# Fair Rents (Scotland) Bill

### Introduction

A proposal for a Bill to protect private sector tenants by introducing measures to limit rent increases and to increase the availability of information about rent levels. The consultation runs from 15 May 2019 to 6 August 2019. All those wishing to respond to the consultation are strongly encouraged to enter their responses electronically through this survey. This makes collation of responses much simpler and quicker. However, the option also exists of sending in a separate response (in hard copy or by other electronic means such as e-mail), and details of how to do so are included in the member's consultation document. Questions marked with an asterisk (\*) require an answer. All responses must include a name and contact details. Names will only be published if you give us permission, and contact details are never published but we may use them to contact you if there is a query about your response. If you do not include a name and/or contact details, we may have to disregard your response.â€≀ Please note that you must complete the survey in order for your response to be accepted. If you don't wish to complete the survey in a single session, you can choose "Save and Continue later" at any point. Whilst you have the option to skip particular questions, you must continue to the end of the survey and press "Submit" to have your response fully recorded. Please ensure you have read the consultation document before responding to any of the questions that follow. In particular, you should read the information contained in the document about how your response will be handled. The consultation document is available here: Consultation document **Privacy Notice** 

I confirm that I have read and understood the Privacy Notice attached to this consultation which explains how my personal data will be used

### **About you**

Please choose whether you are responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation. Note: If you choose "individual" and consent to have the response published, it will appear under your own name. If you choose "on behalf of an organisation" and consent to have the response published, it will be published under the organisation's name.

an individual

Which of the following best describes you? (If you are a professional or academic, but not in a subject relevant to the consultation, please choose "Member of the public".)

Member of the public

Optional: You may wish to explain briefly what expertise or experience you have that is relevant to the subject-matter of the consultation:

Long term landlord

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

No Response

Please choose one of the following:

I would like this response to be published anonymously

If you have requested anonymity or asked for your response not to be published, please give a reason (Note: your reason will not be published):

I am a private individual that treasures my privacy but keen to take part in the survey

Please provide your name or the name of your organisation. (Note: the name will not be published if you have asked for the response to be anonymous or "not for publication". Otherwise this is the name that will be published with your response).

Please provide details of a way in which we can contact you if there are queries regarding your response. Email is preferred but you can also provide a postal address or phone number. We will not publish these details.

## Aim and approach - rent cap

Q1. Which of the following best expresses your view of capping private sector rent increases annually across Scotland at one percentage point above inflation (measured according to the Consumer Price Index (CPI))?

Fully opposed

#### Please explain the reasons for your response.

The private rented sector is by its name private and should be lightly regulated the government fail to provide enough housing in the public sector then over legislate to an extent that will eventually result in lower available private rented housing. The private rented sector is now over regulated has resulted in lower demand and hence higher rents. Too much regulating is the problem You may think politically it's a good move but you are in fact making it worse for the sector you proclaim to be assisting.

## Rent level appeals

Q2. Which of the following best expresses your view of providing that, when tenants appeal their rent, rent officers and the First-tier Tribunal would be able to either lower or maintain the rent but not increase the rent?

Fully opposed

#### Please explain the reasons for your response.

More regulation will not help the situation and keep rents down, market forces have to be recognised if there is too much supply rents will go down as seen in Aberdeen if there is not enough supply rents will go up as seen in Edinburgh The power is in the hands of the government! Build more public sector housing

Q2. Which of the following best expresses your view of providing that, when tenants appeal their rent, rent officers and the First-tier Tribunal would be able to either lower or maintain the rent but not increase the rent?

please, and rents will be controlled continue to regulate and you will bring on a private sector housing shortfall

## Landlord registration scheme

Q3. Which of the following best expresses your view of expanding the landlord registration scheme so that landlords must input the rent that they charge when they register, and update the system when the rent changes?

Fully opposed

Please explain the reasons for your response.

Nonsense you are taking regulation to the extreme

### **Other options - Rent Pressure Zones**

Q4. Which of the following best expresses your view of tackling the problem of rents rising significantly faster than inflation by making it easier for a local authority to apply to create a Rent Pressure Zone (RPZ)?

Fully opposed

Please explain the reasons for this response.

In these areas local authorities are obviously not building enough public sector housing they have created the problem themselves again build more public sector housing please

## **Financial implications**

Q5. Taking account of both costs and potential savings, what financial impact would you expect the proposed Bill to have on:

	Significant increase in cost	Some increase in cost	Broadly cost- neutral	Some reduction in cost	Significant reduction in cost	Unsure
Government and the public sector		x				
Businesses (including landlords)		x				

Q5. Taking account of both costs and potential savings, what financial impact would you expect the proposed Bill to have on:
Individuals (including X tenants)
Please explain the reasons for your response.  More regulation will at the end of the day be bad for all concerned
Q6. Are there ways in which the Bill could achieve its aim more cost-effectively (e.g. by reducing costs or increasing savings)?
The government have a responsibility to build more public rented housing if supply is high and demand i low rents are controlled government central and local have created the private rented sector housing market. Build more public housing and the problem is solved, regulate more and you will increase the problem
Equalities
Q7. What overall impact is the proposed Bill likely to have on equality, taking account of the following protected characteristics (under the Equality Act 2010): age, disability, gender re-assignment, maternity and pregnancy, marriage and civil partnership, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation?
Negative
Q8. In what ways could any negative impact of the Bill on equality be minimised or avoided?
Don't take the Bill forward
Sustainability
Q9. Do you consider that the proposed Bill can be delivered sustainably, i.e. without having likely future disproportionate economic, social and/or environmental impacts?
No
General

#### Q10. Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the proposal?

Yes drop the Bill! Scotland has regulated enough tenants have substantial rights now which is correct, instead of regulating put all your energy into funding and building publicly owned homes for the population