

# Lancashire & Cheshire Association Newsletter

## Our sponsors



## Business Rates Seminar

Venue – Preston Town Hall, Lancaster Road, Preston  
PR1 2RL

Date – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2015

The day will include a look at how premises are valued, a subject that will be covered by **Geoff Fisher (Pictured)** who is a Past National President of the IRRV and previously worked as a Valuation Officer in London for 21 years. **Beverley McDougall**, a Director at Lambert Smith Hampton, will cover appeals from the viewpoint of the private sector whilst **Paul McDermott**, Director of Inform CPI Limited and a member of IRRV's National Council, will talk about how local authorities can ensure they are maximising the rateable value in the Rating List. **Robin Gibbons**, Business Rates Manager at Bolton Council, will cover the topic of completion notices and the day will be concluded by **Richard Kerr**, Director at Greenhalgh Kerr, who will provide an update on recent cases involving charities and rates mitigation.

At **£100 per delegate** this offers excellent value for money; it will of course be delivered to the usual high standards of the Lancashire and Cheshire Association. **In addition the Association is continuing to offer members of the Institute a generous 50% Discount.**

The content of the seminar is designed to give a broader knowledge of these valuation related areas, and will be particularly useful for:

- Business rates staff who want a greater appreciation of the subject of valuation;
- Anyone working in the valuation field – whether in the public or private sector;
- Those studying for IRRV qualifications that include the topic of valuation in the syllabus.

Full details of the workshop objectives and a booking form are available on the Associations Website

The Lancashire & Cheshire Association have through its support to Local Authorities, paid for 22 delegates to attend the Collection and Enforcement conference at Keele.

If you have an event which you wish to publicise in future editions please contact [michael.fisher@southlakeland.gov.uk](mailto:michael.fisher@southlakeland.gov.uk)

Your Association Events		
Event	Date	Venue
Smile Improving Customer Services Seminar	SOLD OUT Wednesday 24th June	Haydock Thistle Hotel
NNDR Seminar	Wednesday 1st July 2015	Preston CC
Taking Control of Goods– the unintended consequences	Wednesday 22nd July	Shaw Hill Golf & Country Club
Smile Motivational Seminar	9th September 2015	TBA
Annual Dinner Dance	Saturday 12th March	Haydock Thistle Hotel

Did you know IRRV members get a 50% Discount on Lancashire & Cheshire courses





The Association and Executive Committee wish to thank our sponsors for their continuing support during 2015/16



Further information can be found on our Association's website:  
<http://www.irrvassociations.org.uk> or [www.irrv.org](http://www.irrv.org)



## - Sponsors Update

### Fortunatus Housing Solutions

Mental illness now affects 1 in 4 people living in the UK today. Fortunatus Housing works closely with local authorities to house vulnerable adults living with mental illness and/or learning difficulties. It's with great pride that Fortunatus now provide supported accommodation to almost 150 properties in the North West and intend on fulfilling its vision to become the largest service provider in their field in the area offering the best care for its tenants.

With the support of the IRRV, Fortunatus are able to continue to raise awareness on Mental Health issues and focus on developing as a charity. With the introduction of the Unity Lottery, Fortunatus aim to raise additional funds and offer an incentive for people to win a prize and make a regular donation. With half of the money raised via the lottery going directly back to tenants, it's a fun way to play and give a vulnerable adult a better life.

Fortunatus have also focused on communication by updating the website, strengthening the presence on social media and developing a new App called 'Engage'. They recognised that due to the issues that some of the tenants are living with, communication was difficult, and the simple act of picking up the phone for help could become an anxious prospect. 'Engage' not only gives an alternative method of keeping in touch, it also offers help, advice and support and local news. This clever App is now available to download via the App Store or Google Play.

If you would like to sign up for the Unity lottery and have a chance to win up to £25,000, purchase some of the new Fortunatus Xmas cards or make a one off donation to support vulnerable adults suffering with Mental Illness then please take a look at the new website.

<http://www.fortunatushousing.co.uk/fundraising-and-events/>

Contact info: Catherine Nicholson (Managing Director)

Tel – 01925 575601 or email [catherine.nicholson@fortunatus.co.uk](mailto:catherine.nicholson@fortunatus.co.uk)

## Taking Control of Goods – the unintended consequences

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2015 - Venue – Shaw Hill Golf and Country Club, Chorley -**

A Brand new Seminar, which has been put together in response to the demand from revenues practitioners to know more about the impacts and consequences of the new Taking Control of Goods Regulations.

*The seminar will take into account the enforcement changes affecting the recovery of statutory debts and in particular the requirements of the Tribunals Courts and Enforcement (TCE) Act Regulations 2013/14 and how this new process has affected collections and customer behaviour. It has been well documented that the legislation has brought about some unintended consequences and the expert panel of presenters (including the current President of Civea) will explain and explore the implications and potential solutions.*

At **£50 per delegate** the event offers professional insight at an economical level; it will of course be delivered to the usual high standards of the Lancashire and Cheshire Association. **In addition the Association is continuing to offer members of the Institute a generous 50% Discount.** The content of the seminar is designed to give a broader knowledge of the practical application of the new regulations and experiences one year on, and will be particularly useful for:

- Staff wishing to increase their knowledge base resulting from the requirements of the TCE Act Regulations for Council Tax and NNDR enforcement;
- Recovery Officers, Team Leaders and Managers.

Full details of the seminar and a booking form are available on the associations website at <http://www.irrvassociations.org.uk/index.asp?Aid=3>

If you want any items included in future newsletters please contact

[michaelbfisher@southlakeland.gov.uk](mailto:michaelbfisher@southlakeland.gov.uk)

<http://www.irrvassociations.org.uk>

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