



3. Jennifer says that she left her privately rented home because she could not afford her rent. She subsequently applied as homeless but was found to have become homeless intentionally on the basis that she had £7,000 in capital which she could have used to pay the rent.

15 days before she vacated Jennifer had applied to the council's housing register for social housing. In that application she had stated that she could not afford the rent and that she was having to move out. However, no homeless application was taken at the point. Neither was advice given.

When you consider the evidence it's clear that Jennifer did not actually have £7,000 in capital immediately prior to her decision to vacate her former home.

You met with Jennifer and her representatives. You then sent a 'minded to find' letter that you were minded to uphold the intentional decision on the basis that the £7,000 in savings had been spent frivolously instead of using the money to pay the rent.

Jennifer's representatives have sought a further meeting.

4. Donita was owed the main housing duty. She was told that she would only be made one offer from the housing register. The council offered Donita a flat in a tower block, which she refused because it was 'too small' and was 'high rise'.

Donita asked for a review, stating that English is not her first language. She asserts that she misunderstood the relationship between bidding and offers and that her friends had told her that she would get a choice of three properties (a rule from the council's allocation scheme, but which did negate the 'final offer' aspect of the offer in relation to her homelessness).

These submissions had not been made at the time that the original 'discharge of duty' decision was sent to Donita.