

Addendum to Standard form Residential Tenancy Agreement

(Under schedule 1 of the Residential Tenancies Regulation 2010, as amended by the Residential Tenancies Regulation 2019)

From 23 March 2020:

Rent receipts

Amendment to Clause 4.6

[Replace clause 4.6 (2010) with updated clause 4.6 and new clause 4.7 (2019)]

4. The landlord agrees:

- 4.6** to give a rent receipt to the tenant if rent is paid in person (other than by cheque), and
- 4.7** to make a rent receipt available for collection by the tenant or to post it to the residential premises or to send it by email to an email address specified in this agreement by the tenant for the service of documents of that kind if rent is paid by cheque, and

Rent increases

Amendment to Clause 5

[Replace clause 5 (2010) with updated clause 5 and new clause 6 (2019)]

5. The landlord and the tenant agree that the rent cannot be increased after the end of the fixed term (if any) of this agreement or under this agreement if the agreement is for a fixed term of 2 years or more, unless the landlord gives not less than 60 days written notice of the increase to the tenant. The notice must specify the increased rent and the day from which it is payable.

Note. Section 42 of the *Residential Tenancies Act 2010* sets out the circumstances in which rent may be increased during the fixed term of a residential tenancy agreement. An additional term for this purpose may be included in the agreement.

6. The landlord and the tenant agree that the rent may not be increased after the end of the fixed term (if any) of this agreement more than once in any 12-month period.

Payment of water usage

Amendment to Clause 11.4

[Replace clause 11.4 (2010) with clause 12.4 (2019)]

12.4 The landlord agrees that the tenant is not required to pay water usage charges unless the residential premises have the following water efficiency measures:

- 12.4.1** all internal cold water taps and single mixer taps for kitchen sinks or bathroom hand basins on the premises have a maximum flow rate of 9 litres a minute,

- 12.4.2 on and from 23 March 2025, all toilets are dual flush toilets that have a minimum 3 star rating in accordance with the WELS scheme,
- 12.4.3 all showerheads have a maximum flow rate of 9 litres a minute,
- 12.4.4 at the commencement of the residential tenancy agreement and whenever any other water efficiency measures are installed, repaired or upgraded, the premises are checked and any leaking taps or toilets on the premises have been fixed.

Replacing lightbulbs

Amendment to Clause 16.4

[Replace clause 16.4 (2010) with clause 17.4 (2019)]

17. The tenant agrees:

- 17.4 that it is the tenant's responsibility to replace light globes on the residential premises.

Landlord's general obligations

New Clause 19.7

[Insert new clause 19.7 (2019) after 18.5 (2010)]

19. The landlord agrees:

- 19.7 that a tenant who is the victim of a domestic violence offence or a co-tenant who is under the same agreement as the victim of the domestic violence offence but is not a relevant domestic violence offender is not responsible to the landlord for any act or omission by a co-tenant that is a breach of this agreement if the act or omission constitutes or resulted in damage to the premises and occurred during the commission of a domestic violence offence.

Landlord's access to the premises – photographs or visual recordings

New Clause 24.10

[Insert new clause 24.10 (2019) after clause 23.9 (2010)]

24. The landlord agrees that the landlord, the landlord's agent or any person authorised in writing by the landlord, during the currency of this agreement, may only enter the residential premises in the following circumstances:

- 24.10 to take photographs, or make visual recordings, of the inside of the premises in order to advertise the premises for sale or lease, if the tenant is given reasonable notice and reasonable opportunity to move any of their possessions that can reasonably be moved out of the frame of the photograph or the scope of the recording (this is only allowed once in a 28 day period before marketing of the premises starts for sale or lease or the termination of this agreement).

Publishing photographs or visual recordings

New Clauses 28 and 29

[Insert new clauses 28 and 29 (2019) after clause 26 (2010)]

28. The landlord agrees that the landlord or the landlord's agent must not publish any photographs taken or visual recordings made of the inside of the residential premises in which the tenant's possessions are visible unless they first obtain written consent from the tenant.

Note. See section 55A of the *Residential Tenancies Act 2010* for when a photograph or visual recording is published.

29. The tenant agrees not to unreasonably withhold consent. If the tenant is in circumstances of domestic violence within the meaning of section 105B of the *Residential Tenancies Act 2010*, it is not unreasonable for the tenant to withhold consent.

Fixtures, alterations, additions and renovations

Amendment to Clauses 27 and 28

[Replace clauses 27 and 28 (2010) with clauses 30 and 31 (2019)]

30. The tenant agrees:

- 30.1** not to install any fixture or renovate, alter or add to the residential premises without the landlord's written permission, and
- 30.2** that certain kinds of fixtures or alterations, additions or renovations that are of a minor nature specified by clause 22(2) of the Residential Tenancies Regulation 2019 may only be carried out by a person appropriately qualified to carry out those alterations unless the landlord gives consent, and
- 30.3** to pay the cost of a fixture, installed by or on behalf of the tenant, or any renovation, alteration or addition to the residential premises, unless the landlord otherwise agrees, and
- 30.4** not to remove, without the landlord's permission, any fixture attached by the tenant that was paid for by the landlord or for which the landlord gave the tenant a benefit equivalent to the cost of the fixture, and
- 30.5** to notify the landlord of any damage caused by removing any fixture attached by the tenant, and
- 30.6** to repair any damage caused by removing the fixture or compensate the landlord for the reasonable cost of repair.

