

## **BRITISH BANKERS' ASSOCIATION**

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Dear Nicola,

## Restore UK - Helping people trace unclaimed accounts from the second world war period

I spoke to you last week concerning the Restore UK Project, the aim of which has been to identify and publish a list of names of unclaimed (dormant) accounts still in banks' books which relate to the second world war period.

An Independent Panel chaired by Lord Newton is looking at the process that the banks have applied in doing this work. When it met last Friday it decided that it would be a good idea for the BBA to write to the BSA to extend the invitation to any of your members, who feel they might be affected, to join the Scheme.

Accordingly, I set out for you the options we can offer to your members if they feel they do have such balances.

Seventeen banks are now part of the **Restore UK scheme**. Names from Government records relating to unclaimed accounts from this period in their books will be published on Restore UK's website on 8 May. The list will not identify names as being related to a particular bank, and the names will be published in a surname and initial format, which the Data Protection Commissioner's office has advised will protect confidentiality. A claim form will be published with the list and the Restore UK agency – staffed by bank secondees – will handle claims, forwarding them to the relevant banks.

A number of other banks are involved in a <u>second tier process</u>. Where Restore UK receives a claim which could be within the scheme dates, but where the name does not appear on the matched database (ie matching a Government record with a bank record), these claim details will be sent in regular spreadsheets to the 'second tier' group of banks, as well as to the banks in the Restore UK scheme. The second tier banks are those banks which have decided not to join the syndicate because they are almost sure that they have no relevant accounts. Because they cannot be completely sure, they have opted to receive these monthly circulars.



I should be grateful if you could bring the contents of this letter to the attention of your members. If any of them have any further questions, or wish to join the Scheme either as full a member or a second tier institution, please ask them to contact me.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

Ohristopher Rawlins