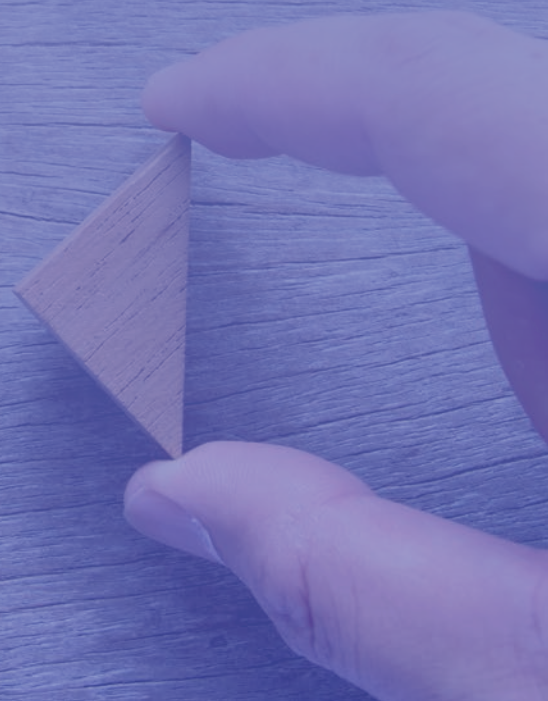




Annual Review

2017-2018



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Who we are and what we do

The TDS Charitable Foundation exists to raise standards in the private rented sector (PRS). This is delivered by providing education and information to tenants, landlords and agents directly and through grants to other organisations.

The Foundation looks to support projects which focus on:

- Promoting knowledge of landlords' obligations
- Promoting knowledge of tenants' rights and responsibilities

All applications received are decided by the Board of Trustees. Three Trustees are appointed by the Tenancy Deposit Scheme and the remaining Trustees are appointed by the Board as Independent Trustees. The maximum size of the Board is nine Trustees and they are appointed on three year terms of office.

The Foundation was established by TDS in 2014 to support projects that champion best practice in the private rented sector, or promote education and information to raise standards.

We are funded mainly by donations from The Dispute Service (TDS) – the leading Tenancy Deposit Scheme (www.tenancydepositscheme.com) which operates on a non-profit basis across the UK.

Since its inception in 2014, **38** different organisations have benefited from Charitable Foundation funding.

To date, **£460,152.33** in grant funding has been awarded to a range of different organisations and projects across England and Wales.

Governance Code

The TDS Charitable Foundation has adopted the Charity Commission's Governance Code for small charities and during the year Trustees have reviewed the Foundation's governance and operations against the requirements of the Code.

In particular Trustees have reviewed the Foundation's:

- Organisational purpose
- Business Plan, and
- Funding criteria

The Trustees who currently make up the Board are:

