# **Financial Planning Report**

**Prepared for:** 

## Mr A Client & Mrs A Client



Prepared by:

**Independent Financial Adviser** 

**Paraplanning Online** 

Penylan Mill Coed-y-Go Oswestry Shropshire SY10 9AF

06/04/2016

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## **Executive Summary**

Dear Alan & Anne

The 'Executive Summary' section allows you to précis the forthcoming report

In recent weeks I have undertaken a review of your existing mortgage arrangements for your rental property and your main residence.

The fixed interest rate deal on your main residence and taken out in April 2013 will shortly expire and the rate of interest will revert to your lenders SVR rate of 4.99%. This will significantly increase your monthly mortgage repayments. Your objective therefore was to secure an equivalent or improved mortgage deal with a competitive interest rate for a similar term.

As well as securing a competitive interest rate, you also confirmed to me that you want to raise an additional £20,000 for home improvements.

The review of your mortgages also encompassed a review of your existing mortgage protection arrangements so as to confirm whether protection of the outstanding debt could be secured more cost effectively.

#### **Existing Mortgages**

Holder	Property	Company	Remaining Loan Amount	Remaining Term		Monthly Repayment	Action
Joint	Rental Property	Santander	£80,000	13	4.49%	£299.33	Retain
Joint	Main Residence	Principality Building Society	£140,000	13	3.59%	£1,124.00	Re-Mortgage

#### **Proposed Mortgages**

Holder	Property	Company	Loan Amount	Term	Interest Rate	Monthly Repayment
Joint	Main Residence	Woolwich	£160,000	13 years	2.89%	£1,232.00

#### **Existing Protection Arrangements**

Owner	Туре	Company	Life(s) Assured	Premium	Frequency	Action
Joint	Level Term Assurance	Bright Grey	Policy Owner	£12.75	Monthly	Retain
Joint	Decreasing Term Assurance	Bright Grey	Policy Owner	£28.00	Monthly	Cancel

#### **Proposed Protection Arrangements**

Owner	Туре	Company	Life(s) Assured	Premium	Term
Joint	Decreasing Term Assurance	Scottish Provident	Policy Owner	£26.30 Monthly	13 years

## SUITABILITY REPORT

### **Introduction and Basis of Advice**

I am authorised as an Independent Financial Adviser and I can confirm you have been provided with a copy of our Client Agreement, our Terms of Business, the services we offer and how we can be remunerated for these services.

My recommendations that follow are based on my understanding of your current financial position and objectives. The report should be read in conjunction with the relevant illustrations, fee disclosure and Key Features documents; I do stress that if you do not understand any of the information then please contact me as a matter of urgency.

I would also mention that if any information has not been disclosed, it is possible that my advice may not take account of all your personal requirements and could ultimately have been different.

#### **Summary of Current Position & Objectives**

Name	Mr Alan Client	Mrs Anne Client
Date of Birth	01/01/1970	01/02/1972
Marital Status	Married	
Number of Financial Dependants	2	
Occupation	Sales Manager	Teacher
Employment Status	Employed	Employed
Tax Status	Basic Rate Tax Payer	Basic Rate Tax Payer
Monthly Net Income (£)	2,800	1,000
Monthly Expenditure(£)	3,000	Joint
Total Assets (£)	480,000	Joint
Total Liabilities (£)	240,000	Joint
Smoker	No	No
State of Health	Good	Good

Please find below a summary of your current position:

The asset valuation shown above was as at the date of our last meeting and comprises:

- Main Residence £300,000
- Rental Property £120,000
- Possessions £50,000
- Cash at Bank £10,000

Your children are aged 9 and 11 and remain financially dependant on you.

#### **Attitude to Risk**

We discussed at some length your attitude to risk and in particular the relationship between risk and reward. The agreed risk profile is as follows.

Your respective risk profiles are summarised as follows:

Mortgage Attitude to Risk: Cautious

The attitude to risk and capacity for loss 'definitions' can be defined during your license set up and can also be edited when required

Ensuring that mortgage capital and interest are guaranteed to be repaid at the end of the term is important to you. You are not prepared to take risks with your mortgage.

#### Protection Attitude to Risk: Guaranteed

Premiums are set at the outset of the policy and will continue at that level throughout the term of the policy providing no subsequent changes are made to the policy.

If you feel that this does not accurately reflect your attitude to risk please contact me as a matter of urgency.

## **Review of Mortgage Arrangements**

Please find below a review of your existing mortgage arrangements. Further information can be found in the section *Notes on Financial Products* in the Appendix.

