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PRESS RELEASE

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LEASEHOLD PROFESSIONALS COME TOGETHER FOR FIRST ALEP CONFERENCE

The Association of Leasehold Enfranchisement Practitioners (ALEP) for the first time brings together the most influential figures in their field on Thursday, 1 November, 2007 at the prestigious East India Club in London's St James's Square. Press are invited to attend (please request a press pass in advance).

ALEP is hardly six months old and dozens of solicitors, valuers, surveyors and Leasehold Enfranchisement intermediaries have already joined. The annual conference will be a chance for members and non-members to debate the issues affecting their industry, including the critical ruling in the "Sportelli" case.

President of ALEP and - until recently - the chief executive of the government-funded Leasehold Advisory Service Peter Haler will open the event. Haler plans to outline the critical need for professionals in this area to speak with a unified voice. He is expected to comment on the current confused and disorganised state of the legislation covering this area.

Two other short talks will be used to stoke questions from the audience and stimulate discussion:

- Chris Sykes of Sykes Anderson LLP is a solicitor and well known figure in the industry. He is a contributor to Legal Network Television and the author of the seminal "Leasehold Enfranchisement and the Right to Manage – A Practical Guide" published by the law society. His talk is entitled " The balance of power in enfranchisement – where is it and should it shift further toward the leaseholder".
- Andrew Pridell of Andrew Pridell Associates is a valuer and surveyor renowned for his outspoken opinions and entertaining delivery. He is the scourge of many a Leasehold Valuation Tribunal (LVT) hearing, has completed over 200 cases and is an expert witness in Leasehold Enfranchisement matters. His talk is entitled "The relevance of LVT determinations" when he will examine whether LVT hearings do and should affect future determinations.

Two simultaneous syndicates will take place. One will debate ALEP's roles in Leasehold Enfranchisement in one room and another will look at the importance of LVT decisions, in

another room. Syndicate chairmen will report back to the conference by 5.45pm and the AGM (members only) will begin at 6.00pm

BACKGROUND TO ALEP

Members of ALEP have proved that they have been involved in successful enfranchisement projects, they have the appropriate insurance and accreditations and agree to sign up to a set of standards and principles. ALEP has a strict code of practice and clear disciplinary procedure and will remove any member found to be in default.

ALEP undertakes a lobbying role and is a single port of call for media and others interested in understanding the present and future state of leasehold enfranchisement. It is the only cross-disciplinary membership body that represents professionals in the sector.

Notes to editors

Peter Haler and speakers are available for interview. Pictures are available.

Details on the legislation are available upon request.

Contact us at info@alep.org.uk or 0845 225 2277.

More information is available at www.alep.org.uk.