



#### DRF Conference 2011





Insurance Services to DMP Clients





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SPECIALIST DOCUMENT SIGNING SOLUTIONS















Key

RETIREMENT SOLUTIONS





# David Mond Chairman DRF

## **ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2011**



# Sponsors of the DRF Conference 2011







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# Housekeeping



- Fire precautions
- Programme for the day
- After conference networking
- The MCC Bar Area
- The Meeting Place
- Tweet, tweet: #debtdebate (@DRF\_UK)



# **Morning Sessions**



- Office of Fair Trading David Blocksidge
- Insolvency Service Nick Howard
- CertDR Gaynor Loughnane
- Sawfish







• Industry – at a crossroads...



- Industry at a crossroads...
- Money Advice Service



- Industry at a crossroads...
- Money Advice Service
- Debt Management Plan Protocol





- Industry at a crossroads...
- Money Advice Service
- Debt Management Plan Protocol
- New OFT Debt Management Guidance





- Industry at a crossroads...
- Money Advice Service
- Debt Management Plan Protocol
- New OFT Guidance
- Industry reputation



# **Looking ahead**

 Free advice is not always good advice

• The need for us is huge

• Trust is the key.



# Two offers you can't refuse

- Membership moneyback
- Come to BED with me courtesy of Armstrong
   Communications
- Join the wider debate #debtdebate on Twitter.



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#### **OFT Regulation**

# David Blocksidge Head, Debt Management Team Office of Fair Trading



## **Overview**

- OFT regulatory approach
- Enforcement update
- Debt management guidance
- Looking ahead



## **OFT Regulatory Approach**

#### • To protect consumers by:

- Maintaining standards of business behaviour through guidance and partnership
- Ensuring competence of businesses especially where high risk credit activities are concerned
- Acting to take out bad practices and bad businesses



# What we want in the debt management sector

- Transparency
- Fairness
- Redress



### DEBT MANAGEMENT GUIDANCE COMPLIANCE REVIEW

Key aims and objectives

- Assess compliance levels across the industry
- Use findings to inform OFT's future enforcement strategy / actions, and
- Inform subsequent revision of the guidance



## Follow up enforcement action

- Published report of the compliance review in September 2010
- Announced that 129 audited businesses warned to address non-compliances
- Since then 61 firms have had their licence revoked, or have surrendered their licence, or had an application refused. Lesser enforcement action has been taken by the OFT in a number of other cases



## **Current work**

- Action where standards are unacceptable
- Targeted enforcement
- Revised / improved guidance



## **Guidance overview**

- Based on compliance review and enforcement experience
- Takes account of new practices
- Clarity specific business practices
- Scope extended lead generation and (some) claims management
- Clear on what we regard as acceptable business practices for all in the industry

#### **Examples of poor practice**

- Lack of transparency about 'set up fees'
- Falsely stating that the service is 'free' or 'impartial'
- Misrepresenting 'status' e.g. 'charitable
- **Provision of poor advice**
- Identifying inappropriate debt solution
- Implying that options are 'risk free'
- Not protecting client's money
- Offering to 'repair' a consumer's credit rating
- Failing to deal with complaints



#### **Guidance consultation**

- Constructive input
- Responses being considered
- Support for main principles and thrust of the guidance



# Way forward

- Final guidance later in the year
- Ongoing enforcement action
- Standards for new entrants
- Other changes



#### **Contacts**

#### • Dmguidance-consult@oft.gsi.gov.uk

• Any questions?

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#### Personal Insolvency Issues

### **DRF Conference 2011**

Nick Howard – Policy Director

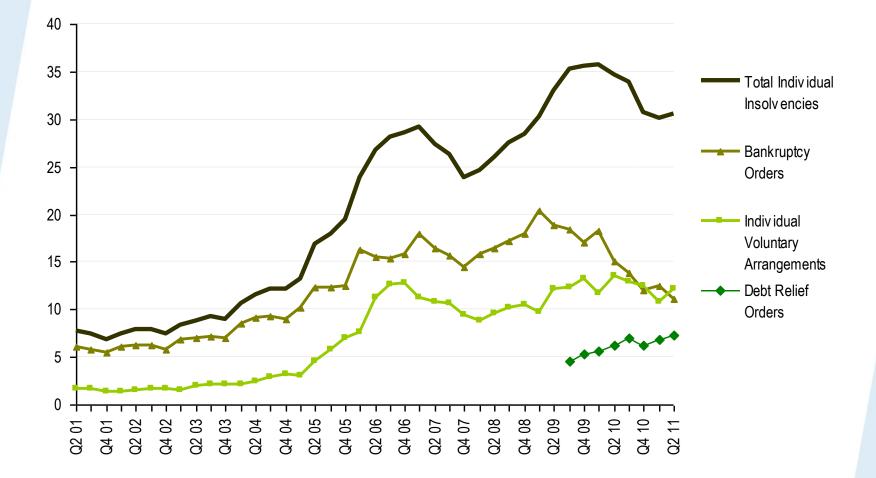
### The Insolvency Service - challenges

- Falling case numbers
- Public Sector spending constraints
- Estate strategy
- Delivery Strategy

