



Ministry
of Justice

Legal Aid Statistics in England and Wales

Legal Aid Agency

2013-2014

Ministry of Justice
Statistics bulletin

Published 24 June 2014

Executive summary

Summary

1. In 2013-14 the overall workload for legal aid consisted of over 1.8 million acts of assistance. The LAA spent just over £1.7 billion in 2013-14 on funding advice for criminal and civil legal matters. Of this, £0.9 billion was spent on criminal legal aid and around £0.8 billion was spent on civil legal aid.
2. Acts of assistance were at their highest in 2009-10. Since this peak the volume has fallen by just over 39 per cent; within this reduction the criminal legal aid area has reduced by almost 14 per cent but the majority of the fall has come from the civil justice area which has reduced by almost two-thirds over this period.

Figure 1: –Overall summary of acts of assistance (000's) since 2007-08

Type	Area	Financial Year						
		2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Acts of assistance (000's)	Crime lower	1,379	1,432	1,408	1,338	1,252	1,235	1,203
	Crime higher	124	124	126	131	139	123	121
	Crime total	1,502	1,556	1,534	1,469	1,391	1,358	1,324
	Legal help	835	1,164	1,266	1,096	940	782	381
	Civil representation	166	150	165	150	146	144	116
	Civil total	1,000	1,314	1,431	1,246	1,086	925	497

Crime

3. Workload in the wider Criminal Justice System (CJS) has fallen and as a consequence work further down the system has also seen a fall. The largest reduction in overall workload within criminal legal aid has been in the magistrates' court area with a drop of 21 per cent in completed proceedings between 2008 and 2013¹.
4. The last few years have seen falls in volume in the crime higher category. These have been driven by a fall in the volume of representations in the Crown Court. Expenditure in crime higher has also decreased over the last three years.
5. There was a steady decline in the number of crime lower acts of assistance between 2008-09 and 2012-13, which has stabilised in the last 18 months. There has been a 16 per cent decrease in crime lower workload since 2008-09 and a three per cent fall in the last year.

¹ Table 3.1 of the main tables in Court Statistics (Quarterly) January to March 2014
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/court-statistics-quarterly>

Civil

6. There have been changes in the makeup of levels of service funded by civil legal aid. The volumes of new matters started for legal help have fallen by over 80 per cent between 2009-10 and 2013-14. The number of certificates granted for civil representation has fallen by 30 per cent between 2010-11 and 2013-14.
7. In 2013-14 there were large decreases across the civil legal aid area, driven by changes to the scope of legal aid as set out in the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act (LASPO).

Appealing Decisions

8. The number of appeals against representation decisions on financial and legal grounds has fallen by 11 per cent when compared to the previous year. The proportion of appeals granted has remained fairly steady over the last seven years with a slight fall in the last two years.
9. The number of appeals against representation provided had been in decline between 2008-09 and 2011-12 with a fall of 25 per cent in the period. However, the figures in 2012-13 showed an increase of 19 per cent compared to the previous year. There has been a two per cent fall in 2013-14, but numbers are still above the low point of 2011-12.

Exceptional Case Funding

10. Clause 10 of the Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (LASPO) introduced the practice of applying for Exceptional Case Funding (ECF) from the 1 April 2013.
11. In 2013-14 1,520 total ECF applications were received by the LAA. 69 per cent of these applications were for family or immigration cases. The majority of applications (95 per cent) were made by legal aid providers. In 2013-14 69 ECF applications were granted.

Providers

12. Since 2007-08 the number of civil providers has nearly halved (as at the end of the financial year) and criminal providers under contract have decreased by 16 per cent. In the last year the number civil providers have reduced by almost a quarter compared to the previous year. Crime providers have decreased by five per cent in the same period.

Clients

13. The overall criminal legal aid client gender profile differs from the national profile with a greater proportion of young and male clients. The overall civil legal aid client diversity profile differs from the national profile with a greater proportion of clients from BAME origin and with a disability.

