

## Money Advice Service

The service is free and confidential. All advisers have a vast amount of experience in dealing with debt and will provide you with information for you to make an informed choice on the best way forward to deal with your debt.

If you would like more information, please contact Elaine Gillece on 01389 737050.

A Factsheet is available on each of the following topics:

- ❑ Recovery of Council Tax
- ❑ Trust Deeds
- ❑ Credit Reference Agencies
- ❑ Enforcing a Debt Against you by Diligence
- ❑ Time to Pay Directions and Orders
- ❑ Time Orders
- ❑ Re-call of Decree

- ❑ Going to the Courts
- ❑ What if a Creditor Refuses my offer of payment?
- ❑ Bankruptcy
- ❑ Full and Final Settlement Offers
- ❑ Fines in District Sheriff Courts



### Welfare Rights Representation Unit

**01389 737050**

**West Dunbartonshire Council**

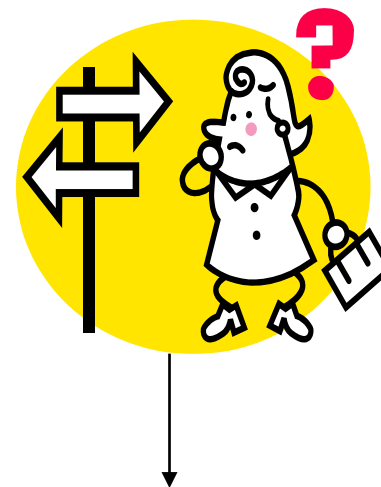
**01389 737000**

**Money Advice Scotland**

**0141 572 0237**

## **WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **MONEY ADVICE SERVICE**



**Are you worried about your debts?**

**Do you need help?**

**Contact us:**

**Welfare Rights Unit**

**6-14 Bridge Street**

**DUMBARTON G82 1NT**

## **Our experienced Money Advisers can help you to:**

- ❑ Feel less worried
- ❑ Claim money if you qualify (benefits, grants, tax rebates)
- ❑ Agree smaller regular payments to your creditors
- ❑ Assist you with a Financial Statement
- ❑ Find easier ways to pay
- ❑ Manage your money
- ❑ Check your credit agreements
- ❑ Sometimes find a solution even if you have no money to pay your debts
- ❑ Assist you with sequestration
- ❑ Assist you with Trust Deeds
- ❑ Assist you with Debt Arrangement Scheme

## **Debt Arrangement and Attachment (Scotland) Act 2002**

This new bill will create a national statutory debt arrangement scheme and establish a humane and workable alternative to the diligence of poinding and warrant sale, which has since been abolished.

The bill makes provision for the issue of a free debt advice and information package to all debtors who are subject to debt enforcement through the courts. Creditors who write to consumers will now be obliged to inform them of what kind of advice and assistance they can receive along with contact addresses of where they can access a free confidential money advice service.



## **Trust Deeds**

It is a legally binding voluntary agreement between you and your Trustee, which allows the Trustee to administer and realise your assets for the benefit of your creditors. It is an alternative to bankruptcy. Any payments you have been making to creditors will then stop, and instead monthly contributions from your income will be paid to your Trustee.

## **What is Bankruptcy?**

Bankruptcy is an option to be considered when you have reached the stage of being unable to pay your debts over a realistic period. Bankruptcy (sequestration in Scotland) may be an option where you simply cannot reach agreement with your creditors and your financial situation has become intolerable.