

Press Release

September 1 2011

National debt charity creates partnership team to increase collaboration with other charities

Leading debt charity Consumer Credit Counselling Service (CCCS) has created a partnership team to help it work more collaboratively with other charities. This will build on CCCS's new partnership with Citizens Advice where it is named as the preferred provider of debt management plans in a pilot programme involving 80 bureaux.

CCCS has hired Leigh Andrews to lead the new team as the partnership manager. Leigh joins CCCS from Peabody Housing where she worked in the financial inclusion team.

CCCS trainer Helen Handzel has been hired as a partnership officer and Caroline Hamilton has moved from CCCS counselling to become a partnership officer. They join Rob Sandalls who has been working as a partnership officer for four years.

Leigh says: "The deteriorating financial positions of millions of households means that we expect to see a rise in people needing help with their debts over the next year. Other charities working in related areas are likely to experience an increase in demand too.

"That is why CCCS wants to create new and innovative partnerships with other charities to ensure that the many people who are under increasing pressure can get the help they need."

- ends -

Notes to editors:

1. Photograph available on request.
2. CCCS's ethos is to help the "can't pay", not the "won't pay", and does not condone debt avoidance. CCCS always aims to help its clients pay back what they owe, in a realistic timescale and manner that is suited to each individual's situation.
3. CCCS is self-funding. Lenders share with the charity the benefit they receive from its operation, making a donation from the money repaid to them. This allows CCCS to retain its independence and ensure that its advice is always in the best interest of the client.
4. The CCCS free phone helpline 0800 138 1111 is open 8am to 8pm, Monday to Friday.
5. CCCS *Debt Remedy* is available at www.cccs.co.uk
6. Follow us on Twitter: @CCCSPressOffice

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