Property	Rental Property
Mortgage Holder	Joint
Purpose	Consumer Buy To Let
Repayment Method	Interest Only
Repayment Vehicle	Pension
Commencement Date	27/4/2013
Initial Loan Amount	£80,000
Remaining Loan Amount	£80,000
Loan To Value (LTV)	70%
Remaining Term	13
Current Interest Rate	4.49%
Annualised Percentage Rate of Charge	4.51%
Monthly Repayment	£299.33

#### Mortgage - Santander - Rental Property

Exit Charges				
Discharge Fee	Early Repayment Charge			
150.00	3% of mortgage advance or £2,400			

#### **Benefits & Features**

The columns within each table are intuitive meaning cells that have no data will be excluded from the report

A summary of the benefits and features applicable to this mortgage are set out below:

See Notes on Financial Products in the Appendix for more details of these features.

- **Fixed Interest Rate** at 4.49% is guaranteed to remain unchanged for an introductory beneficial period. Please note once the introductory period ends your payments could rise significantly.
- **Beneficial Interest Rate Period** until 27/04/2018 after which the interest rate will usually change to the lender's standard variable rate prevailing at that time (currently 4.89%). Please note once this period has ended your payments could rise significantly.
- **Early Repayment Charge** of £2,400 or 3% of the mortgage advance is levied if you terminate the mortgage within the introductory beneficial period

I have recommended this mortgage be retained for the following reasons:

- Your mortgage providers product remains competitive within the current market place
- Your mortgage product continues to offer affordable repayments for the next 2
- There are redemption penalties applying which cannot be offset by any savings made by moving to another lender's mortgage product
- You are unlikely to obtain such a preferential interest rate as you have on your current mortgage product

• After reviewing your personal situation I can confirm we were unable to obtain a more beneficial mortgage product at this time

Please note, by retaining your existing mortgage provider and product you remain subject to its terms and conditions.

I confirm you understand that you will still owe the full amount borrowed at the end of the term of an interest only mortgage or part interest only mortgage. As such, an interest only mortgage carries greater risk than a repayment mortgage which guarantees to repay the mortgage in full at the end of the term. I would recommend that where you have not already done so, you effect a separate investment to repay the amount borrowed. You should also regularly review your investment to ensure it remains on course to repay your mortgage debt in full at the end of the term.

#### Mortgage - Principality Building Society - Main Residence

Property	Main Residence
Mortgage Holder	Joint
Purpose	Residential
Repayment Method	Capital & Interest
Commencement Date	27/04/2013
Initial Loan Amount	£160,000
Remaining Loan Amount	£140,000
Loan To Value (LTV)	65%
Remaining Term	13
Current Interest Rate	3.59%
Annualised Percentage Rate of Charge	3.61%
Monthly Repayment	£1,124

Exit Charges	
Discharge Fee	Early Repayment Charge
£125.00	3% of mortgage advance or £4,800

#### **Benefits & Features**

A summary of the benefits and features applicable to this mortgage are set out below:

- **Fixed Interest Rate** at 3.59% is guaranteed to remain unchanged for an introductory beneficial period. Please note once the introductory period ends your payments could rise significantly.
- **Beneficial Interest Rate Period** until 27/04/2016 after which the interest rate will usually change to the lender's standard variable rate prevailing at that time (currently 4.99%). Please note once this period has ended your payments could rise significantly.
- **Early Repayment Charge** of £4,800 or 3% is levied if you terminate the mortgage within the introductory beneficial period.

I have recommended that you should **re-mortgage** for the following reasons:

• Your borrowing requirements have changed and having looked into a further advance of £20k with your existing lender, you have been unable to secure the borrowing and repayment terms you require

- It is possible to obtain a more competitive interest rate
- The early repayment charge will expire in {insert text}

#### Top Up Disclosure

I have made you aware that where additional borrowing is required this may be available from your existing lender or an alternative lender by way of a second charge loan, an unsecured loan or a remortgage.

## **Review of Protection Arrangements**

Please find below a review of your existing protection arrangements. Further information can be found in the section *Notes on Financial Products* in the Appendix.

#### Level Term Assurance - Ownership - Joint

Company	Policy N	lumber	Monthly P	Premium	Expires
Bright Grey	445367	НК	£12.75		13 years
Life Assured Death Benefit			Payable Event		
Policy Owner		£80,000		Joint Life 1st Death	

#### **Policy Benefits & Features**

See Notes on Financial Products in the Appendix for more details of these features.

