THE ENGLAND ILLEGAL MONEY LENDING TEAM UPDATE

The England Illegal Money Lending Team recognises that this period may be one of increased financial pressure for some people. The Team is fully committed to ensuring that illegal money lenders (loan sharks) do not take advantage and profit from other people's hardship.

The Stop Loan Sharks helpline service (0300 555 2222) remains open and fully operational during the COVID-19 pandemic. We encourage not only victims but friends, family members and the wider community to come forward if they suspect someone is suffering at the hands of loan sharks.

What to do if Covid-19 has impacted your personal and household finances

The Government has published some useful advice if you are self-employed, claiming benefits or needing to make a claim for benefits and statutory sick pay – www.gov.uk/government/news/coronavirus-support-for-employees-benefit-claimantsand-businesses

For more information about statutory sick pay please visit – <u>www.gov.uk/statutory-</u> <u>sick-pay</u>

For more information about making a new claim for universal credit please visit – <u>www.gov.uk/universal-credit</u>

Citizens Advice

Citizens Advice continues to provide free, independent and confidential advice and support for people during these unprecedented and challenging times. You can find frequently updated advice on a range of issues related to the Coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak at <u>https://www.citizensadvice.org.u/coronavirus</u>