



Harlow StopLoanSharks Initiative

HARLOW PARTNERS' AGREEMENT

This agreement is aimed at tackling any issues of Illegal Money Lending in Harlow

The England Illegal Money Lending Team aim to prosecute unlicensed lenders in Harlow

Harlow partners recognise that effectively tackling loan shark behaviour leads to safer communities and neighbourhoods for Harlow residents

The aims of the Harlow Stoploansharks Initiative are to:

1. Increase awareness within local communities of the approaches and tactics that illegal loan sharks adopt when targeting potential victims.
2. Create a legacy that will make Harlow a difficult place for illegal loan sharks to prosper
3. Increase the financial capability of Harlow residents so they can make informed financial choices on areas such as affordable lending and saving
4. Increase the confidence of Harlow residents to enable them to report illegal loan sharks activity safely
5. Increase the awareness of multi agencies working with Harlow residents to enable staff to spot signs of a loan shark victim and then offer victims the opportunity of support

We agree to achieve this by:

1. Promoting the Harlow Stoploansharks Initiative as widely as possible. Encouraging Harlow organisations to sign up to this Charter.
2. Plan and implement initiatives to engage and empower local communities to speak out about illegal loan sharks activity
3. Create opportunities to offer financial capability tools to local communities so residents can make informed financial choices
4. Take a multi agency approach to facilitate the Illegal Money Lending team to increase their reach into local communities.