

Finance & Leasing Association



Key Facts

What is the FLA?

The Finance & Leasing Association (FLA) is the leading trade body for the asset, consumer and motor finance sectors in the UK, and the largest organisation of its kind in Europe.

Our members include banks of all sizes and their subsidiaries, the finance arms of leading retailers and manufacturing companies, and a wide range of independent firms.

Key Facts

In 2015, £110 billion of new finance was provided by members of the FLA to UK households, businesses and the public sector.

£81 billion of this was in the form of consumer credit to support purchases ranging from cars to household goods.

£29 billion was provided to businesses and the public sector, representing almost 32% of UK investment in machinery, equipment and purchased software in the UK last year.

At the end of 2015, FLA members had outstanding contracts with businesses and consumers worth £156 billion.

Why is the FLA important?

Our members support growth and jobs. For example, they help SMEs in the UK to grow and expand, providing them with almost £17 billion of finance to support investment in equipment in 2015.

They also support the economy by helping households to finance essential purchases like furniture, cars and electrical goods.

Research commissioned by the FLA, and conducted by Oxford Economics in 2015, found that the overall level of productivity among FLA members, measured in terms of output per worker, was more than five times the UK average, placing them in the top 5% of all UK industries.

Asset Finance

In 2015, FLA members provided £29 billion of new asset finance (primarily through leasing and hire purchase) to businesses and the public sector: almost 32% of all UK investment in machinery, equipment and purchased software in the UK.

Whenever organisations invest in tangible assets – whether office equipment, manufacturing plant, cars or aircraft – they will usually need affordable and secure funding. That's where asset finance comes in.

The FLA campaigns on behalf of its members to raise the profile of this type of finance generally, including with policymakers, to help ensure that asset finance plays a prominent role in the Government's efforts to increase lending to UK businesses.

Consumer Finance

In 2015, FLA members provided £81 billion of new finance in the form of consumer credit to support all kinds of purchases, from cars to household goods.

The Financial Conduct Authority implemented a new system of regulation of consumer credit in April 2014, and many aspects of the regime have not yet been finalised. The FLA plays a pivotal role by ensuring the new regulator understands the diverse markets we represent and in helping our members make sense of the new rules.

Motor Finance

In 2015, members provided £37 billion of new finance to help households and businesses purchase cars. 81.4% of all private new car registrations in the UK were financed by FLA members through dealerships.

The FLA's Specialist Automotive Finance (SAF) scheme, running since 2007, is designed and supported by the industry to improve the standard of car finance information in showrooms for the benefit of car buyers. Almost 27,000 staff have so far taken the SAF test.

Get In Touch

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