

Monday 9 October 2023

mydeposits Jersey: Minister to remove deposit protection fee from November

- **Scheme which protects deposits will not require tenants to pay a protection fee from November onwards**
- **The Minister for Housing and Communities has also agreed an extension to the contract with mydeposits Jersey, who administer the scheme**
- **Citizens Advice Jersey continue to provide face-to-face support on the scheme for both tenants and landlords**

From next month, tenants lodging their deposit in the Government of Jersey's tenancy deposit scheme, administered by mydeposits Jersey, will no longer be charged a protection fee.

The Minister for Housing and Communities, Deputy David Warr, has announced the current £21 fee will be removed for all new tenancies, which start on or after 1 November 2023.

Deputy Warr has also agreed a two-year extension to the contract with mydeposits Jersey.

Landlords and letting agents in the Island are legally required to protect their tenants' deposits by placing them in the scheme. It was set up to give tenants greater confidence that the deposit they have paid is being held securely and will be repaid smoothly at the end of an agreement.

The Minister for Housing and Communities, Deputy David Warr, said: "I'm pleased to extend our partnership with mydeposits Jersey, providing landlords and tenants with a means to manage deposit money, and to address, where necessary, disputes over the return of deposits.

"The scheme is in place to safeguard deposits for the length of a tenancy. I'd like to take this opportunity to remind landlords that it is a legal obligation to protect deposits within 30 days. If tenants are concerned about protection, they can speak to Citizens Advice or the Government's Environmental and Consumer Protection Housing and Nuisance team.

"It's important that this protection is free and easy to use, and I believe the removal of the fee, however small, will contribute positively towards the cost of renting in the Island."

The CEO of mydeposits, Eddie Hooker, said: "mydeposits Jersey is delighted to receive the confidence of the Minister for Housing and Communities with the extension of the scheme for a further two years. Since the launch in 2015, we have been committed to providing a robust, secure and respected deposit scheme and it has been a privilege to assist in the raising of standards in the rental sector in the Island."

mydeposits Jersey is also extending its relationship with Citizens Advice Jersey, to make sure that face-to-face advice and guidance is available to landlords and tenants.

The Chief Executive Officer of Citizens Advice Jersey, Claire Mulcahy, said: "Citizens Advice Jersey is committed to supporting the mydeposits Jersey tenancy deposit scheme and our charitable mission to assist landlords and tenants alike with invaluable advice on all matters pertaining to the scheme."

Islanders needing support can call Citizens Advice Jersey free on 0800 735 0249 or visit its office at St Paul's Centre in town. The Government's Environmental and Consumer Protection Housing and Nuisance team also supports and advises tenants and investigates breaches of the law.

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Notes to Editors

For further information, please contact the press office on 01534 440430 or pressoffice@gov.je