

To the Churches of the CAP/Southport Multiple Churches Partnership Agreement for the Southport CAP Debt Centre

2nd December 2020

Dear Church Leader

Compassion Acts provision of Debt Advice via Community Money Advice

As one of the partner churches in the town of the Multiple Church Partnership Agreement with CAP, you will have received a letter from Patrick Evans, a fellow Trustee at Compassion Acts, and Nick Smith of CAP.

As a follow up to their letter I am writing to let you know some more about Community Money Advice (CMA). CMA have been operating as a franchise for the past five years. CMA is a Christian charity doing similar work to CAP in respect of helping people get out of debt; it can handle all types of debt including debts of the self-employed. Our trained staff work with clients, write letters on their behalf, act as advocates and deal with bailiffs. We are insured to give advice and registered with the FCA. We have an enviable record of success in this work. We have offered Adrian Wallbridge, CAP Debt Centre Manager a post on the same conditions of employment working on our Community Money Advice (CMA) team and we are pleased that Adrian has accepted.

What now? If you have any questions then please get in touch and we will do our best to answer them. Please pray for CAP and its continuing work nationally and in the town. We also would covet your prayers for Compassion Acts as it steers it way through this pandemic. To churches that have been giving financially to the CAP Debt Centre we would love you to carry on doing so. We have approached a national charity who have been generously giving to the work of our CAP Debt Centre to ask if they would transfer their gift to our CMA operation. If they wish to have a partial refund on their grant for this year we will have a shortfall of

c£5000, otherwise we will be at a break even position as at the year end. Either way, ongoing funding will be required for our debt service provision.

If you know anyone who has debt and would like help then please encourage them to go to our website and submit an enquiry.

Finally, we are at the beginning of negotiations with the Methodist Circuit to lease Victoria Methodist Church in Sussex Road as Compassion Acts HQ and we will be writing again to invite you to the opening virtual or otherwise in the new year should the negotiations prove successful.

Stay blessed,

Allan Salisbury
Chair of Trustees
Compassion Acts