



**PARAGON MORTGAGES PRESS RELEASE  
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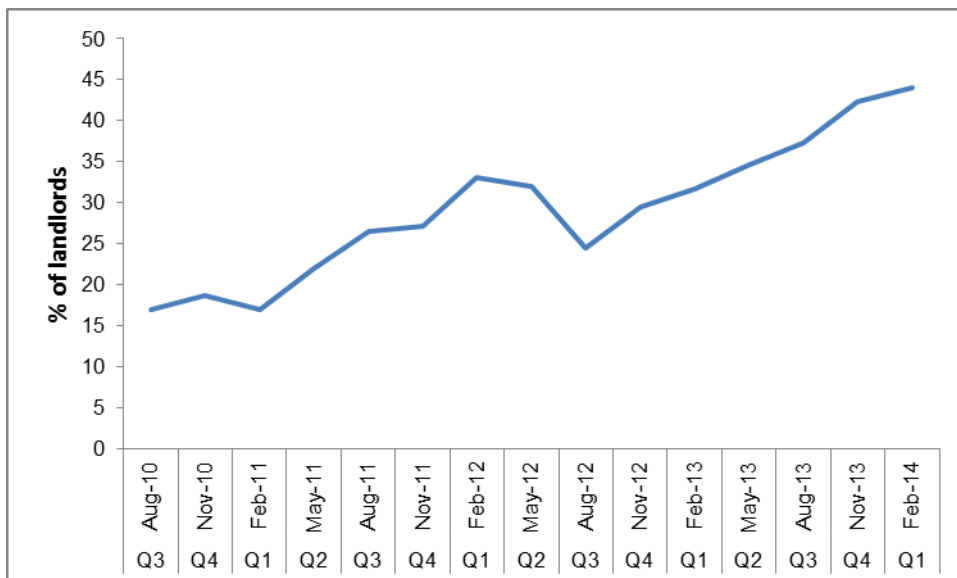
**LANDLORD VIEWS ON AVAILABILITY OF BTL  
FINANCE ON THE UP**

Landlords’ perception of the availability of buy-to-let finance is now at its highest post-crisis level, a survey by Paragon Mortgages has revealed.

The specialist buy-to-let lender’s PRS Trends survey of 200 landlord customers, found that in the first quarter of 2014 almost half of landlords (44%) felt that finance was readily available. This is a 2% increase on Q4 2013 and the highest level reached since the question was first asked in 2010.

Landlords’ views on the availability of buy-to-let mortgage finance have steadily become more positive, particularly during the last 12 months. Survey results show that confidence was at its lowest point during the first quarter of 2011 when just 17% of landlords thought that finance was widely or reasonably available.

Graph: Percentage of landlords that view BTL finance as widely or reasonably available



John Heron, Managing Director of Paragon Mortgages, said: "The availability of buy-to-let finance is vital to a healthy and competitive private rented sector.

"As the market has recovered we have seen the general improvement in confidence reflected in how landlords are feeling about the availability of buy-to-let finance. Just to put this in further context, Moneyfacts data shows that at the lowest point there were less than 200 products available however, the latest figures show that there are now more than 500. As we progress through 2014 I believe we will continue to see further growth in the private rented sector, greater confidence in buy-to-let lending and more innovation from buy-to-let lenders."

### **ENDS**

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### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

Paragon Mortgages is part of The Paragon Group of Companies, a FTSE 250 company. The Group is a specialist lender of buy-to-let mortgages to landlords and residential property investors in the UK through the Paragon Mortgages and Mortgage Trust brands, as well as a loan servicing provider and active acquirer of loan assets and portfolios.

Paragon Mortgages is a leading provider of buy-to-let mortgages and provides more complex, tailored lending propositions to the large-scale landlord market with a product range which caters for both professional and private investor landlords.

Paragon Mortgages introduced its first product aimed at the professional property investor in 1995 and is a member of the Council of Mortgage Lenders (CML), the Intermediary Mortgage Lenders Association (IMLA), National Landlords Association (NLA) and the Association of Residential Letting Agents (ARLA) Lenders' Panel.