



# Help with renting in the Private Sector



Many families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless would like to find accommodation in the private rented sector but are often unable to because of the high costs associated with starting up a tenancy.

If you are a family in this position, then City Life Lettings may be able to help you with a Deposit Bond for families.

## What is a Deposit Bond and how can it help you?

The Deposit Bond means that you do not have to pay a cash deposit when moving into a private rented property. Instead, City Life Lettings will provide the Landlord with a written agreement equivalent to 2 months rent and lasting for the initial tenancy period.

We can also help by advising you on the tenancy agreement, your Housing Benefit claim or any other issues you may be faced with.

City Life Lettings will ensure that all the properties let with them are safe and up to standard

## How does the Deposit Bond work?

Your Housing Officer may be able to provide you with potential properties that are already registered with City Life Lettings. If not, you will need to seek a property in the private sector which is suitable for your needs in the normal way, usually through local estate agents and the local papers.

Once you have found a property, you must provide details of the landlord, rent and deposit required to your Housing Advice Officer on the form provided as soon as possible.

Your Housing Officer will then need to ensure that the property is affordable and meets your housing needs. City Life Lettings will inspect the property to make sure it is safe and is up to standard.

**Do not agree to enter a tenancy or pay any type of costs before you have informed your Housing Officer. If you move into a property before informing your Housing Officer, we will not be able to assist you through City Life Lettings.**



## Who can apply

In order to apply you must:

- Have a local connection with Worcester
- Be homeless or at the risk of being homeless
- Have savings of less than £1,000
- Not own your own home
- Not have a secure tenancy elsewhere

Please be aware that we may not be able to assist you if you have been successfully claimed against under a deposit bond supplied by Worcester City Council or City Life Lettings.

## Housing Benefit

**H**ousing Benefit is designed to help people on benefits or on a low income with their rental payments. Your Housing Officer will be able advise you if you are eligible.

## Looking to the future

**C**ity Life Lettings will expect you to contribute toward a Deposit Replacement Fund to put towards any future deposit. As an added incentive, City Life Lettings will contribute £20 for every £100 you save.



### Contact Details

If you are interested in the scheme, please contact the Housing Advice Team at:

**Worcester City Council**  
**Orchard House Complex**  
**Farrier Street**  
**Worcester**  
**WR1 3BB**  
**Tel: 01905 722589**  
**Email: [housing@worcester.gov.uk](mailto:housing@worcester.gov.uk)**