Contents

Executive summary		2
Contents		4
Introduction		5
Analysis and Commentary		8
Criminal legal aid		11
Crime higher	12	
Crime lower	15	
Civil & Family – Community Legal Service		19
Family	20	
Family Mediation	21	
Non-family – social welfare law (SWL)	22	
Non-family – low volume (LV)	22	
Tribunals	23	
Appealing decisions		25
Exceptional Case Funding: applications and determination		26
Provider information		28
Clients of Legal Aid		30
Timeliness		33
Tables		36
Annex A - Glossary of key terms		64
Annex B - Explanatory notes		70
Annex C - Contact points for further information		72

Introduction

This report presents the key statistics on activity in the legal aid system for England and Wales. It provides information for the latest twelve months (April 2013 to March 2014) with accompanying commentary, analysis and presentation of longer term trends.

The data provides users with information about legal advice, legal representation and eventual outcomes in England and Wales. The contents of this bulletin will be of interest to government policy makers in the development of policy and their subsequent monitoring and evaluation. Others will be interested in the way different categories of law are dealt with and the use of legal aid within the system.

The report is to be used in conjunction with the *LAA Annual Report 2013-14 and Accounts* which provides more detail on expenditure within the legal aid system.

Further information on the terminology used within the bulletin can be found in 'Annex A – Glossary of key terms'

Guidance on the symbols and conventions used in the bulletin is provided in 'Annex B – Explanatory notes'.

If you have any feedback, questions or requests for further information about this statistical bulletin, please direct them to the appropriate contact given at the end of this report 'Annex C – Contact points for further information'.

Creation of the Legal Aid Agency

Until April 2013 the Legal Services Commission (LSC) was a Non Departmental Public Body (NDPB) with statutory duties in relation to the Community Legal Service Fund (CLSF) and Criminal Defence Service (CDS), funding legal advice and representation in civil and criminal law. On 1 April 2013 the LSC was abolished as a result of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders (LASPO) Act 2012. An executive agency of the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) was created to administer legal aid from 1 April 2013, called the Legal Aid Agency (LAA).

The legal aid system dates from 1949. The scheme was administered by the Law Society, the professional body which regulates and represents solicitors, until the Legal Aid Act 1988, which established the Legal Aid Board. Following the doubling of the legal aid budget in the early 1990's a review of the system was carried out in 1997, leading to the Access to Justice Act 1999 and the LSC. The latest review recommended that the LSC align more closely with the MoJ and therefore the LSC as a NDPB was abolished and the LAA, an executive agency was created as a result of the LASPO Act 2012.

LASPO Act 2012

As well as creating the LAA, the LASPO Act also made changes to the scope and eligibility of legal aid and to exceptional case funding. These changes came into effect from 1 April 2013 and so will be reflected in this report. The full details of the LASPO Act can be found here:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/10/enacted>

Workload

For many areas of civil law, the implementation of the LASPO Act will mean a reduction of workload. In particular areas affected include:

- Family – legal aid is now only available for private family law cases (such as contact or divorce) if there is evidence of domestic violence or child abuse and child abduction cases. Legal aid remains available for public family law cases (such as adoption).
- Social Welfare – legal aid has been removed (with some exceptions) for debt, employment, housing and welfare benefits.
- Low Volume – legal aid has been removed (with some exceptions) or reduced for clinical negligence, education and personal injury.
- Tribunals – the majority of immigration work is no longer covered by legal aid.

Exceptional Case Funding (ECF)

If a case falls outside the scope of legal aid, funding may still be provided if the case is deemed 'exceptional'. A case will be deemed as such if failure to provide legal aid would be, or would result in, a breach of the individual's rights under the European Convention of Human Rights. There is a section in this report on ECF applications and determination.

Telephone Gateway

The LASPO Act has created a mandatory gateway through the 'Community Legal Advice' helpline for those seeking legal advice in relation to debt, special education needs and discrimination claims relating to a breach of the Equality Act 2010. This means that the only way clients can obtain legal aid for these types of cases is by calling the helpline. Gateway call operators and specialist advisers will assess the specific needs of callers on a case by case basis and will refer them to a face to face advice service if they consider it necessary.

