

Eviction

Policy

Lions Emergency Accommodation Centre Inc. (LEAC) will respect the rights of clients to housing and is committed to maintaining tenancies. LEAC acknowledges its responsibility to protect the safety and wellbeing of all clients and staff and will work to minimise the impact of eviction on the client/s and organisation.

Procedure

It is the responsibility of staff to ensure all residents are aware of the guidelines for maintaining their tenancy with the service. Staff will clarify with residents their understanding of the guidelines and the consequences of breaching the guidelines.

Residents are not evicted without just cause and reasons for the eviction and all processes leading up to an eviction are documented and kept in the resident's file.

Eviction will be immediate if:

- Staff assess that a breach of security guidelines at the shelter has placed, or may place, the safety and/or security of residents or staff at risk
- A resident physically attacks another resident or staff member, including acts of sexual aggression
- A resident makes a threat with a weapon or uses any instrument that endangers life
- Illegal activities are carried out which may put a client or staff member at risk (e.g., the selling of drugs on LEAC premises).

In other circumstances where there have been breaches of Service guidelines which have resulted in a notice to leave, a period of up to seven (7) days may be given to assist the resident to find alternative accommodation.

Staff will provide information regarding housing options and will treat residents fairly and with respect during any eviction process.

Where eviction occurs, it is the responsibility of the resident to pay for their relocation costs. In exceptional circumstances, staff may assist towards accommodation costs up to a maximum of one (1) week's rental.

Residents will be informed of their rights and made aware of LEAC's complaints policy and procedure.

LEAC does not use any Tenant Vetting Databases, nor will any tenants be listed on any such databases.