

Press Release

March 21 2012

Debt charity concerned about personal allowance freeze for over 65s

Consumer Credit Counselling Service (CCCS) is concerned that the freeze of the personal allowance for over 65-year-olds announced today (March 21) in the Budget will compound debt problems for the elderly.

Data released last week in the debt charity's Statistical Yearbook revealed that demand for CCCS's debt advice from the over 60s has increased by 15 percent in three years. According to CCCS, people are finding themselves in debt for longer and carrying debt into later life.

CCCS external affairs director Delroy Corinaldi comments: "Unmanageable debt is very difficult to deal with at any age, but particularly when opportunities to increase income are limited.

"Our research shows that there is a persistent minority of older people trapped with extreme debt. It would appear that this minority is growing rapidly."

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Notes to editors:

1. CCCS's ethos is to help the "can't pays", not the "won't pays", 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.

2. 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.
3. The CCCS free phone helpline 0800 138 1111 is open 8am to 8pm, Monday to Friday.
4. *CCCS Debt Remedy* is available at www.cccs.co.uk
5. Follow us on Twitter: @CCCSPressOffice

Media enquiries:

All media enquiries should be directed to:

Frances Walker - francesw@cccs.co.uk

Una Farrell - unaf@cccs.co.uk

Matt Hartley - matthar@cccs.co.uk

Tel: 0207 391 4583 (07950 469101 if outside office hours)