Transforming Legal Aid

The LASPO Act also required the LAA to implement a number of changes to the way legal aid is administered, through the Legal Aid Reform programme.

The Legal Aid Transformation programme has since been put in place to examine the possibilities of further legal aid savings, including the concept of tendering to be a criminal legal aid provider, and to identify ways in which public confidence can be improved.

As a result the following reforms were effective from 2 December 2013:

- Reform of fees in criminal Very High Cost Cases (VHCCs)
- Changes to the scope of prison law eligible for legal aid
- Changes to the rules for use of multiple advocates for criminal legal aid
- Changes to experts' fees for both civil and criminal law
- Removal of the uplift for permission and appeal work for immigration and asylum law
- Harmonising Barrister fees – for civil (non-family) law

The following reforms are effective from 27 January 2014:

- Changes to the Crown Court means test for criminal legal aid
- Removing legal aid for cases with borderline prospects of success

The following reform is effective from 20 March 2014:

- Interim Fee Cut for criminal legal aid work of 8.75 per cent (excluding VHCCs)

The full effect of these changes will not be seen in this report as reforms were implemented part way through the year.

Scope of the report

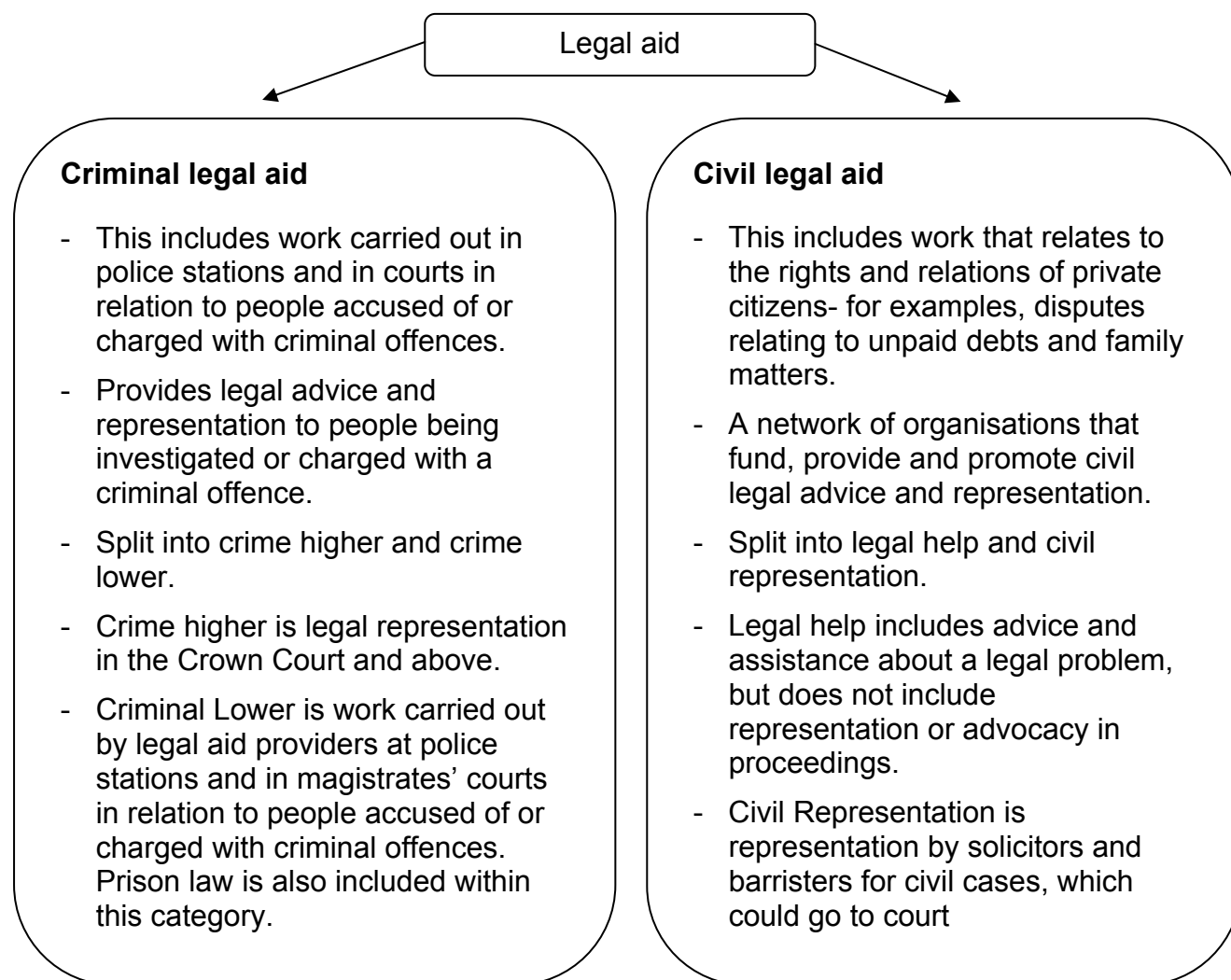
The LAA administers the legal aid system for England and Wales only. Scotland and Northern Ireland have their own legal aid systems, administered by the Scottish Legal Aid Board and Northern Ireland Legal Services Commission respectively.

