HOME OWNER AND DEBTOR PROTECTION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010

EXPLANATORY NOTES

THE ACT

Part 1 – Residential Standard Securities Etc.: Creditor's Rights on Default

Section 2 - court applications by creditor for remedies on default

- 15. Section 2 makes provision about court applications by a creditor under section 24 of the 1970 Act for warrant to exercise the creditor's remedies where the borrower defaults in a standard security over residential property. It sets out a new procedure applying to such applications, including applications required as a result of section 1 of the Act (i.e. following a calling-up notice or notice of default).
- 16. Section 2(2) inserts subsections (1A) to (1D) into section 24 of the 1970 Act. Subsection (1C) requires a creditor to fulfil the pre-action requirements specified at section 24A of the 1970 Act (see section 4(1) of the Act) before making a section 24 application in respect of a residential property.
- 17. Subsection (1D) provides that a section 24 application in relation to a residential property is to be by summary application procedure. This applies regardless of whether the application includes a crave for some other remedy. That ensures that in all cases the court will set a date on which it will hear the case and on which the debtor will have an opportunity to defend the case or make submissions to the court.
- 18. Sections 2(3) and 2(4) make minor consequential changes to the 1970 Act.
- 19. Section 2(5) inserts new subsections (5) to (9) into section 24 of the 1970 Act. Subsection (5) confirms that a court may grant any order that it thinks fit on the application but may only grant it if it is satisfied that the pre-action requirements have been complied with and it is satisfied that it is reasonable in the circumstances of the case to grant the application.
- 20. Subsections (6) and (7) specify the matters to which the court must have regard when considering a creditor's application in a case where the debtor appears or is represented (see section 5 of the Act for a case where an entitled resident makes an application). The matters in subsection (7) mirror the matters to which a court currently has regard in an application made under the 2001 Act. The matters are currently set out in section 2(2) of the 2001 Act (as amended by S.S.I 2004/468 to include reference to the Debt Arrangement Scheme established under the Debt Arrangement and Attachment (Scotland) Act 2002).
- 21. Subsection (9) clarifies the effect of a debtor remedying a default (within the meaning of standard condition 9(1)(a) or (b)) before a creditor has been granted decree in respect of a section 24 application in relation to a residential property. In those circumstances the standard security has effect as if the default had not occurred.