

## **Press Release**

September 26 2011

### **Fewer people hiding debt from their partners**

National debt charity Consumer Credit Counselling Service (CCCS) has seen a dramatic decline in people hiding their debt problems from their partners. The number of people contacting the charity for help with their unmanageable debt who say that their partner is unaware of their problem has dropped by over three thousand in three years. In 2008, 17,477 said that they were hiding their debt problem from their partner, going down to 16,424 in 2009, with only 14,071 people last year saying that they had not told their partner.

CCCS welcomes the findings and says hiding debt can add to the emotional strain that those struggling to repay what they owe are often under. The charity encourages people to let their partner know about their debt problem as it can help relieve this pressure and give the partner the opportunity to help deal with the situation. Another reason is that the debt problem can have consequences for the partner if the couple live with each other, jointly own property or have taken out credit together.

Delroy Corinaldi, CCCS external affairs director comments: "It is an encouraging sign that fewer people are hiding their debt problem from their partner as a problem shared is a problem halved.

"I think part of the reason for this new trend is that people think about very differently about credit and debt than they did before the credit crunch and economic downturn. It may be that people are more aware of the difficulties that debt can cause and therefore more willing to talk about any problems they may have."

- ends -

**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](http://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](mailto:francesw@cccs.co.uk)

Una Farrell - [unaf@cccs.co.uk](mailto:unaf@cccs.co.uk)

Matt Hartley - [matthar@cccs.co.uk](mailto:matthar@cccs.co.uk)

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