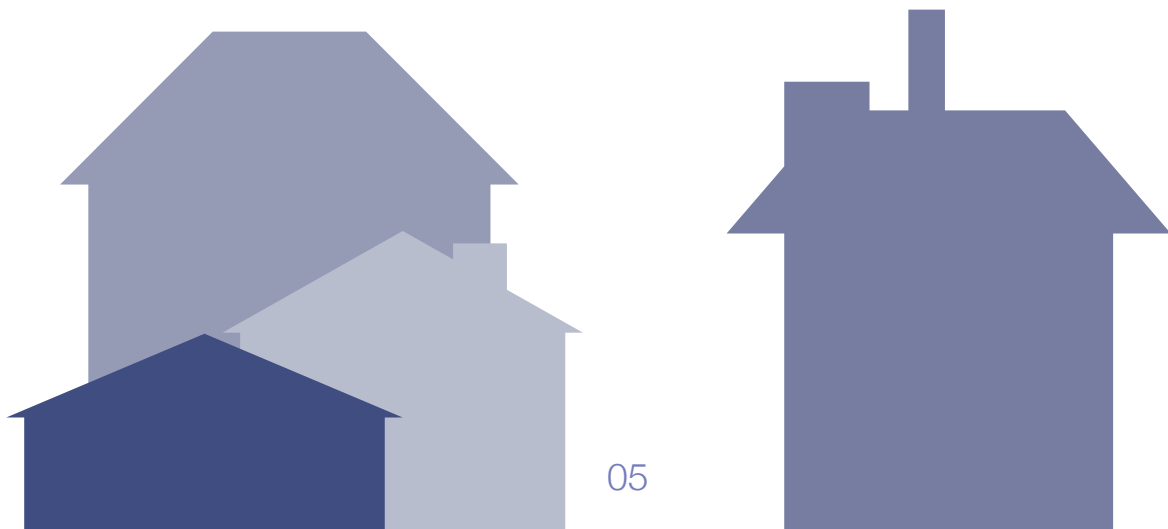
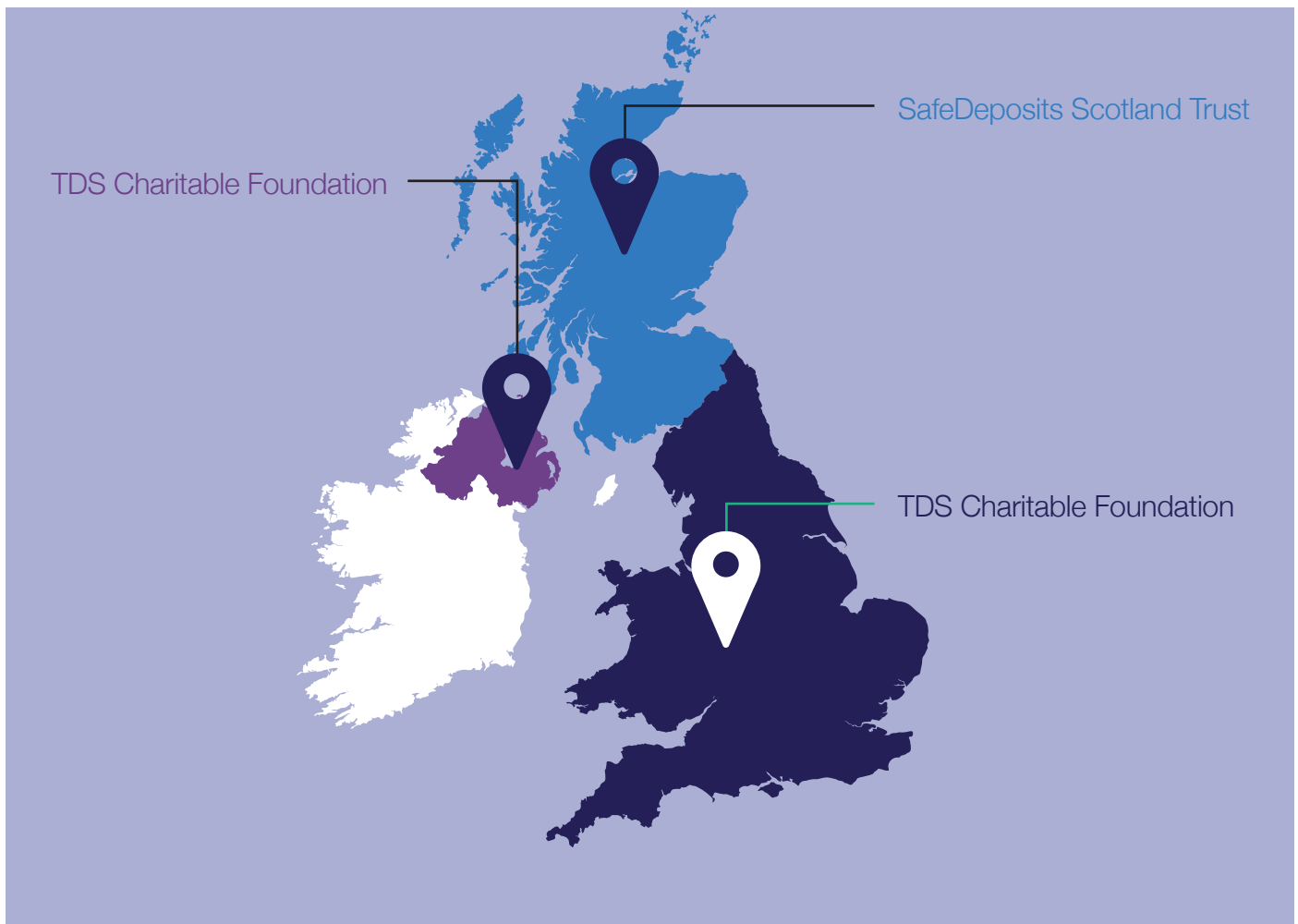
- Professor Martin Partington, CBE, QC - Chair
- Steve Harriott
- Peter Bolton King
- Katrine Sporle
- Martin Blakey
- Colum McGuire
- David Cox
- Sheila Manchester
- Alison MacDougall



Where we operate

TDS Charitable Foundation is funded mainly by donations from The Dispute Service (TDS) which is the only not-for-profit, Government-approved tenancy deposit protection scheme operating across the UK. The Foundation operates across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

In Safe Deposits Scotland, financial surpluses over and above the costs of running its business, are handed over to the Safe Deposits Scotland Trust which operates in the same way as the TDS Charitable Foundation.



