

Uned Benthyca Arian Anghyfreithlon Cymru

Wales Illegal Money Lending Unit

Liz Emmons



Stop Loan Sharks

Amcanion / Objectives:

- **Meddu ar ymwybyddiaeth ehangach o effaith benthyc arian anghyfreithlon ar bobl sy'n agored i niwed;**
To have a greater awareness of the effects of illegal money lending on vulnerable people.
- **Gwybod sut i geisio cymorth a chyngor arbenigol**
To know how to seek expert help and advice.
- **Gallu adnabod arwyddion gweithgarwch benthyc arian anghyfreithlon**
To be able to identify the signs of illegal money lending activity.

Materion sy'n ymwneud â Phobl Agored i Niwed Vulnerability

Diffiniad y Coleg Plismona

The College of Policing definition:

“Mae person yn agored i niwed os na all, o ganlyniad i'w sefyllfa neu ei amgylchiadau, ofalu amdano ei hun neu amddiffyn ei hun neu eraill rhag niwed neu gamfanteisio”

“A person is vulnerable if, as a result of their situation or circumstances, they are unable to take care of or protect themselves or others from harm or exploitation”

Mae'r hyn all wneud person yn agored i niwed yn cynnwys:

Vulnerabilities Include:

- Oedran / Age
- Anabledd / Disability
- Eithnigrwydd / Ethnicity
- Iechyd Meddwl / Mental Health
- Tlodi / Poverty
- Llythrennedd / Literacy
- Ynysrwydd / Isolation
- Meithrin perthnasau amhriodol
.....Grooming

Cwestiwn / Question ...

Sut byddech chi'n diffinio siarc benthyg mewn un frawddeg?

How would you define a loan shark in one sentence?



Diffiniad / Definition

Mae siarc benthyg yn unrhyw un sy'n benthyca arian heb gael yr awdurdodiad sy'n ofynnol o dan Ddeddf Gwasanaethau a Marchnadoedd Ariannol 2000.

A ‘loan shark’ is anyone who is lending money without having the authorisation required by the Financial Services and Market Act 2000.

Rhoddir yr awdurdodiadau hyn gan yr Awdurdod Ymddygiad Ariannol i unigolion neu gwmnïau y maent yn credu eu bod yn ‘addas a phriodol’.

These authorisations are issued by the Financial Conduct Authority to individuals or companies whom they believe are ‘fit and proper’

Pwy ydyn ni / Who are we?

- **Lansiwyd yn 2008**
Launched in 2008
- **Ariennir gan ardoll ar ddarparwyr credyd cost uchel**
Funded by levy on high cost credit providers
- **22 awdurdod lleol: Cymru gyfan**
22 Local Authorities: all Wales
- **Ymchwilwyr a Swyddogion Cyswllt Cleientiaid**
Investigators and Client Liaison Officers

Ymchwilwyr / Investigators:

- **Ymchwilio ac erlyn benthycwyr arian didrwydded**

Investigate and prosecute illegal money lenders

- **Gwyliadwriaeth, gwybodaeth a rennir gan yr heddlu, ymchwilio ariannol**

**Surveillance, shared police intelligence,
financial investigation**



Cyswllt â chleientiaid

Client Liaison:

Cymorth i dystion a dioddefwyr...

Victim & Witness support...

- Cysylltu â dioddefwyr ac asesu anghenion
Contact victims/assess needs
- Rhoi cyngor ar ddyledion a gwybodaeth am gredyd fforddiadwy
Provide debt advice and information on affordable credit
- Cymorth gydag ail-gartrefu
Assist with re-housing
- Cefnogi cleientiaid drwy broses y llys
Support clients through the court process
- Darparu hyfforddiant
Deliver training
- Cefnogi digwyddiadau cymunedol
Support community events

Nodweddion siarcod benthyg: Characteristics of loan sharks:



- Dim cytundebau credyd
No credit agreements
- Dim derbynebau
No receipts
- Trais/bygythiadau
Violence/intimidation
- Targedu unigolion sy'n agored i niwed
Target vulnerable individuals
- Gwarantau anghyfreithlon
Illegal securities
- Llog/taliadau diofyn
Interest/default charges

Rhai 'modelau busnes'...

Some ‘business models’...

- ‘Ffrindiau’/Teulu/Cymydog / ‘Friends’/family/neighbours
- Casglwr dyledion didrwydded / Unlicensed debt collector
- Benthyciwr carreg drws didrwydded / Unlicensed doorstep lender
- Bownsar tafarn / Pub Bouncer
- Gwerthwr cyffuriau / Drug Dealer
- Grwpiau ffydd / Faith Group
- Gyrwyr tacsi / Taxi drivers
- Gât yr ysgol / School gate

Ar bwy mae hyn yn effeithio? Who is affected?

