

#### **Intro**

- My opinion piece
- Not the opinion of SEI
- Stimulate debate and question the status quo
- Can we build solutions that serve our clients and wider society better?

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# Agenda

- Economic backdrop
- UK housing market
- Long-term investor behaviour
- Social lending
- DIY lending for long-term investors

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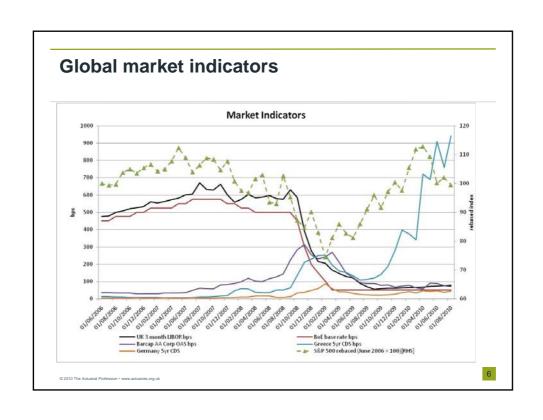


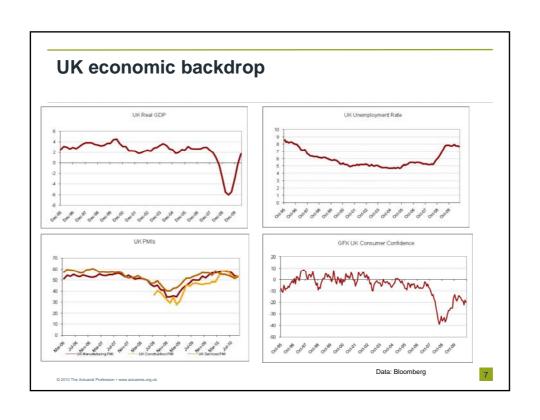
#### Markets in meltdown (2007 - 2008)

- · Loose mortgage securitisation, shadow banking
- Self cert, Ninja loans, CDO, CDO squared, CDO cubed..
- · US housing bubble burst
- · How much are securitised assets worth? Who holds what?
- · Declining trust
- · Impaired banking balance sheets, hedge fund blow-ups, asset write downs
- · Forced sale of Bear Stearns
- · The demise of Lehman Brothers

# The crisis continues (2008 – 2010)

- · Dislocation, interbank funding freezes, liquidity crisis, risky assets plunge
- · Government financial bailouts galore (e.g. Northern Rock, Bradford & Bingley, RBS, Citigroup, AIG, Bank of America)
- Madoff with the money
- BoE base rates to 0.5%
- · Quantitative Easing
- Risk transference to governments → European sovereign debt crisis
- UK cupboards are bare fiscal tightening, loose monetary policy
- A lot of uncertainty.... (high gold prices, low gilt yields, sideways equity markets)



