## What's new?

All sections are reviewed biannually by expert authors. The major section updates are below.

## **New section: NTSELAT guide to letting**

Author Alison Farrar, Operations Manager at the National Trading Standards Estate and Letting Agency Team (NTSELAT), has produced a <a href="new section">new section</a> offering advice about the <a href="Tenant Fees Act 2019">Tenant Fees Act 2019</a> (TFA 2019). It defines what letting agency work is and looks at the general requirements of the TFA 2019, including the requirement to belong to a redress scheme. The section also looks at other legislation relevant to letting and property management agents.

#### Section updates Agent-solicitor relationships

<u>This section</u> has seen major updates to <u>Appointing a solicitor/conveyancer: setting expectations</u>, <u>Apps and online tools</u> and <u>Buy-to-let</u>.

ASTs, deed of guarantee and deed of assignment templates

The <u>AST DPS custodial template</u> has been updated. Common pitfalls and mistakes

<u>Common pitfalls and mistakes</u> received a general update throughout. Ending the tenancy in England

<u>This section</u> has been updated to remove references to the law in Wales, now that the relevant legislation in England and Wales has diverged. How to deal with complaints

<u>This section</u> now has updated complaints figures from ombudsman bodies. Leases

Information has been added to this section in <u>How the lease is structured</u>. Amendments have been made throughout.

Letting agents: regulation and consumer protection

<u>This section</u> has seen updates to <u>Approved redress schemes</u>, <u>Legislation on licensing and registration in Wales</u> and <u>Proposed changes to letting agent regulation</u>.

It was further updated in July 2023 with information regarding the Renters Reform Bill. Lettings law and the client

This section has received amendments throughout. See especially <u>Agents' fees</u> and <u>Marketing the property</u>.

Maintenance and repairing obligations

The section on Gas and electrical safety has been thoroughly overhauled and expanded.

#### NTSELAT guide to sales

<u>This section</u> has been updated throughout by new author Alison Farrar. Photographing property

<u>This section</u> has been updated with up-to-date pricing information and some new images. Property and safety standards

<u>This section</u> has been updated to reflect <u>The Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm</u> (Amendment) Regulations 2022 .

Property Redress Scheme guide to lettings

This section has been updated in  $\underline{\text{Visuals}}\$  and  $\underline{\text{Conclusions}}\ ,$  with other amendments throughout.

Property Redress Scheme guide to sales

This section has received amendments throughout. See especially <u>Advertising and marketing</u>. Residential property licensing

The most heavily updated parts of <a href="mailto:this section">this section</a> include <a href="mailto:hMO management regulations">HMO management regulations</a>, <a href="mailto:criminal offences and civil penalties">Criminal offences and civil penalties</a> and <a href="RROs under the Housing and Planning Act 2016">RROs under the Housing and Planning Act 2016</a>.

This section was updated a second time in July 2023, in particular Exceptions from the definition of an HMO, Selective licensing of other residential property, The application process and Penalties in residential property licensing. Short-term lettings

<u>This section</u> has been updated after the <u>Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016</u> came into force on 1 December 2022, and then updated again with a new page on <u>Proposed reforms to short-term letting industry</u>.

Taking deposits

<u>This section</u> has been updated to reflect the changes in legislation between England and Wales.

Tenancy deposit adjudication

<u>This section</u> has been updated with statistics for 2021-22. Tenancy deposit protection

<u>This section</u> has also been updated with new statistics for 2021-22. Tenant arrears and bankruptcy

<u>This section</u> has seen a major overhaul of the <u>Possession claims</u> subsection. The Property Ombudsman guide to lettings

<u>The Property Ombudsman guide to lettings</u> received a minor update and hyperlinks were updated.

The Property Ombudsman guide to sales

The Property Ombudsman guide to sales received a minor update and hyperlinks were updated.

Types of tenancies

<u>This section</u> has also been updated due to the <u>Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016</u>, and then again with the introduction of the Renters Reform Bill.

# **RICS** initiatives

### **iConsult**

See iConsult for RICS standard drafts.

This page was lasted updated March 2024.