This document can be made available in a range of languages and formats, including large print, braille, audio, electronic and accessible formats.

To make a request, please contact Corporate Communications at: corporatecommunications@northlan.gov.uk

'S urrainn dhuinn an sgrìobhaidh seo a chur ann an diofar chànanan agus chruthan, a' gabhail a-steach clò mòr, braille, cruth claisneachd agus cruthan dealanach agus ruigsinneach.

Gus iarrtas a dhèanamh, cuir fios gu Conaltradh Corporra aig: corporatecommunications@northlan.gov.uk

Niniejszy dokument można otrzymać w wielu różnych językach i formatach, w tym również dużym drukiem, alfabetem Braille'a, w wersji dźwiękowej, elektronicznej i w innych dostępnych formatach.

Prośby należy składać na ręce zespołu ds. komunikacji drogą elektroniczną na adres: corporatecommunications@northlan.gov.uk

此文件可以多种不同语言和格式提供,包括大字体、点字、音频、电子和易读格式。 如想提出请求,请联系企业传讯部: corporatecommunications@northlan.gov.uk

اس متاویز کو مخلف زبانوں اور صورتوں بھول بڑے حروف، بریل، آؤیوہ ایکٹر انک اور قابل رسائی صورتوں میں فراہم کیا جا سکتا ہے۔ براہ کرم ورخواست کے لیے کار پوریٹ کیو تنگیشز سے اس پر رابلہ فرہائیں:

corporatecommunications@northlan.gov.uk

# Produced by

# **NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL**

Business Development & Support Enterprise and Communities 3rd Floor, Civic Centre Windmillhill Street Motherwell ML1 1AB

e. BusinessDevelopment&Support@northlan.gov.uk

NORTHLANARKSHIRE.GOV.UK

#### **Points of Contact**

To discuss the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme in more detail, please contact your local Housing Office Allocations Team to speak to one of our trained advisors

# **Local Housing Offices:**

## **Airdrie Housing Office**

Airdrie Business Centre
1st Floor
1 Chapel Lane
Airdrie ML6 6GX
airdrie-cumbernauldhousing@northlan.gov.uk

## **Bellshill Housing Office**

01236 758035

26 Motherwell Road Bellshill ML4 1RE MotherwellandBellshillHousing@northlan.gov.uk 01236 758035

## **Coatbridge Housing Office**

Buchanan Centre 126 Main Street Coatbridge ML5 3BJ CKHousing@northlan.gov.uk 01236 812530

# **Cumbernauld Housing Office**

Fleming House
2 Tryst Road
Cumbernauld G67 1JW
airdrie-cumbernauldhousing@northlan.gov.uk
01236 632726

# **Kilsyth Housing Office**

Parkfoot Street Kilsyth G65 9AA CKhousing@northlan.gov.uk 01236 828120

# **Moodiesburn Housing Office**

Blackwoods Crescent Moodiesburn G69 0EN CKHousing@northlan.gov.uk 01236 812530/828120

## **Motherwell Housing Office**

7 Scott Street
Dalziel Building
Motherwell ML1 1SX
MotherwellandBellshillHousing@northlan.gov.uk
01698 274135

#### **Shotts Housing Office**

162-164 Station Road Shotts ML7 4AW Shottshousing@northlan.gov.uk 01501 824747

# **Viewpark Housing Office**

135 Burnhead Street Viewpark G71 5DD MotherwellandBellshillHousing@northlan.gov.uk 01698 403700

#### **Wishaw Housing Office**

Houldsworth Centre Kenilworth Avenue Wishaw ML27LP Wishawhousing@northlan.gov.uk 01698 302920

# Other help available

Emergency Out of Hours
Support Service 0800 953 2424
Benefits Team / Council Tax 01698 403210/11
Department of Works and Pensions 0345 606 0265
Tackling Poverty Team (Welfare Rights) 01698 332551
Scottish Welfare Fund 0300 555 0405
Citizens Advice Scotland 0800 028 1456
Shelter Scotland 0808 800 4444

'Private Residential Tenancy' Information for Landlords and Tenants is available at:

https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/housing/ private-housing/private-residential-tenancy



# RENT DEPOSIT GUARANTEE SCHEME

**Information for Applicants and Landlords** 



LIVEMERE

# Purpose of the Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme

The Rent Deposit Guarantee Scheme (RDGS) is available to anyone who has a level of housing need and wants to live in the private rented sector but may not have immediate access to funds for a deposit. The RDGS offers applicants a degree of flexibility in the choice of area and type of property that best meets their needs.

