

Debt Relief Orders

Two half day workshops

Tuesday 28th February: 12.30-4.30pm at Community Gateway, Preston

Monday 5th March: 12.30-4.30pm at Gentoo, Sunderland

Housing organisations are reporting significant increases in the numbers of tenants obtaining Debt Relief Orders (DROs), which enable rent arrears as well as other debts, to be written off. With potentially significant impacts on tenants as well as on the financial viability of housing organisations, now is the time to plan to:

- assess the implications of the expected influx of DROs on your services
- manage and mitigate the impacts
- assist and advise tenants and to understand the implications
- manage the financial impact of large numbers of DROs

DROs allow people on low incomes to write off up to £15,000 of debt. Overall, the number of people applying for DROs has reached an all time high. In the period July – Sept 2011 there were 7,604 DROs granted by the Insolvency Service, an increase of 347 on the previous quarter and 538 up on the same period last year. This is the highest number since DRO's were introduced in April 2009 as they are now an established alternative to bankruptcy orders and are more likely to be offered as a debt solution by debt advisers.

With specialist input from the **Money Advice Trust**, as well as housing organisations actively planning for the implications of increased numbers of DROs, this workshop will help you to understand:

- what DROs are, how they are used, who can access them and the consequences for tenants
- what steps housing organisations can take to ensure tenants are supported
- implications of recent legislative developments
- what can be done to minimise the financial impacts on housing organisations

Who should attend?

These workshops are aimed at service managers responsible for business planning, financial and income management, financial inclusion, welfare and money advice services. Front line advice staff will also find this training useful.

Continuing Professional Development

Delegates will be able to record up to 2.5 Continuing Professional Development hours for attending this workshop.

Registration: 12.30pm; Start: 1.00pm; Finish: 4.30pm

Delegate fees:

£79+vat (Members)

£99+vat (Non Members)

To book your place at this event please click here

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