

# Changes to the law for HMO

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COPELAND Borough Council is urging landlords to make sure they comply with changes to the law for houses in multiple occupation.

Previously houses in multiple occupation only needed to be licensed if they were three storeys or above - this classification has now been removed. Minimum room sizes have also been introduced.

Licensable Houses in multiple occupation are those which house five or more people in more than one household.

The legislation does not apply if the room is not the tenant's main place of residence.

Landlords who own properties that now class as houses in multiple occupation must obtain a permit from Copeland Borough Council.

The new legislation applies from October 1, 2018 and landlords who think they may be affected by the changes should notify the council no later than October 1. Failing to notify the council by this date could be considered a criminal offence with fines punishable of up to £30,000.

Landlords can contact Copeland Council on 01946 598300 or email [info@copeland.gov.uk](mailto:info@copeland.gov.uk) [4]. More information is available on the Council's website, [www.copeland.gov.uk](http://www.copeland.gov.uk) [5].

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### Links

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[2] <https://www.copeland.gov.uk/tags/press-release>

[3] <https://www.copeland.gov.uk/taxonomy/term/165>

[4] <mailto:info@copeland.gov.uk>

[5] <http://www.copeland.gov.uk/>