

Local • Ethical • Affordable

Savings & Loans for anyone Living or Working in a CH postcode area

www.wirralcu.org.uk

Credit in the UK



- Moving to a different country can be an expensive process
- If you've just moved to the UK and need financial support, you might be considering taking out a loan
- To borrow money in the UK, you usually need a credit score
- Having a blank credit score, or a 'thin credit file', can often lead to a loan application being rejected
- Lenders who do approve a loan on this basis are likely to charge extremely high interest rates or additional fees

Credit Checks



- What is a credit check?
- Who can credit check me?
- Banks and building societies
- Credit providers
- Utilities suppliers (e.g. gas, water and electricity)
- Letting agencies and landlords
- Mobile phone companies
- Employers
- Types of Credit Check
 - Hard v Soft

UK CRA's





Credit reference agencies (CRAs) give lenders a range of information about potential borrowers



• The three main consumer CRAs in the UK are Equifax, Experian and TransUnion.



 Information held by the CRAs relates to how you have maintained your credit and service/utility accounts.

Credit Score



Here's how different CRAs categorise credit scores – note that each provider uses a different scale and different categories, so the below is just representative:

Rating	Experian	Equifax	TransUnion
Excellent	961-999	811—1000	628-710
Good	881-960	671—810	604-627
Fair	721-880	531—670	566-603
Poor	561-720	439—530	561-565
Very poor	0-660	0—438	0-550

Building a Credit Score

Do

- ✓ Get on the Electoral Roll
- ✓ Open a UK bank account
- ✓ Apply for a credit card But use it wisely!!
- ✓ Pay bills via direct debit
- ✓ Only use a small % of your credit limit



Don't

- X Make lots of applications in a short space of time
- X Use payday lenders
- **X** Miss payments
- X Move around a lot
- **X** Go above agreed credit limits





CRAs are licensed by the Financial Conduct Authority

https://www.equifax.co.uk/

https://www.experian.co.uk/

https://www.transunion.co.uk/

https://www.equifax.co.uk/resources/loans-and-credit/credit-score-

when-you-move-to-the-uk.html

https://www.experian.co.uk/consumer/guides/building-credit.html

What is a Credit Union?



- A Not For Profit, Financial Co-operative that exists for the benefit of its members
- All members are shareholders of the Credit Union
- Provide savings accounts & low cost loans to its' members
- A Credit Union operates within its common bond

About Us



Wirral Credit Union:

- Founded in 1992 for employees of Wirral Borough
 Council
- Expanded common bond to cover all Wirral residents in 1997
- Further expansion to cover whole of CH postcode area in 2012
- Serve over 3800 members
- Provided over £50million in Loans since inception

What does a Credit Union do?



- Help to build financial resilience
- Promote Financial Inclusion
- Foster a responsible attitude towards borrowing
- Provide straight forward easy to use financial services
- Improve financial well being
- Provide savings accounts & low cost loans to our members



All members save a regular amount with Wirral Credit Union

Payment methods:

- Payroll Deduction
- Standing Order
- Child Benefit
- Cash

We currently have payroll deduction schemes in place with the following employers:





Becoming a member



- Join online through our website or at any branch
- ID checks carried out online
- Required to make £10 payment as opening
- deposit into savings account
- Select payment Method
- We do the rest



Member Benefits



- Easy & Convenient method of saving
- Online payment portal available to members
- Mobile App to manage your account
- Always saving even when paying back a loan
- Interest paid on a reducing balance
- No early repayment fees
- No Form filling
- Quick & Efficient service

Loans



We have 3 options when it comes to borrowing:

- Starter Loan
 - A loan of up to £500 can be applied for when joining Wirral CU
- Family Saver Loan
 - As above but repaid directly from child benefit
- Regular Saver Loan
 - Loans from £50 £20,000 based on the savings balance held by the member

Online applications



- Online Loan Applications now live for Family Saver and Starter loans up to £500
- Utilising open banking and Credit checks online to streamline the process
- Increase access to our local, ethical, affordable financial services
- Repaying a Wirral Credit Union loan can help your credit score with TransUnion

