

**Press Release**

October 4 2011

**Leeds-based debt charity to take on 100 new staff as financial squeeze starts to bite**

The Leeds-based headquarters of national debt charity Consumer Credit Counselling Service (CCCS) has announced it is recruiting almost 100 new staff to help deal with an expected increase in demand for its free debt advice service.

Last year, CCCS was contacted by around 418,000 people who were struggling to repay credit cards, loans and other unsecured debts – and the charity expects this figure to grow as the continued squeeze on household budgets leaves many more struggling to cope. A report commissioned by CCCS earlier this year identified that 3.2 million households in the UK are already struggling financially, with a further three million at risk of falling into difficulty.

Leanne Teague, CCCS Resourcing Manager, says:

“Times are really tough at the moment – and with pay packets being squeezed, prices continuing to rise and household bills going up all the time, it is becoming increasingly difficult for many people to repay their debts.

“CCCS is looking for people in the Leeds area who want to join us in helping anyone who finds themselves in this situation. Our members of staff are on the front-line of this growing problem, acting as the first point of contact for people who are struggling to cope and making sure they get the help they need.”

Anyone interested in applying for a position on the CCCS helpline should go to the CCCS website ([www.cccs.co.uk](http://www.cccs.co.uk)) for further information on how to apply.

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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](http://www.cccs.co.uk)
5. Follow us on Twitter: @CCCSPressOffice

**Media enquiries:**

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