

# Landlord Scam

There have been reports of tenants acting as landlords to scam would be residents out of a deposit for a house they will never be able to move into.

The scam works by the tenant posing as the landlord and conning would be tenants out of a deposit. There is often little or no paper work and the scammer usually targets people who have no understanding about tenancy agreements or people who don't speak English.

Precautions you could take when looking to rent:

- Use a letting agent from the high street.
- Put the deposit into the tenancy deposit scheme, an insurance-backed deposit protection service.
- Ask landlords what they ask of you. Check their photo ID and bills in their name for their address.
- Run a Land Registry check to confirm those who say they own the building actually do
- See if they are signed up to one of the voluntary landlords' associations

All our alerts are available in a range of formats and languages, including large print. Please contact Community Development if this would be helpful to you, or to someone you know.

Address: 14 Martin Street, Stafford, ST16 2LG