

Leasehold 7

# Application to limit a landlord's ability to recover legal costs from leaseholders

Tenants can apply to stop landlords from passing the charges on to them for taking part in a tribunal case.

There are three types of applications to limit landlord's costs in relation to:

- service charges
- administration charges under a lease
- costs claimed and paid to a landlord in breach of Section 20J

## Before you apply

## List of documents that need to be included with the application:

- a copy of the lease or a sample lease
- a copy of the decision if the application relates to the costs of concluded tribunal proceedings
- a copy of the demand for costs if the application relates to Section 20J

You must complete all sections and provide all documentation requested otherwise the tribunal cannot progress your application.

If you are unable to do so you must explain why at the end of this form and the tribunal will decide whether or not the application can proceed.

#### If you have any questions

If you have any questions about this application contact the relevant regional tribunal office in **Annex 1.** 

The tribunal cannot give legal advice on your case.

## Serving the application

You must send a copy of the application to the respondent and any interested party by email or post.

#### Other notes

Write clearly if you are completing this form by hand.

Use another sheet of paper if there is not enough space for you to say everything.

Add your name at the top of any additional pages.

Office use only - Reference number

## Section 1 – Type of application

# Request an order to stop the landlord recovering legal costs.

Choose all that apply:

Apply to limit payment of landlord's costs – Service charge Section 20C of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985

Some leases allow landlords to include their costs in connection with tribunal proceedings as part of the service charge paid by tenants.

A tenant can apply to the tribunal for the landlord's costs not to be included in a service charge. This is called a Section 20C application.

#### Apply to limit payment of legal costs – Administration charge

Paragraph 5A of Schedule 11 to the Commonhold and Leasehold Reform Act 2002 to the 2002 Act

A tenant can apply to the tribunal for an order that reduces or removes the tenant's liability to pay an 'administration charge in respect of litigation costs'. Litigation costs are contractual costs in a lease.

# Apply to recover costs claimed and paid to a landlord in breach of Section 20J

Section20K of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985.

A non-participating tenant can apply to the tribunal for an order requiring the return to them of all or part of a prohibited amount which they have paid.

# Section 2 – Applicant's information

**2.1** Details of applicant First name

Last name

Capacity

Company name (optional)

2.2 Address

First line of address

Second line of address

Town or city

County (optional)

## Postcode

- 2.3 Reference number for correspondence (optional)
- 2.4 Contact details Phone number

Mobile number

## Email address

## Note for Section 2

Add names of other tenants that want to apply to limit payment of landlord's costs or legal costs. Include a document, signed in pen by the tenants or an email from each tenant wanting to be part of the application. Also, include each leaseholder's address and email address (if known).

## Note for Capacity

Capacity is a leaseholder.

**2.5** Details of applicant's representative (if any) First name

Last name

Company name

#### 2.6 Address

First line of address

Second line of address

Town or city

County (optional)

Postcode

- 2.7 DX number for correspondence (optional)
- 2.8 Reference number for correspondence (optional)
- 2.9 Contact details

Phone number

Mobile number

Email address

#### Note 2.5

A representative is someone you want to represent you in dealing with the tribunal.

If you appoint a representative, the tribunal office will only correspond with your representative.

Note 2.7

Not all regional tribunal offices use the DX service. See Annex 1 for offices that have DX numbers.

## Section 3 – Property information

**3.1** Is the address of the subject property the same as the applicant's address?

Yes

No. Provide the address below.

Address

First line of address

Second line of address

Town or city

County (optional)

Postcode

3.2 Reference number for correspondence (optional)

3.3 Brief description of the property

#### Note for Section 3

The subject property address could be the same as the applicant's address (for example, the property or properties involved in the application or dispute).

#### Note 3.2

Add a short description of the property, for example:

- is the property a house or a flat
- how many flats are in the block
- the size of the property or properties (for example 1 or 2 bedroom)
- an estimate of the age of the property

## Section 4 – Respondent's information

**4.1** Details of respondent First name

Last name

Capacity

Company name (optional)

4.2 Address

First line of address

Second line of address

Town or city

County (optional)

Postcode

- 4.3 Reference number for correspondence (optional)
- **4.4** Contact details

Phone number

Mobile number

Email address

## Note for Section 4

In cases with more than one respondent, attach a separate document containing the names, addresses and emails (if known) of all the respondents.

