your home to meet specific, special needs of you or a member of your family, are our property and are provided on licence only; examples of adaptations are given in 'A Guide to your Home'.
- (b) If, in the future, your household no longer requires an adapted property, the Council has the option of providing you with alternative, un-adapted accommodation so the adapted property can be re-let to another household in need.

#### 9 Exchange

- (a) You may not exchange the property for a Council or Housing Association dwelling occupied by another tenant without obtaining our prior written permission. If you have any breaches of your tenancy agreement (including rent arrears) then these need to be rectified before you can apply for an exchange. If you have a periodic or fixed term tenancy we must grant permission unless a statutory ground for refusal exists. If we refuse permission we will tell you why in writing. Details of the statutory grounds of refusal are set out in 'A Guide to your Home'.
- (b) If you do not have a secure tenancy we may give or refuse permission for any reason that we regard as proper but we will always tell you why if we refuse.
- (c) If you exchange without permission we will normally take legal action to evict you. You will not be able to return to your original home. You must not pay or accept any money, goods or services to exchange your home.
- (d) If you exchange your home with another tenant you will be required to accept your new property in the condition it is in at the time you move into it, apart from any repairs that we are legally required to carry out. This means that we take no responsibility for cleanliness, alterations, tenant's own fixtures, or the standard of decoration.
- (e) You must leave your home in a good condition when you move out. Our fixtures and fittings (and furniture if provided) should be left in the same state as they were at the beginning of your tenancy, allowing for fair wear and tear and any approved alterations you have done.

#### 10 Trade or Business

You must not use your home for any trade or business without first obtaining written permission from us.

#### 11 Planning and Building Applications

You must advise the Council of any application for building regulation, planning or licensing purposes that you make if these apply to your home.

#### 12 Vehicles

- (a) You, any member of your household, lodger or visitor to your property must not park, or allow anyone else to park, any car, van, caravan, trailer, motorcycle or other vehicle on any grass verge, crossover, shared area or paved or grassed area which belongs to us (including the garden areas of your home) unless it is a parking area that we have given you written permission to use. You may be charged the cost of any damage caused if you have breached this clause.
- (b) You, other residents of your home or your visitors must not do major vehicle repairs or park an untaxed or un-roadworthy vehicle on the land around your home, the road, communal parking areas, open plan areas, footpaths or grassed verges. You must not cause annoyance, nuisance or inconvenience to anyone whilst carrying out vehicle repairs.

- (c) You, other residents of your home or your visitors must not keep mopeds or motorbikes inside your home or in communal areas.
- (d) You, other residents of your home or your visitors must not cause a nuisance when using motor vehicles. This includes the unnecessary revving of car, motorbike and quadbike engines; causing a nuisance by parking vehicles obstructively; the sounding of car horns and the playing of music from in car entertainment systems.

#### 13 Animals

- (a) If you live in a property with its own private, enclosed garden and access (ie, you do not share this space with another household) you may keep a cat or a dog without getting our permission, subject to the conditions below. If you wish to keep any other type of animal or more than one cat or dog you will need to request permission.
- (b) You must not keep the following animals at your property:
  - Any dog to which the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 applies
  - Any animal to which the Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976 applies
  - Any dangerous animal
  - Any livestock
  - Any animal which causes a health and safety risk in the area
  - Any animal which is not bred to be a domestic pet
- (c) You must not keep an animal that requires outdoor space in a property which can only be accessed through a shared entrance unless it is a registered guide dog, a registered hearing dog or an assistance dog.
- (d) Where permission is required, we will not unreasonably refuse permission but will need to consider whether the welfare of any of the following may suffer should permission be granted:
  - · Any person living with you
  - Your neighbours
  - Any person visiting the property or the locality
  - The animal you wish to keep, or
  - Any other animal you already own
- (e) You must ensure any animal at the property is under control so they do not cause a danger, nuisance or annoyance to your neighbours or anyone visiting the property or the locality including our staff, agents or contractors.
- (f) You are responsible for pets and animals kept at your address, including times that you are not at home, and they must not cause a nuisance or disturbance to other residents at any time.
- (g) You, your family, or anyone living with you or visiting your home must not do any of the following:
  - Keep any animal at the property which requires our written permission without first getting that permission
  - Keep any animals for commercial breeding purposes
  - Leave faeces in your garden, in shared areas or outside the property (on roads, footpaths or public spaces such as play areas) produced by any animal which you keep at the property – faeces must be cleaned up immediately
- (h) You, other residents of your home, or your visitors must not do/permit anything which encourages wild animals or wild birds onto our property that cause, or are likely to cause a danger, nuisance or annoyance to other people, or damage to property.

(i) You must inform us if you bring a pet/dog into the UK and provide evidence that the animal has received the relevant vaccinations (parvovirus and rabies virus).

