

Mayor & Members,

I refer to the following Notice of Motion from Cllr Des O Grady which is on the Agenda for the Council meeting on the 25th of July:-

“To seek a written report on the present number of tenants in the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) in Cork County who are in receipt of Notices of Termination from their landlords. The report to include the present number of tenants on the RAS scheme and the number of contracts that were not renewed in 2015 and 2016 to date. The report to also include the number of tenants who were forced to leave their homes due to landlords issuing notices of termination in the same period and these tenants current housing situation.”

Report

The Council is presently aware of 15 RAS tenants where the landlord proposes to terminate the contract.

RAS contracts are generally renewed unless landlords are putting properties up for sale or taking properties back which they are entitled to do under the Residential Tenancies Act, or also in cases where a tenant may be socially housed (or exits RAS voluntarily in the case of emigration etc.).

In such situations, where a RAS contract is ending due to sale/property being taken back by landlord, the RAS unit makes every effort to source alternative private rented accommodation under RAS for the tenant and the tenant is also asked to engage in this process. Alternatively, there may be social accommodation available to meet the needs of the RAS tenant leaving the property. If a property is up for sale, the Council may be in a position to purchase using the SHIP allocation.

The Council is generally successful in assisting the tenant in this regard.

There are currently 708 private rented tenants on the RAS scheme.

As noted earlier, there are also a number of other situations where a RAS contract is not renewed (e.g.) where the tenant is socially housed or moves on and voluntarily exits the scheme and we would not have details of their current housing tenure.

As regards contracts not renewed, the Council is not in a position to report on these figures at present..

Mary Ryan,

Director of Housing

21st July, 2016