



Ministry  
of Justice

# LASPO Post-Implementation Review

## Criminal Law Consultative Group - Meeting 1

The consultations that preceded LASPO were published over seven years ago and since this time there have been significant developments in our justice system. As such, the Government plans to use the evidence gathered at this meeting to inform both the review and its wider consideration on the future of legal support in the justice system.

The agenda below outlines the suggested topics for discussion and is not exhaustive. The consultative groups are just one facet of the evidence gathering process to inform the post-implementation review and the review team will also facilitate meetings with interested parties on a small group or individual basis. Submissions of analytical evidence can also be made to [laspreviewmoj@justice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:laspreviewmoj@justice.gsi.gov.uk) for consideration.

### Introduction by Chair.

#### Topic One – The impact of eligibility changes on people.

- a. The impact of changes to eligibility criteria on people.
- b. The impact of changes on the incidence and experience of unrepresented defendants and their passage through the court system.
- c. Evidence gaps in this area.

#### Topic Two – The impact of remuneration changes on recipients and providers of legal aid.

- a. The impact on the provision of legal aid services that may have affected the experiences of individual recipients.
- b. The impact of changes on the demographics of the legal aid professions.
- c. The impact of changes to remuneration aimed at reducing the incidence of adjournments and cracked trials on recipients of legal aid.
- d. Evidence gaps in this area.

#### Topic Three – The impact of scope changes on people.

- a. The impact on changes to scope on the experiences of prisoners and the provision of services.
- b. The impact of the introduction of Exceptional Case Funding on the experiences of prisoners.
- c. Evidence gaps in this area.



**Topic Four – The impact of changes to remuneration of expert witnesses.**

- a. The availability and quality of expert witnesses.
- b. Evidence gaps in this area.

**Topic Five – The impact of changes to provision for Very High Cost Cases (VHCCs).**

- a. The impact of the changes made to VHCCs since LASPO on the experiences of individuals and providers.
- b. Evidence gaps in this area.

**Conclusions** – What to expect for the next group meeting and how external evidence can be submitted.

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# LASPO Post-Implementation Review

## Civil Law Consultative Group – Meeting 1

The consultations that preceded LASPO were published over seven years ago and since this time there have been significant developments in our justice system. As such, the Government plans to use the evidence gathered at this meeting to inform both the review and its wider consideration on the future of legal support in the justice system.

The agenda below outlines the suggested topics for discussion and is not exhaustive. The consultative groups are just one facet of the evidence gathering process to inform the post-implementation review and the review team will also facilitate meetings with interested parties on a small group or individual basis. Submissions of analytical evidence can also be made to [lasporeviewmoj@justice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:lasporeviewmoj@justice.gsi.gov.uk) for consideration.

### Introduction by Chair.

#### Topic One – the impact of changes to scope (civil non-family) on people, legal aid providers and the justice system.

- a. The impact of changes to scope in each category of law on people, and whether the impact has been uniform.
- b. The impact of changes to scope on the experiences of people accessing the court system, and the court system itself.
- c. The impact of changes to legal aid provision on the methods through which people seek to solve their legal matters that are no longer within scope.
- d. The extent to which the changes ensured that legal aid is targeted at those who need it most.
- e. The impact of the changes on legal aid providers.
- f. Evidence gaps in this area.

#### Topic Two – The impact of the Exceptional Case Funding (ECF) scheme on people and providers.

- a. The impact of the operation and implementation of ECF on people and providers.
- b. The extent to which ECF is ensuring legal aid is available for those who need it most.
- c. Evidence gaps in this area.

#### Topic Three – the impact of changes to eligibility on individuals.



- a. The impact of changes to merits tests on recipients of legal aid, and those who are longer eligible for legal aid.
- b. The impact of the removal of capital passporting on individuals and providers.
- c. Evidence gaps in this area.

**Topic Four – the impact of changes to remuneration on recipients and providers of legal aid.**

- a. The impact of changes on the provision of legal aid services that may have affected the experiences of individual recipients.
- b. The impact of changes on the demographics of the legal aid professions.
- c. Evidence gaps in this area.

**Topic Five - the impact of changes to encourage alternative routes of resolution and alternative methods of accessing advice.**

- a. The impact of the changes to encourage provision, utilisation and development of mediation and other alternative routes of resolution on the experiences of individuals and providers.
- b. The impact of the changes to mandate the use of telephone advice in certain categories of law on the experiences of individuals and providers.
- c. The extent to which these changes have discouraged unnecessary and adversarial litigation at the public expense.
- d. The role and nature of alternative routes of resolution in the future.
- e. Evidence gaps in this area.

**Topic Six – the impact of changes to remuneration of expert witnesses.**

- a. The availability and quality of expert witnesses.
- b. Evidence gaps in this area.

**Conclusions** – What to expect for the next group meeting and how external evidence can be submitted.

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## LASPO Post-Implementation Review

### Family Law Consultative Group – Meeting 1

The consultations that preceded LASPO were published over seven years ago and since this time there have been significant developments in our justice system. As such, the Government plans to use the evidence gathered at this meeting to inform both the review and its wider consideration on the future of legal support in the justice system.

