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**News Release** 

Date:	Thursday 26 February 2015
Subject:	Donation from The Deposit Protection Service helps The Homesavers Charity find housing for those in need across Merseyside

Bristol, Thursday 26 February 2015 – A  $\pounds$ 7,500 donation from The Deposit Protection Service (The DPS) has helped The Homesavers Charity find housing for those in need across Merseyside.

The charity helps those who are on low income, homeless, facing homelessness or living in temporary accommodation gain access to private housing.

The DPS – the UK's largest supplier of tenancy deposit protection services – began awarding money to charities across England and Wales in June 2014, and the Homesavers Charity was chosen among the first round of recipients.

Laura Mahon, Charity Secretary for The Homesavers Charity, said: "The donation from the DPS has provided invaluable assistance to families across Merseyside.

"Far too many families in our communities face homelessness as a result of being unable to afford deposits for private housing.

"By giving them financial support – and helping them save money for the future – we can make a real difference to their lives."

So far five individuals have benefited from the donation, including a Liverpool woman given just 28 days to leave her property.

By using The DPS' donation to pay the  $\pounds$ 475 deposit for a two bedroom home, the young mother avoided the need for her son to move schools.

Funding has also been used to provide support for her housing benefit application, and the charity will now help her set aside money each month so she has sufficient to pay her own deposit once her current tenancy ends.

In Rock Ferry, the charity has used the funding to help an unemployed woman and her children find accommodation after the breakdown of her relationship, which meant they faced homelessness.

As a housing benefit claimant without a rental guarantor, her new landlord expected more rent in advance, and she was unable to afford the deposit.

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But money from The DPS ensured that her family will move into their own home in January and will support her in putting together a deposit for her next tenancy.

Julian Foster, Managing Director of the Deposit Protection Service, said: "The Homesavers Charity do important work across Merseyside, and it's great to see direct examples of The Deposit Protection Service's donation doing exactly what we intended.

"We've been working in the housing sector for seven years, during which we've protected over one million deposits, and our Charity Donations Fund is designed to give something back to the communities in which we work."

The DPS decides on new awards from the Fund quarterly, and applications for the next round of donations close on 31 March 2015.

More information can be found at www.depositprotection.com/charity.

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## Notes

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

## **About The DPS**

The Deposit Protection Service is the custodial tenancy deposit protection scheme 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 <u>Computershare Investor Services PLC</u>. 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>

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