



News Release

Date:	Monday June 2nd 2014
Subject:	Homeless in Darlington to benefit from £7,500 award to local charity

Bristol June 2nd 2014: The Deposit Protection Service (DPS), the UK's largest supplier of tenancy deposit protection services, has given £7,500 in the first awards from its Charitable Donations Fund to the 700 Club, based in Darlington.

The 700 Club strives to help homeless people achieve independence in safe, sustainable accommodation. The organisation provides hostel accommodation, offers clients specialised floating support to address the issues that prevent them living independently, administers a Bond Deposit Scheme, and runs a project offering 24/7 emergency accommodation. The charity has a particular expertise in working with those who are most chaotic as a result of drug, alcohol and mental health problems.

John Elliston, CEO of the 700 Club, said "The grant from The DPS will be used to enhance the Bond Deposit Scheme, extending the service it offers to the most chaotic and difficult clients who would usually be excluded from the private rented sector because of their chaotic lifestyles and/or their poor history as tenants. To achieve this, an incentive will be offered to landlords in the form of a significantly higher indemnity against damage and default; and for the client housed, more intense monitoring will be put in place."

Client T, a 36 year old male who had been living rough in a shed for 12 months due to a relationship breakdown said, "The 700 Club has changed my life".

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John continues "As a result of this grant, we hope that even those who would, until this money became available, be excluded from the private rented sector, will be able to say the same."

Founded in 1996, the charity facilitated 127 secure tenancies in the private rental sector for excluded people (singles, couples and families) in 2013, and makes a fundamental difference to the community in and around Darlington.

Kevin Firth, Director of The DPS said "It is humbling to see the pain-staking work the 700 Club undertake on a daily basis to improve people's lives. I wish them every success and look forward to hearing about the difference this award will make in the coming months."

If you are in need of help with a bond or require advice about securing a tenancy, get in touch with the 700 Club on 01325 366397.

Applications can now be made for the next round of funding from The DPS Charitable Donations Fund, with up to £20,000 available each quarter. Find out more at www.depositprotection.com/charity

ENDS

Information for Editors

- Photo shows Dr John P Elliston MBE Chief Exec of The 700 Club (holding cheque), Chris Leonard, Senior Manager at The Deposit Protection Service and Jean Stoughton, Project Worker for Bridge to Home, a 700 Club Project
- The DPS and 700 Club logos can be provided on request
- Kevin Firth and John Elliston can both be available for interviews on request.
- Details of The DPS Charitable Donations Fund can be [found here](#), including full application details and Terms and Conditions.

Media Contact

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About The DPS

The Deposit Protection Service is the custodial tenancy deposit protection scheme accredited by the Government. It is provided free of charge, and funded entirely by the interest earned from deposits held in the scheme. The DPS was approved by the UK government to run an insured TDP scheme in September 2012 in addition to the approval it has already been granted by the UK government in respect of the custodial scheme. The DPS is run by [Computershare Investor Services PLC](#). Online self-service allows landlords to register and make deposit payments, transfers and repayments 24 hours a day. Help and advice is available through a dedicated call centre during office hours. An impartial Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) service, helps to resolve any disputes quickly and without the need for court action. For more information, visit www.depositprotection.com

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