A spotlight on projects previously funded by the TDS Charitable Foundation

Since its creation in 2014, the Foundation has awarded £460,152.33 to benefit different organisations and projects across England and Wales.

The projects range from workshops and training focusing on individual areas to resources and guidance which can be utilised across the country; all directly promoting education within the private rented sector.

This is a flavour of some of the projects which have been completed with the financial support of the TDS Charitable Foundation in the past year.

Community Links Bromley is the Voluntary Sector infrastructure body for the London Borough of Bromley.

With funding of £8,870 from the TDS Charitable Foundation they produced The Tenant and Landlord Toolkit.

This is an online resource for private rented sector tenants and landlords in the Borough of Bromley and its focus is on relevant information to sustain long term tenancies, with an emphasis on good communication. To view the toolkit: www.tenantandlandlordtoolkit.co.uk.

“ The TDS Foundation funding enabled us to build a partnership of local stakeholders, uniquely bringing together voluntary sector organisations with local business and the Council. The success of our partnership working has meant that the Steering group have committed to continue their joint working to support developments in Bromley’s Housing sector. ”

Community Links Bromley



Advice 4 Renters

£18,650 of funding was provided to address the lack of knowledge of tenants’ rights and responsibilities among migrant workers and refugees living in houses in multiple occupation in Brent.

The project aimed to build links with a number of migrant and refugee support groups, working with them to raise tenants’ rights awareness through their own communication channels, in the appropriate languages.

Law for Life: the Foundation for Public Legal Education

Funding of £11,556 from the TDS Charitable Foundation allowed Law for Life to produce four short, practical, easy-to-use 'know-hows' and four short films to boost the knowledge, confidence and skills of students and other young people; and potential guarantors.

The guides and films are available via Advicenow's 'Help for private renters' page and accessible from a tablet or smartphone: <https://www.advicenow.org.uk/help-private-renters>.

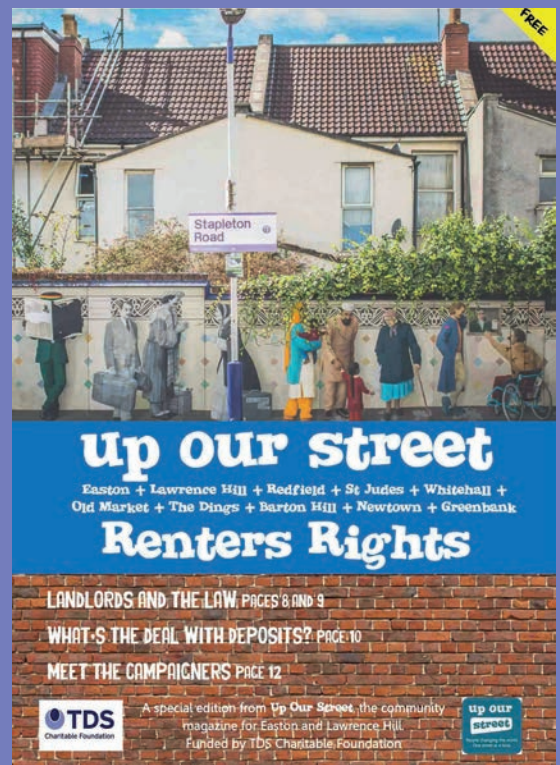
Easton and Lawrence Hill Neighbourhood Management

£7,299.50 was awarded for the production and publication of a special edition community magazine focussing on private rented housing.

The aim of the magazine was to inform local residents of their legal rights and responsibilities as tenants and landlords, provide resources where they can learn more and receive assistance, and share steps they can take to support fair housing practices.