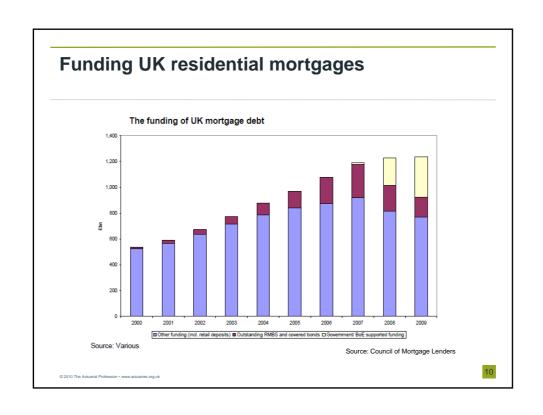


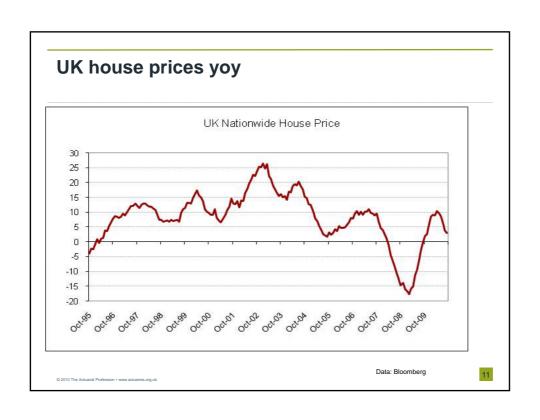


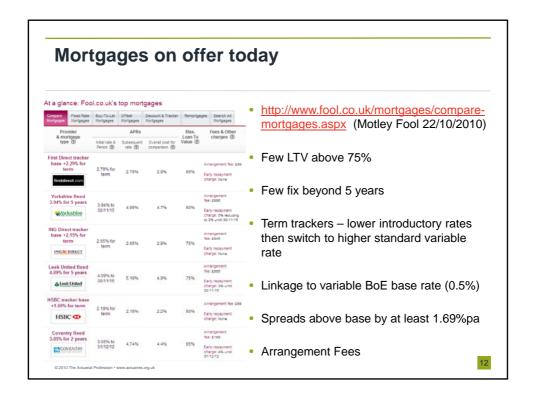
# **UK residential mortgages**

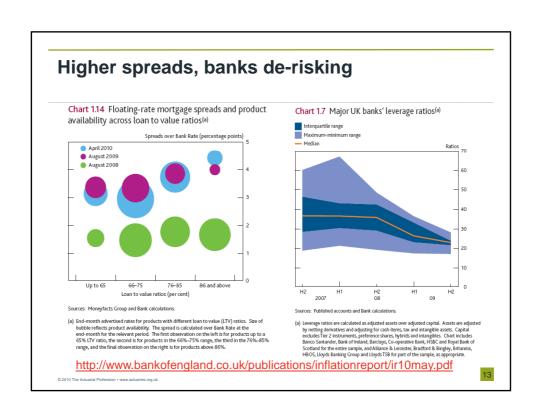
- Secured borrowing for purchase of a property
- Borrowing over many (often 25) years
- Security a function of probability of personal default & loan-to-value (LTV) at time of default
- Predominantly structured in the UK with reference to short-term interest rates (tracker, variable, short-term fixed rates)
- Often referenced to BoE base rates (or the lender's own reference rate) plus a spread

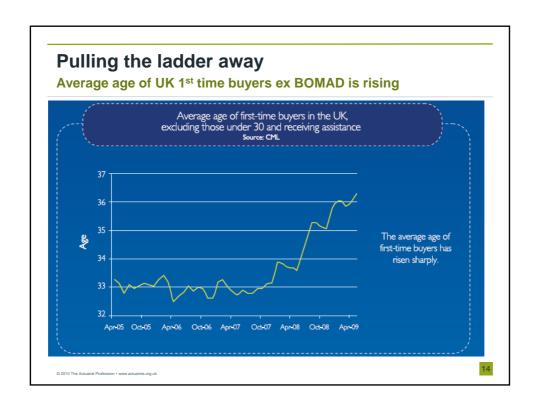
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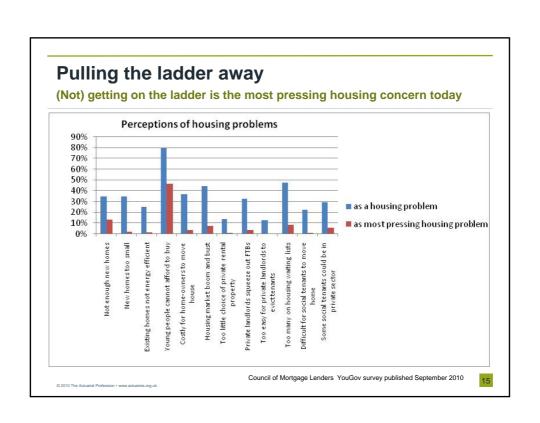


