2020 Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government Private Rented Sector Innovation and Enforcement Grants

Key: PRS -Private Rented Sector, HMO - House in Multiple Occupation, CPN - Civil Penalty Notice, EPC - Energy Performance Certificate

Council	Funding	Summary
Ashfield District Council	£35,640	This project will involve the development of IT solutions within the Council that will significantly streamline their enforcement service. The outcomes are expected to impact customer service, ensuring that customers will receive a better and faster service, while council officers are enabled to focus their time more effectively on enforcement action against criminal landlords.
Basildon Borough Council	£58,850	An intensive targeted project to improve knowledge of the numbers and locations of HMOs. It will also include extensive public communications to empower the council to make risk-based interventions to ensure vulnerable tenants have decent homes.
Bedford Borough Council	£21,312	The Bedford HMO licensing project is will apply a targeted enforcement approach to ensure every HMO in the area meets their licensing requirements. By focusing on unlicensed properties, the council will effectively target rogue landlords who fail to meet their responsibilities and ensure hundreds of tenants are living in safe and decent homes. The use of civil penalties as an enforcement tool will also enable the council to self-fund future enforcement work.
Blackpool City Council	£63,000	The council will work with a wide range of partners, including the Department for Work and Pensions, to systematically target landlords whose criminal behaviours causes the highest demand on public services whilst empowering tenants by supporting them to know their rights and challenge sub-standard accommodation.
Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council	£10,500	The council will provide training for housing enforcement officers in investigative practice. This will empower officers to identify and target rogue landlords and prepare cases against them with greater effectiveness and efficiency.
Bristol City Council	£85,321	This project will deliver a housing stock report, with a particular focus on section 257 HMOs, to enable effective enforcement against poorly-converted flats which often house the most vulnerable tenants. Enforcement officers will also receive Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 training and additional equipment to ensure the council's enforcement action is efficient, effective and legally robust.
Broxbourne Borough Council	£58,922	The project will improve the council's knowledge of the PRS in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the area and enable the council to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords. To complement this, tenants and landlords from minority groups will be empowered to make their voices heard by commissioning Language Line to provide support and translation services.
Burnley Borough Council	£5,600	The project will held to drive up standards in the PRS by delivering bespoke training to both support landlords to meet their responsibilities and empower tenants to make full use of their rights. The project will make sure vulnerable tenants have decent homes by training local authority and other public sector staff to understand and identify cases of Modern Day Slavery.
Cherwell District Council	£19,320	This initiative will identify vulnerable, elderly tenants and establish a reliable and repeatable procedure that will enable the Council to offer targeted assistance to ensure they have safe, decent and well-maintained homes.
Cheshire East Borough Council	£75,195	The project will improve the council's knowledge of rented homes in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the area and enable the council to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords.
City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council	£20,100	This project will empower housing enforcement officers to more effective and efficient action against complex cases involving poor quality property conversions. The council will also deliver training to support good landlords to meet their responsibilities.
City of Wolverhampton Council	£183,950	The project will deliver the second phase of the council's Rent with Confidence scheme which, in partnership with Public Health England, will provide both tenants and landlords with training, mediation and a deeper understanding of their rights and obligations to improve the health and well-being of tenants in the city, by driving up the standards of rented homes.
Cornwall Council	£70,753	The project will improve the council's knowledge of the PRS in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the area and enable the council to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords. The council will also deliver training to support the majority of responsible landlords in providing decent homes for tenants and purchase new equipment to ensure officers spend less time behind a desk and focus their time more effectively on taking tough action against criminal landlords.
Dacorum Borough Council	£69,017	The project will improve the council's knowledge of the PRS in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the area and enable the council to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords.
Darlington Borough Council	£59,300	The project will improve knowledge of the local PRS through housing stock and tenant modelling, and enforcement officer training to enable robust intelligence-drive enforcement takes robust action against criminal landlords and ensures vulnerable tenants have decent, well-maintained homes.
Derby City Council	£70,000	The project will increase the council's intelligence on the location of the poorest PRS properties, on Derby's housing stock and landlords and agents through targeted stock condition desktop analysis. This will enable the council to target resources at supporting landlords and tenants more effectively and take action against criminal landlords.
Dorset Council	£38,300	The project will integrate and analyse data sources in the recently unified council in order to proactively target and provide individual support and guidance to the most vulnerable tenants living in the PRS. Alongside this, the council will support landlords to maintain decent homes and better manage their tenancies through bespoke training.
Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council	£72,842	The project will improve the council's knowledge of the PRS in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the area and enable the council to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords.
East Kent Consortium (Ashford Borough Council, Dover District Council, Dartford Borough Council, Folkestone and Hythe District Council, Swale Borough Council)	£185,583	The project will improve the councils' knowledge of the PRS in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the region and enable the councils to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords.

