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News Release

Date:	Tuesday 31 January 2017					
Subject:	Average	tenancy	deposits	hovering	below	£1,000
	threshold while London hits highest ever, says The DPS					

Bristol, Tuesday 31 January 2017 – The average tenancy deposit for England and Wales continues to hover just below the £1,000 mark, The Deposit Protection Service (The DPS) has this week revealed.

The UK's largest protector of tenancy deposits has published its latest Tenancy Deposit Ratings, with the national average between October and December 2016 standing at £970.18.

However, properties with London postcodes set a new all-time peak during the same period, averaging £1,831.14 – more than double the figure for the rest of England and Wales (£883.21).

Julian Foster, Managing Director at The DPS, said: "It's important that landlords have protection against damage and other problems that can arise when they rent out property, but tenancy deposits can be demanding sums for tenants to raise when they move.

"However, both parties can have peace of mind over the money when it is protected with The DPS, with our secure and easy processes backed up with a free, impartial Dispute Resolution Service on the rare occasions it is needed.

"The DPS is the UK's largest protector of tenancy deposits, and we've been entrusted with over 4.7 million since launching a decade ago."

While the figure for October to December represents a £154.40 increase on July to September, it is just 30p lower than April to June 2016, with the third quarter typically experiencing a 'dip' as students return to rented accommodation ahead of the new academic year.

The figure for 2016's fourth quarter also represented a £21.88 increase on the same period (October to December) in 2015 (£948.31) and £117.81 more than the fourth quarter in 2014 (£852.37).

Sunderland had the lowest average deposit, with the figure for properties with its 'SR' postcode averaging less than three times lower (£490.13) than that for London.

ENDS

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Notes

1. For high resolution images of spokespeople, visit http://cpu.vg/spokespeople.

About The DPS

The Deposit Protection Service's custodial tenancy deposit protection scheme is accredited by the Government. It is provided free of charge, and funded entirely by the interest earned from deposits held in the scheme. The DPS was approved by the UK government to run an insured TDP scheme in September 2012 in addition to the approval it has already been granted by the UK government in respect of the custodial scheme. The DPS is run by Computershare Investor Services PLC. Online self-service allows landlords to register and make deposit payments, transfers and repayments 24 hours a day. Help and advice is available through a dedicated call centre during office hours. An impartial Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) service, helps to resolve any disputes quickly and without the need for court action.

For more information, visit <u>www.depositprotection.com</u>.

About Computershare Limited (CPU)

Computershare (ASX: CPU) is a global market leader in transfer agency and share registration, employee equity plans, mortgage servicing, proxy solicitation and stakeholder communications. We also specialise in corporate trust, bankruptcy, class action and a range of other diversified financial and governance services.

Founded in 1978, Computershare is renowned for its expertise in high integrity data management, high volume transaction processing and reconciliations, payments and stakeholder engagement. Many of the world's leading organisations use us to streamline and maximise the value of relationships with their investors, employees, creditors and customers.

Computershare is represented in all major financial markets and has over 16,000 employees worldwide.

For more information, visit <u>www.computershare.com</u>.