

Equality and Diversity Information

Civil Legal Aid Service Users 2011-2012

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About the Legal Services Commission (LSC)

The LSC is a non-departmental public body sponsored by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ). The LSC looks after legal aid 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 helps more than two million people to deal with their legal problems.

We work in partnership with solicitors and not-for-profit organisations to provide services to help people in need. We also make sure that people get the information, advice and legal help they need to deal with a wide range of problems.

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 2011-2012. Information about applications for legal aid via the Community Legal Advice (CLA) 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 second 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 2011-12 Gender

Category	Total	Female	Male	Unknown
Actions against the police	3,152	819	2,326	7
Community care	4,861	2,368	2,488	5
Consumer	708	362	346	0
Debt	75,229	43,012	32,140	77
Education	1,164	893	271	0
Employment	9,323	4,485	4,822	16
Housing	76,354	44,890	31,380	84
Immigration - Asylum	46,760	12,367	33,485	908
Immigration - Nationality	31,689	13,993	17,569	127
Family	210,125	136,345	73,605	175
Clinical negligence	3,369	1,374	1,989	6
Mental health	39,799	14,107	25,609	83
Miscellaneous	737	432	305	0
Personal injury	726	318	406	2
Public law	1,321	521	799	1

Welfare benefits	78,157	41,259	36,776	122
Total	583,474	317,545	264,316	1,613

Table 2 Legal Help 2011-12 Age

Category	18 and Under	19-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	over 65	Unknown
Actions against the police	177	463	764	888	578	207	74	1
Community care	699	577	813	1,074	816	478	404	0
Consumer	7	55	117	180	153	117	79	0
Debt	193	9,597	17,007	19,173	17,269	8,863	3,127	0
Education	79	74	230	488	253	33	7	0
Employment	131	1,652	2,417	2,319	1,963	781	60	0
Housing	1,097	11,445	18,603	20,690	15,469	6,296	2,749	5
Immigration - Asylum	7,378	10,666	16,225	7,719	2,430	871	1,469	2
Immigration - Nationality	1,668	4,871	12,107	7,957	3,212	1,134	738	2
Family	3,641	35,925	70,782	61,379	27,462	8,279	2,640	17
Clinical negligence	171	377	915	731	557	362	256	0

Category	18 and Under	19-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	over 65	Unknown
Mental health	1,034	5,105	10,550	10,324	7,394	3,193	2,194	5
Miscellaneous	24	79	125	165	153	105	86	0
Personal injury	71	187	162	172	90	31	13	0
Public law	157	160	316	308	205	104	71	0
Welfare benefits	1,162	5,836	12,715	20,573	22,811	12,402	2,658	0
Total	17,689	87,069	163,848	154,140	100,815	43,256	16,625	32

Table 3 Legal Help 2011-12 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	1,697	308	169	3	66	152	757
Community care	2,269	595	416	24	70	801	686
Consumer	490	36	29	1	10	43	99
Debt	61,071	5,473	3,277	86	1,148	1,568	2,606
Education	491	248	153	4	26	86	156
Employment	6,524	1,047	608	24	135	412	573
Housing	49,514	10,317	4,372	134	1,499	4,469	6,049
Immigration - Asylum	1,300	13,347	10,388	1,236	577	17,208	2,704
Immigration - Nationality	2,485	13,442	5,443	470	613	7,768	1,468

Table 3 Legal Help 2011-12 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
Family	161,316	6,257	8,406	224	1,611	6,309	26,002
Clinical negligence	1,662	96	84	2	29	82	1,414
Mental health	27,185	4,040	2,096	114	638	1,386	4,340
Miscellaneous	563	29	36	0	5	14	90
Personal injury	544	36	35	0	10	34	67
Public law	547	189	111	10	30	125	309
Welfare benefits	56,032	7,287	6,614	140	1,178	3,907	2,999
Total	373,690	62,747	42,237	2,472	7,645	44,364	50,319

Table 4 Legal Help 2011-12 Ethnicity: black disaggregate

Category	Black British African	Black British Caribbean	Black British Other
Actions against the police	107	157	44
Community care	405	160	30
Consumer	23	11	2
Debt	2,820	2,224	429
Education	134	94	20
Employment	616	332	99
Housing	6,251	3,158	908
Immigration - Asylum	12,705	410	232
Immigration - Nationality	10,156	2,957	329
Family	3,010	2,517	730
Clinical negligence	47	41	8
Mental health	1,755	1,890	395
Miscellaneous	14	14	1
Personal injury	17	13	6
Public law	118	60	11