### Regulatory challenges

- Coalition Agreement
- Regulatory Reduction Committee
- One In, One Out
- Micro-business exemptions
- Impact Assessments

#### Latest figures – personal insolvencies



#### **Developments in 2011**

Summary of responses on the Call for Evidence

•Government response on the way forward on debt advice and personal insolvency issues

#### Personal Insolvency – responses

•Impartial, high quality debt advice is key to getting debtors into the most appropriate options

•Current range of options strikes a reasonable balance

Concern that profit drives advice on offer

More sophistication in credit scoring

#### **Government Response**

- Place free-to-debtor advice on a sustainable footing
- Protocol for the debt management industry
- Build on existing codes on forbearance
- Future proposed consultations:
  - Improving access to basic bank accounts
  - Increasing the petition debt level for creditors
  - •Review county court administration orders

#### The Future of Debt Advice

Vital role of debt advice

Role of Money Advice Service

Mapping the landscape

Develop a new model

# Improving standards in the debt management industry

Still a major source of complaints and concerns

•Need for improved data on this industry

•OFT's revised guidance – gives very clear steer to providers

•Protocol – will build on this and involve all players

#### **Breathing Space**

Voluntary codes already exist

•OFT's Irresponsible Lending Guidance

•How can we improve on current codes

#### **Future Proposed Consultations**

Improving access to basic bank accounts

Increasing petition debt levels for creditors

•Repeal county court administration orders

#### Access to basic bank accounts

•Financial rehabilitation following bankruptcy can be lengthy

 Lack of banking facilities has definite financial impact

•Banks would like to offer the facilities but....

•...risk of after acquired property claim by trustee

#### Increasing petition debt levels

•The debt level for creditors is £750 and has been since 1986

•It is the right remedy in certain circumstances

•BUT, to be able to 'threaten' bankruptcy for such a small amount is, we believe, disproportionate

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# DRF Conference 2011 Gaynor Loughnane

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## Training

## Certificate in Debt Resolution BTEC Level 3 Award or Certificate





## Agenda

- What is it?
- Why is it needed?
- Who would benefit?
- How long will it take to complete/costs?
- Test
- Which companies have fully qualified staff?
- Futures
- Who should you contact to register?







### What is it?



- Certificate in Debt Resolution (CertDR) BTEC level 3 (equivalent to "A" level)
   Accredited by Edexcel - the largest awarding body in the UK
- All material and exams are "on line" learners can study in their own time
- 3 Modules each with an exam. Material is updated quarterly.
- Formal exams each quarter on your business premises.
  - Exam results within 10 working days





## Why is it needed ?

- No other accredited qualification exists for those offering advice, guidance or support in Debt Resolution
- A formal qualification for the Debt Resolution industry aimed at raising the standards in a non-statutory market place, acknowledged by the OFT





#### What's included?

Module 1

An overview of the UK Financial Services debt market, debt resolution and debt regulations. Learners should be able to demonstrate they can calculate the level of debt and affordability

#### Module 2

Debt resolution in detail, including in depth financial statement completion, creditor action and court process, mortgages, equity release, bankruptcy, IVA's

#### • Module 3

Learners should be able to demonstrate ability to give correct conclusion on a range of client debt case studies, create an audit trail to support advise and follow up service for client relationship





# How long will it take to complete and costs

- 3 modules, each module typically 3 months study with exam at the end of each module.
- Full CertDR typically 12 months
- Module 1 £250
- Module 2 £250
- Module 3 £300 or if all 3 modules purchased together £750
- Either companies or individuals must be members of DRF





## Who would benefit?

- Debt Management Advisors
- Mortgage Advisors
- Insolvency Practitioners
- Credit Managers
- Debt resolution call centre staff
- Independent Financial Advisors

The qualification offers recognition across the industry by DR firms, clients and creditors. Improved reputation for your firm, staff loyalty, higher quality of knowledge leading to improved productivity, better individual career chances, higher income potential.





### Who has the DRF Factor

- To give you a flavour of the CertDR now a Quiz based on practice papers and exam.
- Please complete the paper under your seat, all correct papers will be put into a hat and a bottle of bubbly for the winner at the drinks reception.





