

Public Notice



Designation of an Area for Additional Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs).

This notice is published in accordance with Sections 56 to 60 of the Housing Act 2004 and Regulation 9 of the Licensing and Management of Houses in Multiple Occupation and Other Houses (Miscellaneous Provisions) (England) Regulations 2006.

Notice is hereby given that the Oxford City Council has on the 10th March 2021 designated an additional licensing scheme in respect of houses in multiple occupation (HMOs). The area affected covers the entire City of Oxford.

This scheme will be known as the Oxford City Council Additional Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation Scheme 2021.

The scheme, to which the designation applies, has General Approval under section 58 of the Housing Act 2004 by the Secretary of State under the Housing Act 2004: Licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation and Selective Licensing of Other Residential Accommodation (England) General Approval 2015, which came into force on the 1st April 2015. Therefore the designation need not be confirmed and will come into force on the 10th June 2021 unless revoked beforehand the Scheme will cease to have effect at midnight on the 9th June 2026

With effect from the 10th June 2021 the Scheme applies to:

Any HMO that contain three or four occupiers and all self-contained flats that are Houses in Multiple Occupation, irrespective of the number of storeys, but, so far as concerns section 257 Houses in Multiple Occupation, limit the designation to those that are mainly or wholly tenanted, including those with resident landlords

A person having control of or managing an HMO must apply to the Oxford City Council for a licence. Failure to apply for a licence is an offence under Section 72(1) of the Housing Act 2004 and is punishable on conviction by payment of an unlimited fine set by the Courts or by the Council imposing a financial penalty of up to £30,000. In addition they may be required to repay up to 12 months' rent if the tenant or the Council, in the case of housing benefit payments, apply to the First Tier Tribunal under the provisions of Sections 73 and 74 of the Housing Act 2004 for a rent repayment order.

Any person, landlord, managing agent or other person managing a HMO or any tenant within the City may inspect the designation and may seek advice as to whether their property is affected by the designation by contacting the Council during normal office hours, which are: 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday.

Contact details for the Council are in writing, Oxford City Council, HMO Enforcement Team, St Aldates Chambers, St Aldates, OX1 1EN email hmos@oxford.gov.uk or telephone 01865 252211.