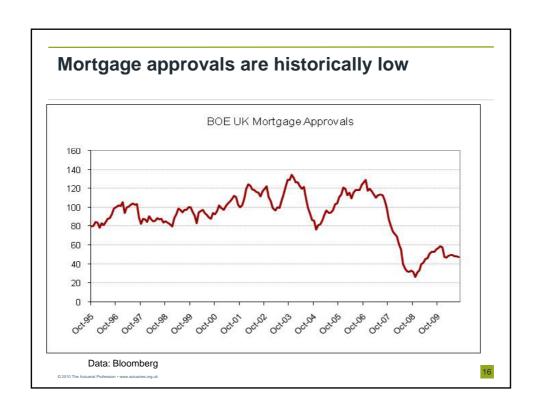










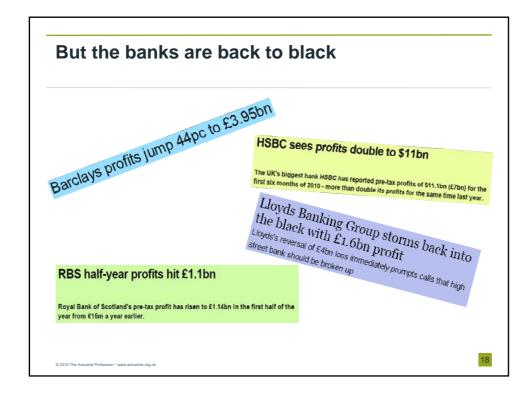


#### Is this a market failure?

An economic term that encompasses a situation where, in any given market, the quantity of a product demanded by consumers does not equate to the quantity supplied by suppliers. This is a direct result of a lack of certain economically ideal factors, which prevents equilibrium.

http://www.answers.com/topic/market-failure

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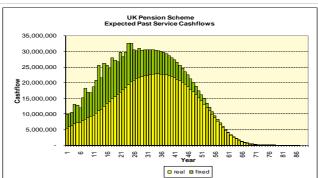
# Is there a need for a more competitive market?

- Are spreads fair?
  - Open question how much of the current mortgage product spread is proper compensation for credit and liquidity risk and how much is generating extraordinary profits to quickly repair impaired bank balance sheets?
- Why does a long-term financial contract not provide certainty over cash outflows?
  - How far might interest rates rise? How attractive is discounted / variable attractive in a rising interest rate environment? Does the public fully comprehend the present risks relating to sharply rising variable interest rates?
- Is demand being properly catered for by today's product range?
  - Why is it difficult to find products in the market that allow the interest rate to be fixed over 10-30 years?

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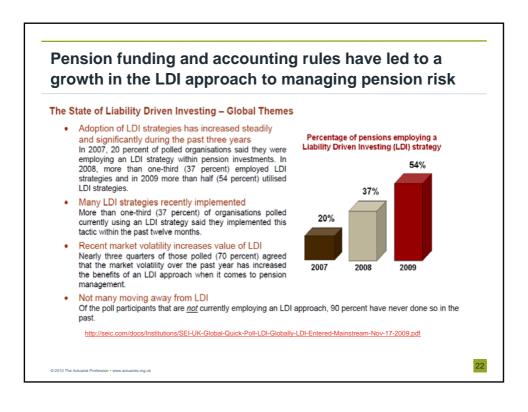


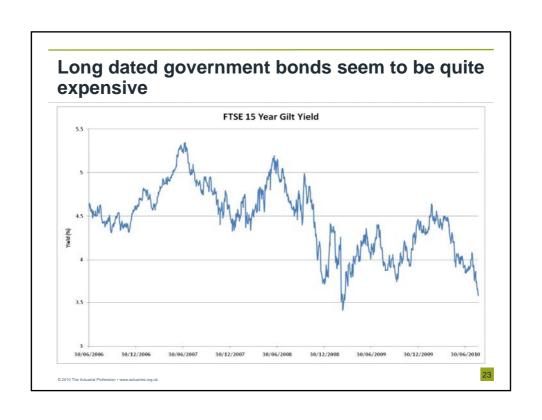
# Long tailed liabilities can be met by long dated / illiquid backing assets



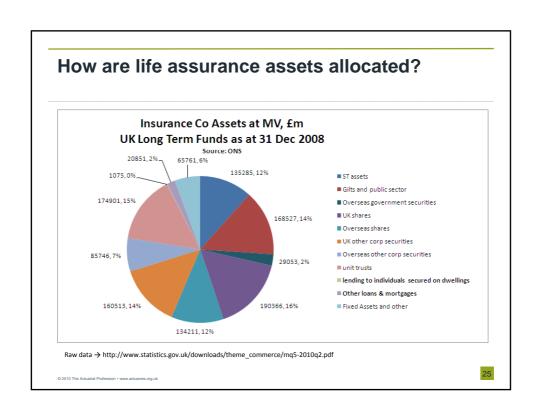
- Typical liability profile, closed scheme, horizon 85 years, includes expected taxfree cash outflows
- First 5 yrs → 15% of total PV, First 15 yrs → 46% Last 70 yrs → 54%, Last 60 yrs → 27%
- 20%-40% of the liabilities could be backed by assets not easily realisable

