

2022/23



FRIENDLY | HELPFUL | PROFESSIONAL

# Annual Newsletter

[www.metromoneywise.co.uk](http://www.metromoneywise.co.uk)

# Welcome to Metro Moneywise Credit Union's Annual Newsletter 2023

## A message from our CEO

It has been another challenging year for the UK economy, and forecasters have predicted that the economic outlook will get better, but not until late 2023. At Metro Moneywise we try our best to help members where we can, and last year we changed our loan policy so that **if you have a loan with us you can now access more of your savings.**

A lot of members use Metro Moneywise to save for a rainy day, and having savings to fall back on in challenging times has been a lifeline for a lot of members this year. So if you like being able to save directly from your salary, **recommend your colleagues and you will receive £20 for each new member that joins** as a result of your referral.

As Metro Moneywise is a financial co-operative our members receive a share of our profits (which we call a dividend) and the rate we pay is based on how much money we make the previous year. In January 2023 **we were pleased to pay members a 1% return on their savings** which is a good return

for a 12 month period when interest rates were still relatively low.

As we are now in a period of high interest rates we understand that members will want more certainty about how much you can earn on your savings. Therefore we will be looking at ways in which we can provide more reassurance to you that you will continue to get a good rate on your savings.

Our loan rates have always been extremely competitive, and as interest rates rise, borrowing rates will rise too, which means that **Metro Moneywise will become an even more attractive place to borrow.** So if you have any form of credit such as personal loans, credit cards, overdrafts or store cards we would encourage you to check the rate you are paying to see if you can get a better deal and save more with your credit union!



Ciara Davies, CEO

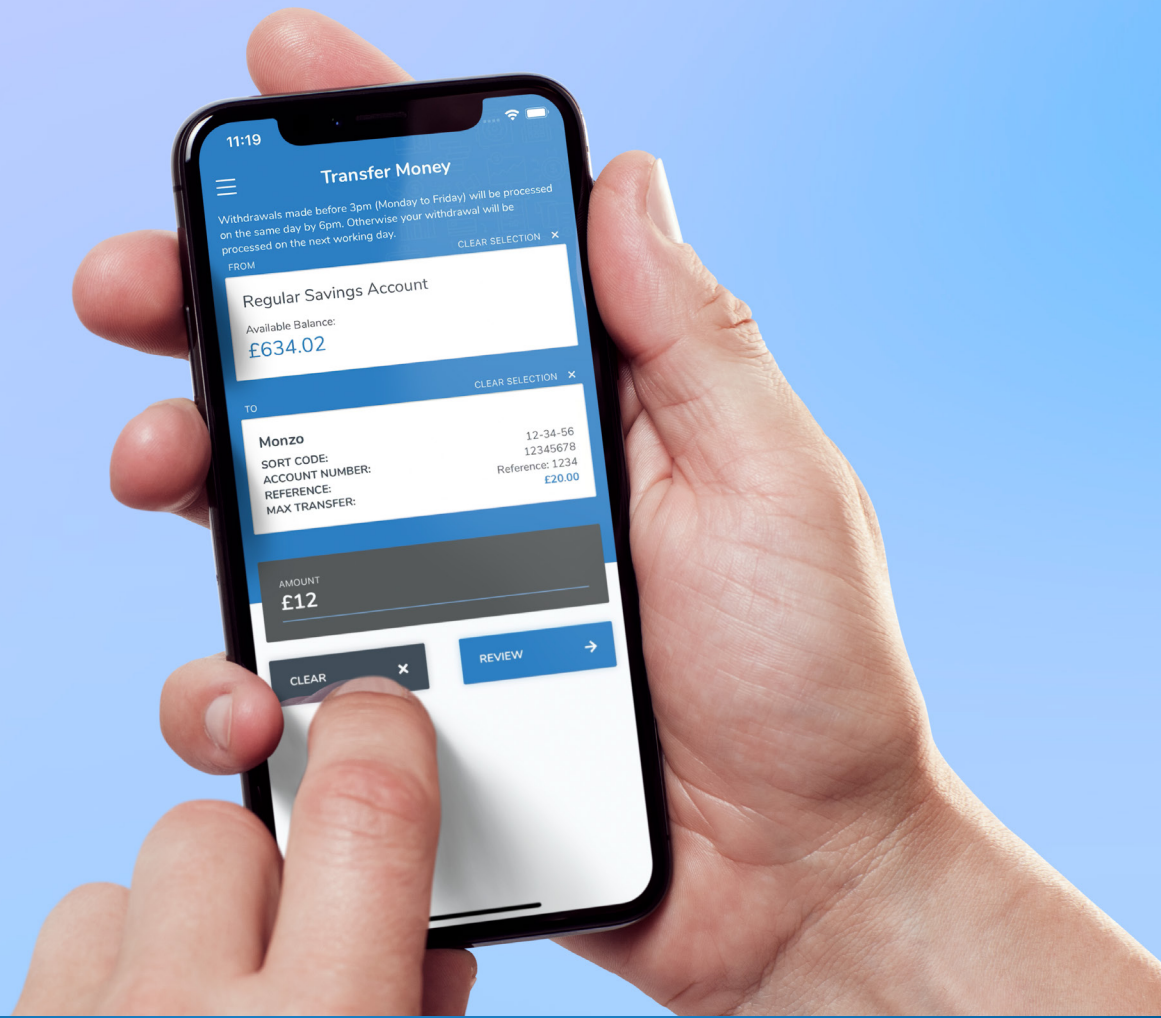


## Welcome to our new Chair Paul Parlby

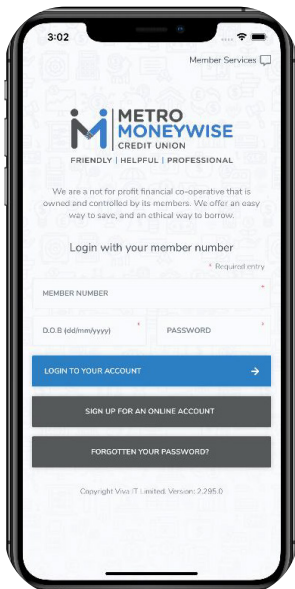
We welcomed Paul Parlby as the new Chair of the Board of Directors in September 2022, after Wendy McDermott stepped down due to work commitments.

Paul brings with him a wealth of experience in senior leadership roles and was previously the CEO of one of our Payroll Partners Crossroads Together. Paul now works as Head of Innovation for a national care charity.

Paul is ambitious about the future of Metro Moneywise and is working with the staff team to ensure that innovation and providing products and services that meet the needs of our members is top of our agenda.



# Have you downloaded the Metro Moneywise Credit Union App?



Our app allows you to see your balances and statements, message the team, send documents and apply for a loan and we will be adding even more features this year.

If you don't have a smart phone you can access the app on your computer, and don't worry we will still be here to answer your phone calls if you need to speak to us.

Because we now have an app we will be closing the online account portal on our website because as well as having more features, the app is also more secure. If you need help getting set up on the app our team will be happy to talk you through it, so just give us a call.



Scan the QR code to download from [the app store](#) or visit [apps.apple.com/gb/app/metro-moneywise-credit-union/id1590137763](https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/metro-moneywise-credit-union/id1590137763)



# Peace of mind with Metro Moneywise

If you are juggling several credit cards, personal loans or store cards you might want to think about consolidating them into one simple monthly repayment. Our helpful staff will work out if one of our low cost loans can put you in a better financial position, save you money in the long term or put more money back in your pocket every month.

If you are interested in finding out whether or not we can get you a better deal on your credit commitments, check out our handy guide to [Debt Consolidation](#) then contact the team on [info@metromoneywise.co.uk](mailto:info@metromoneywise.co.uk) or complete the loan application form on the app with how much you want to consolidate.

