



Legal Aid
Agency

- **Equality and Diversity Information**
 - **for**
 - **Civil Legal Aid Service Users**
2012-2013

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About the Legal Aid Agency (LAA)

The LAA was established on 1 April 2013 as an Agency of the Ministry of Justice (MoJ). The LAA replaced the Legal Services Commission (LSC) which was a non-departmental public body sponsored by MoJ. The content of this report relates to information that was collated in relation to the services delivered by the LSC.

The LSC and LAA are responsible for the delivery of legal aid services in England and Wales. Legal aid helps ensure access to justice by providing high quality advice, information and representation to people who would not otherwise be able to afford it. Each year the LSC helped more than two million people to deal with their legal problems. The LSC and LAA work in partnership with solicitors and not-for-profit organisations to provide services to help people in need.

Up until 31 March 2013 the LSC operated the Community Legal Advice (0845 345 4345), a helpline offering free, confidential and independent legal advice. From 1 April 2013, the Community Legal Advice service was replaced by the Civil Legal Advice service (0845 345 4345).

About the information in this paper

In this paper we publish equality and diversity information about cases granted legal aid for civil legal aid matters during 2012-2013. Information about applications for legal aid via the Community Legal Advice is published in a separate document.

We invite applicants for legal aid to tell us some useful equal opportunities information. This is entirely voluntary and has no bearing on their application for legal aid. The information provided is treated in confidence and used only for statistical purposes. It allows us to monitor the diversity profile of our service users and inform decisions about their likely needs.

This is the third such publication under the Equality Act 2010. For information about previous years see our Equalities Annual Reports that are archived on the National Archive website:
http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20120405104906/http://www.legalservices.gov.uk/aboutus/how/equality_and_diversity.asp

Other MoJ Corporate Equality Information is available on the MoJ Justice website at <http://www.justice.gov.uk/information-access-rights/transparency-data/ministry-of-justice-equality-information-and-objectives/corporate-equality-information>

Table 1 Legal Help 2012-13 Gender

Category	Total	Female	Male	Unknown
Actions against the police	2,549	680	1,866	3
Community care	4,714	2,396	2,309	9
Consumer	475	257	218	0
Debt	62,766	36,139	26,562	65
Education	934	714	220	0
Employment	6,559	3,227	3,322	10
Housing	66,568	39,379	27,146	43
Immigration - Asylum	39,518	10,225	28,344	949
Immigration - Nationality	23,270	9,635	13,555	80
Family	182,608	117,757	64,689	162
Clinical negligence	3,179	1,414	1,763	2
Mental health	43,113	15,054	28,004	55
Miscellaneous	384	226	157	1
Personal injury	457	210	247	0
Public law	1,183	461	722	0
Welfare benefits	72,441	37,312	35,040	89
Total	510,718	275,086	234,164	1,468

Table 2 Legal Help 2012-13 Age¹

Category	18 and under	19-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	Over 65
Actions against the police	115	442	645	643	471	156	72
Community care	594	531	795	920	827	470	389
Consumer	5	31	60	108	117	82	71
Debt	229	7,825	14,050	15,739	14,934	7,436	2,427
Education	52	64	209	373	196	28	5
Employment	114	1,072	1,793	1,619	1,327	541	53
Housing	976	9,497	16,681	17,660	13,723	5,513	2,354
Immigration - Asylum	4,020	9,429	14,446	7,250	2,387	877	1,519
Immigration - Nationality	883	3,556	8,408	6,367	2,587	900	597
Family	2,989	30,938	61,236	51,263	25,259	7,448	2,406
Clinical negligence	160	409	764	681	561	314	274
Mental health	1,326	5,600	11,125	11,266	8,034	3,258	2,426
Miscellaneous	22	49	68	75	80	44	46
Personal injury	35	93	128	102	75	21	4
Public law	134	162	315	243	194	85	48
Welfare benefits	940	3,962	10,199	18,130	23,500	13,405	2,020
Total	12,594	73,660	140,922	132,439	94,272	40,578	14,711

¹ There were no unknown ages for any applicants.

