

Right to Repair Procedure

Procedure Reference Number: HAM02c

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Owner:	Head of Housing & Customer Experience	Department:	Housing & Customer Experience
Issued To:	 □ Board of Management □ All Staff □ ET/LT □ Head Office Managers □ C&S Managers ⊠ Department/Other: 	Method of Delivery:	☑ Annual Declaration☐ Learn Pro Individual Sign Off☐ Board Portal
Stakeholder Consultation	☐ All Staff ☐ Customer Engagement ☐ Union ☐ Employee Voices Group ☐ Head Office Managers ☐ C&S Managers ☐ Department/Other:	This procedure will be reviewed every 3 years from the date of implementation or earlier if deemed appropriate If this procedure is not reviewed within the above timescale, the latest approved procedure will continue to apply.	

Version Control

Date	Owner	Version	Reason for Change
June 25	Head of Housing & Customer	6.0	Change in Reference
	Experience		

Summary of Changes

Section	Change
General	Change from AM01d to HAM02c.
	Change of reference from AM01 to HAM02
	Updated to Feb25 template.

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1.0 Introduction

This procedure describes how we will deal with repairs that are designated as 'qualifying repairs' as defined in the statutory 'Right to Repair 2001' regulations.

This procedure should be read in conjunction with the Property Management Policy HAM02 and Reactive Repairs Procedure HAM02a.

1.1 Definition

Qualifying repairs are those that have a bearing on the health, safety and welfare of tenants. The full list is provided in Appendix 1.

We will notify all tenants once a year of the provisions of these Regulations including the list of contractors prepared to carry out qualifying repairs.

A tenant with a Scottish Secure Tenancy Agreement or a Short Scottish Secure Tenancy Agreement has a statutory right to expect the repairs listed to be carried out within the timescales specified. Where a repair is not carried out within the target timescale, the tenant may be entitled to a compensation payment under the Regulations. The maximum that can be paid is £100. A repair will not qualify for the scheme if the cost exceeds £350.00.

Where it is not initially clear whether the repair falls within the definition, advice should wherever possible be sought from the Head of Housing & Customer Experience (HHCE) or the Asset & Compliance Manager (A&CM), before a works order is issued to a contractor.

1.2 Defects

In the context of this procedure a 'defect' is a repair to a building element or a fixture/fitting which is covered by a warranty from a supplier or contractor for a defined period (normally one year) – for example for a heating system replaced under a planned maintenance project.

2.0 Recording the Repair and Issuing the Works Order

2.1 Recording the repair

As part of the initial noting of the repair details, the member of staff receiving the report, normally the Customer Services Advisor (CSA), will check the list of 'qualifying repairs' and, if the repair is on the list, will confirm this to the person reporting the repair and advise them what the target timescale for completion is.

If an inspection is needed, the timescale starts from the day after the inspection, when the work is issued to a Contractor, not from when the repair is first reported.

The CSA will record the details of the repair in the same way as for any other repair, however, as part of this process they will select one of the 'Right to Repair' templates saved within the Housing Management System.

2.2 Issuing the works order

The CSA will print off the works orders in accordance with current procedures. For Right to Repair orders, both the Contractor's copy and the tenant's copy will contain the phrase 'Right to Repair' and the target timescale in the designated field.

The target for completion is in working days and excludes a Saturday or a Sunday, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Good Friday, a bank holiday or a day appointed for public thanksgiving or mourning or any day on which the office of the landlord is closed by virtue of a local holiday.

3.0 Monitoring of Repairs

3.1 Contractor feedback

Where the Contractor responds with information about the repair, in particular with a reason why the repair cannot be completed on time – such as no access gained at the agreed date/time, or awaiting specialist materials, the CSA will note the reason(s) on the Housing Management System and continue to monitor the Contractor's progress. The CSA will contact the tenant by phone or e-mail to advise them of this.

Where an acceptable reason is given, the target repair time may be suspended, and the CSA will note this on the system and ensure the tenant is informed of this.

3.2 Daily check

Daily throughout the working week, the CSA will check the status of Right to Repair orders. Where a repair has not been attended to by the due date and no reason has been given, the CSA will contact the tenant and Contractor for a reason and to find out when the repair may be completed.

The CSA will ensure that relevant details, including any decision to suspend the target repair period, are added to the notes regarding the repair and the tenant kept updated.

Where a tenant fails to provide access to a house for the purpose of enabling the qualifying repair to be inspected or carried out, although that tenant has been given a reasonable opportunity to do so, the procedure shall be cancelled and the provisions of shall cease to apply.

4.0 Repairs not attended to by the Due Date

4.1 Ensuring completion

Where the initial Contractor indicates that they will not be able to complete the repair within an acceptable time the CSA, following consultation with the HHCE or A&CM may cancel the original order and pass the work to another Contractor, having first confirmed that the other Contractor can complete the work without further delay.

