



**PARAGON MORTGAGES PRESS RELEASE
29 APRIL 2014**

LANDLORDS SHOW GROWING CONFIDENCE IN BUY-TO-LET MARKET

- Optimism among landlords continues to remain high
- Landlords expect to increase buy-to-let investment by 5.6% in year ahead
- 5% rise in number of landlords expecting tenant demand to increase

In line with trends in Q4 2013, landlords remain positive about the buy-to-let market a report by Paragon Mortgages has revealed.

The specialist buy-to-let lender's quarterly PRS Trends survey findings show that 41% of landlords are more optimistic about prospects for their property portfolios, with large-scale landlords showing a higher level of optimism (43%) than small-scale landlords (33%).

Despite a slight reduction in the average portfolio size over the past three months, confidence in the market remains strong with landlords expecting to see an average net increase of 5.6% in property investment over the next 12 months.

Landlords are particularly positive about current levels of tenant demand, with 36% saying that this is either growing or booming. This figure is up by 2% since Q4 2013, whilst the proportion of landlords saying that tenant demand is falling has reduced slightly by just 1%. Looking forward, 37% of landlords expect tenant demand to increase in the next quarter, which is a 5% rise on the figure recorded three months ago.

John Heron, Managing Director of Paragon Mortgages, said: "We have seen a steady improvement in confidence among landlords over the past year as the housing recovery has gathered pace.

“Whilst market data would suggest that we are a long way from “boom” territory, this optimism among landlords is key to maintaining balance in the housing market and in ensuring that renters’ have more choice.

“To support this we need to continue to see the sort of progress that we have seen from buy-to-let lenders over the last year with further measured and responsible development of products and criteria.”

To read the full PRS Trends Q1 2014 report, click [here](#).

ENDS

For further information contact:

Victoria Lisowski

PR Manager

Tel: 0121 712 2563

Follow us on Twitter @PagPressTeam

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.