

Your Legal Questions

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Q I have been made redundant and I am worried that I will not be able to pay the monthly mortgage instalment on my home. What can I do?

A You could ask your lender about a Mortgage Payment Holiday. This is an agreement with them to stop or reduce your monthly mortgage payments temporarily. You should contact your lender to find out if you are eligible and for how long. Interest will build up during the payment holiday and be added to your mortgage. This means your monthly payments will increase after the holiday has ended.

There are also various Government Assisted Schemes:

- Support for Mortgage Interest – If you are receiving certain benefits, e.g. income support, this could be included as part of your benefits.
- The Mortgage Rescue Scheme – This may help if you are having serious difficulties in making your mortgage repayments or are in danger of becoming repossessed. If you are eligible, you could get financial help to stay in your home. Any application should be made to your local Council.
- Homeowners' Mortgage Support (HMS) – This could help if your household has a temporary unexpected drop in income. You could be eligible to delay some of the interest repayments on your mortgage for up to 2 years. HMS helps people who have difficulties meeting their mortgage repayments but are likely to get their finances back on track in the near future. You should contact your lender to find out whether they offer this scheme (or something comparable)

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