#### 14 Communal Areas

- (a) You must co-operate with the Council and your neighbours to keep any communal areas clean and free from obstructions. You must not place rugs, carpets, plants, furniture or rubbish in communal areas.
- (b) You must not park mobility scooters in communal areas.
- (c) You, other residents of your home, or your visitors must use any communal areas and lifts in a reasonable manner, not causing any nuisance or annoyance to other people.
- (d) You, other residents of your home, or your visitors must not use any communal areas to store items or deposit rubbish.
- (e) You, other residents of your home or your visitors must not smoke in any enclosed communal areas.

#### 15 Dangerous Materials

You must not keep or use any flammable or other dangerous materials in your home or in any communal areas. This includes petrol, paraffin and bottled gas.

#### 16 Repairs and Maintenance

Repairs by you;

- (a) You must keep your home in a good, clean condition and use the fixtures and fittings responsibly. This includes any garden spaces.
- (b) You are responsible for small repairs such as:
  - Replacing plugs and chains to baths, wash hand basins and sink units
  - · Replacing broken toilet seats
  - Replacing or repairing internal doors and cupboards
  - Replacing or repairing gates and gate latches, fences and replacing broken glass if caused by you, your visitors or other occupants

This is not an exhaustive list.

- (c) You are responsible for decorating the inside of your home and carrying out decorative repairs, this will include superficial plaster cracks (minor cracks that you need to fill before decorating).
- (d) You must immediately report any faults, damage or repairs that are our responsibility. Once reported, we will make an appointment with you to carry out the work. We will contact you by letter, email, text or by phone to confirm the appointment.
- (e) When a council officer or agent visits to inspect or carry out a repair and you are not in, a calling card will be left. You must telephone the number on the card to arrange an appointment for the inspection or repair. If you do not reply to the card within 3 days, your request for a repair may be abandoned or cancelled and you will need to report the repair again. If your report indicates that there is an emergency or the fault, if unresolved, may lead to further property damage, we may use our rights of access under Section 20 of this agreement to gain entry to your home.
- (f) If a repair you have reported is not carried out, provided you have given us access to your home, you can follow the procedure set out in Section 17 of this agreement.

- (g) Any costs incurred from your failure to report a repair immediately, such as damage caused to a neighbouring property, will be your responsibility.
- (h) You must not damage, neglect or misuse your home or any of the fixtures and fittings. This includes, but is not limited to, graffiti either on internal or external walls, damage to doors, kitchen cupboards and worktops, light switches and plasterwork. Any loss or damage caused by deliberate action, accident, neglect or misuse will be your responsibility. We may give you written notice to repair any damage within a reasonable time. If you fail to complete this work, we may enter your home, carry out the repair and recharge the cost of this to you. If you ask us to carry out such a repair you will be charged the cost of this. Action may be taken to repossess your home if you cause any such damage.

#### Repairs by us;

- (i) We are responsible for repairs that we are required to carry out by law. These are explained more fully in 'A Guide to your Home.
- (j) The Council will not repair or maintain anything, which you are entitled to remove from the property, or anything, which you have installed (unless the Council has agreed to repair the installation in writing).
- (k) The Council will not repair any unauthorised alterations or improvements that you have made unless the repair is necessary for health and safety reasons. If this happens, you will have to pay for the cost of the repair.
- (I) The Council must carry out your repair within a reasonable time and you must provide access for the work to be done.
- (m) The Council will decorate the exterior of your home, and communal areas, as part of a rolling programme of decoration. You will not be reasonably refused permission to decorate the exterior of your home yourself.
- (n) The Council must clear up after a repair.
- (o) Information and advice relating to asbestos is available in the 'A Guide to your Home'. Do not scrape, sand, drill, knock holes in or take apart any materials that contain (or which you think may contain) asbestos. Under no circumstances alter or remove asbestos yourself. It is not reasonable or necessary for the Council to remove all asbestos materials from every building. If the asbestos material is in good condition and cannot easily be damaged it is best left alone.

#### 17 Right to Repair

Under this scheme, you may be entitled to ask for a different contractor to carry out the work if it has not been done by the date specified in our service standards. If your repair is still not done you may be entitled to compensation. This provision will only apply to certain eligible repairs. Additional information on the scheme is available in 'A Guide to your Home'.

#### 18 Garden

- (a) You must keep your garden, balcony and any garage or outbuildings (if you have any) in a good, tidy and safe condition and free from rubbish and weeds. This includes cutting the grass and trimming hedges if they exist at the property.
- (b) You must not place/store household items or furniture in your garden, balcony or communal areas (e.g. sofas, fridges). If you do, we may carry out all the necessary clearance work and recharge you.
- (c) You must not put up, change or demolish a shed, greenhouse or garage or any other structure in your garden or shared areas without our written permission. We will not be responsible for

the repair or maintenance of any shed, greenhouse or garage you have erected or that you have agreed to maintain at the point of sign-up for the property.

- (d) You are responsible for the maintenance of any trees in the garden of the property; however you must ask for permission to remove or cut down any tree in your garden.
- (e) You must not plant any tree or shrub which may cause damage to your or your neighbours' properties.
- (f) You must not alter the boundary of your property without our written permission. This includes putting up any fence, hedge or boundary wall beyond the curtilage of the property, or altering the pedestrian or vehicular access at the property.
- (g) You must remove household waste promptly and not deposit or allow rubbish to accumulate in your garden or on pathways.
- (h) You must not erect fences, walls or gates without written permission. We will not be responsible for the repair or maintenance of fences, walls or gates you have erected. We are unlikely to agree to you fencing off garden space if your home is part of a landscaped scheme for older people.
- (i) You must obtain written permission to construct a fishpond, swimming pool, water feature or similar structure in your garden. You may be required to remove any such items at the end of your tenancy at your own expense or be re-charged the cost.
- (j) You must not park any caravan, trailer, boat on communal parking areas, grass verge, garage site or on your garden without first getting our written permission.

#### 19 Lost Keys

You are responsible for the cost of replacing keys and changing the locks if your keys are lost. This includes window locks. If all door and window lock keys are not handed in at the end of your tenancy you will be charged for the locks to be changed. Please contact the Council for advice.

#### 20 Access

- (a) You must allow our officers or agents into your home to inspect and carry out servicing, repairs and improvements; to inspect our furniture and furnishings if you have a furnished letting; service equipment and (where necessary) install and/or read meters. You should ask to see some official identification before letting anyone into your home who claims to be there on our behalf.
- (b) If you do not allow access, you will be given 24 hours written notice of our intention to enter your home. After this time you must allow entry. If you do not let us in we may take legal action to enter your home or end your tenancy, and you may have to pay the cost of this. We may also prosecute you for obstruction.
- (c) Our officers or agents may enter your home without giving notice if, in their opinion, entry is necessary because of an emergency. When we need to force our way into your home the local Police will be notified and, when appropriate, a request for assistance will be made.
- (d) You or other residents of your home or your visitors must not use abusive or threatening language or act in a violent, aggressive or abusive manner towards our elected members, officers, agents, volunteers working on our behalf.
- (e) You, nor any members of your family or visitors, should smoke in the presence of our officers or agents whilst they are attending your property.

(f) Paragraphs 21(a) to 21(e) apply equally to employees or agents of gas, water and electric companies with supplies serving the dwelling so far as it is needed to allow us to meet our obligation as landowner.

#### Re-entry; fixed-term tenancies only

We may re-enter the property (or any part of the property) at any time after any of the following:

- (a) Any rent is unpaid for twenty-one days after becoming payable whether it has been formally demanded or not.
- (b) Any breach of any condition of this fixed term tenancy agreement has occurred.
- (c) An act of insolvency on the part of the tenant.

If we re-enter the property (or any part of it) in line with this clause, the fixed term tenancy agreement will end immediately without prejudice to any right or remedy of the Council in respect of any breach of the tenancy agreement by the tenant.

#### 21 Improvements and Alterations

(a) If you are an introductory tenant you do not have a statutory right to make improvements to our property. We may allow you to carry out certain alterations or improvements but you must first get our written consent. If you are a secure tenant we will allow you to carry out certain alterations or improvements to your home but you must first get our written consent.

We will not unreasonably refuse your request but you may also need other permissions (for example planning permission and/or buildings regulations approval).

- (b) You must get permission to carry out the following (or other similar) work:
  - Decorating the outside of your home
  - Any structural alteration, improvement, or addition to the building, including the removal or replacement of doors, the construction of door arches or the replacement of fireplaces
  - Any alteration to the internal layout of the property, adding partitions, removal or alteration of non-structural partitions
  - Any change to the fixtures and fittings or additions to the fixtures and fittings of your home including bathroom or kitchen fixtures and fittings and TV aerials, satellite dishes and antennas
  - Building a garage, shed or other large structure in your garden
  - Laying a drive and/or car parking space
  - · Laying a patio or path or building a decking area
  - Installing a shower, central heating or gas fire
  - Artexing ceilings please note the Artexing of walls is not allowed
  - Installation of any CCTV monitoring cameras or other surveillance equipment
  - Installation of new flooring including laminate flooring

This list does not state every type of alteration you must get permission to do. If you are not sure then you must contact the Council before carrying out any work.

- (c) You must obtain any necessary building regulation approval or planning permission before you start work. This includes consent from our Highways Department to drop the kerb.
- (d) If you do not get written permission from us for any of the above work, before you start the work, you may be required to return the property to how it was before. If you do not we may carry out the work and charge you for it, or we may take action to end your tenancy.
- (e) We are not responsible for the repair or maintenance of installations fitted by you unless this has been agreed in writing.

