

**PRESS INFORMATION**  
23 July 2009



**Response from James Sherwood-Rogers regarding the KPMG Fraud Barometer figures, as release this week:**

Responding to the release of the KPMG Fraud Barometer, James Sherwood-Rogers, managing director of Quest said:

“We believe the figures released by KPMG’s Fraud Barometer are the tip of the iceberg. As the recession bites, we are seeing incidents of mortgage application fraud escalate as lending criteria tighten. In the last 18 months alone, we have seen a 132% increase on the number of Alerts being issued to lenders by our Q-Guard fraud detection tool.

At the point of valuation, Q-Guard detects suspicious characteristics and automatically alerts the lender, proving them with the opportunity to investigate the application more thoroughly before it is processed.

When it comes to mortgage fraud, the challenge is to catch up with, and overtake the criminals’ constantly evolving fraudulent activities. It is essential that the next generation of fraud tools keep evolving too.

Eventually the tool must become as much a deterrent as a detective, to force the fraudsters to go elsewhere. Only then will we see the £1.2bn fraud value figure, as quoted by KPMG, start to decline.

Q-Guard was beta launched 18 months ago, and tracks potential fraud in the lending process. It has highlighted over 10,000 suspicious transactions this year alone and has been successfully used to track fraudsters who make multiple applications across several lenders, which Quest is uniquely positioned to do.”

For further information on Quest telephone 01344 403 400 opt1 or visit [www.questuk.com](http://www.questuk.com).

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**Notes to Editors:**

High resolution images of James Sherwood-Rogers are available on request.

**About Quest:**

Established in 1982, Quest, which is part of Landmark Information Group, is the market leading provider of survey and mortgage valuation software in the UK. Quest has also developed Q-Guard, a fraud detection and prevention tool that supports the industry in combating mortgage fraud.

In addition, Quest also specialises in delivering software applications that allow users to access, develop, collate and share the contents of HIPs, Home Reports, the Energy Performance Certificate and Home Condition Report in a secure electronic environment.

Its technology is integrated with a majority of the DEA accreditation schemes and Scottish Protocols, including RICS and BRE, providing access to the largest resource of assessors for an efficient turnaround.

The company is a founder-member of the Association of HIP Providers.

For further information, telephone: 01344 403450 or visit: [www.questuk.com](http://www.questuk.com)

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