### **Success to date**

- 221 learners currently studying, from 30 different organisations
- 126 learners from 13 different locations took exams in July/Aug 2011
- 144 learners have successfully completed all 3 modules and can now use CertDR initials





# Companies who have invested in their staff training for Cert DR





# Number of Fully CertDR qualified staff

26
20
oup 7
5
5
5
4
4
4
3

Kensington Finance	23
Invocas	10
Debt Release Direct	6
Debt Stop Direct	5
The Debt Advisor	3
Dissolve Debt	2
Gemstone	2
Byrom & Keeley	1
Other	9





#### **Futures**

- Continuous Professional Development
- Diploma





- Demsa/Institute of Money Advisors launching November 2011, 16 week training course accredited by Staffordshire University.
- CertDR is accredited by Edexcel which is part of <u>Pearson</u>, the UK's largest awarding body and the world's largest education business and the owner of the FT and Penguin. Their vocational portfolio has over one million registrations across 45 countries.
- CertDR is flexible to meet your business needs, exams on your premises, training material all on line available at any time, register any time you like.





# Who do I contact to register or find out more?

Gaynor Loughnane Head of Administration

CertDR@debtresolutionforum.org.uk Tel: 0161 905 8372

Thank you and any questions.



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#### Debt Resolution Forum 2011 DebtFlow



#### Industry Issues

Possible Solutions

Sawfish Initiatives





#### Increasing Regulation and cost of Compliance.

 Leads.

A High volume and cost of administration and paperwork.

High cost of errors.

Complex process leading to confusion between stakeholders.

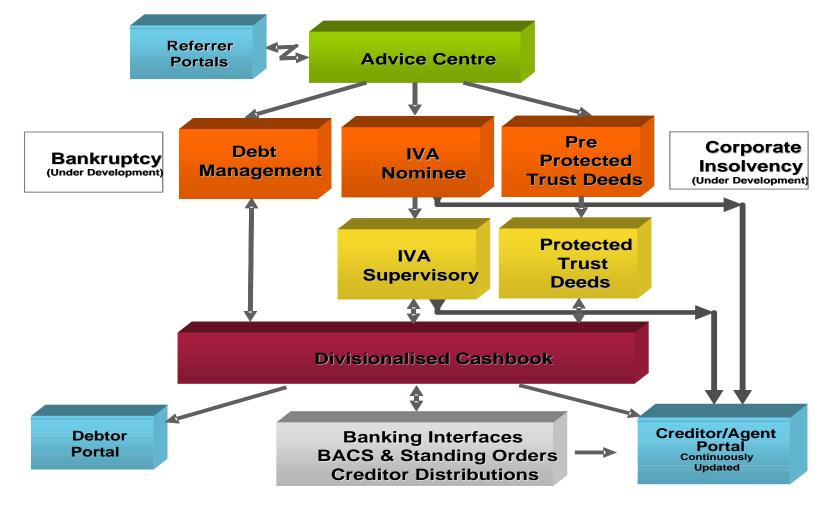




- Better Collaboration (debtors/providers/creditors) Why not?
- Shared Common Data not as complicated as it seems!
- Relevance what you need when you need it?
- Setter business process = better margins!

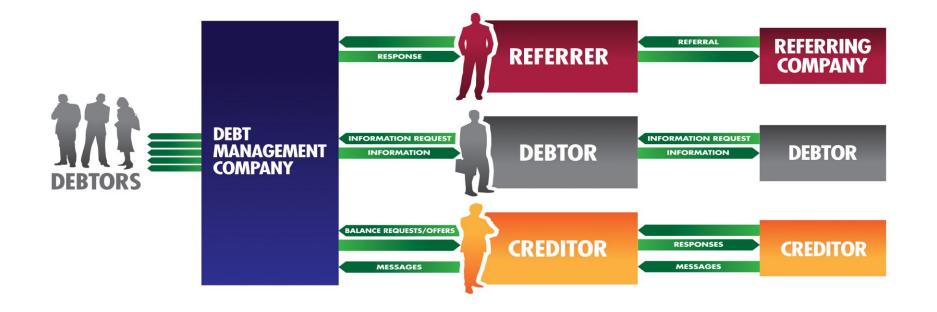


## sawfish DebtFlow Solution Overview





## sawfish Debt Management and IVA Portal Overview





## **sawfish** Portal – Balance Requests

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# **sawfish** Portal – Offers/Other Creditors

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• Click on icon to display read only view of other creditors.



## **sawfish** Portal – Offers/Income and Expenditure

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• Click on icon to view and query income and expenditure.



