



Ministry of
JUSTICE

Good practice for case workers: The rocky pathways to recovery of maintenance

Date 7 March 2013

Programme

- **Introduction**
- **England & Wales Central Authority**
- **Share our experience**
- **Benefits**
- **Rocky pathways**
- **Good practice – going forward**
- **Commitment**

UK Model

Contracting State
Foreign Central Authority



Central Authority
REMO England &
Wales
Lord Chancellor

Central Authority
in Scotland
Scottish Ministers

Central Authority
in Northern Ireland
Department of Justice



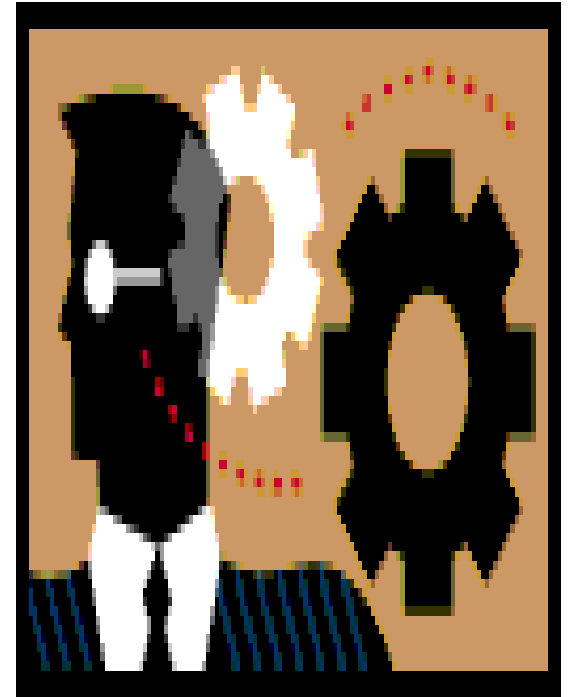
Competent Authority
(Over 200 UK Court's)

Competent Authority
(Sheriff Court's)

Competent Authority
(Magistrates' Court's)

England & Wales experience

- **Conventions and Agreements**
- **Culture change**
- **Increase in workload**
- **Restructure**
- **Resources**
- **Processes and practices**
- **Outreach work**
- **Translation costs**
- **Regionalising REMO work**
- **Building knowledge of processes operated in different countries**



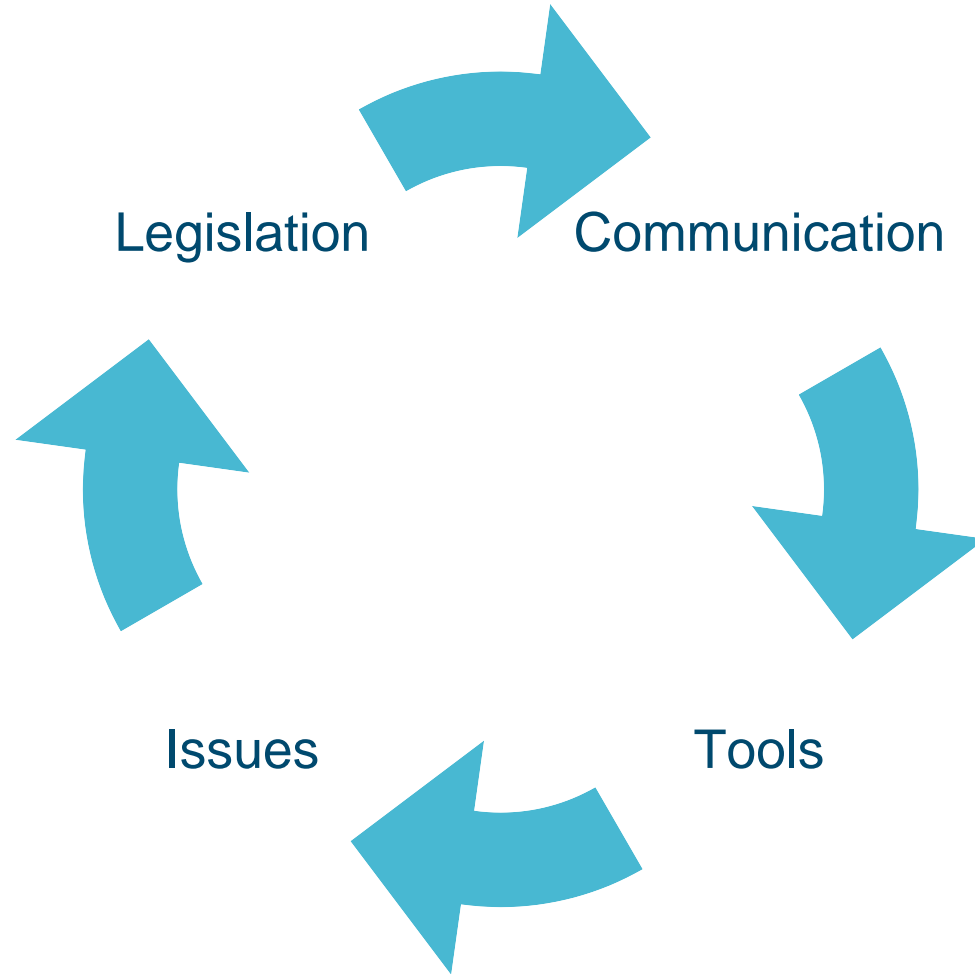
Case load

Period	Total number of Applications (Inc. Specific Measure Requests)
Jan - Dec 2011	1447
Jan - Dec 2012	2777
Increase	92%

Benefits of the Maintenance Regulation

- **Platform for good communication**
- **Common procedural rules across all Member States**
- **Location and assets and financial information**
- **Prescribed forms**
- **Timetable for updates**
- **Availability of Legal Aid**

Rocky Pathways



Good practice for case workers - Going forward

As a Member State

- Quality of applications
- Case management
- Information exchange
- Delegation of responsibilities and requirements
- Up to date details on the Judicial Atlas / database

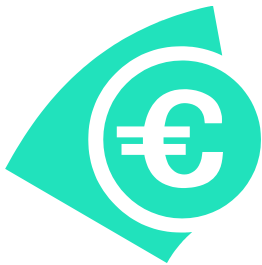
As a Group

- Exchange contact details
- Share guidance on best practice
- International forum
- Bilateral meetings

E & W - More information

- For more information about the operation of the Regulation in England and Wales is available on the Internet on both the GOV.uk website (www.gov.uk) - *the UK government's digital service providing information about public services* - and the Ministry of Justice website (www.justice.gov.uk).
- The REMO unit has set up a telephone helpline and a designated e-mail address REMO@offsol.gsi.gov.uk.

2007 Hague Convention



- **Lessons Learnt**
- **Prescribed forms**
- **Practical Handbook**
- **Country Profiles**

Joined up Member States working collaboratively to deliver results



Key to our success will be achieved by working together to improve co-operation and to ensure the effective recovery of maintenance.

Any questions ?