- **Death Benefit** The stated sum assured will be paid out as **a lump sum payment** to the nominated beneficiaries on death of the life(s) assured
- **Guaranteed Premiums** This plan has guaranteed premiums in so much as the monthly premium you paid for your cover at outset is unchanged and will remain fixed throughout the policy term
- Waiver of Premium Should you be unable to work through ill health, your premiums will still be paid for you until the end of the policy term, a specified age or until you are able to return to work. The payments will commence after a set deferment period of **3 months**

I have recommended this protection plan is **retained** for the following reasons:

- Your protection plan continues to offer affordable monthly premiums
- The term of the plan still meets with your protection needs
- A review of the protection market and your individual circumstances reveals the premiums cannot be beaten

#### **Decreasing Term Assurance - Ownership - Joint**

Company	Policy N	lumber	Monthly P	remium	Expires
Bright Grey	254431	TG	£28.00		13 years
Life Assured		Death Benefit		Payable Event	
Policy Owner		£140,000		Joint Life 1st Death	

#### Policy Benefits & Features

- **Death Benefit** The stated sum assured will be paid out as **a lump sum payment** to the nominated beneficiaries on death of the life(s) assured
- Guaranteed Premiums This plan has guaranteed premiums in so much as the monthly
  premium you paid for your cover at outset is unchanged and will remain fixed throughout
  the policy term
- Waiver of Premium Should you be unable to work through ill health, your premiums will still be paid for you until the end of the policy term, a specified age or until you are able to return to work. The payments will commence after a set deferment period of **3 months**

I have recommended you **cancel** this protection plan for the following reasons:

- The overall cost of my new recommendation is lower than your existing arrangements
- You wish to increase the level of cover and this is not possible under your current arrangement

If the recommended alternative plan is established on any basis different to that of your existing cover the illustrated premiums will not act as a wholly fair comparison. I do stress that you should not cancel your existing protection until we have received underwriting terms on the proposed new plan and it has been placed on risk.

## **Mortgage Recommendations**

Service Disclosure

The 'Mortgage Recommendation' section encompasses the recent Mortgage Credit Directive changes

• I provide impartial and independent mortgage advice on first and second charge loans. I have researched the whole of the relevant market without limitation to recommend the mortgage which best reflects your individual needs and circumstances.

#### Advice Restrictions

- My advice is regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and unless stated otherwise will not cover 'direct only deals' with lenders
- My advice in this report assumes that you are not a high net worth mortgage customer & not a mortgage professional and that your borrowing requirements are not for business purposes as defined under the Mortgage Market Review (MMR) legislation effective from 26th April 2014
- We do not offer advice on second charge loans

I confirm that I have provided you with the following documents:

- Key Facts Illustration Plus (KFI+)
- Money Advice Service (MAS) You can afford your mortgage now but what if...?
- Money Advice Service (MAS) Take action with your interest only mortgage now

#### Mortgage - Woolwich - Main Residence

Property	Main Residence
Mortgage Holder	Joint
Purpose	Residential
Repayment Method	Capital & Interest
Initial Loan Amount	£160,000
Loan To Value (LTV)	68%
Term	13 years
Current Interest Rate	2.89%
Annualised Percentage Rate of Charge	2.92%
Monthly Repayment	£1,232

**Arrangement Fees** I confirm that you have elected to pay any associated mortgage provider and product fees at the outset which will avoid any interest being added to the fees. An illustration has been provided to you with and without the fees being added to the loan.

**Fees Not Refundable** - Arrangement fees are NOT refundable in the case that the mortgage is not proceeded with.

**Capital & Interest** - Your monthly repayment to the lender includes an element of capital in addition to the interest due at the prevailing rate on the amount borrowed. The proportion of each will change throughout the period of the loan with the capital element increasing with each monthly payment. Provided the repayments due are met in full and on time the mortgage will be repaid in full at the end of the set term.

#### **Benefits & Features**

A summary of the benefits and features applicable to this mortgage are set out below:

See Notes on Financial Products in the Appendix for more details of these features.

