

## **APPENDIX 6 – Rent Deposit Scheme**

Towards the latter part of June 2010 we received a referral from St Theresa's to investigate the case of a man who was accessing their services on a daily basis stating that he was rough sleeping in his car. Clare, the Housing & Welfare Officer, had been trying to help as he had become homeless due to a relationship breakdown, was unemployed and unable to find shelter. She referred him to the Rough Sleeper Outreach Team at the City Council's Housing Options Service.

In the early hours of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010, he was found asleep in his car in a lay-by along the A47. His old car was sandwiched between two large juggernauts and speaking to him later at St Theresa's with Clare, we confirmed his circumstances.

Housing Options agreed to assist him through the Rent Deposit Scheme and he eagerly set off to find a property. He quickly identified suitable accommodation and moved into his small flat the following week. He settled into his new flat and decided to show how much he appreciated the assistance from St Theresa's Centre by way of giving his time to the centre and becoming a cheerful, happy addition to their staff of volunteers.

In August 2010 he came in and announced with tears in his eyes that he had secured a full time position with a local company. He was delighted and overjoyed. His journey from relationship breakdown to homelessness and back had ended positively.

Margaret Brown  
Rough Sleeper Outreach Worker  
Peterborough City Council

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