#### 22 Insurance

Our insurance does not cover any of your furniture or possessions or any damage you cause. You are advised to obtain your own contents insurance cover. You are also advised to obtain "tenant's liability" insurance to insure you against the cost of damage you may accidentally cause to your home.

The Council offers its own tenant's contents insurance for all council tenants at a small charge. Consult 'A Guide to your Home' for more information.

#### 23 Keeping and Using Fire Arms

You, any person living at or visiting the property, must not discharge or threaten to discharge, a firearm. shotgun, bow or crossbow, air weapon (pistol or rifle) in such a way as to cause a nuisance or annoyance to other residents.

#### 24 Transfers

If you have breached the terms of your tenancy agreement you will be unable to register to transfer to or from another Council property until the breaches have been rectified.

#### 25 Succession

Statutory succession is limited to a spouse, civil or common law partner. This means that if the deceased tenant had a periodic tenancy then the spouse, civil or common law partner may be offered a periodic tenancy.

However, where there is no spouse or civil/common law partner in occupation, if possible, the Council will consider granting succession to one of the family members listed below. In these circumstances, a fixed term tenancy agreement may be offered.

- people who have given up their council tenancy to care for the deceased tenant
- parent
- grandparent
- child, if the child is over 18 years of age at the date of the tenant's death
- grandchild
- · brother or sister
- uncle or aunt, and
- · nephew or niece

For the purpose of this provision the stepchild of a person shall be treated as their child.

In all circumstances, succession will only be granted to a family member that has been living with the deceased tenant at the time of death, and did so as their only or principal home for a minimum period of 12 months. A property can only be succeeded to on one occasion.

#### 26 Notices

Under this tenancy, we can serve you any notice by leaving it at the property. You can deliver any notice to us via Riverside House, Main Street, Rotherham S60 1AE.

#### 27 Ending the Tenancy

(a) When you want to end this agreement and leave your home, you must give us at least four weeks' notice in writing before you move out. This 4 week notice period must end on a Monday.

- (b) You can request a termination form by contacting the Council. The termination form must be signed by you or by a person legally entitled to act on your behalf if you cannot sign it yourself.
- (c) The 4 week notice period will start from when we receive written notice from you along with any supporting documents we may require. If you hand in your keys without first giving written notice, we will start the notice period from the date your keys are received. This means that you will have to pay rent for those 4 weeks even if you no longer live in the property.
- (d) If you are joint tenants, you are both (all) responsible, individually and together, for keeping to all the conditions of your agreement. This includes paying rent.
- (e) It is possible for one tenant to end their joint tenancy by giving notice in writing. If either of the joint tenants terminates the tenancy then this brings the tenancy to an end.

#### 28 The end of the tenancy – your rights and obligations

- (a) All keys to the property must be handed in to the Council offices before 12 noon on the day the tenancy ends. If you do not do this we will charge you further rent and any other reasonable costs.
- (b) The property must be left in a clean condition, clear of all rubbish, and free of your furniture and possessions. You must leave all fixtures and fittings intact and in the condition they were in at the start of the tenancy, except for fair wear and tear. You must allow the Council and other agencies reasonable access to the property, including during the termination period, so that inspections and surveys can be carried out. Where necessary, you must allow the Council to carry out minor repairs where these have been identified.
- (c) If you do not comply with (a) or (b) above and you are 'transferring' to another social rented property, we will not allow the transfer to take place.
- (d) We will take steps to recover from you any reasonable costs we incur in:
  - Replacing or repairing any missing or damaged items
  - Replacing or repairing any alterations which do not comply with relevant regulations
  - Replacing or repairing any alterations for which we did not give our written consent
  - Meeting all reasonable removal and/or storage charges when items are left in the premises after the termination date
  - Cleaning the property
- (e) We will remove and dispose of any items left in the premises after the termination date and you will be liable for our reasonable costs of disposal.
- (f) In the event of your death, your next of kin or executor must notify us in writing of your death and terminate the tenancy. The tenancy will continue until we receive notice and failure to terminate the tenancy may incur further costs against your estate including unpaid rent.
- (g) If you go to court because of a divorce, a domestic dispute or a relationship breakdown, the court will decide whether to order the transfer of the tenancy to one or other of the partners. The tenancy rights will end for the person who must leave the property.

#### 29 Introductory and periodic tenancies; Ending your tenancy- our rights and obligations

- (a) We will not interfere with your rights to occupy your home unless you breach any of your obligations within this agreement.
- (b) We cannot bring your tenancy to an end without first serving a notice of seeking possession, telling you why we are seeking to possess your home. The tenancy can only be ended if we prove one of the grounds of possession set out in the Housing Act 1985 or Housing Act 1996.