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#### How are pension assets allocated? Table 7.1 | Average asset allocation for all schemes in Purple 2006, Purple 2007, Purple 2008 and Purple 2009\* Purple 2009 Equities 61.1% 59.5% 53.6% 46.4% Gilts and fixed interest 28.3% 29.6% 32.9% 37.1% Insurance policies 0.9% 0.8% 1.1% 1.4% Cash and deposits 2.3% 2.3% 3.0% 3.9% Property 4.3% 5.6% 5.2% Other Investments - 'Other' N/A N/A Source: PPF/The Pensions Regulator \*Some columns do not sum to 100 per cent due to rounding. Government Corporate Index linked 2008 2009 2008 2009 2008 2009 2008 2009 2008 2009 Weighted average share 33.2% 29.0% 32.6% 38.3% 33.9% 32.6% 48.0% 44.2% 51.6% 53.8% 47.2% 45.6% 33.0% 37.3% 19.8% 17.1% 60.4% 57.6% 39.6% 41.7%



# Which best describes a long-term investor?

#### Distinction between two stylised extreme bond investors

Literature review of Liquidity Premium, Hibbert et al, Sept 2009

#### Buy-and-hold investor

- no need to sell before maturity
- · faces pure credit risk in holdings
- can earn illiquidity premium

#### Mark-to-market investor

- · Holding period less than maturity
- · Needs flexibility to liquidate investment at any time
- faces possibility that terms on offer at liquidation are less than favourable

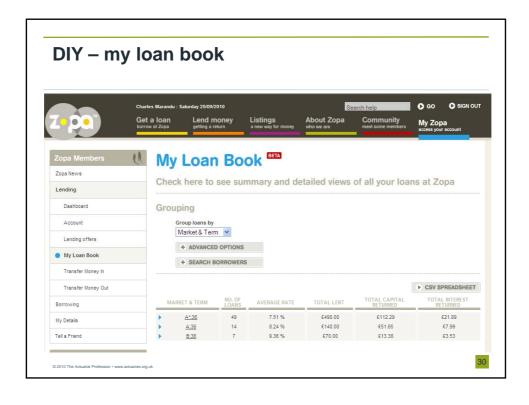
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## A social lending model

- · Peer-to-peer
- · Potential borrowers credit-rated and segregated into different markets
- Lender sets the rate offered to different borrowers (required return)
- Lender can analyse historical default trends to set required return
- The max lent to each borrower is £10 therefore £1000 is divided to 100 people
- The rate each borrower is quoted is a blend of different offers. Asking for £5000 is borrowing from 500 people at different offered rates.
- If the borrower accepts the offer overall, the interest rate the lender receives is the rate that particular lender offered

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# Social lending - catching on....?

#### Yahoo! Finance

"The benefits for borrowers are that interest rates available are typically 20% lower than the rate each borrower can get from a traditional lender and that there are no early repayment penalties. There is also the personal element and knowing that someone is getting a good deal by lending to you - not taking you for a fool. Of course with no big bank involved, borrowers who meet the strict credit criteria for Zopa will be side-stepping the current hikes in rates as banks try to recoup money lost in the credit crunch. This is the reason Zopa is booming right now - arranging twice the volume of loans month by month on this time last year - simply because the creditworthy part of the borrower market Zopa serves is being rejected or overcharged by the banks."

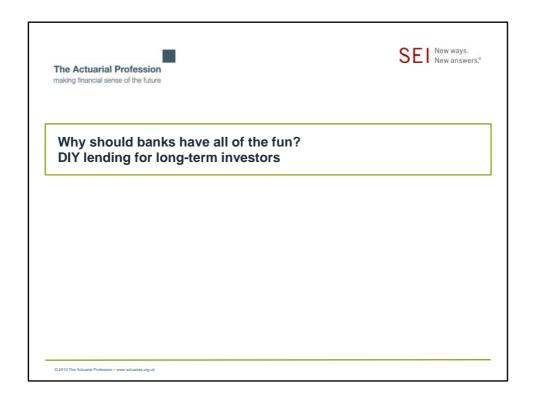
#### The Independent

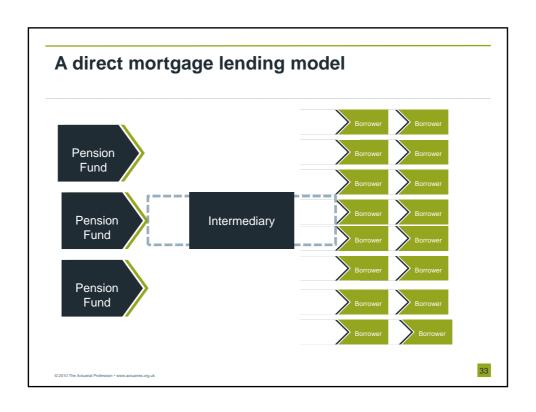
"With fewer overheads, Zopa lenders offer better rates: borrowers in the A\* market are currently enjoying an average rate of 8.1 per cent on loans of £5,000 over three years."

