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**PROPERTY MARKET GETS A SPRING IN ITS STEP
AS BUYERS RETURN IN EASTER SURGE**

The Easter bank holiday is set to be the busiest weekend in the property market this year to date, according to PropertyIndex.com, which has recorded an accelerated increase in listings viewings between the first weeks of March and April of 200%. The number of potential buyers making an enquiry about properties has also surged by 30%, showing buyers are serious about reentering the market.

The encouraging increase in activity witnessed at the beginning of 2009 as buyers returned to the market has continued to surge and Easter, traditionally a busy season, will be even more important this year, signifying that consumer confidence and the market have now turned a corner.

Lee Bramzell, Chief Executive of PropertyIndex.com, comments:

"Agents can expect a bumper weekend over Easter as the buyers that have been waiting to see how the market fared at the start of the year and watching for further price falls are finally ready to return in force.

"Although it is still too early to talk about a market recovery with consumer confidence still fragile, the combination of more affordable prices, lower mortgage interest rates and speculation about the bottom of the market being reached, has encouraged buyers to make their move. Shrewd homeowners who still have at least 20% equity in their homes are realising that now is a sensible time to trade up to a larger property, which they couldn't previously afford. Activity is also being driven by first time buyers who have now saved the funds for the required deposit in the lower and mid-market locations and don't want to miss out on buying before prices start to climb again.

“Sensible sellers will have priced their property realistically and taken steps to make sure it stands out from the crowd during viewings in order to take advantage of the Easter rush.

“Lending is starting to pick up again and products are becoming more competitive. It is only a matter of time before mortgage approvals reach healthier levels and we can adopt a more positive out look towards future market prospects.”

-ENDS-

Notes to Editors

Launched in 2006, PropertyIndex.com is the UK's leading *pay for results* global property portal.

The site currently provides access to 250,000 properties for sale or rent across the UK and overseas, serving over 1,300,000 listings views in January 2009 alone. There is no sign up fee and agents listing their properties on the site pay on a cost per lead basis only.

After becoming established as the leading overseas property portal, PropetyIndex.com launched into the UK residential sales and letting arena in September 2008.

The portal also acts as an information centre, providing a one-stop solution for consumers looking to buy, sell, rent or let their home anywhere in the world.

www.propertyindex.com

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