- **Capped Interest Rate** cannot go above the cap of 2.89% for the introductory period agreed. Please note once the introductory period ends your payments could rise.
- **Beneficial Interest Rate Period** until 27/04/2019 after which the interest rate will usually change to the lender's standard variable rate prevailing at that time (currently 4.79%). Please note once this period has ended your payments could rise significantly.
- **Early Repayment Charge** of £4,800 or 3% of the mortgage advance is levied if you terminate the mortgage within the introductory beneficial period

I have recommended this mortgage provider for the following reasons:

- Woolwich is one of the largest providers of mortgages on the high street and is the mortgage arm of Barclays Bank. They are a long standing and multi-award winning mortgage provider.
- The recommended lender is financially strong
- They have received numerous awards for their customer service
- Your financial profile befits their typical mortgage client

I have recommended this mortgage product for the following reasons:

- The terms offered were deemed the most competitive available
- The terms meet with your attitude to risk and reflect your repayment objectives
- The capped rate of interest will provide certainty of affairs and the ability to budget during the introductory period

An early redemption penalty applies on the recommended mortgage. A charge will be applied if you redeem or transfer your mortgage to an alternative lender within the redemption period. I refer you to the charges section of the recommendation and your personal illustration for further information.

#### **Further Information and Risk Warnings**

To ensure that you and your family are able to remain in your home, it is important you protect your mortgage against the effects of your death, diagnosis of certain critical illnesses or being unable to work through ill health or unemployment with the appropriate protection products. It is also important to ensure your home and its contents are protected against damage or loss. These products do not need to be bundled with the recommended mortgage provider.

Under the terms of the mortgage you must maintain suitable buildings insurance for a sum not less than that specified by the lender's valuer.

Full terms and conditions of your mortgage are contained within your conditional mortgage offer letter issued by the lender. Please note that because the formal mortgage offer is subject to valuation and the production of satisfactory references, the mortgage illustration does not constitute a binding offer of a mortgage. On receipt of your mortgage offer letter please read it carefully and contact either your solicitor or myself if you have any queries. Property values and prices may fluctuate according to market conditions, and the value of your property may go down as well as up. In the future, this could mean that your mortgage loan exceeds the property's current market value (ie a negative equity situation).

Finally, I have stressed the importance of not over-committing yourself in terms of your mortgage repayments and other expenses. I would like to take this opportunity to confirm that the above recommendation is affordable to you and you have sufficient regular income to cover the monthly repayment of your mortgage now and for the foreseeable future.

#### Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up the repayments on your mortgage.

## **Protection Recommendations**

Please find below my recommendations for your protection arrangements. Further information can be found in the section *Notes on Financial Products* in the Appendix. Please note – should your plans include any investment element then this will be subject to daily fluctuations.

#### **Decreasing Term Assurance - Ownership - Joint**

I have recommended a **Decreasing Term Assurance** plan for the following reasons:

- It is the cheapest form of insurance which meets your stated needs and objectives
- You would like to ensure that your mortgage balance would be repaid in the event of your death

Company	Monthly Premium	Total Premium	Term
Scottish Provident	£26.30	£4,102.80	13 years
Life Assured	Death Benefit	Payable Event	
Policy Owner :	£160,000	Joint Life 1st Death	

Please be aware in the event of a claim, the selected sum assured may not be sufficient to meet all of your financial requirements. However, I confirm that the highlighted level of cover was deemed acceptable at this time.

Entry Charges	Ongoing Charges
Commission	Commission
£275 initially to cover advice costs	£0.98 p.m. from year 3 onwards

The selected term is recommended for the following reasons:

- It meets your primary objectives
- It will provide protection for your family over the outstanding term of the mortgage

I have recommended this protection **provider** for the following reasons:

- Scottish Provident is an award winning protection company and part of the financially strong Royal London Group the UK's largest mutual life, pensions and investment company. The group is financially strong and holds an 'A' (Stable) rating awarded by Standard & Poors, a leading independent ratings agency and had funds under management of £83.4bn as at 30th June 2015.
- They offer a competitive premium for the policy required
- They are well established and financially strong
- They have provided us and our clients with an excellent service in the past
- They are known for having a good claims history and paying claims quickly

I have recommended this particular protection **product** for the following reasons:

• The level of cover has been set to match the expected reduction in the outstanding mortgage

#### **Policy Benefits & Features**

My recommendations are to include the policy features or benefits shown below. See Notes on Financial Products in the Appendix for more details of these features.

- **Death Benefit** The stated sum assured will be paid out as **a lump sum payment** to the nominated beneficiaries on death of the life(s) assured
- **Terminal Illness Cover** Your plan allows for the sum assured to be paid on account of you suffering from an incurable terminal illness and the illness is expected to lead to death within 12 months
- Guaranteed Premiums The monthly premium will remain fixed throughout the policy term
- Waiver of Premium Should you be unable to work through ill health, your premiums will still be paid for you until the end of the policy term, a specified age or until you are able to return to work. The payments will commence after a set deferment period of **3 months**

#### Options Not Included

**Total Permanent Disability Benefit** - Would be paid if you become totally and permanently disabled, and you are unable to carry out your own occupation, or perform a certain number of recognised activities of daily living.

