

DEPOSIT PROTECTION SCHEME ROLL-OUT

How?

Expedite the roll-out of the new Deposit Protection Scheme whereby deposits will be held by the PRTB who will ensure that deposit monies are safeguarded and returned promptly to the tenant (or landlord) at the end of the tenancy.



Why?

The illegal retention of rental deposits by landlords has been the most common problem faced by Threshold's clients over the past decade and is a hidden cause of homelessness.

Effect on Landlords

The scheme will not change existing landlord responsibilities but will ensure that deposits are not entangled with other debts or financial affairs of the landlord.

Prevent homelessness:

- ✚ The failure to return a deposit can place a tenant at risk of homelessness, as it often represents the full extent of an individual's or family's savings.

Government policy:

- ✚ Now that legislation for a Deposit Protection Scheme is in place, this scheme needs to be set up in a timely manner.

Target resources:

- ✚ A Deposit Protection Scheme will free up the resources of Threshold to deal with more complex housing difficulties.

International best practice:

- ✚ Deposit Protection Schemes are operating effectively in England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Australia and New Zealand.