## Flexible and fixed term tenancies; Ending your tenancy during the course of the fixed term (Break Clause) – your rights and obligations

- (a) If your property has 4 or more bedrooms and your tenancy is a flexible tenancy, you and, where applicable, any joint tenant, may continue to reside at the property for up to 10 years or until your youngest child becomes 19 years of age. The tenancy expiry date will have been agreed when you signed for your tenancy.
- (b) If however, you signed your tenancy after April 2018, you could hold a mandatory, fixed term tenancy with a term of between 2 and 10 years. To minimise disruption to education, the length of mandatory fixed term tenancies for families with children under 9 may be longer.
- (c) You may terminate this tenancy agreement during the fixed term by saving us with a break notice at least four weeks before the break date or any other period that may be mutually agreed.
- (d) The break notice shall be of no effect if, at the break date stated in the break notice:
  - You have not paid any part of the rent which was due to have been paid in respect of the tenancy
  - Vacant possession of the whole of the property is not given
  - You are in breach of any of the terms of the tenancy agreement relating to the state of repair and condition of the property
- (e) We may agree to waive the requirement of clause 31d above.
- (f) Subject to clause 31d above, following the service of a break notice this tenancy agreement shall terminate on the relevant date.
- (g) Termination of this tenancy agreement on the break date shall not affect any other right or remedy that either party may have in relation to any earlier breach of this tenancy agreement.
- (h) If you end your tenancy, within fourteen days after the break date, we will refund to you the proportion of the rent paid in respect of the period from and excluding the relevant break date up to and excluding the next rent payment date. This will be calculated on a daily basis.

## 31 Flexible and fixed term tenancies; Ending your tenancy during the course of the fixed term – our rights and obligations.

- (a) We will not interfere with your rights to occupy your home within the term of the fixed tenancy agreement, unless you breach any of your obligations within this agreement
- (b) During the term of the tenancy agreement, we cannot bring your tenancy to an end without first serving the relevant notice.

## 32 Flexible and fixed term tenancies; Ending your tenancy at the end of the fixed term – our rights and obligations

- (a) We will begin to review your flexible/fixed term tenancy 12 months prior to the end of the term to determine your household's future housing need. We will decide whether to grant you a further tenancy, and if so whether that will be a tenancy of the same property or whether we grant you a fixed term tenancy for a different property. We will write to you to tell you the outcome of the review.
- (b) If we are not going to grant you a further tenancy, we will give you at least six months' notice that the tenancy is coming to an end. A further notice will be sent to you at least two months prior to the end date. We will make it clear that we do not propose to grant another tenancy and the reason for that decision.

(c) You have a right to request a review of our decision not to grant a further tenancy but only where our decision does not accord with our published tenancy policy. Such a request should be made to the Housing Manager within 21 days of the date of our written decision. The review will be conducted by a senior officer who was not involved in the original decision.

#### 33 Moving out of the property

- (a) You must leave your home in a good condition when you move out. Our fixtures and fittings (and furniture if provided) must be left in the same state as they were at the beginning of your tenancy, allowing for fair wear and tear and any approved alterations you have done.
- (b) You will have to pay for the repair or replacement of any items damaged deliberately or because you have neglected or misused them. You will have to pay for the repair, replacement or re-instatement of any unauthorised alterations you have made to your property.
- (c) Council officers or agents of the Council will make an inspection of your property before you leave your home and again as soon as possible after we know you have left. You must agree a convenient time for your home to be inspected before the end of the tenancy.
- (d) All keys must be returned to a Customer Service Centre no later than 12:00 noon on the day that your tenancy ends. You are liable for additional rent if the keys are handed in after 12:00 noon.
- (e) You must remove all your belongings when you move out. This includes floor coverings, rubbish, and light fittings. If you leave anything behind we will immediately remove and dispose of any rubbish or perishable items and you will be charged for the cost of this, together with any storage charges incurred.
- (f) If your tenancy ends because you die, then the payment of any outstanding monies owed will be sought from the proceeds of your estate.

#### 34 Make the most of your 'A Guide to your Home'

'A Guide to your Home' is a very important document which will help you manage your tenancy agreement. It contains useful information about your rights and responsibilities as tenant and the Council's rights and responsibilities as landlord.

### Part 2 - Contract

#### Tenants:

	Tenant One	Tenant Two
Title:		
Tenant(s) Full Name:		
Marital Status:		
Date of Birth:		
N.I Number:		
Landline Number:		
Mobile Number:		
Work Number:		
Email Address:		

### Other Occupants Living at the Address:

Title	Full Name	DOB	NI Number	Relationship to Tenant

#### **Tenancy Agreement – Introductory to Fixed Term Tenancy**

"We, our, us", ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL and

This Agreement is a legal contract made between:

2. "You, your" [INSERT NAME OF TENANT(s)]
This Agreement creates an INTRODUCTORY TENANCY/FIXED TERM TENANCY in respect of the dwelling-house or flat at (the property):
Your INTRODUCTORY TENANCY will commence on
Your INTRODUCTORY TENANCY will automatically become a FIXED TERM TENANCY on
If the period of your INTRODUCTORY TENANCY is extended by us then your FIXED TERM TENANCY will commence upon the expiry of the extended period of your INTRODUCTORY TENANCY unless before their possession proceedings have been commenced by us against you.
Your FIXED TERM TENANCY will be a fixed term tenancy of years expiring on

#### 1. Legal Contract

1.

