# Bankruptcy as an option debtadvice



If you are struggling to pay your debts, don't hesitate to contact us at debtadvice.co.uk.

## WHAT IS BANKRUPTCY?

Bankruptcy is a way of legally declaring/being declared unable to pay your debts. You can petition for your own bankruptcy or a creditor who you owe more than £750 can petition for your Bankruptcy.

Being chased by your creditors when you have no money can be extremely stressful but the decision to file for Bankruptcy should not be made solely to stop demanding creditors.

Bankruptcy is a solution that should not be taken lightly. It should be given a lot of thought and you should always discuss your situation with a Debt Advisor before making a decision to proceed with it.

## **HOW BANKRUPTCY WORKS**

Bankruptcy papers are obtained from the court, completed and returned along with the necessary fees and costs. You are then given a hearing date. If you declare yourself Bankrupt, this is known as a "Debtors petition".

If you are being made Bankrupt from a creditor this is known as a "Creditors petition".

At your hearing, you will find out if a Bankruptcy Order is being made against you or not. Regardless of how you are declared Bankrupt the outcome is the same: control of your assets and financial affairs is passed to the Official Receiver (an Officer of the Court) who will deal with your case or appoint it to an Insolvency Practitioner (Trustee). Your financial situation will be investigated to determine your level of ability to repay your debts.

If you have not been declared Bankrupt in the past 5 yrs and if you cooperate fully, you will be discharged within 12 months. Any account balances owing to your creditors are then legally written off and you will be debt free.

#### AVOIDING BANKRUPTCY

Sometimes when people find themselves in a lot of unmanageable debt, Bankruptcy may seem like the only way out. This is not always the case. People with assets and/or certain jobs may wish to avoid going Bankrupt. There are other options, but you should explore all options carefully before making a decision.

As an alternative to Bankruptcy, you may be able to propose an IVA or even a Debt Management Plan.

We are very experienced in dealing with Bankruptcy enquiries so you can discuss your options with us. Wean help you fill out your Bankruptcy papers or discuss ways to avoid Bankruptcy, or even how you can get your Bankruptcy annulled.



## IS BANKRUPTCY RIGHT FOR YOU?

Bankruptcy may be right for you if

- You do not have a regular and/or sufficient disposable income to service Debt Management, an IVA or obtain a Consolidation Loan.
- > You can afford to meet the costs of the petition.
- You have no assets or are not seeking to safeguard assets.
- You are on a low income.
- > Bankruptcy will not have an adverse impact on your employment/career prospects.
- Bankruptcy will not have an adverse impact on your ability to trade your business
- You wish to be formally protected from your creditors but cannot afford to enter into an IVA.
- You are not concerned about the publicity and perceived stigma associated with Bankruptcy.

There are charges for declaring yourself bankrupt. These being a court fee and a fee to help meet the costs of the official receiver. If you are on benefits you will only be exempt from the court fee. To find out more about the fees, contact us.

## PROS AND CONS OF BANKRUPTCY

- lt's a fresh start when you have no other options
- You're not liable for any debts detailed in the proceedings, upon completion
- ➤ The solution spans a reasonable timescale
- > Your assets can be sold
- Corporate employers can carry out background searches
- You will be unable to act as the director of a company or do certain jobs
- lt remains on your credit file for almost 6 years

# WHY CHOOSE US?

- We are the longest established Insolvency Provider in the UK
- We give free debt advice on any problem
- Your information is confidential, without obligation and we will never pass your information on to a third party
- We are not a call centre so you will get a personal service
- We are expert debt advisors who will ALWAYS give the best advice for your circumstances

\*Debtadvice.co.uk is owned by McCambridge Duffy, who provide free debt advice on a variety of debt solutions. A fee is only payable where further services are requested. All fees will be explained in detail and discussed prior to commencement of any debt repayment plan. Read further information. Repaying debt over a longer period may increase the total amount to be repaid. Your ability to obtain credit will be affected in the short term and might be affected in the medium to long term. Creditors may still contact you with promotional material or to fulfil contractual obligations to you but they should deal with us in all aspects relating to the outstanding debts. Interest and Charges will only be frozen at the creditors' discretion.

Phonecalls: Calls from a landline are normally free. Please consult your provider if you are unsure. Calls from a mobile may be subject to charges. If you get charged just ask us to call you back for free. In the UK, consumer credit activities are covered by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Scotland, Group Licence number G/900011