The agenda below outlines the suggested topics for discussion and is not exhaustive. The consultative groups are just one facet of the evidence gathering process to inform the post-implementation review and the review team will also facilitate meetings with interested parties on a small group or individual basis. Submissions of analytical evidence can also be made to [lasporeviewmoj@justice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:lasporeviewmoj@justice.gsi.gov.uk) for consideration.

#### Introduction by Chair.

#### Topic One – the impact of changes to scope on people, legal aid providers and the justice system.

- a. The impact of changes to scope on people, and whether the impact has been uniform.
- b. The impact of changes to scope on the experiences of people accessing the court system, and the court system itself.
- c. The impact of the evidence requirements on victims of domestic violence and providers.
- d. How people who have issues no longer in scope of legal aid are now resolving their problems.
- e. The impact of the changes on legal aid providers.
- f. Evidence gaps in this area.

#### Topic Two – The impact of the Exceptional Case Funding (ECF) scheme on people and providers.

- a. The impact of the creation of ECF on the experiences of people, and whether there are any particular groups that have disproportionately affected.
- b. The impact of the operation and implementation of ECF on people and providers.
- c. The extent to which ECF is ensuring legal aid is available for those who need it most.
- d. Evidence gaps in this area.



**Topic Three - the impact of changes to encourage alternative routes of resolution and alternative methods of accessing advice.**

- a. The impact of the changes to encourage provision, utilisation and development of mediation and other alternative routes of resolution on the experiences of individuals and providers.
- b. The extent to which these changes have discouraged unnecessary and adversarial litigation at the public expense.
- c. Evidence gaps in this area.

**Topic Four – the impact of changes to eligibility on people.**

- a. The impact of changes to merits tests on recipients of legal aid, and those who are longer eligible for legal aid.
- b. The impact of changes capping subject matter of dispute disregards on people and providers.
- c. The impact of the removal of capital passporting on individuals and providers.
- d. Evidence gaps in this area.

**Topic Five – the impact of changes to remuneration on recipients and providers of legal aid.**

- a. The impact of changes on the provision of legal aid services that may have affected the experiences of individual recipients.
- b. The impact of changes on the demographics of the legal aid professions.
- c. Evidence gaps in this area.

**Topic Six – the impact of changes to remuneration of expert witnesses.**

- a. The availability and quality of expert witnesses.
- b. Evidence gaps in this area.

**Conclusions** – What to expect for the next group meeting and how external evidence can be submitted.

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## LASPO Post-Implementation Review

### Advice and Third Sector Consultative Group – Meeting 1

The consultations that preceded LASPO were published over seven years ago and since this time there have been significant developments in our justice system. As such, the Government plans to use the evidence gathered at this meeting to inform both the review and its wider consideration on the future of legal support in the justice system.

The agenda below outlines the suggested topics for discussion and is not exhaustive. The consultative groups are just one facet of the evidence gathering process to inform the post-implementation review and the review team will also facilitate meetings with interested parties on a small group or individual basis. Submissions of analytical evidence can also be made to [lasporeviewmoj@justice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:lasporeviewmoj@justice.gsi.gov.uk) for consideration.

#### Introduction by the Chair.

#### Topic One – the impact of changes to scope on people, advice and third sector providers and the justice system.

- a. The impact of changes to scope on demand for legal support from the advice and third sector (both in terms of legal advice and representation).
- b. The impact of changes to scope on the provision of legal support services from the advice sector.
- c. The impact of changes to scope on the experiences of people, and whether the impact has been uniform.
- d. The impact of changes to scope on distribution of legal support services geographically or by jurisdiction.
- e. How people who have issues no longer in scope of legal aid are now resolving their problems.
- f. The impact of changes on the demographics of the advice and third sectors.
- g. The role and nature of future legal support in the advice and third sectors.
- h. Evidence gaps in this area.

#### Topic Two – the impact of changes to eligibility on people and the advice sector.

- a. The impact of changes to eligibility on the experiences of people and the advice sector.
- b. The impact of changes to eligibility on the demands of people seeking advice and support from the advice and third sectors.
- c. Evidence gaps in this area.



**Topic Three - the impact of changes to encourage alternative routes of resolution and alternative methods of accessing advice.**

- a. The impact of the changes to encourage provision, utilisation and development of mediation and other alternative routes of resolution on the experiences of individuals and providers.
- b. The extent to which these changes have discouraged unnecessary and adversarial litigation at the public expense.
- c. Evidence gaps in this area.

**Topic Four – the impact of changes to remuneration on recipients and providers of legal aid services in the advice and third sectors.**

- a. The impact of changes on the provision of legal aid services that may have affected the experiences of individual recipients.
- b. The impact of changes on the demographics of the advice and third sectors.
- c. Evidence gaps in this area.

**Topic Five – the impact of changes to legal aid on the development of new forms of legal support provision by the advice and third sectors.**

- a. The impact of the changes made under LASPO on the development of the provision of legal support services.
- b. The impact of the changes made under LASPO on the needs of people seeking support from the advice and third sectors and how this has influenced provision.
- c. Evidence gaps in this area.

**Conclusions** – What to expect for the next group meeting and how external evidence can be submitted.

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