Table 4 Legal Help 2011-12 Ethnicity: black disaggregate

Category	Black British African	Black British Caribbean	Black British Other
Welfare benefits	4,813	1,907	567
Total	42,991	15,945	3,811

Table 5 Legal Help 2011-12 Ethnicity: Asian disaggregate

Category of law	British Indian	British Pakistani	British Bangladeshi	Asian Other
Actions against the police	58	63	16	32
Community care	65	66	43	242
Consumer	11	12	3	3
Debt	692	1,083	824	678
Education	26	49	42	36
Employment	187	180	84	157
Housing	760	1,211	1,194	1,207
Immigration - Asylum	547	2,539	542	6,760
Immigration - Nationality	806	1,769	870	1,998
Family	1,906	3,913	1,382	1,205
Clinical negligence	13	37	9	25
Mental health	646	712	280	458
Miscellaneous	10	11	7	8
Personal injury	11	8	9	7
Public law	26	32	17	36
Welfare benefits	1,169	2,285	1,681	1,479

Table 5 Legal Help 2011-12 Ethnicity: Asian disaggregate

Category of law	British Indian	British Pakistani	British Bangladeshi	Asian Other
Total	6,933	13,970	7,003	14,331

Table 6 Legal Help 2011-12 Ethnicity: mixed disaggregate				
Category of law	Mixed White & Black Caribbean	Mixed White & Black African	Mixed White & Asian	Mixed Other
Actions against the police	31	12	9	14
Community care	24	21	9	16
Consumer	4	2	2	2
Debt	521	221	145	261
Education	9	0	1	16
Employment	41	40	17	37
Housing	593	304	169	433
Immigration - Asylum	47	158	174	198
Immigration - Nationality	118	247	85	163
Family	735	257	204	415
Clinical negligence	16	6	3	4
Mental health	296	103	72	167
Miscellaneous	1	2	2	0
Personal injury	6	0	0	4
Public law	13	8	4	5
Welfare benefits	393	286	193	306

Table 6 Legal Help 2011-12 Ethnicity: mixed disaggregate

Category of law	Mixed White & Black Caribbean	Mixed White & Black African	Mixed White & Asian	Mixed Other
Total	2,848	1,667	1,089	2,041

Table 7 Legal Help 2011-12 Ethnicity: White disaggregate

Category	White British	White Irish	White Other
Actions against the police	1,606	36	55
Community care	2,057	40	172
Consumer	476	0	14
Debt	58,596	424	2,051
Education	416	9	66
Employment	5,824	55	645
Housing	45,359	640	3,515
Immigration - Asylum	80	17	1,203
Immigration - Nationality	603	23	1,859
Family	157,308	937	3,071
Clinical negligence	1,618	14	30
Mental health	25,931	293	961
Miscellaneous	545	5	13
Personal injury	529	4	11
Public law	490	11	46

Table 7 Legal Help 2011-12 Ethnicity: White disaggregate

Category	White British	White Irish	White Other
Welfare benefits	51,338	573	4,121
Total	352,776	3,081	17,833

Table 8 Legal Help 2011-12 Disability

Category	Cognitive Impairment	Long standing illness	Learning disability	Mental Health Condition	Not considered disabled	Other	Physical impairment	Sensory impairment
Actions against the police	177	463	764	888	578	207	74	1
Community care	699	577	813	1,074	816	478	404	0
Consumer	7	55	117	180	153	117	79	0
Debt	193	9,597	17,007	19,173	17,269	8,863	3,127	0
Education	79	74	230	488	253	33	7	0
Employment	131	1,652	2,417	2,319	1,963	781	60	0
Housing	1,097	11,445	18,603	20,690	15,469	6,296	2,749	5
Immigration - Asylum	7,378	10,666	16,225	7,719	2,430	871	1,469	2
Immigration - Nationality	1,668	4,871	12,107	7,957	3,212	1,134	738	2
Family	3,641	35,925	70,782	61,379	27,462	8,279	2,640	17
Clinical negligence	171	377	915	731	557	362	256	0

Table 8 Legal Help 2011-12 Disability

Category	Cognitive Impairment	Long standing illness	Learning disability	Mental Health Condition	Not considered disabled	Other	Physical impairment	Sensory impairment
Mental health	1,034	5,105	10,550	10,324	7,394	3,193	2,194	5
Miscellaneous	24	79	125	165	153	105	86	0
Personal injury	71	187	162	172	90	31	13	0
Public law	157	160	316	308	205	104	71	0
Welfare benefits	1,162	5,836	12,715	20,573	22,811	12,402	2,658	0
Total	17,689	87,069	163,848	154,140	100,815	43,256	16,625	32

