

PRESS INFORMATION 13 August 2010

Quest backs the SFO's call for UK-wide fraud register

Property software specialist, Quest, is supporting the news¹ from the Serious Fraud Office (SFO), which is calling for the UK to introduce a centralised fraud database to help fight against financial crimes, including mortgage fraud. Quest, which provides both consultancy services and anti-fraud technologies to mortgage lenders and property surveyors, is in favour of cross-industry data sharing to help reduce levels of fraudulent activity.

Currently the FSA Register publishes supervisory, disciplinary and civil action that has taken against regulated firms and individuals, however information regarding criminal action is not stored in addition to any cases pursued by other enforcement organisations across the UK. And, with the KPMG Fraud Barometer recently reporting a 22-year high on the number of major fraud cases, time is of the essence.

Andy Coles, business development manager, Quest said: "The industry has been calling out for this type of centralised repository of financial fraud related intelligence for some time and so we at Quest fully support the SFO's call for a central database. It would act as a major deterrent for fraudsters who would be clearly exposed by such an intelligence-based approach."

For further information regarding Quest, telephone 0844 844 9969 or visit <u>www.questuk.com</u>.

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Notes to Editors:

¹SFO news: <u>http://www.ifaonline.co.uk/professional-adviser/news/1727628/sfo-calls-uk-wide-fraud-register</u>

High resolution images of Andy Coles 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 detecting and preventing mortgage fraud.

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

For further information, telephone: 0844 844 9969, visit: <u>www.questuk.com</u> or follow Quest on Twitter at <u>www.twitter.com/questuk</u>.

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