

FOI Number 00120424 TENANCY DEPOSIT SCHEME (NOV 2019)

REQUEST & RESPONSE

1. Does your local authority have a scheme to assist people with the costs of renting a property, for example a tenancy deposit?
1. **Eastleigh Borough Council operates a Tenancy Start Up scheme which can cover a deposit and/or rent in advance to secure accommodation for households who are homeless or threatened with homelessness.**
2. Does the scheme provide:
 1. Cash
 2. A loan
 3. A guarantee or bond
2. **The scheme works by making a financial payment (usually via BACS transfer but sometimes via cheque) directly to the landlord, letting agent or housing association managing the property. The funds are provided by way of a loan to the customer and a repayment plan is set up.**
3. What is the budget for the scheme for the financial year 2019/20? 3.
3. **There is no specified budget and payments are made if certain criteria are met. As funds are provided by way of a loan which is repayable, spending is replenished over time.**
4. What is the eligibility criteria for the scheme/who can apply?
5. **All applications are assessed on a case by case basis with the key criteria being that the household is:**
 - a. Eligible for assistance
 - b. Homeless or threatened with homelessness
 - c. Local connection (or fleeing violence/no local connection to any Local Authority)
 - d. The property they are moving to is affordable
 - e. The household cannot access alternative funds
6. How can people apply for help from the scheme?
6. **Customers can make basic enquiries over the telephone/email but in order to complete an application they must come into the office to complete paper forms which need to be signed by the customer, landlord and authorised signatory at Eastleigh Borough Council**