



*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 8 February 2005*

## **Five firms declared in default by FSCS**

Consumers may be entitled to compensation of up to £48,000 if they have lost money as a result of their dealings with any one of five firms recently declared in default by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). FSCS is the UK's statutory fund of last resort for customers of regulated financial services firms.

"It is important that consumers know where to turn if they have lost money and the firm can't pay," says Loretta Minghella, Chief Executive. "If they have had dealings with one of these firms, we may be able to help."

Declaring a firm in default opens the way for customers who have lost money, as a result of dealings with such a firm, to make a claim for compensation to FSCS. It is the final part of a process whereby a regulated firm (for example, a financial adviser) is deemed by FSCS to be unable to pay claims for compensation against it. Financial services firms are regulated by the UK's independent financial watchdog, the Financial Services Authority (FSA).

Consumers who believe they may have a claim should contact the Scheme on 020 7892 7300. The service is free. The limit for investment compensation is £48,000.

A list of the five investment firms is attached. Full address details are available from FSCS' website at [www.fscs.org.uk](http://www.fscs.org.uk). Consumers can also use the default database on the website to check to see if a firm they have dealt with previously has already been declared in default by the Scheme.

FSCS covers:

- investments,
- deposits,
- insurance,
- mortgage advice and arranging (from 31 October 2004), and
- advice about general insurance and the arranging of policies (from 14 January 2005).

**Press Enquiries:**

Suzette Browne: 020 7892 7372 [Suzette.Browne@fscs.org.uk](mailto:Suzette.Browne@fscs.org.uk)

Heather Tilston: 020 7892 7370 [H.Tilston@fscs.org.uk](mailto:H.Tilston@fscs.org.uk)

**Telephone:** 020 7892 7300

**Website:** [www.fscs.org.uk](http://www.fscs.org.uk)

**Default Declarations by FSCS**

8 February 2005

North West

**Edwin Hodgson Limited (in Liquidation)**, Preston PR3 6AJ

**Crumpsall Insurance Services Limited**, Manchester M8 6SF

South East

**Anthony Howard Easton, formerly trading as Hatton Financial Services**, Winchester  
SO22 4JL

**York Pollard Limited**, Epsom KT17 1HH

South West

**Ashford Parker Limited**, Cheltenham GL53 3TX