I confirm you did not wish to include this feature due to the following reasons:

• The additional cost was prohibitive

**Critical Illness Protection** - Would provide a tax-free payment in the event of a life assured being diagnosed with a pre-determined critical illness, within the agreed term of the policy.

I confirm you did not wish to include this feature due to the following reasons:

• The additional cost was prohibitive

**Policy In Trust** - In view of your circumstances and stated objectives I have not recommended that this policy be placed under trust at the current time. In the event of a claim, the proceeds will be paid into your estate and may be subject to inheritance tax.

#### **Alternative Products Considered But Discounted**

I confirm due consideration was given to a range of products, but the alternatives were subsequently discounted for the following reasons:

#### Level Term Assurance

• You did not require the amount of protection to remain level throughout the term of the policy

#### Family Income Benefit Plan

• You preferred any benefit to be paid as a lump sum

#### Whole of Life

• You only required protection over a specific term

## **Important Information**

#### **Further Information and Risk Warnings**

A summary of the risk warnings associated with my advice can be found in the Appendix of this report and should be read with particular care. Additional information regarding the recommendations can be found in the Key Features Document(s) provided.

#### **Cost of Services**

A summary of how my company can be remunerated for the advice received and the provision of my services is detailed in the disclosure documentation provided.

#### **Our Service Proposition**

My company offers a number of service propositions which govern the type of service and the regularity of contact and reviews you will experience. The ongoing servicing of your plans is recommended but not compulsory and if taken up can be cancelled at any time. The associated costs of our propositions and when they commence are set out in our disclosure documentation already provided and these costs may go up or down in line with the fluctuating value of the underlying assets. I confirm that you have elected for the following service:

• A focused and limited advice transaction service instigated by client request.

#### **Charges Summary**

A summary of charges will be included in one place as per the FCA's directives

Mortgage Charges Rental Property

Exit Charges	
Discharge Fee	Early Repayment Charge
150.00	3% of mortgage advance or £2,400

#### Mortgage Charges Main Residence

Exit Charges	
Discharge Fee	Early Repayment Charge
£125.00	3% of mortgage advance or £4,800

#### Protection Charges Level Term Assurance Joint

Ongoing Charges
Commission
£0.89 per month

#### Protection Charges Decreasing Term Assurance Joint

Ongoing Charges
Commission
£1.27 per month

#### Proposed Mortgage Charges Main Residence

Entry Charges		Exit Charges		
Arrangement Fee	Valuation Fee	Procuration Fee	Discharge Fee Early Repayment Charge	
£699	£75	£670	£130.00	£4,800 or 3% of the mortgage advance

#### Proposed Protection Charges Decreasing Term Assurance Joint

Entry Charges	Ongoing Charges
Commission	Commission
£275 initially to cover advice costs	£0.98 p.m. from year 3 onwards

#### Entry Charges: One off charges taken before or on investment.

- Commission: A payment made directly to the adviser by the recommended product provider.
- Arrangement Fee: A fee payable for the arrangement of a mortgage loan or an annuity.
- Valuation Fee: A charge to evaluate the worth of a property.
- Procuration Fee: A payment made directly to the adviser by the recommended product provider.

**Ongoing Charges**: Regular charges, typically taken over a year.

• Commission: Continuing payments made directly to the adviser by the recommended product provider.

**Exit Charges**: One off fees taken on termination.

- Discharge Fee: A charge levied by a lender on repayment of the mortgage debt.
- Early Repayment Charge: A fee that may be levied if part or all of a mortgage or loan is repaid before the end of the agreed term.

#### **Binding Offer and Reflection Period**

Under the terms of the European Mortgage Credit Directive (MCD), you will receive a binding offer that must follow any previous non-binding offer letters or agreements in principle from your lender. Once a binding offer has been received, you will be entitled to a pre-sales reflection period of at least 7 days during which you may accept the offer. There is no right of withdrawal from a MCD regulated contract once it has concluded.

#### **Cancellation Notice**

You have a legal right to cancel your mortgage product anytime up until the contract is complete, once completed you have no legal right to cancel.

Once your protection plan is set up you have a legal right to cancel should you change your mind, the period is generally 30 days.