13,500 copies of the magazine were distributed door to door, to households in the wards of Easton and Lawrence Hill in Bristol as well as being circulated across various social media channels and through a number of third party organisations within the area.

The magazine is also available online www.upourstreet.org.uk.



South Hams Citizens Advice Bureau

This organisation sought funding of £9,918 from the TDS Charitable Foundation to offer personalised advice appointments to help landlords and tenants improve the energy efficiency of homes in South Devon.

With recent and forthcoming changes in energy regulations, the project aimed to promote the take-up of free energy efficiency assessments to landlords and tenants.

From April 2018, landlords of privately rented domestic properties in England or Wales must ensure that properties they own reach at least an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of E before granting a new tenancy to new or existing tenants also known as MEES (Minimum Energy Efficiency Standard).

What has the TDS Charitable Foundation funded this year?

During 2017-2018, the TDS Charitable Foundation has awarded grant funding to benefit 13 different projects totalling £135,935.94.



Easton and Lawrence Hill Neighbourhood Management

£7,299.50

A special housing edition of Up Our Street magazine which is delivered to 13,000 residences in Easton and Lawrence Hill.



Community Links Bromley

£8,870.00

Online toolkit for new tenants entering into the private rented sector in the Borough of Bromley. This is alongside promotional postcards, a communication campaign and a resource for stakeholders.



South Hams Citizens Advice Bureau

£9,918.00

Personalised advice appointments for landlords and tenants designed to raise awareness of their housing rights & responsibilities. This will have a focus on recent and forthcoming changes in energy regulations; promoting the take-up of free energy efficiency assessments to landlords and tenants.



Father Hudson's Society

£9,994.00

Develop and extend the 'Migrant voices, Migrant housing solutions' project which supports refugees and EU migrants to secure and sustain tenancies and deepening the dialogue between landlords and migrant tenants in Sandwell.



Centre for Sustainable Energy

£14,050.00

Support landlords in the South West to better understand their obligations around new Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES). This will be publicised to landlords and tenants in F and G-rated properties through targeted mailouts.



Firvale Community Hub

£9,984.16

Work with Slovak Roma families to explain the tenancy agreement and responsibilities of a tenant as well as providing resources. There will also be a dedicated Housing mediator who will respond to referrals and resolve conflicts between tenants and landlords, and tenants and their neighbours.



Living Options Devon

£11,143.28

Recruit a deaf person (who uses British Sign Language) to lead the project. Create easy to understand information about housing rights and responsibilities in British Sign Language video clips. These informative clips will then be shared online via website/social media and directly to local Deaf people via email or by DVDs sent through the post.



Newcastle City Council (Private Rented Service)

£12,000.00

A series of short educational films for tenants to help them understand their rights and responsibilities. Topics include understanding an EPC, paying rent and budgeting, reporting repairs and ending your tenancy.



Avon and Bristol Law Centre (ABLC)

£7,184.00

Weekly, bookable, free, tenancy information sessions supported by volunteer law students. This would entail 4, 30 minute tenancy information sessions per week. From this a bank of FAQs with matching answers to be published on website.



Ealing Equality Council

£9,700.00

Extend successfully delivered and TDS supported tenancy advice and guidance surgeries; twenty four free walk-in tenancy guidance and support surgeries from a 'pop up' location in Ealing Broadway.



Fair Housing For Frome

£3,612.00

Six interrelated areas of work achieved through a range of promotional materials, services and events.



Sutton Borough Citizens Advice Bureau

£22,181.00

Training package to give trainee volunteers the necessary skills for the provision of information and advice and an understanding of how to obtain and then provide accurate, relevant and up to date information.



Refugee Council

£10,000.00

Contribution towards the London based 'refugee private rented scheme.' Providing advice sessions and group pre-tenancy support to prepare newly recognised refugees for searching, securing and maintaining tenancies.

£135,935.94



Summary of accounts

Financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2018

Incoming Resources	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Total year ended 31st March 2018 £
Incoming resources from generated funds			
Voluntary income		72,465	72,465
Interest		1,359	1,359
Total Incoming Resources		73,824	73,824
Resources Expended			
Charitable activities		(82,002)	(82,002)
Support costs		(2,279)	(2,279)
Total Resources Expended	1	(84,281)	(84,281)
Net Movement in funds		(10,457)	(10,457)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward		434,052	434,052
Total funds carried forward		423,595	423,595





Charitable Foundation



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