

EPSOM AND EWELL CAB NEEDS DONATIONS TO SUPPORT ITS WORK WITH THOSE CAUGHT IN A SPIRAL OF DEBT

Along with CABs up and down the country, Epsom and Ewell CAB is struggling to keep pace with the demand for its services particularly with regard to debt advice. It is putting out an appeal for funds to enable it to train more volunteer advisers and undertake more specialist debt advice work in order to help cope with the demand. The CAB is seeking donations from the general public and local businesses.

Tom Sheriff, Bureau Manager, said “Over the last few years, the demand for debt advice has ballooned and cases have become more and more complex. We do not have the resources to help all those who need it.”

“The massive debt caseload is as a result of the overhang of the credit boom of the 2000s followed by the economic stagnation of the last few years. Debt problems always seem worse after Christmas.”

“ People usually fall into debt because an adverse life event such as illness, job loss or relationship breakdown tips them over the edge. They should not ignore the problem because it can have serious knock on effects including court action and in some cases, they may no longer be able to afford their homes”

“High quality money advice helps people understand their financial position so as they can see what they can afford and how best to approach their creditors. They understand that they should prioritise repayment of certain debts such as rent, mortgage, council tax and utility bills over other such as credit card repayments and pay day loans. We also explore with clients where their income can be increased.”

“Usually after seeking advice, clients feel in more control of their lives”

If anyone would like to support the debt advice work of the CAB, please visit www.epsomewellcab.org.uk and click ‘Donate’. The website also has details of other ways to help the CAB as well as details of a benefit concert to be held at Epsom Playhouse on February 2nd – ‘The Magic of Music, Song and Dance’, tickets £12

BACKGROUND AND FURTHER INFORMATION

Epsom and Ewell Citizens Advice Bureau is a local charity staffed largely by highly trained volunteers who give free, confidential, impartial and independent advice to people who live or work in Epsom and Ewell and surrounding areas on matters including debt but also welfare benefits, housing, employment, family, tax credits and consumer problems. It was one of the first Citizens Advice Bureaux to be created and has been serving the locality since 1939. Last year, the bureau helped over 3000 new clients from the local area.

The bureau is located in the Old Town Hall, The Parade, Epsom, KT18 5AG and the general public can 'drop in ' during the hours below

Drop-in hours are:

	Daytime	Evening
Monday	10am to 1pm	
Tuesday	10am to 3pm	5pm to 7pm
Weds	10am to 1pm	
Thursday	10am to 3pm	
Friday	10am to 1pm	
Telephone: 10am to 4pm, Monday to Friday		

The number to call for advice is 08444 111444.

www.epsomewellcab.org.uk

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