
Press release



Support and advice is on hand for tenants facing rent rise

Following today's announcement about Nottingham City Council's rent rises, Nottingham City Homes is pledging to help tenants tackle debt and manage their money.

The proposed rent rise of 5% means the average rent on a three bedroom house will rise by £3.06 per week and the average on a one bedroom flat will rise by £2.29 per week.

The Government's rent formula prescribed a 6.4% rise in Nottingham this year. But the City Council and NCH has found £1m savings to make sure the rise can be kept to 5%.

Chris Langstaff, Chief Executive of Nottingham City Homes, said: "We are supporting the City Council in its decision to keep the rent increase to only 5%. This has meant we both have to make significant savings but was ultimately the right decision for our tenants."

Tenants who are concerned about debt and managing their money are advised to contact our rents team on 0115 915 4920. We will sit down with them and talk them through their rent, bills and living costs to see where we

can make savings. We will also offer free and impartial advice on how to handle debt and make sure tenants are claiming all the benefits they are entitled to.

We already approach tenants directly who we know are having problems paying their rent. We offer them all the help and advice we have available. However there may be some people who we are not aware of. We are advising these tenants to come to us and see how we can help.

Chris Langstaff added: "For those tenants who receive housing benefit – don't panic. You will get the full cost of your rent covered.

"We do realise however that there are some tenants who pay full rent and do not qualify for benefits. For these tenants this could be a very difficult time and I urge them to contact us and find out more about help and support available to them."

Ends

Notes to editors:

Nottingham City Homes was created on 1st April 2005 as an Arms Length Management Organisation (ALMO) to manage Nottingham City Council's rented and leasehold homes. We are now working hard towards bringing Nottingham's council houses up to the Government's Decent Homes standard by 2013.

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