- Gall hyn effeithio ar unrhyw un
Anyone can be affected.
- Yng Nghymru rydym yn canfod bod y rhan fwyaf o ddioddefwyr yn agored i niwed mewn rhyw ffordd
In Wales we find that the majority of victims are vulnerable in some way.
- Mewn cyfnod o 12 mis, gwelsom fod gan dros 85% o ddioddefwyr anabledd meddyliol neu gorfforol cydnabyddedig
In a 12 month period, 85% of loan shark victims had a recognized mental or physical disability



Pam benthyg gan siarc benthyg?

Why borrow from a loan shark?

Neges destun i siarc benthyg gan fam sengl yn Abertawe:

Text message to loan shark from a single mother in Swansea:

"Unrhyw siawns y gallwch fenthyg 25 i mi, mae diwrnod chwaraeon gyda Dan fory, mae angen pecyn cinio arno, treinrys a sanau newydd anfonwch neges destun ataf i roi gwybod i mi y naill ffordd neu'r llall diolch yn fawr iawn"

"Any chance u can lend me 25, dan has sports day tomorrow he needs packed lunch and new socks and trainers please text me to let me know either way thanks really desperate."



Pam benthyg gan siarc benthyg?

Why borrow from a loan shark?

“Cynyddodd nifer y bobl mewn
dyled ddifrifol o 1.7 miliwn i 2.4 miliwn o
fis Mawrth 2020 i fis Ionawr 2021.”

(*Turn2Us, elusen ariannol*)

“The number of people in severe debt
increased from 1.7 million to 2.4 million
from March 2020 to January 2021”

(*Turn2Us, financial charity*)

Astudiaeth Achos 1 / Case Study 1



- “**Dyn Arian” Caerffili**
Caerphilly “Money Man”.
- **£30, 689 o arian parod wedi'i stwffio i mewn i gesys gobennydd**
£30,680 cash found stuffed into pillow cases.
- **Cymerodd gerdyn swyddfa bost a PIN dioddefwyr.**
Took possession of victims’ post office cards and PINs.
- **Dros gyfnod o 10 mlynedd wedi cadw dros £92 000 o fudd-daliadau un cwpl oedrannus agored i niwed, gan eu gadael â dim mymryn i fyw oddi arno**
Over 10 year period, retained £92,000 from one vulnerable elderly couple’s benefits, leaving them with scraps to live off.
- **Plediodd yn euog i fenthyca anghyfreithlon a'i ddedfrydu i 15 mis o garchar**
Pleaded guilty to illegal lending and sentenced to 15 months imprisonment

Astudiaeth Achos 1 (Deddf Enillion Troseddau 2002 - DET)

Case Study 1 (Proceeds Of Crime Act 2002)

- £91,073 wedi'i adenill drwy DET
£91,073 POCA recovered
- Lawndal i ddioddefwyr gan gynnwys dyfarniadau o:
Compensation to victims including awards of:
£16,460 £25, 650 £23,650
- Ad-daliadau i adrannau'r llywodraeth
Repayment to Government departments
- Swm cyfyngedig o arian DET ar gyfer gweithgareddau
codi ymwybyddiaeth
Limited amount of POCA money for awareness raising
activities

Astudiaeth Achos 2 / Case Study 2

- Mewn 3 blynedd cyn ei arrestio, wedi benthyg tua £250,000 yn ardal Parc Lansbury Caerffili a'r cyffiniau
In 3 years before arrest, lent approximately £250,000 in and around Lansbury Park Caerphilly.
- Wedi hawlio'r lefel uchaf o LCCh, car symudedd, a budd-daliadau eraill
Claimed highest level of ESA, mobility car and other benefits
- Yn ystod chwiliad atafaelwyd dros £20,000 o arian parod a Rolex. Arweiniodd DET at atafaelu £42,000
During search, over £20,000 cash plus Rolex watches seized. POCA resulted in confiscation of £42,000
- Plediodd yn euog i fenthyg arian anghyfreithlon, gwyngalchu arian, ceisio gwyrdroi cwrs cyfiawnder, a throseddau'n ymwneud â thybaco anghyfreithlon
Pleaded guilty to illegal money lending, money laundering and attempting to pervert the course of justice, and offences relating to illicit tobacco
- Carcharwyd am 3 blynedd 6 mis
Imprisoned for 3 years 6 months