## **sawfish** IVA Portal – Documents and Data

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- Automated communication with creditors.
- Improve quality of process for all stakeholders.
- Quicker turnaround time.
- Improved relationships.
- Greatly reduced administration and postage costs.
- Environmentally friendly.
- Performance Improvement.



# Sawfish s of t w a r e

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### **Afternoon Sessions**

- Free Sector Panel Session Chaired by Antony Sharp, Chairman of Money Advice Group joined by David Hawkes of Advice UK, Emma Bryn-Jones of Zero-Credit and Andrew Smith of DRF.
- Insolvency Practitioners Association David Kerr and Caroline Sumner
- Creditor Panel Session Chaired by Mike Sargeant, National Manager Client Services of KPMG and joined by Emma Wilson of Transcom and the Institute of Credit Management along with Mike Norris of JP Morgan/Max Recovery.
- DRF, The industry in the eyes of the media Andrew Smith, DRF
- DRF Awards: nominees and winners David Mond, DRF Chairman
- Closing Remarks David Mond, DRF Chairman
- To BED





### **Free Sector – Panel Session**

Chaired by Anthony Sharp – Chairman of Money Advice Group

Joined by: David Hawkes – Advice UK Emma Bryn-Jones – Zero-Credit Andrew Smith - DRF



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Insolvency Practitioners Association

1961 - 2011

#### **DRF Conference 2011**

MONITORING VISITS

#### David Kerr MIPA Chief Executive

#### Caroline Sumner Inspector

#### **Introduction: the IPA**

Specialist insolvency body Regulator of more than half of all IVAs Monitor of DMPs for DRF members/OFT Examiner in Personal Insolvency (CPPI) Leader on Protocol issues, VAT etc

#### Our work for DRF

Round 1 monitoring programme Principles of better regulation Positive approach to inspection visits 19 visits completed/booked so far Round 2: shorter visits in 2012

#### Prior to the visit

DRF Standards and OFT Debt Management Guidance Cost Notice Duration

#### **Pre-visit information**

Organisation chart Advertisements, leaflets and brochures Terms and conditions, standard documentation, call scripts Inspection reports

#### Format of the visit

Initial meeting Advice and debt management services Case management Advertising, marketing and promotions Contract terms & referral sources **Banking arrangements Complaints handling Closing** meeting

#### When is a bribe not a bribe?



#### What happens next?

Reports submitted to DRF Correspondence between DRF & member Attention to recommendations in summary Member expected to action those points Review on 2nd round visit Process of continuous improvement





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#### **Creditor Sector – Panel Session**

Chaired by Mike Sargeant – National Manager Client Services, KPMG

Joined by: Mike Norris – JP Morgan / Max Recovery Emma Wilson – Transcom / Institute of Credit Management



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# DRF, the Media, and our world

Andrew Smith Spokesperson, DRF



#### We do a great job

- But few believe we do
- Better or worse?
- It's down to you







- Money-grubbing sharks
- Prey on the unfortunate and incapable
- Money for nothing
- No skills
- No results





- Trained
- Inspected
- High standards





- Partly trained
  - Partly inspected
  - Some have high standards
  - Some will lose CCLs, some will have requirements made.
  - ALL will suffer from this
  - Bad news will be broadcast and rebroadcast





- Its not just the media anymore
- Will YOU engage?



### The new forums

twitter

mumsnet

By parents for parents

The Telegraph



## Linked in THE







Quora

MoneySavingExpert.com Cutting your costs, fighting your corner



#### **Rules of engagement**



- Respect everyone
- Be robust
- Be fair
- Be accurate
- Be fast
- Be thick-skinned







- Years to establish
- Seconds to destroy
- Built on facts
- Challenged and examined







• Building your reputation builds industry's too

- Take part:
  - In debates
  - In research

• Trust is the key.



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#### **DRF Awards 2011**

#### Nominees and Presentations



#### **CertDR Learner of the Year 2011**

 From 140 fully qualified CertDR professionals, we are proud to announce, this year's top scorer for CertDR of the Year.





And the nominees are:

- Chris Cook from Debt Release Direct
- Nick Smith from Money, Debt and Credit
- Matthew Foley from ClearDebt
- Rochelle Taylor from Gemstone Financial Management
- Hayley Newton from Ashley Park



#### The Criteria:

- The level of customer satisfaction received, based on client feedback, regarding the nominee and their work
- The nominee's overall performance at work
- The nominee's approach to team work
- The nominee's industry knowledge and contribution to the company
- Number of client votes sent in and the content of those testimonials





• The runner up to this year's DRF Advisor of the year is.....





• This year's winner of the DRF Advisor of the Year Award goes to....



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And so...

#### To BED

courtesy of







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Thank you and good evening

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