



# Cheshire Landlord Accreditation Scheme



**Building futures, opening doors**





## What is the Cheshire Landlord Accreditation Scheme?

The Cheshire Landlord Accreditation Scheme (CLAS) is a voluntary scheme that has been set up to raise standards across the private rented sector. The scheme identifies those landlords/letting agents who provide good housing management and property standards by giving them a market advantage over non-accredited landlords.

## What are the benefits of becoming accredited?

There are a number of benefits as follows:

- Recognition that you are a good landlord/letting agent providing a good standard of accommodation via the use of the CLAS logo
  - FREE advertising of your vacant property on the West Cheshire Homes/Cheshire Homes Choice website terms and conditions apply
  - Discounted services such as: maintenance and repairs, void cleaning etc
  - Reduced HMO licence fees
  - Improved access to latest news and information
  - Ongoing advice and support for you and your tenant
  - Access to landlord training and events
  - Access to property improvement grants/loans - where available
  - Access to Private Landlord Service (not available in Warrington)
  - Access to Empty Homes Matching Service (Cheshire West and Chester based landlords only).
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## How do I become accredited?

You will need to complete a Cheshire Landlord Accreditation Scheme application form. You will also need to provide current and appropriate test certification for each property you hold and agree to meet the scheme's Code of Standards.

Following an application to join the scheme, the Council will carry out property inspections of a sample of the landlords property portfolio. Landlords who become accredited need to attend a Landlord Training course, arranged by the Scheme operators, within 12 months of becoming accredited.

## Is there a cost?

No, there is no cost to join the Cheshire Landlord Accreditation Scheme.

If your property is a licensable House of Multiple Occupation [HMO] you will still need a HMO Licence and a licence fee will be payable. However, once accredited, a discount will be applied to any new HMO Licence. Please note: that licence fees will vary between the three local authority areas.

If your property needs to be inspected for the purpose of advertising on the University's Student Accommodation List, a fee will be charged (except properties in Warrington).

## How long does membership of the scheme last?

You will be accredited for five years, before the five years are due to expire, you will need to renew your membership of the scheme.

## Need more information?

For more information about the Cheshire Landlord Accreditation Scheme, then please contact your local authority as follows:

### **Cheshire East Council**

Contact: Enhanced Housing Team

Telephone: 0300 123 5017

Email: [enhanced.housing.options@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:enhanced.housing.options@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

### **Cheshire West and Chester Council**

Contact: Housing Standards Team

Telephone: 0300 123 70 38

Email: [housingstandards@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:housingstandards@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

### **Warrington Borough Council**

Contact; Private Sector Housing Team

Telephone: 01925 248483 or 01925 248487

Email: [privatesector@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:privatesector@warrington.gov.uk)

#### **Accessing Cheshire West and Chester Council information and services**

Council information is also available in Audio, Braille, Large Print or other formats. If you would like a copy in a different format, in another language or require a BSL interpreter, please email us at [equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

**Tel:** 0300 123 8 123 **Textphone:** 18001 01606 275 757

**email:** [equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

**web:** [www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

## **Cheshire West and Chester Council**

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