#### Affordability & Emergency Fund

You should keep some money immediately accessible to cover any unforeseen emergency expenditure that may arise. I would normally recommend that you retain an emergency fund equal to three month's expenditure within an immediate access deposit account as a bare minimum. I confirm you are happy with the level of your emergency reserve. I would also like to take this opportunity to confirm that the above recommendations are affordable to you.

#### Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS)

The FSCS was set up under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and exists to protect clients of FCA authorised firms and covers deposits, insurance and investments. The scheme can pay compensation to clients who have lost money as a result of their dealings with FCA authorised firms that are unable to pay claims against them.

The deposit limit for bank accounts is currently £75,000 or £150,000 for joint accounts.

For mortgages the compensation limit is £50,000 excluding buy to let mortgages.

For life assurance and investment bonds the compensation is 100% with no upper limit.

#### Aspects of Your Financial Affairs Not Addressed But Deemed Important

I practice a comprehensive approach to financial planning. To this end, I would like to draw your attention to the following. If on further consideration you wish to discuss any of the below in more detail please do not hesitate to contact me.

#### Inheritance Tax Planning

• There would be no inheritance tax liability incurred on your estate at the current time

#### Long Term Care

• You did not consider this a priority at the current time

#### **Retirement Planning**

• You are happy with your existing pension arrangements

#### Wills and Lasting Power of Attorney

- I understand you have not made a Will. To this end your estate would be subject to the laws of intestacy. This is unlikely to result in your estate being distributed in accordance with your wishes. I would recommend that you contact your solicitor to write a Will as a matter of urgency.
- I have recommended that you effect a Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA). This will ensure your financial affairs will be looked after by someone you trust if you cannot do so yourself. Having a LPA in place avoids the significant cost and delays associated with applying to the Office of the Public Guardian.

#### Savings and Investment

• You cannot afford to set aside any additional money to meet this objective at this time

## Confirmation

I have identified your objectives and I hope you agree that the recommendations made correspond to your current needs and future requirements. If you have any queries concerning the content of this report, or should you feel the recommendations are in any way an inaccurate reflection of your circumstances and future objectives please contact me immediately.

Report written by

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

We the undersigned have received this report. We acknowledge this is a fair reflection of our conversation and confirm we have received all supporting literature including Key Features Documents, fund fact sheets and illustrations.

#### Accepted by Mr Alan Client and Mrs Anne Client

Signature	Data	1	1
Signature	Date	/	/
Signature _	Dute		

Signature	Data	1	/
Signature	Date		/

## **APPENDIX**

The latest 'Risk Warnings', 'Notes on Financial Products' and where applicable 'Technical Notes' will automatically pull through to the Appendix section of the report

## **Risk Warnings**

#### General

- The recommendations are based on current taxation, law and practice all of which may be subject to change.
- Any quotations provided are for illustration purposes only and are not guaranteed.
- For a full explanation of the charges and how they affect the plan, please refer to the personalised illustration and Key Features document(s).

#### Protection

- If policy premiums are stopped the cover will cease.
- If the policy pays out a death benefit, cover will cease.
- The actual premium payable may vary after assessment by the provider.
- Please be aware certain causes of claim are excluded.
- The provider may not pay out if any information is withheld, or if the information provided is incorrect.
- Where premium protection has not been included and an illness prevents the policy holder from working and premiums cannot be maintained the protection will cease.
- If indexation is not included then the real value of the sum assured / policy benefits will be eroded by inflation over time.
- The protection levels should be periodically reviewed to ensure they continue to meet objectives.
- During any point through life, events (illness) may mean an individual becomes uninsurable. This would prevent a policy from possibly being altered or changed or preventing new policies being set up.

#### **Decreasing Term Assurance**

- At no time during or at the end of the term does this policy provide a surrender or encashment value.
- Cover will decrease annually over the full plan and if it is being used for debt repayment protection, any interest rise above the selected rate my result in the sum assured being insufficient to repay the debt.
- If the policy pays out a death benefit, cover will cease.

#### Mortgages

- It is a legal requirement to provide a Key Facts Illustration Plus (KFI+) or European Standardised Information Sheet (ESIS) document where advice has been provided, but the document is not a legally binding contract (unless stated as such) and does not oblige the provider to provide you with the mortgage described. It is strongly recommend that you do not enter into any binding agreement or commit yourself to any financial undertakings until you have received, read and understood a satisfactory offer letter.
- The assessment of appropriateness to the recommended mortgage provider and product is based on current circumstances and reasonably foreseeable changes to those.
- It is the responsibility of the lender to assess the affordability of repayments.
- The monthly repayments could be considerably different should interest rates change.
- Past levels of interest rates are no guarantee of future rates.

