



**Procurement of Civil Legal Advice Services in England and Wales from 1 October 2018: Housing Possession Court Duty Schemes**

**Amendment Notice with effect from 28 November 2017**

On 12 October 2017, the LAA published an invitation to tender for Civil Legal Aid Services in England and Wales from 1 October 2018: Housing Possession Court Duty Schemes on its e-Tendering portal.

In accordance with paragraph 8.24 of the Information for Applicants document (“IFA”), Applicants are notified that the LAA has cancelled the Invitations To Tender (“ITTs”) in **two** Scheme Areas with immediate effect as detailed below:

1. ITT\_559 – Southwark Scheme Area; and
2. ITT\_543 – Islington Scheme Area

On 21 November 2017, HM Courts & Tribunals Service notified stakeholders that Lambeth County Court will close in December 2017.

Housing Possession Court Duty Scheme (HPCDS) cases listed at Lambeth County Court were previously expected to transfer to Inner London Court when Lambeth County Court closed. Accordingly, the LAA’s procurement process includes an ITT for the Southwark Scheme Area with Contract Work being undertaken at Inner London Court, as set out in Annex A of the HPCDS Contract IFA.

That expectation is no longer correct. HM Courts & Tribunal Service’s 21 November notification confirms that Possession cases should be listed in Clerkenwell and Shoreditch County Court.

From 8 January 2018, this HPCDS work will now transfer to Clerkenwell and Shoreditch County Court. Clerkenwell and Shoreditch County Court sits within the Islington Scheme Area ITT.

The confirmation of this closure and transfer to another Scheme Area means that the LAA is unable to give Applicants interested in delivering Contract Work in either of these Schemes Areas sufficient time to consider the impact on their Tenders.

As a result, the LAA is cancelling the ITTs in both Southwark and Islington Scheme Areas. It will publish further information regarding the procurement of this HPCDS Contract Work as soon as possible.

The deadline for all remaining Scheme Areas remains **5pm on 4 December 2017**.

In accordance with paragraph 8.22 of the IFA, Applicants are notified that the LAA has amended the IFA to remove references to the Southwark and Islington Scheme Areas.

**IFA Version 2** incorporates all of the amendments in this notice. IFA Version 2 is available via the 'Buyer Attachment' link within the e-tendering system and on the [Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) website.

### **Requirements upon Applicants**

Applicants are required to refer to IFA Version 2 when preparing their Tender.

Where an Applicant submits a Tender for the Southwark and/or the Islington Scheme Area ITTs or where the Applicant is subject to the Capacity Assessment in the HPCDS Applicant ITT and designates the Southwark and/or the Islington Scheme Areas as part of its Core Bid, the LAA will not assess this element of the Tender.

Applicants are reminded that as set out at paragraph 8.20 of the IFA they may re-submit their Tender at any time up to the Deadline