

Ariane Burgess MSP
Convener, Local Government, Housing & Planning Committee

18 December 2025

Dear Convener,

When I attended the Committee's meeting on 9 December 2025 I committed to provide the Committee with additional information and analysis in relation to rent arrears, evictions, homelessness and tenancy sustainment.

The level of rent arrears reported by social landlords at 31 March 2025 was 6.2% of the total rent due, down from 6.7% at 31 March 2024. The level of rent arrears has fallen in each of the last two years, although it is still above the pre-Pandemic level of 5.8% in 2019/20.

In 2024/25 social landlords recovered possession of 1,059 homes in 2024/25 for non-payment of rent, up from 876 homes in the previous year, but well below the 1,759 home repossessed in 2019/20.

The Scottish Government's published statistics on Homelessness in Scotland: 2024-25 report that in 2024/25 local authorities received homeless applications from:

- 220 households who had their tenancy terminated for rent arrears by a local authority landlord (up by 33 on the previous year, and down by 115 since 2019/20);
- 200 households who had their tenancy terminated for rent arrears by a Registered Social Landlord (up by 58 on the previous year, and down by 17 since 2019/20); and,
- 403 households who had their tenancy terminated for rent arrears by a private sector landlord (up by 52 on the previous year, and down by 255 since 2019/20).

The percentage of new tenancies provided by social landlords to people who were homeless which were then sustained for more than a year in 2024/25 rose to 91% from 90% the year before, and up from 88% in 2019/20.

I hope this information is helpful, and please do let me know if we can be of any further assistance in this regard

Yours sincerely,

Michael Cameron
Chief Executive