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Introduction

Key Retirement Solutions' Market Monitor provides a quarterly, half yearly and annual review of the equity release market in the UK. The monitor provides journalists and other industry stakeholders with detailed data on the market alongside historical comparisons.

Key Retirement Solutions are the UK's number 1 equity release specialist adviser, arranging 1 in 3 of all intermediary Equity Release Council (ERC) formerly SHIP [1] equity release business in the UK.

The Monitor uses Key's data to reflect the market as a whole and provides the most detailed analysis of the equity release sector, including:

- Usage trends
- Age Analysis
- Regional Analysis based on -
 - Plan Numbers
 - Plan Values
 - Property Prices

The Monitor now provides more detail than ever, focusing in each edition on a particular region and also a specific usage driver for releasing equity.

- Quarter 1 Focus Gifting
- Regional Focus Scotland

For further details contact:

Dean Mirfin

Group Director KRS Group

Email: dean.mirfin@keyrs.co.uk

Tel: 07879 678737 Press office: 01772 508536

[1] Equity Release Council (ERC) is the equity release trade organisation representing the Equity Release Sector



Q1 2013 Results

- New plan numbers 4,567 up 1.3%
- Total amount released £263.1m up 21.2%
- Drawdown accounts for 66% of all plans
- Single advance lending increases from 22% to 34% share of market
- Home improvement remains top reason for releasing equity

The latest report on the equity release market reveals a continuance of the trends for last year quarters with growth year on year both for plan numbers and for overall lending. Sales of plans during quarter 1 2013 were 4,567 an increase of 1.3% over the same period of 2012. Lending also increased to £263.1 million for the period from £217 million for the same period of 2012, an increase of 21.2%.

Drawdown remains the most popular type of plan accounting for 66% of all new plans. Based on initial lending levels and available facilities, there remains £84 million of funds still to be drawn in addition to these initial advance figures giving a combined total of £347 million for the period.

Single advance mortgages have seen an increase in tandem with an increase in demand for repaying outstanding mortgages.

BIGGEST MOVERS BY REGION

Number of Plans

▲ Scotland +50.5% ▲ West Midlands +29.1%

▲ North West +14.8%

▼ Northern Ireland -22.87%

▼ South East -13.71%

▼ East Midlands -10.5%

Lending

▲ Scotland +60.4%

▲ Northern Ireland +58.84%

▲ West Midlands +55.71%

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Across the country 5 out of 12 regions experienced growth in the total number of plans, with all 12 regions experiencing growth in total lending. The greatest increases in plan numbers were experienced in Scotland (+50.54%) and the West Midlands (+29.13. Top region for overall lending was the South East (£63.1m) with London (£40.3m) taking second place. No region experienced a drop in overall lending over the period with Scotland experiencing the greatest percentage increase in business up 60.43% over the same period of 2012.

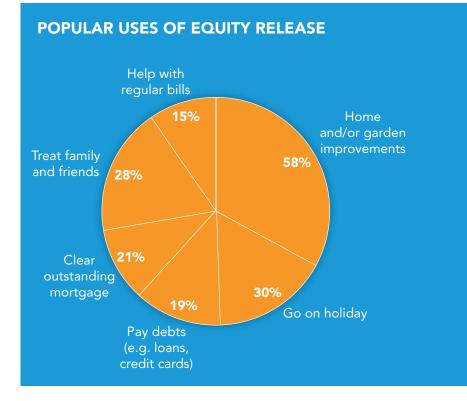
USES OF EQUITY RELEASE

Home and/or garden improvement (58%) retains top spot followed by holidays (30%), closely followed by helping the family (28%). Helping the family increased throughout 2012 and the trend is still continuing into 2013, for the same period of 2012 the figure was 23%.



Highlights

 22% increase in the number of clients gifting to their family



GIFTING

 Helping the family financially ranks as the 3rd most popular reason for releasing equity

QUARTER 1 FOCUS - GIFTING

The percentage of those releasing equity specifically to gift some or all of the funds released has increased significantly year on year having risen from 23% at the end of quarter 1 2012 to 28% for the same period of this year. In addition to generally helping children and grandchildren financially there are three distinct purposes for the money.