The RDGS allows North Lanarkshire Council to work in partnership with Landlords to meet the demand for housing. It promotes housing options and establishes good working relations and builds confidence of landlords.

#### What we offer

- North Lanarkshire Council will guarantee the initial deposit equivalent to one month's rent (up to a maximum of the Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rate applicable to the household).
- Provide help to applicants on sourcing a private sector tenancy.
- Streamlined application process with access to trained staff to help with income maximisation, budget management, and assist with tenancy related issues.
- Help the Tenant and Landlord with lease agreements, inventory and rights and responsibilities.
- Provide an allocated Housing Support worker for the initial period of the tenancy, where required.
- Assist the tenant to set up utilities and ensure any benefit entitlement is in place.
- Conduct financial health checks to ensure tenant's income is maximised and help to apply for benefits.
- Provide points of contact to both the Tenant and Landlord for tenancy related issues.



# **Eligibility**

The RDGS is available to:

- Applicants seeking accommodation in North Lanarkshire aged 16 years and over who have a level of housing need.
- Applicants that have completed a recent Housing Options interview.
- Applicants that are able to meet the monthly rent costs.
- Applicants who are unable to raise the deposit on their own.

# What the Scheme will cover

- Unpaid rent up to the value of one month up to maximum of LHA.
- Any damage to inside the property subject to supporting evidence up to the value of the deposit guaranteed.

# What the Scheme will not cover

- Unpaid utility bills.
- · Court fees.
- Damage to communal areas.
- Normal wear and tear.

# What are the Benefits of a Rent Deposit Scheme?

#### For Landlords

- · Applicant sustainability checks.
- Deposit guaranteed for duration of tenancy.
- Access to a range of housing advice/support services.

#### **For Tenants**

- Help and assistance to access a tenancy in the private sector where applicant has limited or no funds to pay the deposit.
- Enables applicants to access increased housing options.
- Access quality affordable accommodation in the private sector in an area of their choice.
- Access to Housing Support, and housing advice to enable them to settle into their new home and sustain the tenancy.

# **Application Process**

- All applicants are required to undertake a Housing Options interview.
- Once you have identified a suitable property, please contact your local housing office to speak to a Housing Advisor who will check your circumstances are up to date and take the details of the landlord and property to begin the application process.
- We will ensure this is an affordable option for you and complete financial assessment to ensure your income is fully maximised.
- Once the eligibility checks are complete, you will be advised of the outcome of the application and the next steps will be discussed.
- Your Housing Advisor will liaise with the landlord to check all the relevant paperwork is in place with the Landlord (tenancy agreement/tenant information pack, guarantee of deposit, etc), and all gas and electric checks are up to date.

- The Housing Advisor will arrange an appointment with the landlord and prospective tenant, to confirm inventory and signing of lease.
- The Housing Advisor will assist with setting up utilities, applying for benefits where required and ensure deposit in place for the commencement of the tenancy.

# **Landlord Requirements**

- Landlords should be registered with Landlord Registration Scheme and comply with the full responsibilities of the scheme.
- Agree and sign a Landlord Agreement form confirming acceptance of the Rent Deposit Guarantee in lieu of an upfront deposit from the tenant.
- Agree an inventory with the housing staff and tenant prior to the final paperwork being signed off and include photographs to support the standard of accommodation, goods, and furniture.
- Keep a record of rent payments.
- Comply with safety requirements in relation to Gas, Electrical, Carbon Monoxide, checks etc.
- Ensure property complies with repairing standard.
- Notify the Housing Team if notice served or any other issues that may lead to the loss of tenancy.
- Have adequate property insurance in place to protect against damage.

# **Applicant Requirements**

- Do not commit to a tenancy until the Rent Deposit Guarantee Application has been approved by North Lanarkshire Council.
- Complete a financial assessment and if necessary, provide proof of income.
- Engage fully with relevant Housing staff.
- Adhere to all the conditions of the tenancy agreement.
- Report to housing staff, any changes in circumstances including intention to end lease agreement.