

Community  
Legal Service



# COVENTRY LAW CENTRE

## HOUSING LAW LEAFLETS

### SEEKING HOUSING ADVICE

**This leaflet is intended to assist those persons who require advice regarding housing issues but do not know who to approach.**

#### Seeking Advice & Assistance

This leaflet is intended to give general guidance only and is not to be treated as giving specific advice in respect of particular cases.

If you would like advice from Coventry Law Centre call reception on 02476 223053.

Coventry Law Centre  
The Bridge  
Broadgate  
Coventry CV1 1NG

Tel: 024 76223053

Registered with Charity Commission as Coventry Law Centre: 1087312  
Registered as a limited company in England & Wales: 4149673

Although every effort is made to ensure the information in this leaflet is accurate and up to date, it should not be treated as a complete and authoritative statement of the law and does not constitute legal advice - we cannot be held liable for any inaccuracies and their consequences. The information in this leaflet is written for people resident in, or affected by, the laws of England and Wales only.

## **SEEKING HOUSING ADVICE**

Legal advice and representation on housing advice can be obtained from a variety of sources. Advice could be obtained from organisations such as Housing Advice Centres or Citizens Advice Bureau. There may also be a local Law Centre in your area. Most Law Centres do tend to specialise in housing law.

Alternatively, you may wish to consult a solicitor in private practice. It is possible that you may be put off by fears that they would charge large amounts of money. However, many firms who advise on housing law do so under what used to be known as the Legal Aid Scheme. They can give you initial advice under what is known as the Legal Help Scheme, subject to you satisfying an income and capital test, and, if your case goes to Court, they may be able to fund the case under what is known as a Public Funding Certificate. If you are telephoning solicitors to arrange an appointment you should ensure that they do carry out work under these schemes.

When seeking advice, you should ensure that the organisation providing the advice is a competent one. A simple way of checking this is to find out whether they have a contract with the Legal Services Commission under the terms of which they can supply advice and representation. If they do have such a contract then this is an indication as to their competence.