- 1. Deposit for property purchase
- 2. Funding school/university fees
- 3. Debt repayment



Highlights

REGIONAL SUMMARY

| AREA | Value | Percentage Change 2012 on 2011 | Number of plans | Percentage Change 2012 on 2011 | Average Value Released | Average LTV | Average Customer Age | Average Property Value |
|------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| East Anglia | £11.9m | 30.4% | 211 | -5.7% | £58,575 | 27% | 68 | £215,273 |
| East Midlands | £19m | 7.7% | 410 | -10.5% | £47,850 | 27% | 68 | £177,710 |
| London | £40.3m | 31% | 375 | -6.7% | £110,790 | 26% | 70 | £434,423 |
| North | £8.2m | 7.6% | 199 | 4.9% | £42,515 | 28% | 67 | £151,019 |
| North West | £23.5m | 24.9% | 513 | 14.8% | £47,385 | 27% | 69 | £173,970 |
| Northern Ireland | £1m | 58.8% | 23 | -22.9% | £45,970 | 27% | 66 | £167,500 |
| Scotland | £16.2m | 60.4% | 387 | 50.5% | £43,186 | 28% | 68 | £154,438 |
| South East | £63.1m | 9.2% | 939 | -13.7% | £69,423 | 23% | 69 | £303,058 |
| South West | £31.2m | 13.6% | 529 | -2.1% | £60,880 | 25% | 69 | £246,134 |
| Wales | £10.7m | 27.3% | 207 | 11.1% | £53,317 | 30% | 68 | £177,426 |
| West Midlands | £22.2m | 55.7% | 433 | 29.1% | £53,052 | 27% | 70 | £198,362 |
| Yorks & H'side | £15.7m | 8.55% | 341 | -2.6% | £47,573 | 26% | 70 | £183,067 |

REGIONAL FOCUS - SCOTLAND

Total lending - **£16.2M**

Plans arranged - **387**

Average released - £43,186

Average property value - £154,438

REGIONAL FOCUS - SCOTLAND

Year on year for the first quarter Scotland is showing strong growth both in terms of plan numbers and overall lending values. By far the two main reasons for equity release being Home Improvement and meeting day to day bills and living expenses. Of less interest appears to holidays and repaying debt, the focus is clearly being placed on improving day to day living above all else, be that in terms of improving the home or meeting those day to day costs.

An increase in plan numbers of over 50% is significant and can also be put down to greater promotion of equity release in Scotland as well as increased access to quality advice.



Review

- Highest South East (939)
- Lowest -Northern Ireland (23)
- 1 Scotland 387 2012 - 257
- North 199 2012 - 190
- 3 North West **513** 2012 - 447
- 4 Yorks & H'side 341 2012 350
- 5 Northern Ireland 23 2012 - 30
- Wales **207** 2012 - 186
- West Midlands4332012 335
- 8 East Anglia **211** 2012 - 224
- EastMidlands4102012 458
- 10 London **375** 2012 - 402
- 11 South West 529 2012 - 540
- 12 South East 939 2012 - 1,088





Review

- Highest South East (£63.1m)
- Lowest -Northern Ireland (£1m)
- 1 Scotland **£16.2m** 2012 - £10.1m
- North **£8.2m** 2012 - £7.6m
- 3 North West **£23.5m** 2012 - £18.9m
- 4 Yorks & H'side £15.7m 2012 - £14.5m
- Northern Ireland £1m 2012 - £0.6m
- Wales **£10.7m** 2012 - £8.4m
- West
 Midlands
 f22.2m 2012 £14.3m
- 8 East Anglia **£11.9m** 2012 - £9.2m
- 9 East
 Midlands
 £19m 2012 £17.6m
- 10 London **£40.3m** 2012 - £30.7m
- **11**South West **£31.2m**2012 £27.4m
- 12 South East **£63.1m** 2012 - £57.8m





Analysis

- Average age 69
- 64% of those releasing equity are couples
- 77% more single women release equity than single men