Family Saver Loan



Regular Saver Loan

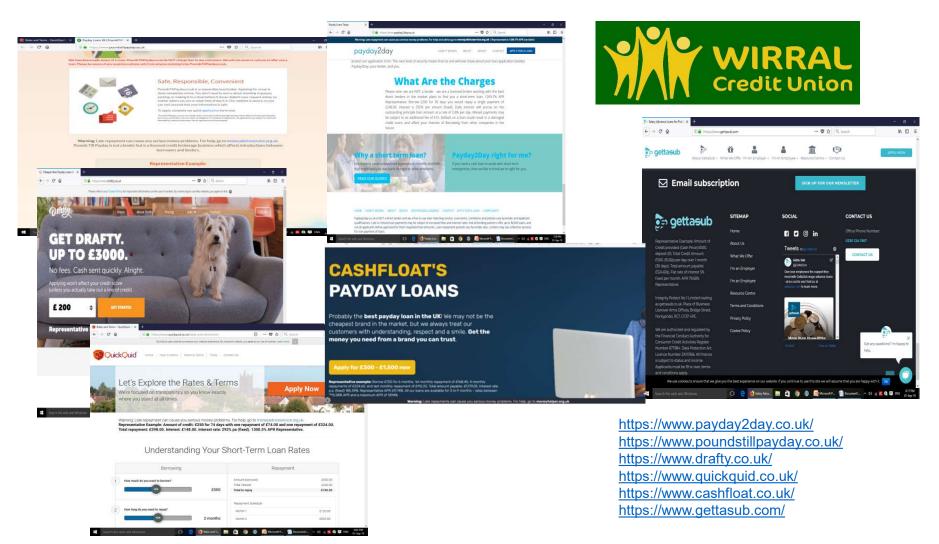


- If you have been a member with us for a longer period of time or have built up savings before borrowing with us, you may be eligible for our regular saver loans
- Regular Saver loans are based on the value of savings you hold in the credit union
- Members can apply for a loan of up to 3 times their savings value (dependent on payment method)
- Typical APR is 12.68% 26.8%

APR's & Interest Rates



- Representative APR's can look attractive
- Only 51% of applicants need to be given this rate to be able to advertise it
- High cost short term credit (HCSTC) is a type of loan which is unsecured, has an APR equal to or larger than 100% and is usually repaid in full within twelve months
- Danger of people seeking alternative providers who may not be regulated or set very high rates of interest



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APR's & Interest Rates



Lender	Fixed %	Representative % APR
Payday uk	65%	91% - (Max 1294%)
payday2day	292%	1269.7%
drafty	89.7%	91.2% (60 day max term)
quickquid	292%	1300.5%
cashfloat	183.9%	611% - (Max 1294%)
gettasub	60%	79.58% (90 day max term)
Wirral Credit Union	36%	42.6%

^{***} Rates taken from websites 1/9/21 and include charges where applicable, used for comparison only and not designed as a quote for credit ***



Comparison of Interest on £500 loan over 6 months

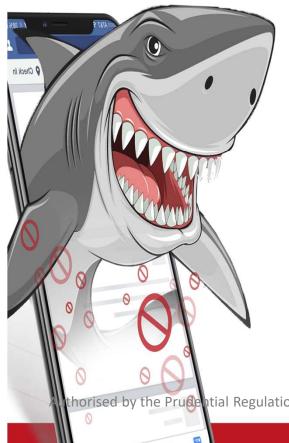
Lender	Cost	Total to Pay	APR %
Wirral CU	£53.06	£553.06	42.6%
Payday UK	£160.27	£660.27	91%
FastLoan UK*	£234.36	£734.36	766.18%

^{***}Fastloan UK is repaid over only 16 weeks!!!!!***





Loan Shark Awareness



- Working with the England Illegal money lending team.
- Concerns more people are falling prey to unscrupulous lenders online as statistics show one in five victims met their lender on social media in the first half of 2020.
- Loan sharks are increasingly using social media platforms, such as Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat, to advertise their illegal loans and target potential victims.
- These criminals will lure people in with seemingly attractive loan offers but will quickly resort to intimidation, threats and violence to enforce repayment and trap borrowers in a spiral of debt.
- 51% of loan shark victims met their lender in the work place





Loan Shark Awareness



Not Sure What A Loan Shark Is?

If you can answer yes to one or more of these questions you might be borrowing from a loan shark:

- Did they offer you a cash loan?
- Did they not give you paperwork?
- Did they add huge amounts of interest or APR to your loan?
- Have they threatened you?
- Are you scared of people finding out?
- Have they taken your bank card, benefit card, passport, watch or other valuables from you?

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Thanks for Listening

We look forward to helping you build your financial wellbeing

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