

**28 September 2009**

**Tolson welcomes tenancy deposit scheme**

Jim Tolson MSP for Dunfermline welcomed the Government's introduction of a national scheme to protect rent deposits.

Jim commented "I am pleased that the Ministers have listened at long last and announced a tenancy deposit protection scheme. It's high time that the amount that landlords can charge for deposits was regulated and that action will be taken to stop landlords unfairly withholding deposits from tenants who have done nothing wrong. The deposits of those living in private rented accommodation in Scotland have not been protected by the law.

It is not right that individuals and families already struggling in the current financial crisis can be held to ransom by unscrupulous landlords who don't return their deposits. Students and vulnerable tenants are often most affected – these are the people who can least afford to be treated in this way.

**Ends**

**Notes to the Editor**

Tenancy Deposit Protection Scheme - landlords will hand over the deposit in full to the scheme and if a dispute arises then the amount is held until the dispute resolution service or courts make a judgement