

OBSERVATION

An interesting observation that should be included in our response to the consultation is the DWP's acceptance that "virtually all social landlords, and the majority of private landlords, have their tenants' housing benefit paid direct to them".

This contradicts the government's view that over 40% of tenants are being paid their housing benefit entitlement direct to themselves rather than to landlords. This is a key administrative change in the 10 pathfinder authority areas where **ALL** tenants are to be paid their housing benefit entitlement direct. The government did not see this as being a big issue - perhaps they now realise that this might be a bigger change than they first thought?