

# **Useful information - Self Employed**

### **Business Debtline**

0800 197 6026 Monday to Friday 9am - 5.30pm www.businessdebtline.org web chat available

Business Debtline is a charity run by the Money Advice Trust, which offers a free debt advice service for the self-employed and small businesses in England, Wales and Scotland.

On their website you may find the following useful:

## The National Debtline Business debts fact sheet - April 2016

This fact sheet gives information about business debts that self-employed people commonly have, it explains how you can deal with these debts if you have stopped trading, if you are still trading then you can use the fact sheet to get more advice and information about running your business and dealing with the ongoing debts your business may have.

They do not give information about debts owed by limited companies.

### **Business Debtline Self-help pack**

Their self-help pack includes further information on types of debt. There is also guidance on completing a budget and negotiating with creditors.

#### 10 ways to clear your debt

In the Debt topics area of their website, they have a section which sets out 10 ways to clear your debt. You can compare:

- how big or small your debts must be to use each of these options;
- what type of debt you can repay using each option; and
- how long each option might last before you are debt-free.



## Step change

0800 138 1111 Monday to Friday 8am - 8pm & Saturday 8am - 4pm www.stepchange.org

## **Debt Remedy online tool**

Step Change offer a free online debt advice tool tailored for the Self-employed <a href="https://www.stepchange.org/Debtremedy">www.stepchange.org/Debtremedy</a>

#### How it works:

- 1. Tell them about your finances: Give them details of your debts and household spending
- 2. They will help you create a budget: Get a clear picture of where your money goes
- 3. You'll get free debt advice: Read your personal action plan for detailed and practical advice

For online information visit:

www.stepchange.org/debt-info/self-employed-debt-advice (England and Wales only)

## **Payplan**

0800 280 2816 Monday to Friday 8am - 8pm & Saturday 9am - 3pm www.payplan.com web chat available

Payplan offers a free debt advice service and can also offer a tailored plan to suit those who are self-employed.

PayPlan can provide advice on a structured plan such as a Debt Management Plan (DMP) or self-employed Individual Voluntary Agreement (IVA), or they can help you set up a plan directly with your creditors if you don't have a stable income at present.

# Claiming benefits

You may be entitled to extra help like council tax benefit, or housing benefit and working tax credits. For more information visit: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/browse/benefits">www.gov.uk/browse/benefits</a>

Useful guide - Self employed. August 2016. V1.0.