Table 3 Legal Help 2012-13 Ethnicity: aggregate

Category	White British, White Irish & White other	Black or Black British African or Black British Caribbean or Black British Other	Asian or Asian British Indian or Asian British Pakistani or Asian British Bangladeshi or Asian British Other	Chinese	Mixed White & Black Caribbean or Black African or Asian; & Mixed Other	Other	Unknown
Actions against the police	1,315	247	113	0	56	96	722
Community care	2,227	702	392	15	47	501	830
Consumer	335	24	23	0	6	30	57
Debt	51,085	4,748	2,728	62	1,016	1,279	1,848
Education	424	191	82	1	17	47	172
Employment	4,513	737	435	14	114	229	517
Housing	42,817	9,314	4,064	127	1,398	3,466	5,382
Immigration - Asylum	1,077	10,445	9,892	1,015	447	13,936	2,706
Immigration - Nationality	1,890	9,708	4,155	314	425	5,438	1,340
Family	138,641	5,567	7,519	158	1,504	5,513	23,706
Clinical negligence	1,702	77	84	1	40	63	1,212
Mental health	29,463	4,319	2,016	91	750	1,268	5,206
Miscellaneous	260	17	14	0	6	20	67
Personal injury	327	22	16	1	11	29	51
Public law	424	227	116	7	21	127	261

Category	White British, White Irish & White other	Black or Black British African or Black British Caribbean or Black British Other	Asian or Asian British Indian or Asian British Pakistani or Asian British Bangladeshi or Asian British Other	Chinese	Mixed White & Black Caribbean or Black African or Asian; & Mixed Other	Other	Unknown
Welfare benefits	52,813	6,499	5,806	142	998	3,633	2,550
Total	329,313	52,844	37,455	1,948	6,856	35,673	46,627

Table 4 Legal Help 2012-13 Ethnicity: black disaggregate

Category	Black British African	Black British Caribbean	Black British Other
Actions against the police	97	122	28
Community care	476	177	49
Consumer	12	10	2
Debt	2,493	1,880	375
Education	113	57	21
Employment	432	236	69
Housing	5,919	2,683	712
Immigration - Asylum	9,927	357	161
Immigration - Nationality	7,645	1,809	254
Family	2,728	2,211	628
Clinical negligence	32	35	10
Mental health	1,908	1,939	472
Miscellaneous	7	8	2
Personal injury	11	9	2
Public law	141	70	16

Category	Black British African	Black British Caribbean	Black British Other
Welfare benefits	4,247	1,680	572
Total	36,188	13,283	3,373

Table 5 Legal Help 2012-13 Ethnicity: Asian disaggregate

Category	British Indian	British Pakistani	British Bangladeshi	Asian other
Actions against the police	24	46	13	30
Community care	55	93	54	190
Consumer	9	6	2	6
Debt	547	857	683	641
Education	17	24	14	27
Employment	116	139	52	128
Housing	750	1,178	934	1,202
Immigration - Asylum	855	2,996	705	5,336
Immigration - Nationality	655	1,327	589	1,584
Family	1,649	3,485	1,283	1,102
Clinical negligence	19	40	11	14
Mental health	627	660	301	428
Miscellaneous	3	10	1	0
Personal injury	3	6	3	4
Public law	20	35	15	46
Welfare benefits	1,009	2,081	1,438	1,278
Total	6,358	12,983	6,098	12,016

