

# FIRST-TIER TRIBUNAL

PROPERTY CHAMBER (RESIDENTIAL

PROPERTY)

**Case Reference** LON/00AJ/LDC/2022/0164

Arc Tower, 32 Uxbridge Rd, London W5 **Property** 

2SN

**HMCTS code P: PAPERREMOTE** 

**Applicant Adriatic Land 5 Ltd** 

Representative **Residential Management Group** :

Leaseholders of Arc Tower, see Respondents

attached schedule

Representative None :

> **Dispensation from consultation** requirements under section 20ZA

Type of Application Landlord and Tenant Act 1985 ("the

Act")

**Mr Charles Norman FRICS Tribunal Member** 

Valuer Chairman

**Date of Decision** : **12 December 2022** 

# **Determination by Written Representations**

# **DECISION**

# **Covid-19 pandemic: description of determination**

This has been a remote determination on the papers which has been not objected to by the parties. The form of remote determination was by paper P: PAPERREMOTE. A face-to-face hearing was not held because it was not practicable, and no-one requested the same. The documents which the tribunal considered were in electronic form totalling 141 pages.

#### **Decision**

1. The application for dispensation is **GRANTED** unconditionally.

#### Reasons

# **Background**

- 2. Application to the Tribunal was made on 25 August 2022 for a dispensation from the consultation requirements under section 20ZA of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1985 ("the Act") (set out in the appendix). The subject matter is repair to a rainwater gutter, including cleaning out the existing gutter, preparing for new PMMA waterproofing system and cutting and replacing existing outlets. The works have been completed.
- 3. Directions were issued on 5 October 2022 amended 18 November 2022 directing that the matter be dealt with by written representations unless any party made a request for an oral hearing, which none did. The directions required the applicant to give publicity to the application and serve copies on the lessees. The Applicant confirmed this. In addition, the respondents were invited to respond to the application, which none have. The Tribunal did not consider it necessary or proportionate inspect the property.

## The Property

4. The property is a mixed use building of 21 storeys of steel and concrete construction with glass panel cladding. Roofs are pitched steel profile structure. The building was constructed in 2014 and includes 93 flats, two commercial units and other areas. The roofs are divided into North and South sections.

#### The Respondents' leases

5. A sample lease was supplied, but the Tribunal makes no finding as to payability or reasonableness of the costs to be incurred in this application.

## The Applicant's Case and Nature of the Works

6. In March 2021 scaffolding was erected to enable cladding works to be undertaken, financed by the Building Safety Fund. In October 2021, the

applicant became aware of leaks in Flat 134 which is served by the North roof. There was significant water ingress into that flat. In January 2022, the Applicant appointed Leak Detection Specialists Ltd, who advised that the source of leaks was defects to the outlet faceplates connecting to a gutter. Subsequently it was found that the south roof suffered from a similar defect. If the proposed works can be carried out quickly using the existing scaffolding, there will be a substantial reduction in overall cost. The scaffolding cost is approximately £29,430 per week. This cost will not be charged to leaseholders.

7. The Applicant sent a Notice of Intention to leaseholders on 31 May 2022. It also obtained quotes from two contractors. The Applicant appointed Multi Roofing Systems (MRS) and accepted the lower of their two cost options at a budget cost of £37,640. The work was carried out during September 2022. MRS also identified that a further rainwater pipe was needed from the gutter into balcony rainwater pipework below. The additional cost was £1575. This work was completed on 11 November 2022.

# The Respondents' Case

8. The respondents did not respond to the application.

#### The Law

9. Section 20ZA is set out in the appendix to this decision. The Tribunal has discretion to grant dispensation when it considers it reasonable to do so. In addition, the Supreme Court Judgment in *Daejan Investments Limited v Benson and Others* [2013] UKSC 14 empowers the Tribunal to grant dispensation on terms or subject to conditions.

## **Findings**

- 10. The Tribunal considers that the works were urgent, and that the applicant has acted reasonably in seeking the dispensation sought. It agrees that by utilising the existing scaffolding there will be a significant cost saving to lessees. The Tribunal notes that no Respondent has objected to the application. The Tribunal does not consider that any respondent will be prejudiced by the grant of dispensation. The Tribunal therefore grants dispensation in respect of the MRS works referred to above.
- 11. This application does not concern the issue of whether any service charge costs will be reasonable or payable. The leaseholders will continue to enjoy the protection of section 27A of the Act.