- (a) This Agreement is a legal contract between you and us. You should only sign it if you are prepared to comply with your obligations set out in the agreement and your other legal obligations which are set out in Acts of Parliament and statutory instruments made under these Acts.
- (b) If you do not understand anything in this Agreement you may want to ask for independent advice from the Citizens Advice Bureau or a solicitor before you sign.
- (c) This Agreement only contains details of what we agree to do as your landlord and what you agree to do as our tenant. Both you and we have other obligations and rights set out in Acts of Parliament and in regulations made by Ministers under those Acts. These statutory rights and obligations are not explained in this document but are set out in the Council's 'A Guide to your Home' that has been given to you.
- (d) This Agreement creates a tenancy in respect of the property. We are your landlord and you are our tenant. The tenancy you will receive will be a secure tenancy if immediately before taking this tenancy you were a secure tenant of another Council property or an assured tenant of a housing association; otherwise the tenancy will be an introductory tenancy. The type of tenancy that is created by signing this document is mentioned above.
- (e) Whatever tenancy you have the obligations on your part are the same. However, your statutory rights may be different. These are explained in 'A Guide to Your Home'.

#### 2. Introductory Tenancy

If your tenancy is an introductory tenancy there will be a trial period of at least one year. Your tenancy will usually become a secure tenancy on the date mentioned above unless we extend it (please see your copy of 'A Guide to Your Home' for details of extending introductory tenancies

#### 3. Flexible or Fixed Term Tenancy

Your flexible/fixed term tenancy is a tenancy under section 154 of the Localism Act 2011/ Section 118/119 of the Housing and Planning act 2016. Under the terms of this Agreement you will have the right to live in the property for the fixed term as stated in this Agreement. We cannot evict you during this fixed term without first obtaining a possession order from the Court.

#### 4. Demoted Tenancies

If your tenancy is a secure tenancy the Court may make it a demoted tenancy if we can prove that the grounds for doing so exist and it is reasonable for the Court to make a demotion order. If an order is made your tenancy will become a DEMOTED TENANCY for a period of usually one year, after which period your periodic tenancy is restored. You will still have to comply with all of the obligations of a tenant whilst you are a demoted tenant, with reduced statutory rights. Your statutory rights and obligations under a demoted tenancy are explained in 'A Guide to your Home'.

#### 5. Occupancy

Whatever tenancy you have at any particular time you will lose most of your statutory rights if you cease to occupy the property as your only or main home. During any period that you (or at least one of you if you are joint tenants) do not occupy the property as your only or main home we may end your tenancy by giving you notice to quit complying with the Protection from Eviction Act 1977, and you will not be able to exercise your right to buy.

#### Tenancy Agreement - Flexible/fixed term tenancy

This Agreement is a legal contract made between:

1. 2.	"We, our, us", ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL and "You, your" [INSERT NAME OF TENANT(s)]
	Agreement creates a FIXED TERM TENANCY in respect of the dwelling-house or flat at (the erty):
Your	FIXED TERM TENANCY will commence on
	FIXED TERM TENANCY will be a fixed term tenancy of years expiring on

#### 1. Legal Contract

- (a) This Agreement is a legal contract between you and us. You should only sign it if you are prepared to comply with your obligations set out in the agreement and your other legal obligations which are set out in Acts of Parliament and statutory instruments made under those Acts.
- (b) If you do not understand anything in this Agreement you may want to ask for independent advice from the Citizens Advice Bureau or a Solicitor before you sign.
- (c) This Agreement only contains details of what we agree to do as your landlord and what you agree to do as our tenant. Both you and we have other obligations and rights set out in Acts of Parliament and in regulations made by Ministers under those Acts. These statutory rights and obligations are not explained in this document but are set out in 'A Guide to your Home' that has been given to you.
- (d) This Agreement creates a tenancy in respect of the Property. We are your landlord and you are our tenant. The tenancy you will receive will be a secure tenancy if immediately before taking this tenancy you were a secure tenant of another local authority property or an assured tenant of a housing association; otherwise the tenancy will be a fixed term tenancy.
- (e) Whatever tenancy you have the obligations on your part are the same. However your statutory rights may be different. These are explained in 'A Guide to your Home'.

#### 2. Fixed Tenancy

Your fixed term tenancy is a tenancy under section 154 of the Localism Act 2011 or Section 118/119 of the Housing and Planning act 2016. Under the terms of this Agreement you will have the right to live in the property for the fixed term as stated in this Agreement. We cannot evict you during this fixed term without first obtaining a possession order from the Court.

