



The Deposit Protection Service

NEWS RELEASE

<b>Date:</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> January 2014</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	DPS Launches Charity Donations Fund

New fund makes £80,000 available each year for charities that help with housing issues

The Deposit Protection Service (The DPS) is pleased to announce the launch of 'The DPS Charity Donations Fund' which will see up to £20,000 go to charities focused on improving the provision of housing, four times a year.

Since launch in 2007, The Deposit Protection Service has become a key part of the property sector, playing a vital role in helping landlords and letting agents comply with legislation and protecting tenants' money.

Kevin Firth, Director of The DPS said "It's a huge honour to be able to launch this fund today – the whole team is passionate about this opportunity to inject funds into an area which needs it so much.

"We're looking for applications from charities which help directly improve the provision of housing, and are especially keen to hear from those with a particular focus on the private rented sector. Just before Christmas, several of the team volunteered at Caring at Christmas, a charity based in Bristol which offers accommodation to the homeless over the festive period. We know first-hand how much this type of charity needs funds and are looking forward to being able to make a significant difference to such worthwhile projects."

Isobel Thomson, Chief Executive of the National Approved Letting Scheme is on the committee which will allocate funds each quarter: "I'm delighted to be part of such a rewarding initiative – I expect it will be tough to decide where to allocate the funds as there are so many deserving causes, but it's fantastic to be able to help do something to help improve the provision of housing for those who need it most."

Charities that meet the application criteria can apply by downloading a simple form from The DPS' website, where the deadlines and terms and conditions are also provided.

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The DPS expects to make its first donation in April 2014, and is open to applications from today.

## **ENDS**

**For any further information, please contact:**

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Notes to Editors

**Charities will need to download and complete an application form available on The DPS website.**

**In order for this programme to achieve its aims, we have outlined some high level criteria for the charities we will be considering:**

- > **We will only accept applications from charities working within the UK**
- > **The charity must be registered and be able to provide a UK charity registration number**
- > **Our focus is to fund those charities which help to directly improve the provision of housing with a particular focus on the private rented sector**
- > **We will only accept applications for initiatives which benefit the housing sector**
- > **We hope to focus on those charities which support lasting developments/improvements and will continue to provide benefits in the longer term**

### **Application Timetable**

<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Open date</b>	<b>Close date</b>
Q1	1st January	31st March
Q2	1st April	30th June
Q3	1st July	30th September
Q4	1st October	31st December

Full terms and conditions and operating principles are available in the accompanying pdf.

### **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](http://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](http://www.depositprotection.com)

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