

# [Press release: Grading under review for Encircle Housing Limited](#)



The Regulator of Social Housing reports that Encircle Housing Limited has been placed on its Grading under Review list today (6 November 2018).

It notifies that at the time of the last [Statistical Data Return](#) the provider had fewer than 1,000 homes and therefore does not have a current published regulatory judgement in accordance with our established procedures.

The regulator is currently investigating a matter regarding the provider's compliance with the Governance and Financial Viability Standard. The outcome of the investigation will be confirmed in a regulatory notice, once completed.

The [GUR list](#) is available on the website.

1. The [Regulatory standards](#) can be found on the RSH website.
2. The Regulator of Social Housing promotes a viable, efficient and well-governed social housing sector able to deliver homes that meet a range of needs. It does this by undertaking robust economic regulation focusing on governance, financial viability and value for money that maintains lender confidence and protects the taxpayer. It also sets consumer standards and may take action if these standards are breached and there is a significant risk of serious detriment to tenants or potential tenants. For more information visit the [RSH website](#).
3. See our [Media enquiries page](#) for press office contact details. For general queries, please email [enquiries@rsh.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@rsh.gov.uk) or call 0300 124 5225.

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### **Further information**

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## [Press release: Queen appoints Lord-](#)

# Lieutenant of North Yorkshire

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Mrs Johanna Ropner DL as Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the County of North Yorkshire in succession to the late Mr Barry Dodd CBE.

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## Press release: Pet owners encouraged to seek advice on travel plans ahead of EU Exit

Today (6 November) advice has been issued to pet owners about what they need to do to make sure they can travel to the EU with their pets when the UK leaves the EU.

Pet owners will still be able to travel to Europe with their pet after we leave the EU whatever the outcome of the negotiations. However, in the unlikely event of a no-deal they may need to take some additional steps. This includes a rabies vaccination followed by a blood test a minimum of 30 days afterwards.

If pet owners are planning to travel after 29 March 2019, the government recommends they contact their vet at least four months in advance of their intended travel date to check what they need to do.

Those wishing to travel to the EU on 30 March 2019, for example, should discuss requirements with their vet as soon as possible and before the end of November 2018 at the latest.

The requirements include making sure that pets are effectively vaccinated against rabies before they travel. This involves having an up-to-date rabies vaccination and a blood test to demonstrate sufficient levels of rabies antibody.

The blood test would need to be carried out a minimum of 30 days after any initial rabies vaccination and a minimum of three months before their travel date. Pet owners will need to talk to their vet about health requirements in good time.

Christine Middlemiss, UK Chief Veterinary Officer, said:

Today we are giving practical and straightforward advice for people who wish to travel to Europe with their pets after we leave the EU

in the unlikely event of a no-deal situation.

I urge all pet owners who wish to travel immediately after 29 March 2019 to consult with their vet as soon as they can. This is about planning ahead to ensure their pet has the correct health protection documented and in place for all possible Exit scenarios.

In recent weeks we have been in contact with vets to highlight this issue. They are expecting pet owners to consult with them and plan ahead.

Pet owners can also stay up to date with the latest advice on pet travel [on GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) or by searching 'pet travel'.

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## **Press release: Financial investor banned for 11 years after abusing clients' funds**

Gerald Chiato Etangayong, from South East London (SE3), was the sole director and shareholder of GEC Consultancy Ltd, a company that was not authorised by the FCA.

Incorporated in 2014, GEC offered investment services for clients wanting to trade in the global financial markets, as well as training for people who wanted to conduct their own trades.

However, just over a year later the company experienced financial difficulties and by November 2015, GEC was placed into creditors voluntary liquidation.

The Insolvency Service looked into the affairs of the company and the 30-year-old's conduct while director and discovered several instances of wrongdoing.

Investigators found that GEC had been operating an investment scheme when it managed foreign currency investments on behalf of a company based in the British Virgin Islands.

GEC received more than £194,000 worth of funds from investors but only invested around £96,000 in a foreign currency investment platform and while, the funds increased in value by approximately £22,000, only around £57,000 was paid back to the investors.

When asked where the remaining funds ended up, approximately £61,000, Gerald Etangayong said he used the money to settle GEC's outstanding liabilities and

repay loans, while also pocketing more than £17,000 for himself.

Gerald Etangayong also allowed GEC to accept deposits from investors despite knowing that the company's promotional material was misleading.

Exaggerated claims on the marketing literature included that funds would be 'safe and secure at all times', would be held in a segregated account and investors would receive a full reimbursement of all the capital invested at the end of the investment period.

However, Gerald Etangayong should have advised his investors of the key risks, including potential large losses and the highly volatile and unpredictable nature of the foreign exchange market.

As a result of director's misconduct, at least £200,185 remains outstanding to investors and on 8 October 2018 the Secretary of State accepted a disqualification undertaking from Gerald Etangayong.

Effective from 29 October 2018, Gerald Etangayong is banned for 11 years from directly or indirectly becoming involved, without the permission of the court, in the promotion, formation or management of a company.

Robert Clarke, Head of Company Investigation at the Insolvency Service, said:

Gerald Etangayong abused his position by knowingly taking people's money for investments he knew were never viable.

An 11-year disqualification is a substantial ban and should serve as a warning that we will always look to remove from the business community those directors who act below the standards that should be expected of them.

## **Notes to editors**

Gerald Chiatoh Etangayong is of South-East London (SE3) and his date of birth is December 1987

GEC Consultancy Ltd (Company Reg no. 09128919).

A disqualification order has the effect that without specific permission of a court, a person with a disqualification cannot:

- act as a director of a company
- take part, directly or indirectly, in the promotion, formation or management of a company or limited liability partnership
- be a receiver of a company's property

Disqualification undertakings are the administrative equivalent of a disqualification order but do not involve court proceedings.

Persons subject to a disqualification order are bound by a [range of other restrictions](#).

The Insolvency Service administers the insolvency regime, investigating all compulsory liquidations and individual insolvencies (bankruptcies) through the Official Receiver to establish why they became insolvent. It may also use powers under the Companies Act 1985 to conduct confidential fact-finding investigations into the activities of live limited companies in the UK. In addition, the agency deals with disqualification of directors in corporate failures, assesses and pays statutory entitlement to redundancy payments when an employer cannot or will not pay employees, provides banking and investment services for bankruptcy and liquidation estate funds and advises ministers and other government departments on insolvency law and practice.

Further information about the work of the Insolvency Service, and how to complain about financial misconduct, is [available](#).

## Contact Press Office

Media enquiries for this press release – 020 7674 6910 or 020 7596 6187

### Press Office

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This service is for journalists only. For any other queries, please contact the Insolvency Enquiry line on 0300 678 0015.

For all media enquiries outside normal working hours, please contact the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Press Office on 020 7215 1000.

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