

TO: Assembly  
FROM: Matteo Lai  
RE: The DSU should lobby landlords to accept international guarantors  
DATE: 7 November 2019

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Assembly notes:

In Durham, most agencies do not accept guarantors not living in the UK, despite it being possible and done by some agencies (e.g.: Robinson's and Harrington's).

That results in:

- Students being forced to pay upfront up to half the value of the entire year rent by July
- Students having to use guarantor agencies, which cost £200 on average
- Students having to use the University guarantor scheme, which is very restrictive and still costs £50 and has only 50 places

Assembly believes:

Not accepting international guarantors is a discriminatory policy. It forces international students to incur in further costs and stress in the already expensive and stressful Durham students' housing market. It excludes international students from lower income backgrounds.

Assembly resolves:

The DSU will lobby landlords to accept international guarantors. The DSU will also lobby for an expansion of the University guarantors scheme and for it to be made free