

Gareth Williams – The Clerk,  
Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee,  
National Assembly for Wales,  
Cardiff.

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019

**Subject: The Renting Homes (Fees etc.) (Specified Information) (Wales) Regulations 2019**

Dear Mr Williams,

I write to you as a matter of urgency regarding the laying of the above regulations before the National Assembly for Wales last week, which I gather are to come before your Committee in the very near future.

The RLA understands the remit of your Committee and does not intend to make arguments of policy but wanted to bring to your attention some issues with the technical workings and merits the regulations have, as they stand, as we believe they need to be addressed as soon as possible.

The issue we would like to raise with you specifically surrounds point (2)(c) which demands a prospective contract-holder be provided with the “*name, address, telephone number and any email address of the landlord (and if instructed, the letting agent)*”, and the date on which the regulations come into force, 13 December 2019.

We ask that the Committee consider the following:

- Does the requirement for letting agents to disclose such details (the personal address of the landlord as opposed to an address upon which notices can be served, for example, or indeed a personal phone or email address) come into conflict with existing data protection law?
- Is the timescale sufficient to introduce these changes – which requires agents to amend the terms and conditions with all their landlord clients and change future agreements – and ensure compliance with the regulations, as is the Welsh Government’s aim?

We thank you in advance for your consideration of these concerns. We have cc’d into this letter the Minister for Housing and Local Government as a matter of transparency.

Yours sincerely,



Douglas Haig

RLA Vice Chairman & Director for Wales

**Cc: Julie James AM, Minister for Housing and Local Government.**