



DiGS

Deposit Guarantee Scheme



**Looking for privately rented accommodation,
but can't afford a deposit?**

What is DiGS?

The DiGS (Deposit Guarantee Scheme) has been set up to help people who are homeless or threatened with homelessness move into secure privately rented accommodation (if the eligibility criteria is met). DiGS can provide a deposit guarantee in the form of a written bond to cover the deposit required by a landlord for damage or theft for the first six months of the tenancy. In some cases, this can be extended for a further six months.

DiGS is a charity funded by various statutory and voluntary agencies. It provides help with tenancies in some areas of Cumbria including Barrow. If you require a DiGS bond for another area you would need to apply to that local authority.

What Does the Guarantee Cover?

- A maximum amount equivalent to one month's rent - up to maximum of £400
- Uninsured damage to the property caused by the tenant.
- Theft of uninsured items by the tenant.

Who is Eligible?

You may qualify if you:

- Are aged 16 or over.
- Have a local connection with Barrow in Furness.
- Are in receipt of state benefits or on a low income (ask for more details). Preference is given to single people when resources are limited.
- A renewal (in line with DiGS policy).
- If you are homeless or threatened with homelessness.

How is a Claim Made?

During the tenancy the landlord should notify DiGS of any damage or theft caused by the tenant within three working days of becoming aware of it. Any theft or criminal damage must be reported to the Police and the crime reference number recorded.

I'm Interested in DiGS. What Do I Do Next?

If you wish to apply for assistance or would like more information, please contact us on (01229) 876599. To process a DiGS application we would need some information from you—see the form on the back of this leaflet.

Calling all Landlords.....

We would like to hear from landlords who are interested in DiGS. If you are a private landlord and would like to find out more, please contact the DiGS coordinator, Graham Bell on 01946 694 166.

WHERE TO GO FOR HELP AND ADVICE

Housing Department

Barrow Borough Council
Housing Department
Town Hall
Duke Street
Barrow in Furness
Cumbria
LA14 2LD

Tel: (01229) 876599
email: housing@barrowbc.gov.uk

Project John

20-24 Cavendish Street
Barrow in Furness
Cumbria
LA14 1SE

Tel: 01229 832127

Citizen's Advice Bureau

Barrow CAB
Ramsden Hall
Abbey Road
Barrow in Furness
Cumbria
LA14 5QW

Tel: 01229 830367

Inspira

237-241 Dalton Road
Barrow in Furness
Cumbria LA14 1PQ
Tel: 01229 824052

Mind in Furness

64 School Street
Barrow in Furness
Cumbria
Tel: 01229 827094

Barrow Borough Council • Housing Department

Town Hall
Duke Street
Barrow-in-Furness
Cumbria LA14 2LD

Tel: (01229) 876599

www.barrowbc.gov.uk • email: housing@barrowbc.gov.uk

TOWN HALL OPENING TIMES: Monday to Friday: 9am - 4pm

Telephone enquiries : Monday to Thursday: 8:30am to 5pm (4.30pm on Fridays)

FOR EMERGENCY OUT-OF-OFFICE ENQUIRIES TEL. (01229) 833311

If you require this leaflet in large print/audio or another language please contact the Housing Service and we will arrange for this to be carried out : tel (01229) 876578.

To process a DiGS application we need some information from you.

- Please complete this form and bring it with you to your appointment.
- We will also need to see proof of your income/benefit—this can be the award letter or bank statement or wage slip.
- And, if required, the receipt showing you have paid the admin charge.

DiGS INFORMATION

Date	<input type="text"/>
Applicant's name	<input type="text"/>
Name/address of Landlord	<input type="text"/>
Landlord tel.	<input type="text"/>
Address of Property	<input type="text"/>
Cost of Deposit	<input type="text" value="£"/>
Rent	<input type="text" value="£"/>

**Drop-in sessions are held every Wednesday afternoon
3pm - 4pm in the Housing Dept., Town Hall, Duke Street**