## New Payroll Partners

Along with the new payroll partners we mentioned in our Summer Newsletter, we are now in partnering with The **National Care Group** and the newly formed **NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership**.



Both organisations increase the number of organisations that we work with in the health and social care sector and we look forward to welcoming our new members.

## Metro Moneywise Pioneer Lottery

You've got to be in it to win it! Last year our Pioneer Lottery paid out **£28,000** in prize money, and made **£3,700** in charitable donations, including a donation to the Ukrainian Credit Union Displacement Fund. At this year's AGM our members voted to split the £1500 annual donation between the local branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association on behalf of one of our long standing members, and Rochdale and Middleton food banks.

Lottery tickets are £1 each and the maximum number of tickets you can buy is 10 per month, contact us at [info@metromoneywise.co.uk](mailto:info@metromoneywise.co.uk) to purchase your tickets.

### Metro Moneywise members benefit from:

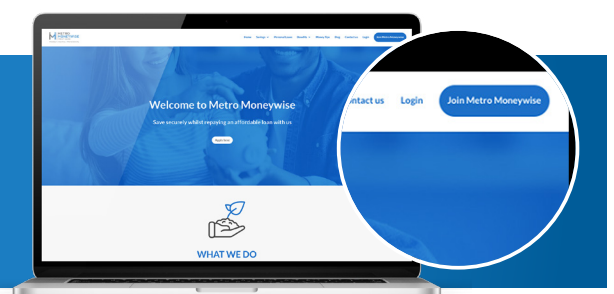
- Easy access to savings
- Ongoing financial support
- Annual dividend paid on savings
- Win up to £1000 in the monthly lottery



## To join, visit our website:

[www.securecuserver.co.uk/-metromoneywise/join+borrow/](http://www.securecuserver.co.uk/-metromoneywise/join+borrow/)

Join us



# Money worries? Talk to us

## You're not alone...

If you are worried about your debts and feel like you can't afford to keep up with your repayments, you can talk to us. If you have a loan with Metro Moneywise we can offer you a range of solutions and support to help keep you on track.

We know that people are being bombarded by adverts that promise hassle-free solutions that will write-off your debts, but if something seems too good to be true it probably is.

Debt solutions such as an IVA come with high fees which are paid off before your creditor receives a penny. If your IVA then fails your creditors can still chase you for what you owe even if you have paid

thousands in fees to the company you trusted to manage your debts.

Any formal debt solution will damage your credit score, which will affect your ability to apply for a mortgage or a private rented property, as well as your ability to apply for more credit if you need it.

If you are worried about your finances or tempted to enter into a formal debt solution give us a call and we'd be happy to provide more information to help you make an informed choice.



Call us on **01706 298966**

or email [info@metromoneywise.co.uk](mailto:info@metromoneywise.co.uk)



# Read our Member Quotes

We have been encouraging our members to leave us public reviews on Google.

This keeps us accountable and allows you to spread the word about Metro Moneywise. Here are just a few of our lovely 5 star Google reviews.

To leave us a review click here:

[Leave us a review](#)

Follow us on social media:



“I have been a saver with metro Moneywise for many years and I wouldn't put my money anywhere else. [The staff are very understanding, supportive and friendly!](#) I have also used their loan services and again, a fantastic service. Thank you x”

- Metro Moneywise Member



“To find a financial company that knows what it's like to live in the real world and endeavour to help. I will be able to get a good night's sleep tonight. Everyone were so understanding and didn't judge. Thank you!”

- Metro Moneywise Member



“Been with Metro Moneywise since the early 90s, it's a brilliant way to pay your way! [Save a little, borrow, pay back and still have your savings.](#) While I have the mobile app there is always someone helpful on the end of the phone. And I just won £1000 on the MM lottery yeahhh.”

- Metro Moneywise Member