

NO-ONE can be evicted during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The national government has passed legislation to halt all evictions during the pandemic. Once the notice period for an eviction is over, tenants DO NOT have to leave the property until a court order is issued and bailiffs turn up. Court proceedings for evictions cannot begin until 26th June and even then it will be take a long time for courts to return to normal. Oxford City Council is working to enforce this ban for their own tenants and those in the private rental market.

If a landlord puts pressure on a tenant to leave their home without following the correct legal procedure **this is harassment**, a criminal offence and should be **reported to the police**.

No 'ifs' no 'buts', stay home and stay safe.

Where to get support?

- **Oxford City Council's Tenancy Support Team** can make sure landlords are keeping up with maintenance and complying with health & safety regulation.
T6@oxford.gov.uk // 01865 252267
- **Citizens Advice Oxford** can advise on a person's legal rights, including where housing rights overlap with immigration status, benefits claims or family law.
citizensadviceoxford.org.uk // 0300 330 9054
- **Coronavirus Community Assistance Hub** can offer support and referrals to any renter having housing difficulties as a result of Covid-19.
oxford.gov.uk/coronavirus // 01865 249 811
- **Oxford Tenants Union** offer signposting, solidarity and collective action. We have published a **COVID-19 Renters' Resources** pack for full guidance and template letters. We host an open meeting every Monday at 6pm where renters can provide mutual support to each other.
oxfordtenantsunion.wordpress.com/covid-19-renters-resources

Struggling to pay rent?

Though housing benefit (paid via Universal Credit) has been raised, and some large landlords (including Oxford City Council and some Colleges) are offering hardship loans, **many people will still struggle to pay their rent during and after the pandemic**. Tenants can [write to their landlords](#) requesting a rent holiday or join the growing national rent strike. Renters can also join us to demand a suspension to rent and better protections for renters. **No one should choose to pay rent over feeding themselves or their families.**