31. The landlord agrees not to unreasonably withhold consent to a fixture, or to an alteration, addition or renovation that is of a minor nature.

Note. The *Residential Tenancies Regulation 2019* provides a list of the kinds of fixtures or alterations, additions or renovations of a minor nature to which it would be unreasonable for a landlord to withhold consent and which of those fixtures, or alterations, additions or renovations the landlord may give consent to on the condition that the fixture or alteration, addition or renovation is carried out by an appropriately qualified person.

Smoke alarms

Amendment to Clause 38

[Replace clause 38 (2010) with clause 42, 43 and 44 (2019)]

42. The landlord agrees to:

- 42.1** ensure that smoke alarms are installed in accordance with the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* if that Act requires them to be installed in the premises and are functioning in accordance with the regulations under that Act, and
- 42.2** conduct an annual check of all smoke alarms installed on the residential premises to ensure that the smoke alarms are functioning, and
- 42.3** install or replace, or engage a person to install or replace, all removable batteries in all smoke alarms installed on the residential premises annually, except for smoke alarms that have a removable lithium battery, and
- 42.4** install or replace, or engage a person to install or replace, a removable lithium battery in a smoke alarm in the period specified by the manufacturer of the smoke alarm, and
- 42.5** engage an authorised electrician to repair or replace a hardwired smoke alarm, and
- 42.6** repair or replace a smoke alarm within 2 business days of becoming aware that the smoke alarm is not working unless the tenant notifies the landlord that the tenant will carry out the repair to the smoke alarm and the tenant carries out the repair, and
- 42.7** reimburse the tenant for the costs of a repair or replacement of a smoke alarm in accordance with clause 18 of the *Residential Tenancies Regulation 2019*, that the tenant is allowed to carry out.

Note 1. Under section 64A of the *Residential Tenancies Act 2010*, repairs to a smoke alarm includes maintenance of a smoke alarm in working order by installing or replacing a battery in the smoke alarm.

Note 2. Clauses 42.2–42.7 do not apply to a landlord of premises that comprise or include a lot in a strata scheme (within the meaning of the *Strata Schemes Management Act 2015*) if the owners corporation is responsible for the repair and replacement of smoke alarms in the residential premises.

Note 3. A tenant who intends to carry out a repair to a smoke alarm may do so only in the circumstances prescribed for a tenant in clause 15 of the *Residential Tenancies Regulation 2019*.

43. The tenant agrees:

- 43.1** to notify the landlord if a repair or a replacement of a smoke alarm is required, including replacing a battery in the smoke alarm, and
- 43.2** that the tenant may only replace a battery in a battery-operated smoke alarm, or a back-up battery in a hardwired smoke alarm, if the smoke alarm has a removable battery or a removable back-up battery, and
- 43.3** to give the landlord written notice, as soon as practicable if the tenant will carry out and has carried **out a repair** or replacement, or engages a person to carry out a repair or replacement, in accordance with clauses 15–17 of the *Residential Tenancies Regulation 2019*.

Note. Clauses 43.2 and 43.3 do not apply to tenants under social housing tenancy agreements or tenants of premises that comprise or include a lot in a strata scheme (within the meaning of the *Strata Schemes Management Act 2015*) if the owners corporation is responsible for the repair and replacement of smoke alarms in the residential premises.

44. The landlord and the tenant each agree not to remove or interfere with the operation of a smoke alarm installed on the residential premises unless they have a reasonable excuse to do so.

Note. The regulations made under the [Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979](#) provide that it is an offence to remove or interfere with the operation of a smoke alarm or a heat alarm in particular circumstances.

Combustible cladding

New Clause 48

[Insert new clause 48 (2019) after 40B (2010)]

48. The landlord agrees that if, during the tenancy, the landlord becomes aware of any of the following facts, the landlord will advise the tenant in writing within 14 days of becoming aware of the fact—

- 48.1** that the residential premises are part of a building in relation to which a notice of intention to issue a fire safety order, or a fire safety order, has been issued requiring rectification of the building regarding external combustible cladding,
- 48.2** that the residential premises are part of a building in relation to which a notice of intention to issue a building product rectification order, or a building product rectification order, has been issued requiring rectification of the building regarding external combustible cladding,
- 48.3** that the residential premises are part of a building where a development application or complying development certificate application has been lodged for rectification of the building regarding external combustible cladding.