



Resident Guidance on Displaying Flags

Here at South Lakes Housing we understand that flying a flag can be a meaningful way to express identity, celebrate events, or show support for causes. Over the past year, we've seen more flags displayed in our communities, which has led to some concerns and questions. To help ensure that it is done in a way that respects everyone in our community, here are some helpful points to consider when you are thinking about displaying a flag:

What to Keep in Mind

- **We're here to help:** If you're thinking about displaying a flag, especially one that involves installing fixtures or changes to your property, please reach out to us first, you will need permission to erect any poles or if you are fixing the flag to your property. We'll look at each request individually and do our best to support you while keeping things safe and respectful for all.
- **Respecting shared spaces:** As part of your tenancy agreement, we ask all residents to help keep outdoor areas tidy and welcoming. Flags should be temporary and placed thoughtfully to avoid causing any distress or discomfort to others.
- **Location matters:** Flags displayed within your home or garden are generally fine, but we do not allow flags to be displayed in communal areas including lounges or stairwells for example without prior consent being given by SLH.
- **Safety first:** For health and safety reasons, we're unable to approve permanent flagpoles. We also ask that flags don't block pathways, views, or create fire risks. If you're unsure about installation, we're happy to advise.
- **Planning permission:** Some flags may require approval from your local council. It's your responsibility to check and follow any relevant planning rules. If permission isn't granted, we may ask you to adjust the size or location of the flag.
- **Lampposts or other external street furniture:** Flags should not be erected on any external structures such as streetlights, camera columns or benches. The Local Authority have their own guidance on displaying flags and for residents of Westmorland and Furness this can be found [here](#)

If Concerns Arise

SLH are committed to maintaining a respectful and inclusive environment. If we receive a complaint about a flag or flags being displayed, we'll look into it carefully and fairly, always considering the context and speaking with those involved. Our goal is to resolve any concerns constructively and in line with tenancy agreements. If we tell you that your flag needs to be removed or relocated we will expect this advice to be respected and immediate action taken to fulfil the request.

We're Here for You

If you're unsure about anything or would like to talk through your plans, we're always happy to help. By working together, we can make sure everyone feels comfortable and respected in their home and community. You can contact us by phone or email on 0300 303 8540, email customerservices@southlakeshousing.co.uk