

PRE EVENT INFORMATION

Debt Relief Orders
Tuesday, 28th February 2012
Community Gateway, Preston

Please find enclosed:

- Detailed programme for the day
- Venue details
- Further important information relating to the event

I hope you enjoy this informative event and ask that after the event you take the time to fill in our evaluation form, which will be emailed to your post event. This will provide you with a chance to express your views, comments and ideas, which we consider for all future events.

If you have any queries concerning the event please do not hesitate to contact the events team on 0191 566 1000 or email events@northern-consortium.org.uk

Programme

12.30pm **Refreshments**

1.00pm **Welcome and introduction**
Teresa Tierney, Director Housing Services, Halton Housing Trust

1.10pm **Debt Relief Orders**
Angela Roarty, DRO Team Manager, Money Advice Trust

- What is a DRO
- What are the qualifying criteria
- What debts are included
- What debts are excluded
- Implications for DRO clients
- DRO process
- Role of Insolvency Service and Competent Authorities

1.40pm **Tenants with rent arrears**
Angela Roarty, DRO Team Manager, Money Advice Trust

- Overview of grounds for possession
- Overview of court process
- Impact of recent court case Godfrey V A2 Dominion Homes Limited
- What happens if a client has rent arrears and applies for a DRO
- What options are available for housing organisations with clients in rent arrears who are applying for a DRO

2.15pm **Refreshments**

2.30pm **Support and Next Steps**

Facilitated group discussion:

- Explore issues being faced by housing organisations present and future
- Explore how housing organisations can plan for an increase in clients experiencing financial difficulty
- Explore ideas for supporting tenants
- Identify the issues for your organisation policies and procedures

3.30pm **Managing the impact – housing provider perspectives**

Teresa Tierney, Director Housing Services, Halton Housing Trust

- Assessing and the impact of DROs on a housing organisation
- Implications for service delivery: what housing organisations can do

Vicky Lyle, Financial Inclusion Co-ordinator, Regenda, Ltd

- Policy & Procedures
- Targeting
- Support
- Preventative work

4.20pm **Summarise outcomes and review of course aims and objectives**

4.30pm **Close**

Public Transport



By Rail, Preston Station.

Nearest main line station is Preston. Approximately 10 minutes walk from the town centre. For further information on train operators and times please phone the National Rail Enquiries on 0845 7484950.



By Bus.

Preston bus station, situated on Tithebarn St. Bus number 27.



By Air, Manchester International Airport.

Journey from the airport to Preston, is approximately 90 mins.



FURTHER INFORMATION

- **CAR PARKING:** There are a very limited number of parking spaces available on-site. Nearest parking is available near the train station/main post office – just past the train station take your first left, alternatively parking is available at either the train station or Fishergate Retail Park (all of which are chargeable).
- **VENUE:** The event is taking place at Community Gateway's Head Office which is located at Deltic House, West Strand, Preston PR1 8UY, in the Boardroom. A location map can be downloaded from their website http://www.communitygateway.co.uk/pdfs/Roadmap_CGA.pdf.

For further information regarding the venue please visit their website <http://www.communitygateway.co.uk/index.aspx>.