Analysis and Commentary

This analysis presents the information collected on legal aid administered by the LAA and covers the two areas of work, crime and civil. It also includes sections for timeliness, the appealing of decisions, information on providers of legal aid and lastly a view of the clients who have used legal aid in 2013-14.

Summary of 2013-14

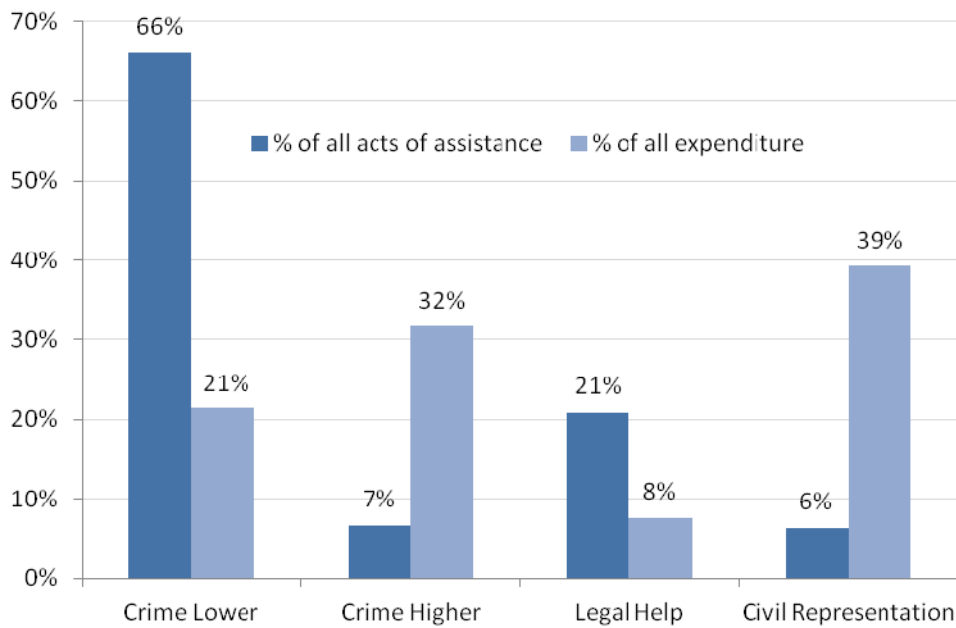
In 2013-14 overall workload for legal aid was over 1.8 million acts of assistance compared to 2.3 million in 2012-13, a fall of 20 per cent. This can be broken down into two main justice areas, crime and civil:



LAA spent just over £1.7 billion in 2013-14 on funding advice for criminal and civil legal matters compared to £1.9 billion in 2012-13, a fall of 11 per cent. Of the spend in 2013-14, £0.9 billion was spent on criminal legal aid and around £0.8 billion was spent on civil legal aid.