East Northamptonshire Council and Corby Borough Council	£83,287	The project will improve the councils' knowledge of the PRS in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the area and enable the councils to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords.
East Riding of Yorkshire Council	£17,950	The grant will deliver training to letting and managing agents so they can effectively support landlords to provide safe and decent homes. The project will also gather and analyse available intelligence data, which can be used to inform and drive targeted enforcement of criminal landlords and provide advisory activities to support the majority of responsible landlords.
East Suffolk Council	£56,950	This multi-agency project will link statutory and voluntary organisations together to work with landlords and tenants where the tenant exhibits hoarding and self-neglect behaviour to ensure their homes are decent and well-maintained. The project will deliver best practice in dealing with vulnerable tenants exhibiting these behaviours and work with landlords to drive up standards in their homes.
Exeter City Council	£43,328	This project will identify and tackle criminal landlords and publicly encourage responsible landlord and letting agent behaviour through the innovative training to those who house vulnerable tenants. It will develop robust, tracked referral and enforcement pathways between partner organisations and undertake intelligence gathering exercises. The project will also empower tenants to make their voices heard by supporting them with smarter self-referral tools.
Gateshead Council	£36,400	The funding will be used to train enforcement officers and managers in Advanced Professional Certificate in Investigative Practice to empower them to identify and take robust action against criminal landlords more effectively.
Gedling Borough Council	£40,000	The funding will be used to establish the Rogue Landlord Enforcement Project, which will work proactively with partners on joint operations to tackle criminal landlords where there is also evidence of Modern Slavery, Serious Organised Crime, Child Sexual Exploitation and ensure that these vulnerable tenants are in decent, well-maintained homes.
Gravesham Borough Council	£16,470	The project will use personal visits and questionnaires in a targeted, densely populated area in order to build intelligence which can be used to allow the council to proactively work with landlords to address poor quality housing and take enforcement action against criminal landlords.
Hastings Borough Council	£48,600	The project will compile intelligence to enable effective enforcement action to ensure rented homes meet minimum energy efficiency standards and tenants have warm, decent homes. An event will also be held for housing professionals on improving fire safety to ensure tenants can feel safe in their homes and dedicated information (and an associated social media campaign) will be developed for young people moving into PRS to educate them in their rights and responsibilities.
Hull City Council	£25,250	The project will use proactive data gathering to develop a robust intelligence base to prioritise and deliver enforcement work. Body cameras will be procured to ensure this enforcement action results in robust evidence that can be used to take effective action against criminal landlords. Training will also provided to support the majority of good landlords to meet their responsibilities and drive up standards.
Lancaster City Council	£11,700	Building on the successful delivery of a MHCLG funded training package, the project carry out further work to build a more knowledgeable, confident and supported housing enforcement network across the Lancashire region. The council will host a series of Best Practice Training days to reinforce cross-boundary communication and establish centres of expertise to ensure effective action is taken against criminal landlords across the county.
Lichfield District Council	£5,200	The project will procure inspection software and smartphones to reduce the time Housing Officers spend writing reports following inspections and can focus their time more effectively on enforcement action against criminal landlords.
Liverpool City Council	£85,950	The project will work with a trusted local Children's Centre to identify and take action against rogue landlords whose properties contain pest infestations, driving up standards and ensuring vulnerable tenants (who are reluctant to engage with council services) are living in decent, pest-free homes.
London Borough of Bexley	£56,193	Using data analysis of both council-held and national data, the council will improve knowledge of the PRS in the borough and identify both the scale and location of HMOs. The Council will be able to utilise the intelligence gathered to develop targeted and proactive enforcement against criminal landlords.
London Borough of Brent	£38,000	The project will combine data analysis and a stock condition survey to develop a targeted intervention approach, driving up the standards in the PRS by focusing on criminal landlords. The project will also deliver training to managing and estate agents so they can support their landlords in providing decent, well-maintained homes.
London Borough of Camden (Proposal 1)	£70,566	The project will carry out extensive tenant engagement work to develop the council's tenant knowledge base and encourage tenants to seek out and access existing support to ensure they have decent, well-maintained homes. This will include a new smart complaint form which enables enforcement officers to focus their time more effectively on enforcement action against criminal landlords.
London Borough of Camden (Proposal 2)	£111,585	The project will improve the council's knowledge of the PRS in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the area and enable the council to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords.
London Borough of Haringey	£93,516	The project will take targeted enforcement action against landlords in order to drive up standards on a street with known criminal and anti-social behaviour, poor waste management and Health and Safety Issues. The project will also deliver a robust database intelligence to enable long-term enforcement of the area and work with other council services to ensure no criminal landlord goes undetected and avoids their financial responsibilities.