- Other fees or taxes in addition to those illustrated may be payable.
- Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up the repayments on your mortgage.
- You may need to demonstrate to the lender both now and again during the mortgage term that you have in place a clearly understood and credible repayment strategy for an interest-only mortgage.
- The value of the property is based on the valuer's opinion rather than fact. If the value of the property drops, the loan amount may be greater than the property's value. Property and land can be difficult to sell, so you may not be able to sell the property when required.
- If details are given incorrectly, withheld, or are false in any way, then the lender will almost certainly reject an application. This will make it much more difficult, or even impossible to apply to another lender.

## **Notes on Financial Products**

#### **Decreasing Term Assurance**

Term assurance offers a cost effective means of obtaining life and / or critical illness cover over a specified term. The sum assured is paid out if the life assured was to pass away, or be diagnosed with a predetermined critical illness (if included) within the set term. However, unlike level term, the level of cover reduces over the term of the contract.

This form of insurance is often taken out in conjunction with a repayment mortgage. During the term of the mortgage the total amount owed to the lender decreases as capital is repaid. The decreasing term assurance sum assured decreases in line with the amount owing. This is generally cheaper than its level term assurance equivalent.

Insurance premiums became 'gender neutral' from 21st December 2012 meaning pricing is no longer gender specific. However, existing reviewable policies in force before this date can continue to be priced on a gender specific basis.

#### **Level Term Assurance**

Term assurance offers a cost effective means of obtaining life and / or critical illness cover over a specified term. The sum assured is paid out if the life assured was to pass away or be diagnosed with a predetermined critical illness (if included) within the set term. The cover can remain level or you can choose an option before the policy starts for the sum assured to increase at regular intervals throughout the term. This is a useful option if the level of cover needs to keep pace with the effects of inflation.

Insurance premiums became 'gender neutral' from 21st December 2012 meaning pricing is no longer gender specific. However, existing reviewable policies in force before this date can continue to be priced on a gender specific basis.

#### Mortgage

A mortgage is a loan secured against a property. 'Secured' means that if you do not keep up the payments, the lender can sell the property to get its money back.

#### **Repayments Options**

*Interest Only* - The monthly payments cover only the interest on the loan. They do not pay off any of the capital. It is imperative that a separate savings or investment vehicle is set up to build up a lump sum to pay off the mortgage at the end of the term. It is the borrower's responsibility to ensure they have enough money to repay the mortgage.

*Repayment Mortgage or Capital and Interest Loan* - The repayments are designed to gradually pay off the amount owed as well as paying the interest charged on the loan. Providing all the agreed repayments are met, the loan will be fully paid off at the end of the mortgage term.

#### **Interest Rate Variables**

*Discounted Interest Rate* - The interest rate will be set at a discount to the recommended lender's standard variable rate and will apply for a pre-determined period. The rate payable may increase or decrease as the lender's standard variable rate itself increases or decreases.

*Tracker Interest Rate* - The interest rate will be set at a rate a fixed percentage above the Bank of England Base Rate and so may rise or fall in line with the Base Rate.

*Capped Interest Rate* - The interest rate will be capped meaning the interest rate you pay cannot go higher than the set capped rate. This ensures you know the maximum amount your monthly repayments could rise to. Any fall in the basic rate of interest below the capped rate will still entitle you to a corresponding fall in your monthly repayments.

*Capped and Collared Interest Rate* - The interest rate will be linked to the recommended lender's standard variable rate but with a guarantee that it won't go above a set level or 'cap' but equally won't go below a set level or 'collar'.

*Fixed Interest Rate* - The interest rate is guaranteed to remain unchanged for a pre-determined period. On expiry of the fixed rate period, the interest rate will usually change to the lender's standard variable rate prevailing at that time.

*Variable Interest Rate* - The interest rate will vary in line with the standard interest charged by the recommended lender, meaning the interest rate payable can go up and down at the lender's discretion and your repayments will change accordingly.

*Deferred interest rate* - The interest rate payable is less than the standard rate and the difference between the amount that would have been paid and the amount actually paid is added to the original amount of the loan. A deferral period is agreed and your repayments will increase on the expiry of this period so as to repay the interest due on the original loan, plus the unpaid interest accrued during the deferral period.