#### 3. Demoted Tenancies

If your tenancy is a secure tenancy the Court may make it a demoted tenancy if we can prove that the grounds for doing so exist and it is reasonable for the Court to make a demotion order. If an order is made your tenancy will become a DEMOTED TENANCY for a period of usually one year, after which period your periodic tenancy is restored. You will still have to comply with all of the obligations of a

tenant whilst you are a demoted tenant, with reduced statutory rights. Your statutory rights and obligations under a demoted tenancy are explained in 'A Guide to your Home'.

#### 4. Occupancy

Whatever tenancy you have at any particular time you will lose most of your statutory rights if you cease to occupy the property as your only or main home. During any period that you (or at least one of you if you are joint tenants) do not occupy the property as your only or main home we may end your tenancy by giving you notice to quit complying with the Protection from Eviction Act 1977, and you will not be able to exercise your right to buy.

#### **Tenancy Agreement – Introductory to periodic tenancy**

This Agreement is a legal contract made between:

1. 2.	"We, our, us", ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL and "You, your" [INSERT NAME OF TENANT(s)]
	Agreement creates an INTRODUCTORY TENANCY/PERIODIC TENANCY in respect of the dwelling- se or flat at (the property):
Your	INTRODUCTORY TENANCY will commence on
 Your	INTRODUCTORY TENANCY will automatically become a PERIODIC TENANCY on
INTF	

If the period of your INTRODUCTORY TENANCY is extended by us then your PERIODIC TENANCY will commence upon the expiry of the extended period of your INTRODUCTORY TENANCY unless before then possession proceedings have been commenced by us against you.

#### 2. Legal Contract

- (a) This Agreement is a legal contract between you and us. You should only sign it if you are prepared to comply with your obligations set out in the agreement and your other legal obligations which are set out in Acts of Parliament and statutory instruments made under those Acts.
- (b) If you do not understand anything in this Agreement you may want to ask for independent advice from the Citizens Advice Bureau or a solicitor before you sign.
- (c) This Agreement only contains details of what we agree to do as your landlord and what you agree to do as our tenant. Both you and we have other obligations and rights set out in Acts of Parliament and in regulations made by Ministers under those Acts. These statutory rights and obligations are not explained in this document but are set out in 'A Guide to your Home' that has been given to you.
- (d) This Agreement creates a tenancy in respect of the Property. We are your landlord and you are our tenant. The tenancy you will receive will be a Secure Tenancy if immediately before taking this tenancy you were a secure tenant of another council property or an assured tenant of a housing association; otherwise the tenancy will be an introductory tenancy. The type of tenancy that is created by signing this document is mentioned above.
- (e) Whatever tenancy you have the obligations on your part are the same. However your statutory rights may be different. These are explained in 'A Guide to your Home'.

#### 3. Introductory Tenancy

If your tenancy is an introductory tenancy there will be a trial period of one year.

Your tenancy will usually become a period tenancy on the date mentioned above unless we extend it (please see your copy of 'A Guide to your Home' for details of extending introductory tenancies).

#### 4. Demoted Tenancies

If your tenancy is a secure tenancy the Court may make it a demoted tenancy if we can prove that the grounds for doing so exist and it is reasonable for the Court to make a demotion order. If an order is made your tenancy will become a DEMOTED TENANCY for a period of usually one year, after which period your periodic tenancy is restored. You will still have to comply with all of the obligations of a tenant whilst you are a demoted tenant, with reduced statutory rights. Your statutory rights and obligations under a demoted tenancy are explained in 'A Guide to your Home'.

#### 5. Occupancy

Whatever tenancy you have at any particular time you will lose most of your statutory rights if you cease to occupy the property as your only or main home. During any period that you (or at least one of you if you are joint tenants) do not occupy the property as your only or main home we may end your tenancy by giving you notice to quit complying with the Protection from Eviction Act 1977, and you will not be able to exercise your right to buy.

#### **Weekly Rent and Additional Rent**

Rent and all other charges relating to the property are due weekly (in advance). From time to time we will change your rent and/or service charges. This will usually be in April each year. We will write you a letter letting you know the new amount you must pay. This letter will be sent to you at least four weeks before you need to start paying the new amounts.