London Borough of Hounslow (partnered by London Borough of Ealing, Slough Borough Council and the London Borough of Hillingdon)	£57,862	The project will strengthen partnership working across borough boundaries, to identify Portfolio Criminal Landlords (PCLs) who operate across local authority boundaries and inform pro-active targeted enforcement and prosecution against the very worst landlords who make tenants lives a misery across several boroughs.
London Boroughs of Barking and Dagenham, Havering, and Redbridge	£15,000	This project will support good landlords by developing a range of e-learning packages to enable landlords to recognise signs of crime, exploitation and modern-day slavery and ensure these tenants have decent, well-maintained homes.
Mansfield District Council	£47,893	The project will improve the council's knowledge of the PRS in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the area and enable the council to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords.

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North East Lincolnshire Council	£6,700	The project will use extensive social media campaigns and produce guidance to educate both landlords and tenants to ensure that both know their rights and responsibilities and tenants feel safe and secure in their homes. This will be complemented by a data sharing portal to improve communication between different local services and ensure tenants receive the support they need.
North Norfolk District Council	£44,232	The project will improve the council's knowledge of the PRS in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the area and enable the council to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords.
North Somerset Council	£8,950	The project will work with a landlord accreditation provider to encourage landlords to participate in the scheme and enable the local authority to effectively target its enforcement action at criminal landlords.
Northampton Borough Council	£196,379	Building on the success of a joint operation carried out in November, a 'Special Operations Unit' will be established to drive up standards for vulnerable tenants in the PRS. This dedicated unit will be able to take swift and decisive action against the Borough's worst criminal landlords, who are collectively responsible for over 100 homes in the town, suspected to be involved in people trafficking, modern slavery and the supply of illegal drugs.
Nottingham City Council (Proposal 1)	£91,370	The project will deliver a range of simple and interactive tools to help drive up standards by empowering tenants to know and exercise their rights and providing support to responsible landlords to provide safe, decent homes. It will also deliver training to enforcement officers to empower them to take tough action against criminal landlords more effectively.
Nottingham City Council (Proposal 2)	£9,840	A research project into the experience of care leavers who have moved into the private rented sector and become subject to exploitation and bad practice. The project will enable intelligence led enforcement action that protects the most vulnerable tenants.
Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council	£68,986	The project will improve the council's knowledge of the PRS in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the area and enable the council to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords.
Oxford City Council	£70,788	The project will discourage criminal landlords and help make PRS enforcement self-funding by making sure criminal landlords pay out through improved debt recovery processes. It will test a recently developed algorithm, designed to identify PRS properties where criminal landlords would otherwise go undetected.
Portsmouth City Council	£85,686	The project will improve the council's knowledge of the PRS in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the area and enable the council to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords.
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council	£38,180	The project consists of proactive targeted enforcement in a deprived community in order to drive up the standard of rented homes, particularly for vulnerable tenants who have not previously accessed council support, and to reduce anti-social behaviour in the area.
Rossendale Borough Council	£24,000	The project will carry out intelligence-lead enforcement - targeted at rogue landlords and letting agents in known problematic areas of the borough. The project will also deliver training for landlords and property agents to understand their rights and responsibilities. It will hold further events to raise awareness of the importance of decent homes for the health of tenants, how the council's enforcement work is part of this and to encourage tenants and public partners to make their voices heard.
Royal Borough of Greenwich	£74,605	The project will improve the council's knowledge of the PRS in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the area and enable the council to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords.
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea	£31,000	This data-focused project will combine tenure modelling and in-person visits to improve the council's knowledge of its housing stock enabling more efficient and effective enforcement action against the small minority of criminal landlords, driving up standards amongst the borough's unlicensed HMOs.
Rushmoor Borough Council	£8,351	To ensure that every tenant's voice is heard, the project will employ a Nepalese speaking out-reach worker who will integrate into the community and provide education, advice and support to Nepali residents and landlords.
Somerset West and Taunton Council	£66,111	The project will improve the council's knowledge of the PRS in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the area and enable the council to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords.
South Ribble Borough Council	£13,915	The project will raise awareness of the rights and services available to tenants, working with partners such as the Department for Work and Pensions and Citizens Advice to support vulnerable tenants. The project will also update inspection and enforcement IT systems to enable enforcement officers to focus their time more effectively on enforcement action against criminal landlords.
South Tyneside Council	£44,641	The project will improve the council's knowledge of the PRS in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the area and enable the council to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords.
Southampton City Council	£20,022	The project will gather and analyse data to enable targeted action training, communication and enforcement action against the small minority of criminal landlords, to raise the standards of heating and insulation in homes across the city.