## Note for Capacity

Capacity is likely to be the Landlord. It will only be the landlord's managing agent if they are a party to the lease. **4.5** Details of respondent's representative (if any) First name

Last name

Company name

#### 4.6 Address

First line of address

Second line of address

Town or city

County (optional)

Postcode

- 4.7 DX number for correspondence (optional)
- 4.8 Reference number for correspondence (optional)
- **4.9** Contact details Phone number

Mobile number

Email address

#### Note 4.7

Not all regional tribunal offices use the DX service. See Annex 1 for offices that have DX numbers.

# Section 5 – Landlord's information

**5.1** Is the landlord the same as the respondent?

Yes

## No. Provide the details below.

**5.2** Details of landlord

First name

Last name

Company name (optional)

## 5.3 Address

First line of address

Second line of address

Town or city

County (optional)

## Postcode

5.4 Reference number for correspondence (optional)

# **5.5** Contact details

Phone number

Mobile number

Email address

## Section 6 – Details of the application

6.1 Reasons for the application

#### Note for Section 6

Give a brief outline of your case so that the tribunal understands what your application is about.

Use another sheet of paper if there is not enough space for you to say everything.

Add your name at the top of any additional pages.

## Section 7 – Other applications

7.1 Do you know of any other cases involving the named property?

## Section 8 – Hearing

## Determine without a hearing (a paper determination)

It is possible for your application to be dealt with only on written representations and documents without anyone needing to attend in person. This is called a paper determination.

8.1 Do you think a paper determination is right for your case?

Yes

No

## **Urgency of application**

**8.2** Is your case urgent?

No

Yes. Explain why it is urgent.

## Availability

**8.3** Are there any days when you or any expert or witness you are using cannot attend?

Dates on which you or they **will not be** available in the next 4 months

#### Note 8.1

Even if you have asked for a paper determination the tribunal may decide that a hearing is necessary.

You'll need to pay an additional fee of £227 if a hearing date is set.

#### Note 8.2

Cases are dealt with as either fast or standard track, the tribunal will decide which:

**Fast track** - this is for simple cases that will not create a lot of paperwork or argument. Fast track cases are usually heard within 10 weeks of application.

**Standard track** - this is for more complicated cases with numerous issues to be decided, or where there is lots of paperwork involved. Standard track cases are usually heard within 20 weeks of application.

## Support during your hearing

## **8.4** Do you, or anyone attending with you, need any adjustments?

#### Note 8.4

Some people need support to access information and use our services, for example:

- documents in alternative formats, colours and fonts
- help with communication, sight, hearing, speaking, interpretation or translation
- access and mobility support if a hearing takes place in person

This form gets copied to other parties, so use a separate document if you do not want to disclose anything.

## Section 9 – Statement of truth

I believe that the facts stated in this form and any continuation pages are true.

#### Signature



Full name

## Section 10 – Additional information

If you have not completed all sections of this form please tell us in the box below which sections have not been completed and why.

## **Application fee**

## What you need to pay

The application fee is £114

## How to pay the fee

## I have not included payment because

I have applied for help with fees online and my reference number is

|--|

I am applying for help with fees, see attached form EX160 'Apply for help with fees'

Other – please explain why

#### Note for application fee

## You'll need to pay an additional fee of £227 when the hearing date is set.

You may be able to get help paying fees if you only have a small amount in savings, receive certain benefits or are on a low income.

See <u>www.gov.uk/get-help-</u> <u>with-court-fees</u> for more information.

## I want to pay by online banking

Email me details on how to pay. My email address is

#### Note for online banking

The tribunal will send you a reference number so you can make a payment online.

I enclose a cheque or postal order made payable to HMCTS

## Fee account details - for use by legal professionals

#### Your account number

Р	В	Α				

Your reference (if applicable)

## Checklist

## List of documents that need to be included with the application:

a copy of the lease or a sample lease

a copy of the decision if the application relates to the costs of concluded tribunal proceedings

a copy of the demand for costs if the application relates to Section 20J

Unless you complete all sections and provide all documentation, the tribunal **cannot** progress your application.