#### moneysavingexpert.com

"For top credit scorers, loan marketplace Zopa is cheaper. For A\* or A grade credit scorers wanting cash over a short period, it can beat most loan rates."

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#### A direct mortgage lending model

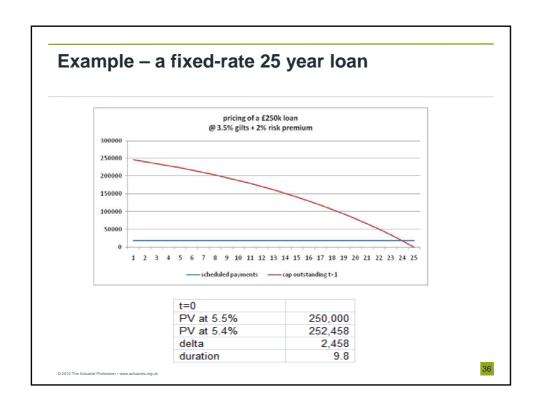
- · A number of institutional investors club together
- Lending to a wide & diversified pool of individuals
- Tough lending criteria individuals credit checked for creditworthiness
- Each borrower borrows a small sum from each participating investor
- · Participating investors drive the terms on offer
- · Interest rate, term of loan, early repayment penalties
- Investor can price using the gilt or swap curve to receive fixed for long-term e.g. a fixed rate for 25/30 years

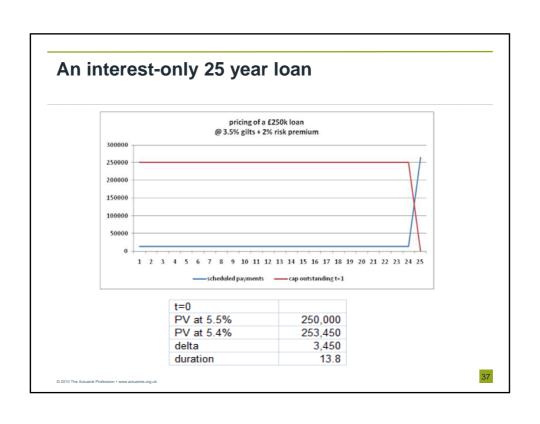
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## But, without securitisation

- Economic structure resembles a passthrough mortgage-backedsecurity
- Why trade out? No attempt to 'package' the mortgages into securities that are traded
- No CDO, CDO ^2, CDO^3
- No need to look to how current mortgages are being offered when deciding on product design
- Thus, features which appear to be standard in today's mortgage market can be tampered with to the benefit of both the borrower and the lender

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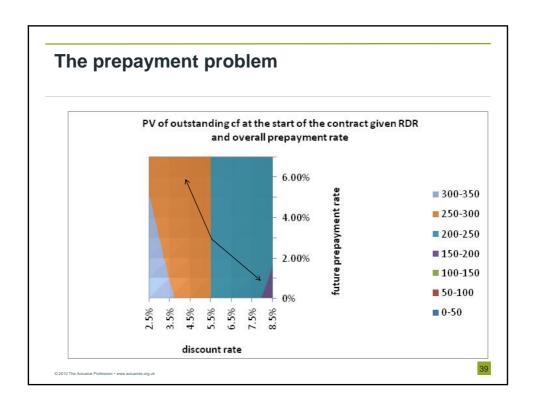




#### **Valuation**

- What is the value at t >0?
- · Changes in level of risk-free yields
- · Changes in illiquidity premia?
- · Changes in future prepayment behaviour
- Changes in credit conditions / anticipated defaults
- Mark-to-model / assessed value
  - → under Solvency II
  - → under UK pensions regulations
- Other illiquid asset classes e.g. property portfolio can be valued without requiring a transaction or screen price!