St Helens Council	£2,490	The project will provide equipment to support enforcement officers in taking evidence when dealing with high-risk properties and non-compliant landlords which, alongside training and legal support, will ensure robust and effective action is taken against rogue landlords in the town.
Stoke-on-Trent City Council and Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council	£29,794	The project will carry out targeted marketing to ensure tenants know their rights and responsibilities and promote council support available to the most vulnerable of tenants, to ensure they have decent homes. The project will also identify properties in the PRS with an EPC rating of below an E, to carry out targeted engagement with landlords and take action where necessary.
Sunderland City Council	£90,000	The project will use existing stock modelling data to carry out intelligently targeted and robust enforcement action against the worst rogue landlords in the city, raising standards for the most vulnerable PRS tenants. The council will also develop IT solutions within the Council that will significantly streamline their enforcement service so council officers can focus their time more effectively on enforcement action against criminal landlords.

Council	Amount	Description
Teignbridge District Council	£20,929	The project will further develop a Property Agent Rating Scheme (PARS) in Teignbridge, targeting those who have not signed up to the scheme to put an end to poor letting/managing agent practices in the sector. The council will also support agents to meet their responsibilities through training events and will work with a neighbouring council to share best practice and explore if the scheme can be expanded to further tackle rogue agents.
Tendring District Council	£100,000	The council will undertake a stock condition survey of homes in the Jaywick Sands, one of the most deprived areas in the country, to identify properties in the PRS and enable robust and targeted action against rogue landlords.
Test Valley Borough Council	£37,326	The project will improve the council's knowledge of the PRS in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the area and enable the council to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords.
Thanet District Council	£34,742	The Thanet Cold Homes Finder project aims to proactively identify all homes in the PRS, which have an EPC rating of F or G. The project will support two officers who will spend 10 weeks gathering information and visiting homes with a view to establishing which privately rented homes should be targeted for intervention to ensure tenants have warm, well-insulated homes.
Thurrock Council	£27,000	The project will combine a housing stock assessment and joint working with the local services and local police to target unlicensed HMO care homes which house vulnerable young people. The Police, Private Housing Team and Social Services will work together to drive up the standards of these homes and disrupt county lines gangs and criminal activity through effective enforcement action.
Walsall Council (Proposal 1)	£16,415	The council will combine analysis of existing data and an innovative thermal imaging survey (identifying dwellings that have extreme heat loss) to enable effective targeted enforcement against rogue landlords, to ensure tenants are in warm healthy homes.
Walsall Council (Proposal 2)	£32,080	The project will enable staff resources to be more effectively used to protect vulnerable tenants from being exploited by rogue landlords through targeted action to identify and inspect 'unregulated' dwellings where children and young people are being housed, and HMOs being advertised online though sites such as Airbnb.
West Kent Private Sector Housing Partnership (Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and Sevenoaks District Council)	£102,012	The project will improve the council's knowledge of the PRS in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the area and enable the council to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords.
West London Alliance (London Borough of Ealing on behalf of councils across Greater London)	£186,200	The funding will be used to establish the 'Setting the Standard' programme in boroughs across London. This collaboration will create greater efficiencies in inspection processes and further assurances about the standard of temporary private rented accommodation procured by boroughs - driving out sub-standard accommodation and rogue practices by criminal landlords.
West Suffolk Council	£16,000	This project will develop knowledge and procedures for debt recovery and collection of CPNs, helping ensure that rogue landlords pay and the council is able to self-finance future enforcement activity.
Westminster City Council	£165,609	The project will follow an intelligence led and multi-disciplinary approach to identify and tackle the poor quality and energy efficient properties in Westminster. Through a series of targeted inspections the council will support compliant landlords meet their obligations and actively enforce against the minority of criminal landlords that fail to engage.
Worthing Borough Council, Adur District Council, Arun District Council, Chichester District Council, Crawley Borough Council	£167,799	The project will improve the council's knowledge of the PRS in their area, by compiling and analysing data from various sources. The analysis will identify both the number and location of HMOs in the area and enable the council to ensure proactive enforcement is targeted effectively at criminal landlords.
Wyre Forest District Council (on behalf of Worcestershire councils)	£30,342	The funding will be used to train enforcement officers and managers in Advanced Professional Certificate in Investigative Practice to equip officers with the skills and techniques to take more effective and efficient action against criminal landlords.
Yorkshire and Humberside (City of York Council)	£162,393	Building on previous MHCLG grant funding, the project will train over 128 enforcement officers (from across 21 councils in the Yorkshire and Humberside region in Advanced Professional Certificate in Investigative Practice) to equip officers with the skills and techniques to take more effective and efficient action against criminal landlords. The project will also develop and deliver a regionally recognised landlord qualification to support good landlords and improve the provision of decent, well maintained homes for tenants.