## **Contact details**

Email your application to the relevant regional tribunal office address shown in the Annex 1 to this form.

If you cannot email you can send the application by post.

# Annex 1

# List of addresses of tribunal regional offices

## Northern region

## Address:

HM Courts and Tribunals Service

First-tier Tribunal (Property Chamber) Residential Property 1st Floor, Piccadilly Exchange Piccadilly Plaza Manchester M1 4AH

**Telephone:** 01612 379491

Fax: 01264 785 128

Email address: <u>RPNorthern@justice.gov.uk</u>

## This office covers the following metropolitan

districts: Barnsley, Bolton, Bradford, Bury, Calderdale, Doncaster, Gateshead, Kirklees, Knowsley, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastleupon-Tyne, Oldham, Rochdale, Rotherham, St. Helens, Salford, Sefton, Sheffield, Stockport, Sunderland, Tameside, Trafford, Tyneside (North and South), Wakefield, Wigan and Wirral.

## It also covers the following unitary authorities:

Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland, Darlington, Halton, Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool, Kingston-upon-Hull, East Riding of Yorkshire, Northeast Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire, Stockton-on-Tees, Warrington and York.

## It also covers the following Counties:

Cumbria, Durham, East Cheshire, Lancashire, Lincolnshire, Northumberland, North Yorkshire and West Cheshire.

# Midland region

## Address:

HM Courts and Tribunals Service

First-tier Tribunal (Property Chamber) Residential Property Centre City Tower 5-7 Hill Street Birmingham B5 4UU

For use by legal professionals: DX 360601 Birmingham 5

Telephone: 0121 600 7888

Fax: 01264 785 122

Email address: <u>RPMidland@justice.gov.uk</u>

This office covers the following metropolitan

**districts:** Birmingham, Coventry, Dudley, Sandwell, Solihull, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

## It also covers the following unitary authorities:

Derby, Leicester, Rutland, Nottingham, Herefordshire, Telford and Wrekin and Stoke-on-Trent.

## It also covers the following Counties:

Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire and Worcestershire.

## **Eastern region**

## Address:

HM Courts and Tribunals Service

First-tier Tribunal (Property Chamber) Residential Property Cambridge County Court 197 East Road Cambridge CB1 1BA

For use by legal professionals: DX 97650 Cambridge 3

**Telephone:** 01223 841 524

Fax: 01264 785 129

Email address: RPEastern@justice.gov.uk

## Southern region

## Address:

HM Courts and Tribunals Service

First-tier Tribunal (Property Chamber) Residential Property Havant Justice Centre The Court House Elmleigh Road Havant Hants PO9 2AL

Telephone: 01243 779 394

Fax: 0870 7395 900

Email address: <u>RPSouthern@justice.gov.uk</u>

## London region

## Address:

HM Courts and Tribunals Service

First-tier Tribunal (Property Chamber) Residential Property 10 Alfred Place London WC1E 7LR

**For use by legal professionals:** DX 134205 Tottenham Court Road 2

Telephone: 020 7446 7700

Fax: 01264 785 060

Email address: London.RAP@justice.gov.uk

For information on how HM Courts and Tribunals Service process and store your data visit: <u>www.gov.uk/hmcts/privacy-policy</u>

#### This office covers the following metropolitan

**districts:** Bracknell Forest, West Berkshire, Reading, Slough, Windsor and Maidenhead, Wokingham, Luton, Peterborough, Milton Keynes, Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock.

It also covers the following Counties:

Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire and Suffolk.

## This office covers the following unitary authorities:

Bath and Northeast Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset, South Gloucestershire, Bournemouth, Plymouth, Torbay, Poole, Swindon, Medway, Brighton and Hove, Portsmouth, Southampton and the Isle of Wight.

## It also covers the following Counties:

Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, Devon, Dorset, East Sussex, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Kent, Somerset, Surrey, West Sussex and Wiltshire

This office covers all the London boroughs.