The rent per week is £
If your tenancy starts on any day other than a Monday, your first rent payment will be due on the first day of your tenancy and is worked out in proportion to the number of days in that week.
Therefore, your first week's rent will be: £

Additional Rent (List other charges that the tenant must pay under this Agreement)

	Rent	£	Per week
		Additional Rent	
	(list other charges that	the tenant must pay under t	his agreement)
		£	Per week
1	Total Rent	£	Per week
		Additional Payments	
		£	Per week
5		£	Per week
3	Total additional payments	£	Per week
		Rent allowances	
		£	Per week
		£	Per week
		£	Per week
<u> </u>		£	Per week
;	Total Rent Allowances	£	Per week
	Total rent payable (A + B - C)	£	Per week

#### Declaration to be signed by all tenants

- I confirm the information given in the Housing Register application form by me/us was and still is true.
- I have not withheld any information that may affect the application.
- I understand that if I have knowingly given false or incomplete information the Council can take action to end this tenancy.
- I agree to accept the tenancy of \_\_\_\_\_\_ on the terms and conditions set out in this tenancy agreement.
- I acknowledge receipt of \_\_\_\_\_ keys for the property and agree to return all keys when the tenancy ends.
- I acknowledge receipt of a copy of this agreement.
- I understand the obligations set down in this Tenancy Agreement.
- I acknowledge receipt of 'A Guide to your Home' which contains important information about my tenancy and my statutory rights.
- I understand the additional information about my Tenancy Agreement given in 'A Guide to your Home'.
- I understand that the Council is required to use information provided by me to carryout cross system and cross authority comparison for the prevention and detection of fraud or crime. I understand that information I have provided may be used in this way or for connected purposes, and that this information may also be shared with certain third parties who administer or protect public funds.

Signed on behalf of the Council by

Name of Officer	
Signed(Duly authorised Officer)	Dated
Name of Tenant	
Signed	Dated
Name of Tenant	
Signed	Dated
Name of Tenant	
Signed	Dated_

## Declaration to be signed by tenants on District Heating Schemes I/We [INSERT NAME OF TENANT(s)] The tenant(s) of [INSERT PROPERTY ADDRESS] Agree to pay for my/our heating/hot water charges and understand that failure to do so would constitute a breach of my/our tenancy agreement. These charges are subject to change due to the increase in fuel and maintenance costs and the Council will give written notice of any such increase. Heating costs will not be covered by Housing Benefit payments. If I/we do not make the necessary payments a debt to my rent account will accrue and the Council will take steps to recover the outstanding amounts. Signed on behalf of the Council by Name of Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_ Signed (Duly authorised Officer) Name of Tenant \_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_Dated Name of Tenant Dated Signed Name of Tenant

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_

To: The Landlord: Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

of: Adult Care and Housing Riverside House, Main Street, Rotherham, S60 1AE

Gı	Jai	ran	itee
v	Jai	aı	ILCC

IN C	CONS	SIDERATION of your having agreed at my request to accept ('the Tenant')
as tl	he ter	nant of ('the Property') upon the terms of an Introductory
Ten	ancy	Agreement dated ('the Introductory Tenancy Agreement') at the rent of
		per week ('the Rent') payable in advance.
NOV	N, I	(name of guarantor)
of		(address)
		DERTAKE to use my best endeavours to support the tenant by guiding and advising the nt as to his/her rights and responsibilities under the Tenancy Agreement
2.		RANTEE the payment by the tenant to you of the rent and performance and observance m/her of the terms of the Introductory Tenancy Agreement upon the following conditions;
	2.1	If the tenant defaults in the payment of the rent for the period of four weeks in aggregate, I will upon a written request by you promptly pay you the four weeks' rent that is in arrear together with such additional rent as may be due and payable to the landlord until the tenant's rent is no longer in deficit.
	2.2	If the tenant defaults in the performance or observance of any of the provisions on his part contained in the Tenancy Agreement, I will pay to you all losses, damages, expenses and costs that you shall be entitled to recover by reason of his default, to the extent to which you are unable to recover them from the tenant.
	2.3	This Guarantee shall continue only from the date hereof until the
	2.4	Without prejudice to clause 2.3 above this guarantee shall not be discharged by your giving the tenant time in which to meet his/her rent or other indulgence in respect of his obligations under the Tenant Agreement.
	2.5	If the Tenancy Agreement is assigned with your consent or is termination by agreement or by re-entry or disclaimer or otherwise, all future liability on my part shall cease.
Nan	ne of	Guarantor
Sigr	ned	Dated

# **Furnished Tenancy Agreement** Date of Agreement: Landlord: Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council Address of Property: Inventory of contents ordered: I/we agree that this is a true and complete inventory of the landlord's furniture and effects at the property. I am aware that there will be an additional charge of £.....per week starting from ...... and I agree to the terms and conditions of the Furnished Homes Scheme as stated in section 6 of this agreement.

Name of Tenant

Name of Tenant \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_Dated \_\_\_\_\_

## **Furnished Tenancy Agreement (2)** Date of Agreement: Landlord: Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council Address of Property: Supplementary inventory of contents ordered: I/we agree that this is a true and complete inventory of the Landlord's furniture and effects at the property. I am aware that there will be an additional charge of £.....per week starting from ...... and I agree to the terms and conditions of the Furnished Homes Scheme as stated in section 6 of this agreement. Name of Tenant \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Dated \_\_\_\_ Name of Tenant \_\_\_\_\_

Signed Dated