C Norman FRICS Valuer Chairman

12 December 2022

| Unit         |  |
|--------------|--|
| Description  | Name                                     |
| Unit A       | Kabari Ltd.                              |
| Unit B       | Kabari Ltd.                              |
| 11 Arc Tower | Yick Fan & Anny Fan                      |
| 12 Arc Tower | Mr Kadhom Hussain                        |
| 13 Arc Tower | Jie Shao & Lawrence Jin                  |
| 14 Arc Tower | Carlo Giandomenici & Faryal Maudarbocus  |
| 15 Arc Tower | Huma Rashid & Majid Rashid               |
| 16 Arc Tower | Ms Rishma Kaur & Mr Ihrar Kurji          |
| 21 Arc Tower | Divyang Patel                            |
| 22 Arc Tower | Mr G & Mrs J Liddall                     |
| 23 Arc Tower | Miss S Aghaj & Mr O Aghaj                |
| 24 Arc Tower | Mr D & Mrs M Lloyd                       |
| 25 Arc Tower | Dr Solomon & Mrs Frida Kuperman          |
| 26 Arc Tower | Mr S & Mrs S Bhatia                      |
| 31 Arc Tower | Mr Kasim & Mrs Larissa Abid              |
| 32 Arc Tower | Alizaeh Mahmood                          |
| 33 Arc Tower | Arvinder & Raminder Chowdhary            |
| 34 Arc Tower | Wong Yuan & Yue Yen                      |
| 35 Arc Tower | Supreme 412 Estates Ltd.                 |
| 36 Arc Tower | Adetoun Blake                            |
| 41 Arc Tower | Baljit Singh & Ravit Sethi               |
| 42 Arc Tower | Mr D & Mrs M Lloyd                       |
| 43 Arc Tower | Mr K Doyle & Mrs Z De Doyle              |
| 44 Arc Tower | Supreme 412 Estates Ltd.                 |
| 45 Arc Tower | Miss V Poon                              |
| 46 Arc Tower | Mr Nilesh & Mrs Sadhna Sanghvi           |
| 51 Arc Tower | Sarang & Bejal Shah                      |
| 52 Arc Tower | Mr Andrew Marshall & Ms Nancy Khim       |
| 53 Arc Tower | Mr H Aghaj                               |
| 54 Arc Tower | Trafalgar Properties & Investments Corp. |
| 55 Arc Tower | Supreme 412 Estates Ltd.                 |
| 56 Arc Tower | A Crain & Navin Hingorani                |
| 61 Arc Tower | Mr R Sladek                              |
| 62 Arc Tower | Dr N & Dr R Neminathan                   |
| 63 Arc Tower | Dr Harbans & Mrs Harpal Gill             |
| 64 Arc Tower | Trafalgar Properties & Investments Corp. |
| 65 Arc Tower | K Lord, B Harding & J MacQueen           |
| 66 Arc Tower | Mr William & Mrs Terry Roche             |
| 71 Arc Tower | Dr Solomon & Mrs Frida Kuperman          |

| 72 Arc Tower  | Yogesh Paranjpe                     |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| 73 Arc Tower  | Mr Anuj Lama                        |
| 74 Arc Tower  | Mr Vishal Varshnei                  |
| 75 Arc Tower  | Mr Khurram Hashmi                   |
| 76 Arc Tower  | Fellwood Properties Ltd.            |
| 81 Arc Tower  | Gurpreet Sanghera                   |
| 82 Arc Tower  | James, Ann & Katherine Wolstencroft |
| 83 Arc Tower  | Mr Michael Nevin                    |
| 84 Arc Tower  | Yee Ch'ng & Koon Ng                 |
| 85 Arc Tower  | Elizabeth Webster & Grace Webster   |
| 86 Arc Tower  | Oluwasijibomi Banjoko               |
| 91 Arc Tower  | Umesh Kotecha                       |
| 92 Arc Tower  | Ravi & Smina Mehta                  |
| 93 Arc Tower  | Mrs Sally Richards                  |
| 94 Arc Tower  | Pei Lim                             |
| 95 Arc Tower  | Mr Ian Chan                         |
| 96 Arc Tower  | Mr N Braisby & Mr I Hodges          |
| 101 Arc Tower | Umesh Kotecha                       |
| 102 Arc Tower | Dr J Edwards                        |
| 103 Arc Tower | Hussain Shiri                       |
| 104 Arc Tower | Mr A March                          |
| 105 Arc Tower | Mr Amit Gupta & Mrs Vineeta Gupta   |
| 106 Arc Tower | Mr Amit Gupta & Mrs Vineeta Gupta   |
| 111 Arc Tower | Bhavik Patel                        |
| 112 Arc Tower | Swee Quek & Fui Quek                |
| 113 Arc Tower | Dr Ahmed Abdelaal & Mrs D Temraz    |
| 114 Arc Tower | Ashish Patel & Anisha Amin          |
| 115 Arc Tower | Mr Amit Gupta & Mrs Vineeta Gupta   |
| 116 Arc Tower | Mr Amit Gupta & Mrs Vineeta Gupta   |
| 121 Arc Tower | Jer & Jonathan Jang                 |
| 122 Arc Tower | Beloslava Gorelova                  |
| 123 Arc Tower | Vijaykumar, Swati & Aruja Vashi     |
| 124 Arc Tower | Mr M Fox                            |
| 125 Arc Tower | Mr Amit Gupta & Mrs Vineeta Gupta   |
| 126 Arc Tower | Mr Amit Gupta & Mrs Vineeta Gupta   |
| 131 Arc Tower | Mr P Synnott                        |
| 132 Arc Tower | Mr G Roper                          |
| 133 Arc Tower | Cheng Kay                           |
| 134 Arc Tower | Hun Chuah & Khoon Boon              |
| 135 Arc Tower | Mr Mustapha El Amrani               |
| 141 Arc Tower | Hinal & Sonal Patel                 |
| 142 Arc Tower | Wai Chow                            |
| 143 Arc Tower | Oliver Win & Mika Nakao             |
| 144 Arc Tower | Mr A & Mrs S Jamjoon                |
| 145 Arc Tower | Afaf Kodsey                         |