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#### The prepayment problem

- Early repayment option in the loans means the amount and timing of each cashflow not known with certainty
- How long will the loan remain outstanding (i.e. when will the capital balance be repaid?)

t=0	no prepay	prepay at 2%pa	prepay at 4% pa
PV at 5.5%	250,000	250,000	250,000
PV at 5.4%	252,458	251,902	251,587
delta	2,458	1,902	1,587
duration	9.8	7.6	6.3

- · Rate depends on
  - · characteristics of loans (e.g. the extent of ER penalties)
  - interest rate environment (path dependent)
  - availability of other loans (for refinancing at lower rate)
  - · housing turnover (jobs, mobility.. the economic environment)

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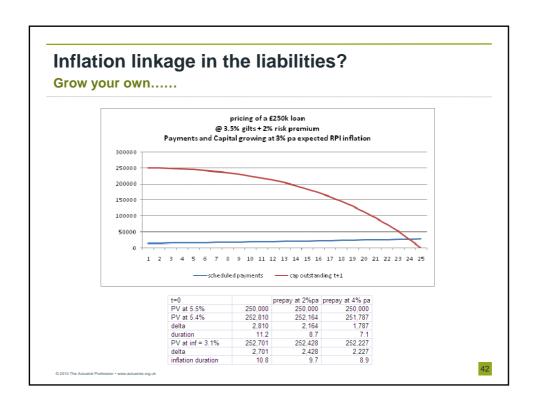
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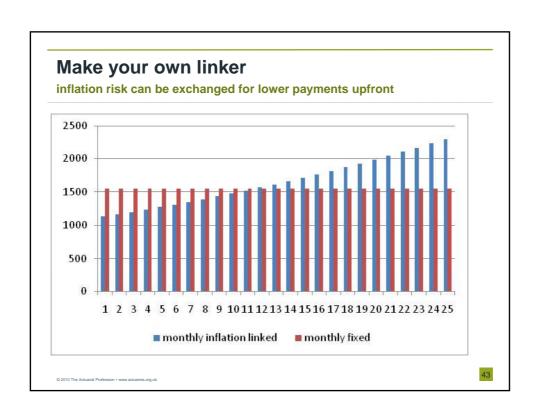
# The prepayment problem

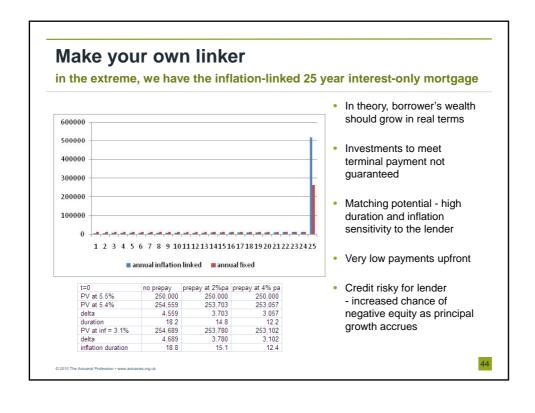
- · Slowing those early repayments
  - · Make it hard to early repay
  - Disallow unless special circumstances e.g. death, moving home(?)
  - Standard penalties e.g. percentage charge of capital outstanding inside a certain term
- Offer loan to that segment of market who are unlikely to significantly early repay
  - Encourage long-term thinking and behaviour by offering LT fixed rate over 25 years
  - Stress long-term commitment is required from both sides to the borrower (i.e. the lender won't change the interest rate ever during the term, nor redeem the loan early)

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Mortgage Type (£250k advanced over 25 years)	£ initial monthly repayments (indicative)	Туре	£ Terminal Payment (at end of scheduled term on pricing assumptions)
5.5% fixed repayment	1,553	level	-
5.5% interest- only	1,146	level	250,000
5.5% inflation- linked (3% inflation)	1,155	payments and capital inflation linked for life	-
5.5% inflation- linked interest only loan (3% inflation)	521	payments and capital inflation linked for life	523,444

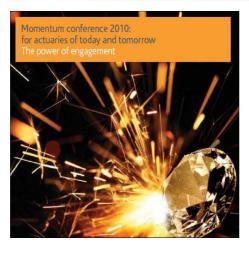


# **Summary**

- Structural over-reliance on bank lending for mortgages has hindered the proper functioning of the UK property market
- · Peer-to-peer lending points to a potential way forward
- Instead of fishing solely in liquid bond markets, long-term investors such as pension funds and annuity providers can find yield in mortgage lending
- The nature of the loans can be altered to better suit individuals and the investors
- Long-term investors should look use their unique position to positively influence the macro-economy

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# To get this started......



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- Actuaries
- · Investment consultants
- · Fiduciary managers
- · Pension fund trustees
- Insurance boards
- Lawyers

We need YOU!

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