Table 6 Legal Help 2012-13 Ethnicity: Mixed disaggregate

Category	Mixed White & Black Caribbean	Mixed White & Black African	Mixed White & Asian	Mixed Other
Actions against the police	33	8	7	8
Community care	9	13	5	20
Consumer	3	0	0	3
Debt	504	175	124	213
Education	4	4	0	9
Employment	45	24	17	28
Housing	555	294	157	392
Immigration - Asylum	42	130	112	163
Immigration - Nationality	106	176	40	103
Family	692	239	168	405
Clinical negligence	15	0	7	18
Mental health	339	109	99	203
Miscellaneous	0	3	2	1
Personal injury	6	3	1	1
Public law	6	7	3	5
Welfare benefits	361	240	153	244
Total	2,720	1,425	895	1,816

Table 7 Legal Help 2012-13 Ethnicity: White disaggregate

Category	White British	White Irish	White Other
Actions against the police	1,265	17	33
Community care	2,036	40	151
Consumer	315	4	16
Debt	48,885	397	1,803
Education	379	9	36
Employment	3,965	33	515
Housing	39,101	501	3,215
Immigration - Asylum	114	14	949
Immigration - Nationality	503	18	1,369
Family	135,102	551	2,988
Clinical negligence	1,642	17	43
Mental health	28,149	315	999
Miscellaneous	257	0	3
Personal injury	317	4	6
Public law	366	16	42
Welfare benefits	48,676	585	3,552
Total	311,072	2,521	15,720

Table 8 Legal Help 2012-13 Disability

Category	Cognitive Impairment	Long standing illness	Learning disability	Mental Health Condition	Not considered disabled	Other	Physical impairment	Sensory impairment	Unknown
Actions against the police	11	98	50	200	1,328	11	113	16	722
Community care	85	604	298	570	1,155	64	676	40	1,219
Consumer	1	40	14	29	229	3	50	13	96
Debt	128	7,130	673	7,155	38,320	843	4,511	333	3,662
Education	1	32	42	37	554	4	35	2	227
Employment	13	293	78	281	4,834	62	258	43	696
Housing	116	6,209	798	8,271	35,908	916	4,552	318	9,465
Immigration - Asylum	15	418	20	719	26,588	241	235	38	11,242
Immigration - Nationality	9	399	50	440	15,589	119	311	33	6,313
Family	168	3,282	1,295	3,532	133,485	786	3,515	535	35,995
Clinical negligence	18	229	27	89	774	51	400	32	1,558
Mental health	68	290	1,275	26,597	6,243	207	307	63	8,063
Miscellaneous	1	22	6	22	183	5	27	3	115
Personal injury	1	17	9	36	228	3	26	6	131
Public law	8	44	30	122	588	18	67	7	298
Welfare benefits	340	17,102	982	15,361	13,174	1,328	19,418	638	4,023

Category	Cognitive Impairment	Long standing illness	Learning disability	Mental Health Condition	Not considered disabled	Other	Physical impairment	Sensory impairment	Unknown
Total	983	36,209	5,647	63,461	279,180	4,661	34,501	2,120	83,825

Table 9 Civil Representation 2012-13 Gender

Category	Total	Female	Male	Unknown
Actions against the police	1,169	321	820	28
Combined family matters	5	3	2	0
Community care	768	363	390	15
Consumer	119	64	54	1
Debt	173	76	97	0
Domestic violence	12,880	10,893	1,769	218
Education	124	56	66	2
Employment	41	17	24	0
Financial provision	5,934	4,249	1,577	108
Housing	10,130	5,701	4,281	148
Help with mediation	0	0	0	0
Immigration	2,779	743	2,006	30
Clinical negligence	2,398	1,181	1,171	46
Mental health	472	253	217	2
Miscellaneous	234	93	134	7
Other family matters	1,242	414	812	16
Other public law Children Act	6,630	3,926	2,620	84
Personal injury	8	5	2	1
Private law Children Act	44,681	24,266	19,661	754
Public law	1,569	354	1,175	40
Special Children Act	47,734	24,250	22,741	743
Welfare benefits	17	11	6	0
Total	139,107	77,239	59,625	2,243

