

Housing and Community Service Scrutiny Panel



Date of meeting:	11 February 2026
Title of Report:	Renters' Rights Act 2025
Lead Member:	Councillor Chris Penberthy (Cabinet Member for Housing, Cooperative Development, and Communities)
Lead Strategic Director:	Gary Walbridge (Strategic Director for Adults, Health and Communities)
Author:	David Irving
Contact Email:	David.Irving@plymouth.gov.uk
Your Reference:	RRA 25
Key Decision:	No
Confidentiality:	Part I - Official

Purpose of Report

To respond to a request from the Housing and Community Services Scrutiny Panel for an update on the Council's preparedness for the Renters' Rights Act 2025 and any implications.

Recommendations and Reasons

1. That the Housing and Community Service Scrutiny Panel note the report.

Alternative options considered and rejected

1. No other options have been considered as this is an update report for the Committee.

Relevance to the Corporate Plan and/or the Plymouth Plan

This report relates to the Plymouth Plan Policy HEA8 – 'Targeting intervention and resources to improve the standard, quality and management of private sector housing'.

Implications for the Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:

New Burdens Funding has been utilised to cover costs already incurred. The Renters' Rights Act 2025 stipulates that money received from civil penalties will be ringfenced and retained by the council. It is intended that ringfenced money will be used to fund members of the team going forward.

Financial Risks

It is not currently anticipated that the proposed actions will cause negative financial impacts, however there is a risk that enforcement costs will exceed income from grant funding and penalties. This will be kept under review during the transition period.

Legal Implications

The Act introduces statutory duties which Plymouth City Council must be compliant with.

Carbon Footprint (Environmental) Implications:

It is not anticipated that the proposed actions will cause negative environmental impacts.

Other Implications: e.g. Health and Safety, Risk Management, Child Poverty:

* When considering these proposals members have a responsibility to ensure they give due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not.

Appendices

*Add rows as required to box below

Ref.	Title of Appendix	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Background papers:

*Add rows as required to box below

Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are unpublished works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based.

Title of any background paper(s)	Exemption Paragraph Number (if applicable) <i>If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.</i>						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Sign off:

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Originating Senior Leadership Team member: Matt Garrett											
Please confirm the Strategic Director(s) has agreed the report? Yes											
Date agreed: 29/01/2026											
Cabinet Member approval: Councillor Chris Penberthy, by email											
Date approved: 30/01/2026											