



Agent / Landlord Guidance for KCC Care Leaver Rent Guarantor Scheme

- a) In certain circumstances, KCC can act as a corporate rent guarantor on behalf of a young person, where there is no family member willing/able to do so. This can only be used for young people aged over 18.
- b) The Personal Advisor working with the young person will complete paperwork internally for KCC to be able to assess whether they are prepared to stand as a corporate guarantor for the young person and that the young person is emotionally and financially ready to hold a tenancy. **There is an expectation that all young people benefitting from this scheme will have regular income beyond that provided by benefits.**
- c) Each agreement may be different, for many it will be for student accommodation, for others long-term agreements. The Personal Advisor, Team Manager and Head of Service will ensure that the risk is minimal for the young person.
- d) By standing as a corporate guarantor KCC would be financially responsible for any debt **and the young person would remain supported by the service and a Personal Advisor throughout their tenancy (provided they remain under 25 years of age).**
- e) **Neither KCC nor any individual within the 18+ Care Leavers Service can stand as a personal guarantor for a young person. We understand this can be challenging for some Letting Agencies and Landlords, as it means there is no individual guarantor to credit reference etc.**
- f) **Once you are prepared to go ahead with KCC standing as corporate guarantor, we will organise for all necessary paperwork in respect of the tenancy to be signed by the 18+ Head of Service on behalf of KCC.**

However, we would expect the Landlord / Agent to notify us by email if one of our young people missed a monthly rent payment or there has been a significant shortfall in a rent payment. An email should be sent to AdminTeam18PlusSouthEast@kent.gov.uk to alert this service immediately when a young person misses a rent payment so that we can intervene at the earliest point to provide support or guidance to ensure that all the tenancy requirements are fulfilled.