Table 10 Civil Representation 2012-13 Age²

Category	18 and under	19-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	Over 65
Actions against the police	225	154	245	275	198	53	23
Combined family matters	1	0	2	0	1	0	0
Community care	261	79	120	126	93	47	43
Consumer	2	2	7	21	33	20	33
Debt	0	4	24	33	44	42	26
Domestic violence	452	3,601	4,681	2,747	1,000	281	123
Education	76	13	6	16	11	0	0
Employment	0	2	6	13	13	7	0
Financial provision	41	116	900	2,097	1,710	791	280
Housing	163	1,260	2,445	2,746	2,246	864	409
Help with mediation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Immigration	381	650	909	551	207	60	20
Clinical negligence	1,094	190	237	285	279	178	136
Mental health	32	44	71	76	86	60	103
Miscellaneous	23	25	40	36	49	38	24
Other family matters	64	288	473	270	109	33	4
Other public law Children Act	2,702	516	1,013	1,070	944	329	69

² There were no unknown ages for any applicants.

Personal injury	0	1	0	2	2	2	1
Private law Children Act	4,077	10,044	16,651	9,578	3,322	799	213
Public law	235	205	373	304	293	128	73
Special Children Act	23,475	7,025	9,168	5,355	2,057	572	150
Welfare benefits	0	0	4	2	6	3	2
Total	33,304	24,219	37,375	25,603	12,703	4,307	1,732

Table 11 Civil Representation 2012-13 Ethnicity: aggregate

Category	White British, White Irish & White other	Black or Black British African or Black British Caribbean or Black British Other	Asian or Asian British Indian or Asian British Pakistani or Asian British Bangladeshi or Asian British Other	Chinese	Mixed White & Black Caribbean or Black African or Asian; & Mixed Other	Other	Unknown
Actions against the police	567	132	57	3	29	40	341
Combined family matters	4	0	1	0	0	0	0
Community care	282	128	58	5	18	46	231
Consumer	72	8	11	0	0	3	25
Debt	92	14	28	2	3	5	29
Domestic violence	9,011	491	1,053	10	246	234	1,835
Education	52	17	6	0	1	4	44
Employment	14	9	2	0	1	5	10
Financial provision	4,185	153	464	5	51	122	954
Housing	5,225	1,814	610	26	222	423	1,810
Help with mediation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Immigration	203	871	558	33	8	476	630
Clinical negligence	1,557	69	96	1	36	26	613
Mental health	261	25	36	2	2	23	123
Miscellaneous	144	20	15	1	10	5	39
Other family matters	814	69	102	1	21	26	209

Other public law							
Children Act	4,192	240	203	3	103	98	1,791
Personal injury	1	1	0	0	0	0	6
Private law							
Children Act	31,627	1,276	1,810	25	566	712	8,665
Public law	661	196	121	9	30	100	452
Special Children Act	26,271	1,530	1,012	21	719	520	17,661
Welfare benefits	8	3	2	0	1	0	3
Total	85,243	7,066	6,245	147	2,067	2,868	35,471

Table 12 Civil Representation 2012-13 Ethnicity: black disaggregate

Category	Black British African	Black British Caribbean	Black Other
Actions against the police	69	48	15
Combined family matters	0	0	0
Community care	86	40	2
Consumer	4	2	2
Debt	8	4	2
Domestic violence	236	181	74
Education	5	10	2
Employment	4	5	0
Financial provision	69	67	17
Housing	920	691	203
Help with mediation	0	0	0
Immigration	733	131	7
Clinical negligence	32	29	8
Mental health	10	15	0
Miscellaneous	7	11	2
Other family matters	32	27	10
Other public law Children Act	104	116	20

Personal injury	1	0	0
Private law Children Act	557	580	139
Public law	126	60	10
Special Children Act	800	563	167
Welfare benefits	3	0	0
Total	3,806	2,580	680

Table 13 Civil Representation 2012-13 Ethnicity: Asian disaggregate

Category	Asian British Indian	Asian British Pakistani	Asian British Bangladeshi	Asian Other
Actions against the police	7	16	7	27
Combined family matters	0	1	0	0
Community care	11	10	9	28
Consumer	2	5	1	3
Debt	10	9	3	6
Domestic violence	168	522	201	162
Education	0	1	0	5
Employment	1	0	0	1
Financial provision	137	223	55	49
Housing	96	188	158	168
Help with mediation	0	0	0	0
Immigration	25	122	39	372
Clinical negligence	30	32	18	16
Mental health	6	14	9	7
Miscellaneous	6	6	1	2
Other family matters	16	51	20	15
Other public law	31	101	36	35

Children Act				
Personal injury	0	0	0	0
Private law Children Act	345	888	319	258
Public law	12	40	8	61
Special Children Act	163	470	168	211
Welfare benefits	0	1	1	0
Total	1,066	2,700	1,053	1,426

Table 14 Civil Representation 2012-13 Ethnicity: mixed disaggregate

Category	Mixed White & Black Caribbean	Mixed White & Black African	Mixed White & Asian	Mixed Other
Actions against the police	12	4	3	10
Combined family matters	0	0	0	0
Community care	6	1	1	10
Consumer	0	0	0	0
Debt	0	0	2	1
Domestic violence	130	16	28	72
Education	0	1	0	0
Employment	0	0	0	1
Financial provision	16	3	13	19
Housing	106	25	19	72
Help with mediation	0	0	0	0
Immigration	1	2	0	5
Clinical negligence	15	4	6	11
Mental health	1	0	0	1
Miscellaneous	6	3	1	0
Other family matters	11	3	4	3
Other public law	48	7	20	28

Children Act				
Personal injury	0	0	0	0
Private law Children Act	267	61	84	154
Public law	12	7	4	7
Special Children Act	308	79	165	167
Welfare benefits	0	1	0	0
Total	939	217	350	561

Table 15 Civil Representation 2012-13 Ethnicity: white disaggregate

Category	White British	White Irish	White other
Actions against the police	537	11	19
Combined family matters	4	0	0
Community care	262	2	18
Consumer	69	1	2
Debt	82	2	8
Domestic violence	8,629	55	327
Education	48	1	3
Employment	13	0	1
Financial provision	4,039	21	125
Housing	4,713	113	399
Help with mediation	0	0	0
Immigration	5	0	198
Clinical negligence	1,503	12	42
Mental health	252	3	6
Miscellaneous	139	1	4
Other family matters	788	7	19
Other public law Children Act	4,063	35	94
Personal	1	0	0

injury			
Private law Children Act	30,805	152	670
Public law	608	12	41
Special Children Act	25,416	125	730
Welfare benefits	8	0	0
Total	81,984	553	2,706

Table 16 Civil Representation 2012-13 Disability

Category	Disabled	Not considered disabled	Unknown
Actions against the police	284	383	502
Combined family matters	0	4	1
Community care	375	164	229
Consumer	45	43	31
Debt	59	82	32
Domestic violence	1,559	9,068	2,253
Education	57	26	41
Employment	13	17	11
Financial provision	924	3,770	1,240
Housing	3,560	4,400	2,170
Help with mediation	0	0	0
Immigration	306	1,732	741
Clinical negligence	1,202	380	816
Mental health	256	96	120
Miscellaneous	66	115	53
Other family matters	132	853	257
Other public law Children Act	660	3,594	2,376
Personal	1	2	5

injury			
Private law Children Act	3,493	30,207	10,981
Public law	423	567	579
Special Children Act	3,135	24,140	20,459
Welfare benefits	6	4	7
Total	16,556	79,647	42,904

Contact Us

Copies of this document are available on the Justice website at <http://www.justice.gov.uk>

If you require a copy in an alternative format, this will be considered on request from:

Equality and Diversity Team

Legal Aid Agency

102 Petty France

London SW1H 9AJ

Telephone Switchboard: 020 7783 7000

Email: diversity@legalaid.gsi.gov.uk