#### Mortgage Types

*Residential Mortgage* - A standard or conventional mortgage whereby the lender provides a loan on an agreed term and repayment basis and is secured on a residential property in which you intend to live as your main residence, often referred to as 'owner occupied' mortgages.

*Self-Build Mortgage* - Arranged for the specific purpose of building a new house and as such offers a staged payment facility so as work progresses funds are released on pre-agreed terms to continue the build until completion. Thereafter standard mortgage terms were agreed on the finished property and valuation.

*Buy to Let Mortgage* - Arranged to buy property that is intended to be let in return for a rental income. It differs from a residential mortgage in that the mortgage terms take into consideration the income the property will produce in deciding how much to lend. There are two types of Buy to Let Mortgages:

- *Consumer Buy to Let* Arranged where a borrower has inherited property or lets their previously lived in property that they are unable to sell.
- Business Buy to Let Arranged for existing landlords and those purchasing property specifically to let. Sometimes called an Investment Property Loan (IPL).

*Bridging Loan* - A short-term loan to fund personal obligations until permanent financing is secured. The loan typically has a period of 12 months or less with relatively high interest rates and lending is backed by some form of collateral such as real estate.

*Islamic Mortgages* - A number of mortgage structures exist for the borrower to avoid paying interest and therefore avoid any infringement of Shariah Law by either party. They are as follows:

- *Ijara* -The mortgage provider negotiates a 'Promise to Purchase' agreement with their client and purchases the property at the agreed price on behalf of their client. Coupled with the 'Promise to Purchase' agreement is a lease agreement that defines the occupancy rights for the property. The Islamic mortgage provider's client (i.e. the purchaser in normal parlance) makes regular repayments to the financial institution that incorporates two elements – payment of rent and partial repayment of capital. When the purchase price has been paid back in full, rental payments cease and title to the property is passed from the financial institution to the occupier.
- *Musharaka* The mortgage provider purchases the property on behalf of their client. Under this agreement, the client's first capital repayment (as part of the regular monthly repayments) to the Islamic mortgage provider becomes their first share (albeit small) in the property. As repayments continue the proportion of the property owned by the client increases over time through the mortgage term. After the mortgage has been repaid in full, total ownership of the property passes to the client.
- *Murabaha* The mortgage provider purchases the property on their client's behalf. Once this property purchase has been completed, the financial institution sells on the property to their client at a higher price (at cost price plus agreed profit). Usually a large deposit is required to be paid by the client.

#### **Mortgage Styles**

*Flexible Mortgage* - This style of mortgage has advantages over other types of mortgages. The interest rate applied is variable and calculated daily instead of annually which means any capital repayment of the loan will immediately affect the interest charged on the outstanding balance. Regular overpayments or payment holidays are allowable and additional funds can be drawn from the account up to the original mortgage balance.

*Current Account Facility* - The mortgage operates through a current account and so your normal cash flow will alter the outstanding amount which may save some interest.

*Offset Mortgage* - The mortgage allows the balances of linked savings & current accounts to be offset against the outstanding loan reducing the interest amount.

#### **Other Mortgage Terminology**

*APRC* - The Annual Percentage Rate of Charge (APRC) is the total cost of the loan expressed as an annual percentage. The APRC is provided to help you to compare different offers.

*Arrangement Fee* - This is a fee paid to the lender in connection with certain types of mortgages. It is usually paid on completion, but sometimes with the application.

*Cash Back* - A payment you receive from the lender when you take out a mortgage.

*Conveyance* - This is the deed by which a freehold unregistered title changes hands. If the property is leasehold and unregistered it is called an assignment. If the title is registered the deed is called a transfer.

*Early Redemption Charges* - This is a fee charged by a lender if you repay part, or all, of your mortgage or move your mortgage to another lender before the agreed date.

*High Lending Charge* - This is a fee levied by the mortgage lender if you borrow more than a given amount. Many mortgage lenders will lend up to 90% of the value of a property without charging this fee.

*LTV* - The loan to value refers to the size of the mortgage as a percentage of the value of the property (eg a £90,000 mortgage on a house valued at £100,000 has an LTV of 90%).

*Mortgage Payment Protection* - If you cannot work due to an accident or sickness or are made redundant this policy will pay your mortgage for you.

*Portability* - A term used to describe a mortgage product that can be transferred between properties when you move house.

*Re-mortgage* - This is the act of switching a mortgage to a new lender.

*Valuation Fee* - A fee payable to the lender to check what a property is worth and if it is suitable to lend a mortgage on.