

GROUP CONSUMER CREDIT LICENCE

The OFT is considering our application to renew the group licence. The OFT has stated that, until that decision is made, the Institute's group licence remains in force.

A group licence (No. G900009) valid until 1 August 2009 has been issued to the Institute under the Consumer Credit Act 1974. The licence is in respect of all Members and Affiliates of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and other persons, who, under regulations made by the Institute, are subject to the obligations and liabilities of a Member of the Institute, to carry on the business of:

- A consumer credit;
- C credit brokerage;
- D debt-adjusting and debt-counselling;
- G debt administration;
- H1 provision of credit information services (including credit repair);

limited to activities arising in the course of the practice of accountancy or acting as an insolvency practitioner carried on within the United Kingdom by such Member, Affiliate or other person:

- (a) as a sole practitioner;
- (b) in partnership or a corporate practice with others who:
 - (i) hold the like qualification, or
 - (ii) hold a qualification authorising such activities under any other group licence issued by the Director, or
 - (iii) together comprise a practice which, under regulations made by the Institute, is registered to carry on audit work, licensed for a range of investment business activities or permitted to describe itself as 'Chartered Accountants'.

Group licences in corresponding terms have been issued to the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland, the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland and the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants.