

Myra Hunter – 14th May 2021

Scrutiny Matters Feedback - Rental property for key workers

As a key worker who came to the island with a family and 2 dogs finding rental property has been massively challenging and has led to us considering returning to the UK on more than one occasion. The encourage recruitment and retention of key workers the government urgently needs to look at family friendly key worker accommodation which is of good quality and affordable. Currently 80% of one wage goes in rent and there is no recognition of this in income tax rates.

Private rentals have frequently been of very poor quality and not maintained by the landlords in our experience. In our first rental property here we had to involve environmental health as we had no water, a basic human right, especially when paying £2400 a month in rent. Appalling state of affairs and no protection for tenants. Our landlord did not place our deposit in the scheme despite this being a legal requirement and then faced no repercussions.

Buying a property here on a key worker salary would be impossible.