| 151 Arc Tower | Nowmedical Ltd.                    |
|---------------|------------------------------------|
| 152 Arc Tower | Ms Elena Alekseeva                 |
| 153 Arc Tower | Mr Khalid & Mrs Tahira Chaudhry    |
| 161 Arc Tower | Mr D Karadimos & Mr P Antonopoulou |
| 162 Arc Tower | Mr Chan To & Mrs Loh Ping          |
| 163 Arc Tower | Qudratullah Razaq                  |
| 171 Arc Tower | Mohamed Patel & Fatema Bhabha      |
| 172 Arc Tower | Jasjit Kalsi & Harwinder Kalsi     |
| 173 Arc Tower | Mr D Dwyer                         |
| 181 Arc Tower | Dalia Tadros & Bassel Sad          |
| 191 Arc Tower | Dalia Tadros & Bassel Sad          |

## **ANNEX - RIGHTS OF APPEAL**

- The Tribunal is required to set out rights of appeal against its decisions by virtue of the rule 36 (2)(c) of the Tribunal Procedure (First-tier Tribunal)(Property Chamber) Rules 2013 and these are set out below.
- If a party wishes to appeal against this decision to the Upper Tribunal (Lands Chamber) then a written application for permission must be made to the First-tier Tribunal at the Regional office which has been dealing with the case.
- The application for permission to appeal must arrive at the Regional office within 28 days after the Tribunal sends written reasons for the decision to the person making the application.
- If the application is not made within the 28-day time limit, such application must include a request for an extension of time and the reason for not complying with the 28-day time limit; the Tribunal will then look at such reason(s) and decide whether to allow the application for permission to appeal to proceed despite not being within the time limit.
- The application for permission to appeal must identify the decision of the Tribunal to which it relates (i.e. give the date, the property, and the case number), state the grounds of appeal, and state the result the party making the application is seeking.

# **Appendix**

### Section 20ZA Landlord and Tenant Act 1985

- (1)Where an application is made to [the appropriate Tribunal] for a determination to dispense with all or any of the consultation requirements in relation to any qualifying works or qualifying long term agreement, the Tribunal may make the determination if satisfied that it is reasonable to dispense with the requirements.
- (2)In section 20 and this section—
- "qualifying works" means works on a building or any other premises, and
- "qualifying long term agreement" means (subject to subsection (3)) an agreement entered into, by or on behalf of the landlord or a superior landlord, for a term of more than twelve months.
- (3)The Secretary of State may by regulations provide that an agreement is not a qualifying long term agreement—
- (a)if it is an agreement of a description prescribed by the regulations, or
- (b)in any circumstances so prescribed.
- (4)In section 20 and this section "the consultation requirements" means requirements prescribed by regulations made by the Secretary of State.
- (5)Regulations under subsection (4) may in particular include provision requiring the landlord—
- (a)to provide details of proposed works or agreements to tenants or the recognised tenants' association representing them,
- (b)to obtain estimates for proposed works or agreements,
- (c)to invite tenants or the recognised tenants' association to propose the names of persons from whom the landlord should try to obtain other estimates,
- (d)to have regard to observations made by tenants or the recognised tenants' association in relation to proposed works or agreements and estimates, and
- (e)to give reasons in prescribed circumstances for carrying out works or entering into agreements.
- (6) Regulations under section 20 or this section—
- (a) may make provision generally or only in relation to specific cases, and

- (b)may make different provision for different purposes.
- (7)Regulations under section 20 or this section shall be made by statutory instrument which shall be subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament.