

Release date: 16/01/2011

SELF BUILD MORTGAGE LENDING TO REACH £1.9BN

THE annual UK Mortgage Market Map from Datamonitor has predicted a 141% growth in gross self build lending over the next three years, from £790m, to £1.9bn by 2015. It attributes this growth primarily to a higher profile in the media, and the Government's new proposals for supporting and growing the sector.

Whilst the wider UK mortgage market has yet to show any significant signs of recovery, with further contraction predicted in 2012, to £127bn, the self build sector has been hailed as 'one to watch' and is expected to be one of the best performers in the mortgage market over the next five years, according to the Datamonitor report. As well as doubling in size, the self build finance sector is also predicted to take share from the overall mortgage market, potentially representing over 1% of the UK residential mortgage market.

Raymond Connor, Chief Executive at BuildStore Financial Services, the self build finance market leader, comments:

"The predictions made in the Datamonitor report are in line with our own expectations for the performance of the self build market. As we have continued to grow our lender panel and introduce exclusive self build mortgage products, our finance enquiry levels throughout 2010 remained strong, with a 25% increase in mortgage completions the last six months of 2011, as compared with 2010.

"The appeal of the self build, or 'Custom Home Building' market is attracting more homeowners, and its potential to provide more quality homes has also attracted support from mortgage lenders and the Government. Through its new Housing Strategy, the Government has made a commitment to get the housing market moving again, particularly in respect of the supply of new homes and is intent on ensuring that the potential of the self build market is realised.

"As new reforms and policies come into force over the coming months, we expect to see a real shift, especially in terms of using self build to provide homes on a larger scale as part of community developments. Self build is an affordable housing option, with the added appeal of control over the design and specification of your home – it is rightfully placed to become a mainstream housing option in the near future."

ENDS

Notes to Editors

BuildStore is at the heart of the UK's self build and renovation sector, with a bespoke end-to-end offering of products and services, specifically designed to help self builders and renovators throughout their projects.

BuildStore's core services include:

- Land finding via PlotSearch, the UK's largest and most accurate online database of building plots, renovations and conversions. There are over 8,000 plots, renovations and conversions available, constantly validated for accuracy and include aerial photography
- Financial Services – BuildStore is the UK's leading provider of tailored self build and renovation mortgages, allowing funds to be released in stages throughout the project giving positive cash flow. Mortgages are sold direct to the public and via intermediaries
- Buying materials - BuildStore's TradeCard provides over 4,000 members with discounts and offers of building materials, plant and tool hire from leading suppliers and builder's merchants, by combining the buying power of the UK's self builders and renovators
- The UK's first and only National Self Build & Renovation Centre, opened in February 2007 in Swindon; an impressive 67,000 sq ft Centre designed to educate, inform and inspire self builders and renovators.

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