Press Release

For immediate release: September 19, 2025

Renters' Rights Bill Becomes Law: Now Government Must Deliver for Millions of Private Renting Households

The Renters' Rights Bill has finally received Royal Assent. This marks a historic victory for England's private renters, as for the first time in decades, they will be granted protections under the law that they've long been denied.

The new Renters' Rights Act abolishes Section 21 "no-fault" evictions, ends fixed-term tenancies in favour of rolling contracts, introduces a Decent Homes Standard for private rental houses, and curbs exploitative practices such as excessive upfront rent demands.

Shelter has long campaigned for these reforms, alongside supporters and activists who have faced eviction, insecurity, and unsafe homes. Today's milestone shows what's possible when our combined voices can no longer be ignored.

But this fight isn't over.

"This Act is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to fix a broken system. Ending no-fault evictions is huge, but without proper enforcement, nothing will change," said Sarah Elliott, Chief Executive Officer of Shelter. "Councils need urgent funding and resources to uphold these new rights. Otherwise, landlords will continue to exploit loopholes and renters will remain powerless, despite this Act."

With millions of people still living in insecure or unsafe housing, Shelter calls for:

- New investment should be made in local authorities to enforce these new rights effectively.
- Clear guidance for tenants is needed to ensure that everyone, particularly the vulnerable, understands the new protections that they're entitled to.
- Fresh political commitment from this government on expanding social housing to tackle the root cause of the housing emergency.

"Today, renters can finally breathe easier," added Sarah Elliott. "But breathing room is not the same thing as security. This new law must be implemented properly, and we will hold the government to account every step of the way."

For advice on what the Renters' Rights Act means for tenants, visit: <u>Shelter's housing advice pages</u>.

For more on Shelter's campaign to strengthen renters' rights, see: Renters' Rights Bill campaign.