

Charitable assignment requirement removed

Kent Reliance, the UK's fastest growing building society* today announces that it is to remove the requirement for new members to sign up to the charitable assignment scheme.

The scheme, introduced in 2000 to defeat the potential disruptive impact of speculative investors, will be closed with effect from close of business on 31st May 2006. New applications that are dated up to and including 31st May 2006 will remain subject to charitable assignment. Most building societies introduced schemes during the mid nineties requiring new members to agree that in the event of demutualisation, any windfall benefit would be passed to charity.

The Kent Reliance Board has decided that it is no longer in the best interests of the Society to continue, with effect from close of business on 31 May 2006, with the assignment condition generally in respect of new members and that it is in the best interests of the Society that this be removed from that date.

* According to KPMG building society data published each year, Kent Reliance has the fastest growing asset base over the last 5 years and the fastest reducing costs.