Within these two broad categories crime lower and legal help have the highest volumes in terms of acts of assistance but, as figure 2 shows, they make up a small percentage of the total expenditure. In contrast, crime higher and civil representation are comparatively low in volume, but combined they make up over 70 per cent of the expenditure.

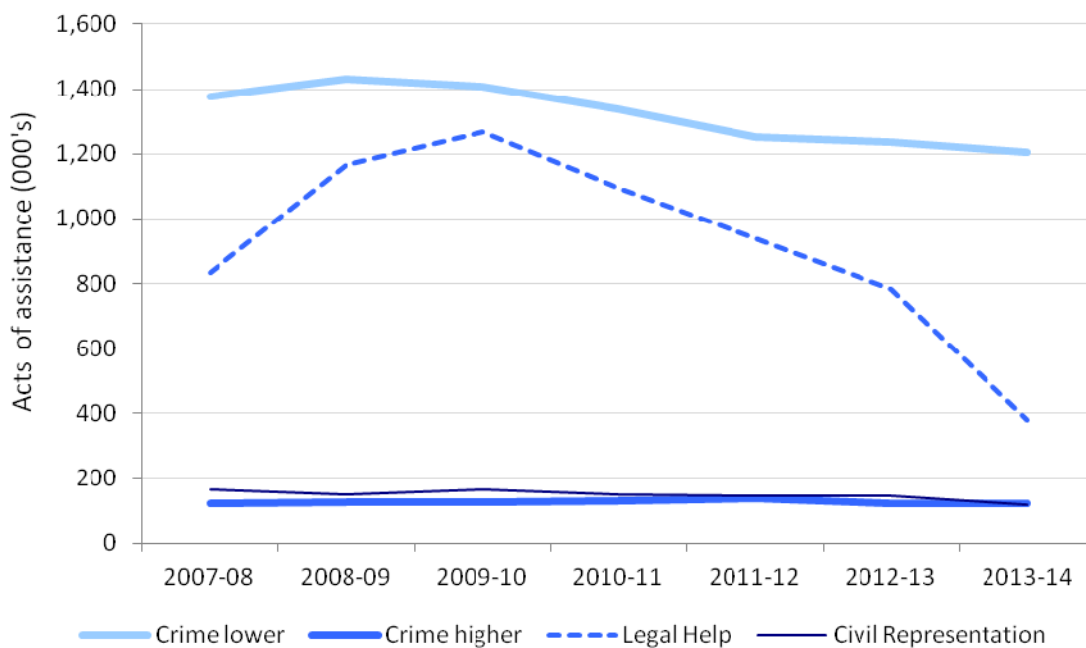
Figure 2: The percentage of workload and the percentage of expenditure by crime type, 2013-14