In the remoter areas where there may not be a suitable alternative Contractor, the work may have to be left with the original Contractor. In this situation the original Contractor will be notified by e-mail that any compensation due to the tenant under the Regulations will be deducted from their invoice.

The CSA will ensure that full details of any decisions are added to the system.

4.2 Suspension of maximum period

In circumstances of an exceptional nature, which are beyond the control of the landlord or the contractor who is to carry out the qualifying repair, and which prevent the repair being carried out, the maximum period to complete the work will be suspended.

The CSA will write to the tenant, phone or e-mail them to let them know that maximum period has been suspended.

4.3 Calculating compensation

Following completion of the repair, and where it is agreed that compensation under the Regulations is due to the tenant, the CSA will:

Calculate any compensation due as per the following amounts:

- (a) £15; and
- (b) £3 for every working day, if any, in the period—

- (i) commencing on the day after the last day of what would have been the maximum period if the maximum period had applied to the other listed contractor and had started on the day after the day of receipt of instruction; and
- (ii) ending with the day on which the qualifying repair is completed, subject to a maximum amount of compensation of £100.

Complete a faster payment request for the amount due and send it to credit.cards@arkha.org.uk;

Send a letter to the tenant advising of the compensation due, as per Appendix 2. This is saved within the Housing Management System and will be generated from there. This will be done automatically and does not need the tenant to request it.

The CSA will add details of the compensation paid to the repair notes.

4.4 Reclaiming compensation paid

Where the original Contractor completes the work and compensation is paid, the CSA will monthly contact the Contractor to discuss the compensation claims and thereafter issue an invoice equivalent to the amount of compensation paid to tenant. An e-mail confirming the action taken will be sent to the Contractor by the Housing & Customer Services Manager (H&CSM) or the Asset & Compliance Manager (A&CM).

5.0 Related Policies, Procedures & Documentation

HAM02 – Property Management

Ark's Vision, Mission & Values

6.0 Training & Monitoring requirements

6.1 Training

Staff dealing with the Right to Repair will have training appropriate to their needs and to the needs of the organisation. Ark will ensure that relevant employees have an awareness of this procedure and receive adequate training to enable them to effectively fulfil their roles and ensure compliance with Legislation.

6.2 Monitoring

The Housing & Customer Services Manager is responsible for ensuring that the Housing and Asset teams and Contractors that we have procured to provide a reactive repairs service are aware of this procedure and implement it accordingly.

The Housing & Customer Services Manager will monitor the number of Right to Repair repairs and compensation paid as part of the annual KPI's and ensure that this procedure is reviewed at least every three years in line with the agreed review schedule.

Appendix 1 – Schedule

DEFECTS & REPAIRS which are QUALIFYING REPAIRS and MAXIMUM TIME for COMPLETION

Defect or repair	Maximum time in working days from date immediately following the date of notification of qualifying repair, or inspection
Blocked flue to open fire or boiler	1
Blocked or leaking foul drains, soil stacks, or toilet pans where there is no other toilet in the house	1
Blocked sink, bath or basin	1
Electric power – loss of electric power partial loss of electric power	1 3
Insecure external window, door or lock	1
Unsafe access path or step	1
Significant leaks or flooding from water or heating pipes, tanks, cisterns	1
Loss or partial loss of gas supply	1
Loss or partial loss of space or water heating where no alternative heating is available	1
Toilet not flushing where there is no other toilet in the house	1
Unsafe power or lighting socket, or electrical fitting	1
Water supply – loss of water supply partial loss of water supply	1 3
Loose or detached banister or handrail	3
Unsafe timber flooring or stair treads	3
Mechanical extractor fan in internal kitchen or bathroom not working	7

Appendix 2 – Compensation letter

[Date]

[Tenant name]

[Address 1]

[Address 2]

[Town] [Postcode]

[Our reference]

Dear [Salutation]

Right to Repair – Compensation

I refer to the recent repair to your property. This repair was covered by the 'Right to Repair' regulations which state that certain specified repairs should be carried out within a set timescale, unless there are good reasons preventing this from happening.

Unfortunately, your repair was not completed within the target timescale of [no. of days]. Under the terms of the regulations, you are therefore entitled to receive a compensation payment.

The level of compensation is set by the Scottish Government at £[amount] for each day's delay, starting from the day after the date the repair should have been completed.

The number of days delay in this case was [no. of days]. The total compensation due is therefore £[total amount] and our cheque for this amount is enclosed.

Please accept my apologies on behalf of Ark housing Association for any inconvenience caused by the delay in completing this repair.

If you have any questions about anything in this letter, please contact me at the address below.

Yours sincerely

Name

Housing and Customer Services Manager