West Suffolk Lettings Partnership

Fact sheet 5
Rent Deposit Bond

West Suffolk Lettings Partnership (WSLP) may be able to help you with moving into private rented accommodation. We can provide the landlord with a deposit bond. This is a written agreement to cover the deposit up to a fixed amount. If the landlord makes a valid claim against the bond, then we may contact you and pursue you for the debt in the same way as we would as if we had loaned you the money.

Who can apply?

In order to apply for the rent deposit bond, you need to be:

- homeless or threatened with homelessness
- locally connected to West Suffolk Council with an established connection
- in special circumstances

Where to go

The first step is to find a room or property where the landlord will accept the council's deposit bond. You can visit local letting agents to look for suitable rooms or properties to rent and can look online at:

- www.rightmove.co.uk
- www.openrent.co.uk
- www.spareroom.co.uk
- www.dssmove.co.uk

You need to remember that you will also be expected to pay a holding deposit which can be no more than one week's rent

What to do

When you have found a property that accepts the Rent Deposit Bond, the property must be:

- affordable
- ready to let
- safe and genuine

You will need to provide:

- valid ID
- three months bank statements and
- an income and expenditure form or affordability assessment

What happens next?

Contact our Customer Services team to discuss your housing situation and advise them that you have found a room or property to rent.

Phone 01284 763233 or email customer.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk

You will be referred to the West Suffolk Lettings Partnership. We will contact the proposed landlord to make ensure they accept the deposit bond and establish if the property is affordable to you, alongside ensuring the property meets all required safety regulations. Should the property qualify we will then negotiate with the landlord and make the necessary arrangements or the bond.

Please note we cannot guarantee you will be successful in your application.