Table 9 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Gender

Category	Total	Female	Male	Unknown
Actions against the police	337	83	246	8
Combined family matters	22	15	7	0
Community care	655	267	371	17
Consumer	278	134	130	14
Debt	258	134	120	4
Domestic violence	16,092	13,269	2,599	224
Education	162	71	89	2
Employment	43	18	23	2
Financial provision	9,337	6,492	2,699	146
Housing	9,098	4,938	3,954	206
Help with mediation	50	37	12	1
Immigration	1,655	474	1,159	22
Clinical negligence	2,089	1,077	978	34
Mental health	338	171	162	5

Table 9 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Gender

Category	Total	Female	Male	Unknown
Miscellaneous	487	194	275	18
Other family matters	1,176	426	733	17
Other public law Children Act	6,365	3,822	2,478	65
Personal injury	216	73	116	27
Private law Children Act	48,960	26,534	21,777	649
Public law	1,024	257	746	21
Special Children Act	36,103	18,469	17,060	574
Welfare benefits	13	4	9	0
Total	134,758	76,959	55,743	2,056

Table 10 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Age

Category	18 and under	19-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	over 65
Actions against the police	27	43	77	110	56	6	18
Combined family matters	2	3	13	2	2	0	0
Community care	260	103	85	78	59	36	34
Consumer	4	5	34	66	70	39	60
Debt	4	9	25	81	64	30	45
Domestic violence	638	4,074	5,625	3,966	1,299	151	339
Education	104	14	8	19	13	0	4
Employment	1	4	9	13	11	0	5
Financial provision	63	193	1,650	3,807	2,287	310	1,027
Housing	189	1,250	2,030	2,708	1,838	385	698
Help with	1	0	9	26	9	0	5

Table 10 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Age

Category	18 and under	19-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	over 65
mediation							
Immigration	169	427	621	299	103	18	18
Clinical negligence	769	219	245	297	238	162	159
Mental health	24	35	39	79	65	56	40
Miscellaneous	35	31	85	105	94	73	64
Other family matters	65	244	432	294	84	28	29
Other public law Children Act	2,290	488	1,080	1,148	926	73	360
Personal injury	109	23	26	28	10	7	13
Private law Children Act	3,989	10,955	18,299	11,266	3,297	247	907
Public law	145	134	230	221	157	55	82
Special Children Act	17,922	5,439	6,610	4,217	1,440	108	367
Welfare benefits	0	1	4	3	4	0	1

Table 10 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Age

Category	18 and under	19-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	over 65
Total	26,810	23,694	37,236	28,833	12,126	1,784	4,275

Table 11 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Ethnicity: aggregate

Category	White British, White Irish & White other	Black British African or Black British Caribbean or Black British Other	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	259	31	26	9	11	0
Combined family matters	19	0	0	0	2	0	0
Community care	430	106	85	4	20	3	3
Consumer	214	12	29	1	9	0	3
Debt	199	14	17	7	16	0	1
Domestic violence	13,227	645	820	115	988	16	50
Education	122	17	11	1	9	0	0
Employment	26	7	6	1	1	0	0
Financial	8,193	207	377	11	351	1	12

Table 11 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Ethnicity: aggregate

Category	White British, White Irish & White other	Black British African or Black British Caribbean or Black British Other	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
provision							
Housing	6,078	1501	807	177	371	37	48
Help with mediation	45	1	4	0	0	0	0
Immigration	506	611	434	15	66	5	6
Clinical negligence	1,853	51	95	8	55	5	4
Mental health	279	18	22	0	12	1	0
Miscellaneous	390	33	28	1	20	3	1
Other family matters	902	75	78	7	84	4	2
Other public law Children Act	5,590	237	265	24	167	13	28
Personal injury	213	0	2	0	0	0	0

Table 11 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Ethnicity: aggregate

Category	White British, White Irish & White other	Black British African or Black British Caribbean or Black British Other	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
Private law Children Act	43,405	1493	1,765	196	1522	62	128
Public law	660	192	104	12	39	7	2
Special Children Act	32,680	1100	1,281	99	652	78	116
Welfare benefits	8	1	3	0	1	0	0
Total	115,298	6354	6,259	688	4396	235	405

Table 12 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Ethnicity: black disaggregate

Category	Black British African	Black British Caribbean	Black Other
Actions against the police	2	14	15
Combined family matters	0	0	0
Community care	4	79	23
Consumer	3	6	3
Debt	1	9	4
Domestic violence	95	299	251
Education	2	8	7
Employment	0	2	5
Financial provision	50	48	109
Housing	90	806	605
Help with mediation	0	0	1
Immigration	1	499	111
Clinical negligence	11	21	19
Mental health	2	10	8
Miscellaneous	8	7	18

