

PRESS CUTTING
Letting Agent Today
27 May 2014
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Agents advised "check student tenancies early"

Tuesday, 27 May 2014 Written by [Graham Norwood](#)



The Association of Independent Inventory Clerks is advising agents and landlords to visit properties rented by students well before the end of term in a month's time in a bid to minimise disputes.

Many students fail to attend the check-out, leave properties filthy and give agents little or no time to clean and make repairs before new tenants arrive, meaning the next students may move into sub-standard accommodation, the AIIC claims.

"Traditionally, students tend to leave properties in a state. They don't worry about cleaning, gardening, putting furniture back in the right places, or even taking out all their belongings. They love to just dump stuff they don't want in the house and just walk away' claims

Pat Barber, AIIC chair.

Barber also believes that student's parents - who often act as guarantors – then see the check-out report and cause hell, refusing to pay for damage their children have caused.

"At one recent property the house was left in a very dirty condition throughout and two tenants thought they could not only leave their personal effects but continue to sleep at the property for another 48 hours. Cleaning contractors had already been booked and new tenants were moving in at 10am the next morning" explains Barber.

The association advises agents to visit student-rented property well before the end of tenancy and give written instructions on how tenants can prepare for their check out.

Agents should also suggest the tenants should use the recommended cleaning and gardening contractors to ensure they protect their deposit.