

A guide to...

## **Tamworth Bond Scheme**





# Tamworth Strategic Housing Services

"Improving the availability and standard of housing"

#### What is the Tamworth Bond Scheme?

The scheme is run by Tamworth Borough Council to help:

- landlords find genuine applicants in need of housing; and
- applicants who want to rent but cannot afford the deposit.

Applicants need to be able to demonstrate ability to pay monthly rent.

We provide a written contract of guarantee to the landlord in place of a deposit.

The guarantee will cover against rent arrears, loss or damage to the property to the value of no more than eight weeks rent and will last for six months from the date of the contract.

At the end of this period, the tenant must pay the deposit to the landlord and we encourage the tenant and landlord to come to an agreement on paying this before it becomes due.

We encourage the tenant to save the required amount for a deposit over the six months when the Council provides the guarentee to the landlord.

Accommodation must be suitable for the needs of the applicant.

### Who is eligible?

The Bond Scheme may be able to help you if you:

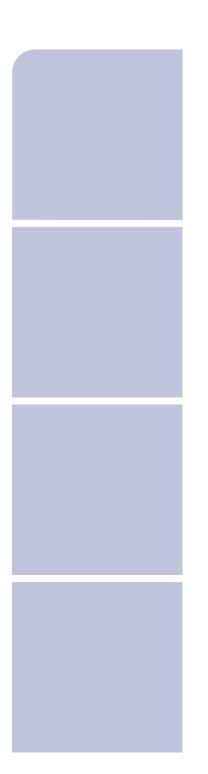
- are over the age of 18
- · are a Tamworth resident
- · wish to live in Tamworth
- have savings of less than £1,000
- are able to meet monthly rental costs

#### How do you apply to get onto the scheme?

To find out more about the Tamworth Deposit Scheme please ring (01827) 709378. We will send an application pack to you if we think the scheme may be able to help you.

An application form will need to be completed and sent back to us as quickly as possible. Additional information (for example evidence of your income) will also be requested to support your application.

Once we have received your completed application form we will let you know in writing within three working days whether or not you have been accepted onto the scheme.



#### What happens next?

If you are not eligible we will advise you on what other options are available to you.

If you are eligible, you should start to look for a suitable property. We will provide you with a list of landlords who provide rented accommodation in the area. You should also look in local newspapers and Estate Letting Agents for vacancies.

The property that you find must be a home in the private sector that is located within the Borough of Tamworth. The tenancy must be an assured or assured short-hold agreement and be for a minimum of six months.

When you have found a property to rent, you must ask the landlord whether or not they are prepared to accept a bond agreement from the scheme. We will then contact the landlord to confirm that they are willing to accept you as a tenant under the terms of the Bond Scheme.

We will then visit the property to check that it is in a reasonable condition.

If it is in a satisfactory condition, we will arrange to meet you and the landlord to sign the relevant paperwork.

You can only move into the property after the Bond Scheme Agreement, a completed inventory document and the Landlord's Tenancy Agreement have been signed.

At the end of the six-month period from the date of the contract, you must arrange to pay the deposit to the landlord.

If your landlord makes a claim against the scheme for any damage, loss or rent arrears, we will fully investigate the claim and if needed, make a payment to the landlord. We will then charge you for these costs. If this leads to court proceedings, you must also pay these costs.

### For further information please contact:

Homelessness Prevention Officer Housing Advice Team Tamworth Borough Council Marmion House Lichfield Street Tamworth B79 7BX

Telephone: 01827 709378

Fax: 01827 709376

Email: enquiries@tamworth.gov.uk

Notes

### Have you found the information in this leaflet helpful?

If you would like to comment on the content of this leaflet, including which information you found most helpful and where you would like to see additional information please complete and return this slip to the Housing Advice Team at Marmion House, Lichfield Street, Tamworth B79 7BZ

What did you like / find helpful about the leaflet?
What information would you have liked the leaflet to contain that it didn't?
Would you like to participate in any further consultation we may do on the Tamworth Bond Scheme in the future? Y/N
If Yes please provide your name, address and contact telephone number
Name:
Address:
Contact numbers