Table 12 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Ethnicity: black disaggregate

Category	Black British African	Black British Caribbean	Black Other
Other family matters	8	36	31
Other public law Children Act	26	111	100
Personal injury	0	0	0
Private law Children Act	184	673	636
Public law	9	148	35
Special Children Act	100	519	481
Welfare benefits	0	1	0
Total	596	3,296	2,462

Table 13 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Ethnicity: Asian disaggregate

Category of law	Asian British Indian	Asian British Pakistani	Asian British Bangladeshi	Asian Other
Actions against the police	0	0	4	22
Combined family matters	1	0	0	0
Community care	4	1	10	74
Consumer	10	3	5	21
Debt	4	1	4	12
Domestic violence	231	29	387	404
Education	2	0	5	6
Employment	2	0	5	1
Financial provision	185	11	151	215
Housing	79	19	296	492
Help with mediation	0	0	2	2
Immigration	12	0	131	303
Clinical negligence	18	5	29	61

Table 13 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Ethnicity: Asian disaggregate

Category of law	Asian British Indian	Asian British Pakistani	Asian British Bangladeshi	Asian Other
Mental health	4	2	7	13
Miscellaneous	11	0	8	20
Other family matters	24	1	27	50
Other public law Children Act	41	20	91	154
Personal injury	1	0	0	2
Private law Children Act	389	76	717	972
Public law	8	3	32	69
Special Children Act	97	103	423	755
Welfare benefits	0	0	3	0
Total	1,123	274	2,337	3,648

Table 14 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Ethnicity: mixed disaggregate

Category of law	Mixed White & Black Caribbean	Mixed White & Black African	Mixed White & Asian	Mixed Other
Actions against the police	4	0	0	7
Combined family matters	0	0	1	1
Community care	3	0	10	7
Consumer	0	0	1	8
Debt	0	2	1	13
Domestic violence	113	14	259	602
Education	1	0	2	6
Employment	0	0	0	1
Financial provision	19	14	51	267
Housing	102	10	165	94
Help with mediation	0	0	0	0
Immigration	0	11	19	36
Clinical negligence	12	0	14	29

Table 14 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Ethnicity: mixed disaggregate

Category of law	Mixed White & Black Caribbean	Mixed White & Black African	Mixed White & Asian	Mixed Other
Mental health	1	1	2	8
Miscellaneous	3	1	4	12
Other family matters	6	3	16	59
Other public law Children Act	36	4	29	98
Personal injury	0	0	0	0
Private law Children Act	253	23	320	926
Public law	4	1	12	22
Special Children Act	205	52	130	265
Welfare benefits	1	0	0	0
Total	763	136	1,036	2,461

Table 15 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Ethnicity: White disaggregate

Category	White British	White Irish	White Other
Actions against the police	172	4	83
Combined family matters	9	0	10
Community care	194	43	193
Consumer	132	7	75
Debt	131	2	66
Domestic violence	10,372	148	2,707
Education	59	4	59
Employment	19	1	6
Financial provision	6,413	81	1,699
Housing	4,218	115	1,745
Help with mediation	29	0	16
Immigration	2	210	294
Clinical negligence	1,275	15	563
Mental health	173	4	102
Miscellaneous	215	3	172

Table 15 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Ethnicity: White disaggregate

Category	White British	White Irish	White Other
Other family matters	660	11	231
Other public law Children Act	3,956	33	1,601
Personal injury	20	0	193
Private law Children Act	33,984	261	9,160
Public law	381	29	250
Special Children Act	19,341	139	13,200
Welfare benefits	5	0	3
Total	81,760	33	1,601

Table 16 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Disability

Category	Disabled	Not considered disabled	Unknown
Actions against the police	134	61	142
Combined family matters	10	0	12
Community care	192	272	191
Consumer	104	60	114
Debt	108	53	97
Domestic violence	10,978	1,542	3,572
Education	41	56	65
Employment	25	9	9
Financial provision	5,786	1,159	2,392
Housing	4,175	2,600	2,323
Help with mediation	27	0	23
Immigration	1,119	118	418
Clinical negligence	393	833	863
Mental health	80	170	88
Miscellaneous	172	74	241

Table 16 Civil Legal Representation 2011-12 Disability

Category	Disabled	Not considered disabled	Unknown
Other family matters	771	114	291
Other public law Children Act	3,521	616	2,228
Personal injury	7	2	207
Private law Children Act	33,405	3,638	11,917
Public law	437	234	353
Special Children Act	16,672	2,199	17,232
Welfare benefits	3	6	4
Total	78,160	13,816	42,782

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:

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