Astudiaeth Achos 3 / Case Study 3

- **Menyw a fu'n ysbeilio ar gyd-weithwyr mewn cartref gofal - yn aml cydweithwyr newydd yn aros am y pecyn cyflog cyntaf**
Female who preyed on co-workers in a care home - often new colleagues who were awaiting first pay packet
- **Honnodd yn dwyllodrus i fod yn asiant i gwmni benthyciadau**
Falsely claimed to be an agent for a loan company
- **Benthyg / Borrowed** £ 650
Ad-dalu / Repaid £3,320
Gofyn bellach am / Further demand £2,000
- **4 mis o garchar wedi'i ohirio am 2 flynedd; Gwasanaeth cymunedol 200 awr; £12,302 adferiad DET; Cyfraniad o £4,338 at gostau erlyn**
4 months imprisonment suspended for 2 years; 200 hours community service; £12,302 POCA recovery; £4,338 contribution to prosecution costs



Tanio syniadau / Brainstorming

NID yw'r rhan fwyaf o achosion yn cael eu hadrodd yn uniongyrchol gan ddioddefwyr: meddyliwch am reswm pam na fydd rhywun efallai'n rhoi gwybod am siarcod benthyg?

Most cases are NOT reported directly by victims :think of a reason why someone might not report a loan shark?



Rhwystrau i adrodd...

Obstacles to reporting ...

- **Ofn dial**
Fear of reprisals
- **Amharodrwydd i roi gwybod**
Reluctance to be a ‘grass’
- **Teyrngarwch anghywir**
Mistaken loyalty
- **Ofn proses y llys**
Fear of court process
- **Ddim yn gwybod am WIMLU**
Don’t know about WIMLU

Pwy sy'n cyfeirio achosion atom?

Who refers cases to us?

- Gweithwyr cymorth e.e. cymorth tenantiaeth
Support workers e.g. tenancy support
- Darparwyr cyngor e.e. Cyngor ar Bopeth
Advice providers e.g. Citizens' Advice
- Asiantaethau gorfodi e.e. yr heddlu
Enforcement agencies e.g. police
- Aelodau o'r cyhoedd sy'n poeni
Concerned members of the public

Chwilfrydedd Proffesiynol

Professional Curiosity

**Mae angen i ni i gyd edrych y tu hwnt i'r amlwg
a defnyddio chwilfrydedd proffesiynol wrth
ymdryn â'r rhai sy'n agored i niwed a'u
hadnabod**

**We all need to look beyond the obvious and
use professional curiosity when dealing with
and identifying those who are vulnerable**

Beth gallwch *chi* ei wneud? What can *you* do?

Goleuadau Traffig

Traffic lights



Pecyn Cymorth
Toolkit



Byddwch yn wyliadwrus am: Look out for:

- Fenthyciadau gan 'deulu/ffrindiau' heb unrhyw waith papur
Loans from 'family/friends' with no paperwork
- Taliad/gwariant rheolaidd heb esboniad
A regular unexplained payment/outgoing
- Nid yw incwm/gwariant yn adio
Income/expenditure doesn't add up
- Ôl-ddyledion – cyfandaliadau
Arrears – lump sum payments
- Newid mewn ymddygiad neu bersonoliaeth
Changes in behaviour or personality
- Ofni'r benthyciwr
Fear of lender

Llinell gymorth 0300 123 33 11

Hotline 0300 123 33 11

- Yn ddelfrydol, cefnogwch ddioddefwyr i'n ffonio eu hunain.
Mae mor bwysig 'manteisio ar y foment'!
Ideally, please support victims to phone us themselves. It's so important to 'seize the moment'!
- Os yw dioddefwyr yn amharod i gysylltu â ni eu hunain, a fyddant yn caniatáu i chi gysylltu â ni fel cyfryngwr?
If victims are reluctant to contact us themselves, will they allow you to contact us as an intermediary?
- Gall galwyr aros yn ddienw os ydynt yn dewis.
Callers can remain anonymous if they choose.

Cyfrinachedd.... Confidentiality....

*a
and*

.....diogelu
.....Safeguarding

Gwybodaeth allweddol:

Key Information...

- **Enw – llysenw, enw cyntaf, cyfenw?**
Name – Nickname, First name, Surname?
- **Cyfeiriad cartref, ardal y maent yn gweithredu ynddi?**
Address – Home address, area they operate in?
- **Cerbyd?**
Vehicle ?
- **Sut maen nhw'n gweithredu – llyfr, dull casglu?**
How they operate – Book, collection methods?
- **Manylion y benthyciad – swm, llog, gwaith papur, bygythiadau?**
Loan details – Amounts, Interest, Paperwork, threats?
- **Rhif ffôn?**
Phone number?

Un peth i'w gofio...

One thing to take away...

- **Edrychwch ar y dangosyddion pecyn cymorth**
Look at the toolkit indicators
- **Nodwch un dangosydd y gallech ei weld yn eich gwaith o ddydd i ddydd**
Note one indicator which you might see in your day to day work



Who ya gonna call?



We ain't afraid of no sharks...

imlu@cardiff.gov.uk

02920 871090

Facebook – Stop Loan Shark Wales

HOTLINE :- 0300 123 33 11