



## SHIP WELCOMES LAUNCH OF ERSA

**(27 January 2009) Andrea Rozario, Director General of SHIP, comments on the official launch of the Equity Release Solicitors' Alliance (ERSA):**

*"The launch of the Equity Release Solicitors' Alliance (ERSA) is a step in the right direction for the industry as a whole. SHIP has always championed independent legal advice, and it is in fact a requirement for all solicitors working on an equity release case to sign a clause asserting their independence from the lender and the financial adviser, on the SHIP certificate.*

*"There are seven members of ERSA who together make up a large percentage of the legal market for equity release legal advisers, and the fact they have come together to promote the cause and help others to realise that this is likely to be an area of growing importance is very positive for the equity release industry.*

*"This is a vote of confidence from the legal sector and shows the customer that there are solicitors not only prepared to offer legal advice in this area but that several take it very seriously and can offer specialist advice. This show of dedication to equity release will be the first of many initiatives that will help to demystify the market and put equity release where it should be, a viable option to be considered with alongside all other options in retirement planning."*

**- ENDS -**

*For further information, please contact:*

- Suman Hughes / Beth Murray, The Wriglesworth Consultancy on 020 7427 1400 or email [ship@wriglesworth.com](mailto:ship@wriglesworth.com)
- SHIP Director General  
Andrea Rozario on 07946 378 363 or email [directorgeneral@ship-ltd.org](mailto:directorgeneral@ship-ltd.org)

### **About SHIP:**

Safe Home Income Plans (SHIP) is the UK trade body for equity release product providers, representing the interests of its members who provide home income and equity release plans. It was launched in 1991 to promote safe schemes. At present, 90% of the equity release market (in volume terms) is represented by SHIP members.