

Housing SPC Meeting 24 November 2023 Tenant Purchase Application Fee

Following consultation with other Local Authorities it is has been agreed that Galway City Council will introduce an initial **Tenant Purchase Application Fee of €20 and a fee of €100 for** all subsequent applications.

Appendix 1 sets out information from other local authorities.

The matter of charging fees for applications is provided under The Local Government (Finance Provisions (No. 2) Act 1983 and is an executive function.

The council's loans department are experiencing high volumes of applications for the Tenant Purchase Scheme. Many of these applications are closed within 6 months as the applicant does not provide information on how they are going to finance the purchase. In the meantime, Galway City Council seeks a valuation on the property at a cost of €130.00 each.

Since 1 January 2023 Galway City Council has received 29 valuations from tenants, under the Tenant Purchase Scheme, at a cost of €3,954.50 to the Council.

The fee will be introduced for all new applications from 4 December 2023.

Tenant Purchase Application Fee: €20

Tenant Purchase Repeat Applications Fee: €100

From November 14th 2023

APPENDIX 1

Tenant Purchase Fees by Local Authority

The Local Government (Finance Provisions (No. 2) Act 1983 empowers the LA to make certain charges.

2.—(1) Subject to section 4 of this Act, any existing enactment which requires or enables a local authority to provide a service but which, apart from this subsection, does not empower the authority to charge for the provision of the service shall be deemed so to empower that authority.

Tipperary

€20 Application fee. €100 Valuation Fee.

Carlow

€20 Application Fee. €100 Valuation Fee – One tender in 2016. 3 Auctioneers – use the same one because they are cheaper and efficient.

Galway County

€20 Application Fee. No Valuation Fee. One Tender in 2016.

<u>Leitrim</u>

€20 Application Fee. No Valuation Fee. One Tender in 2016

Sligo

€20 Application Fee. No Valuation Fee. One Tender in 2016 – 1 Auctioneer per area (3 in total)

Limerick

€20 Application Fee. €100 Valuation Fee

Waterford

€20 Application Fee. €125 Valuation Fee

Wexford

€20 application fee and a valuation fee of €125

Meath

Charge €100 at application stage. No further Valuation fee.

Cork County

Cork County Council charges a €100 application fee towards administrative costs. This is payable when the applicant returns the completed application form and income documents. A further fee for the property valuations carried out as part of the application process is not charged.

Applicants complete an Expression of Interest form initially, on receipt of which checks are made to ensure the property is eligible for sale and the applicants meets all eligibility criteria. Please note, the application fee is not requested until it is established that an application can proceed.

Dublin City

Charge €150 at application stage. No further Valuation fee

<u>Clare</u>

Charge €150 at application stage. No further Valuation fee.

<u>Kilkenny</u>

€20.00 application fee . €100 towards the valuation fee.

Fingal

€50 application fee and then €100 at valuation stage.

Roscommon

€100 charged for a second and any subsequent applications to go towards covering the valuation fee.

17 November 2023