Trends over time

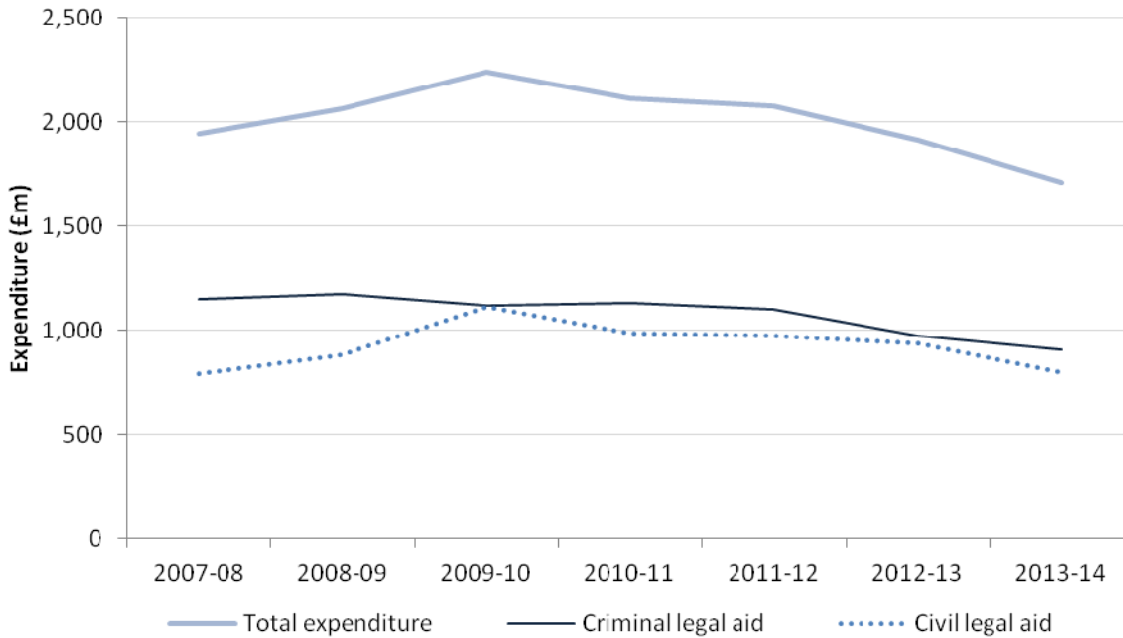
Volumes, in terms of the number of acts of assistance, were at their highest in 2009-10. Since this peak volumes have fallen by just over 39 per cent; within this reduction the criminal legal aid area has reduced by almost 14 per cent but the majority of the fall has come from the civil justice area which has reduced by almost two-thirds over this period.

Figure 3: Acts of assistance provided, 2007-08 to 2013-14



Following the trend in acts of assistance the total expenditure on legal aid also reached its peak in 2009-10, but this trend has subsequently been reversed with expenditure in 2013-14 down by 24 per cent from the peak.

Figure 4: Legal aid expenditure split by crime and civil, 2007-08 to 2013-14

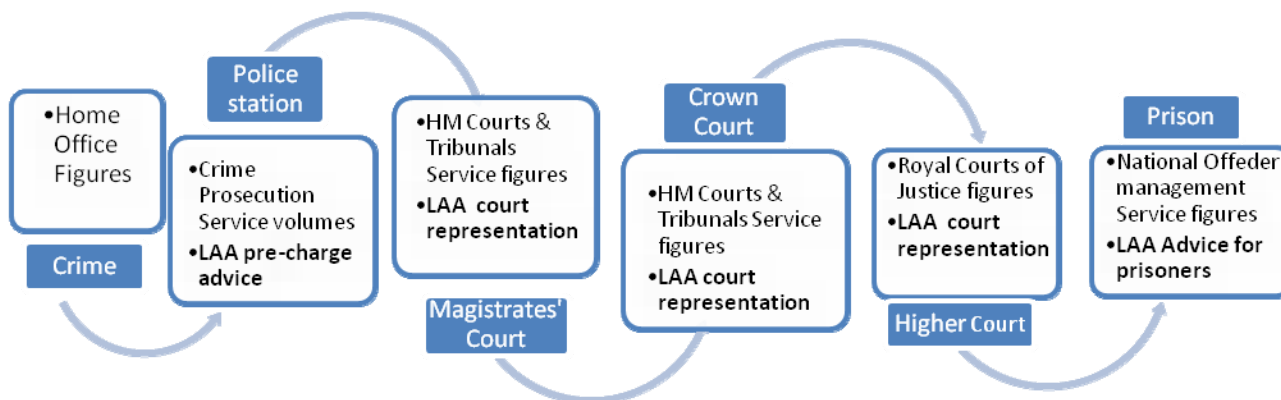


The increase for civil expenditure matched the rise in workload until the peak in 2009-10, where the fund split between civil and crime was almost even.

Since 2009-10 expenditure on both crime and civil legal aid has fallen, with the civil legal aid area falling somewhat earlier and further than criminal legal aid.

Criminal legal aid

The diagram below shows the availability of legal aid flows throughout the Criminal Justice System (CJS) with legal services touching on the system from start to finish.



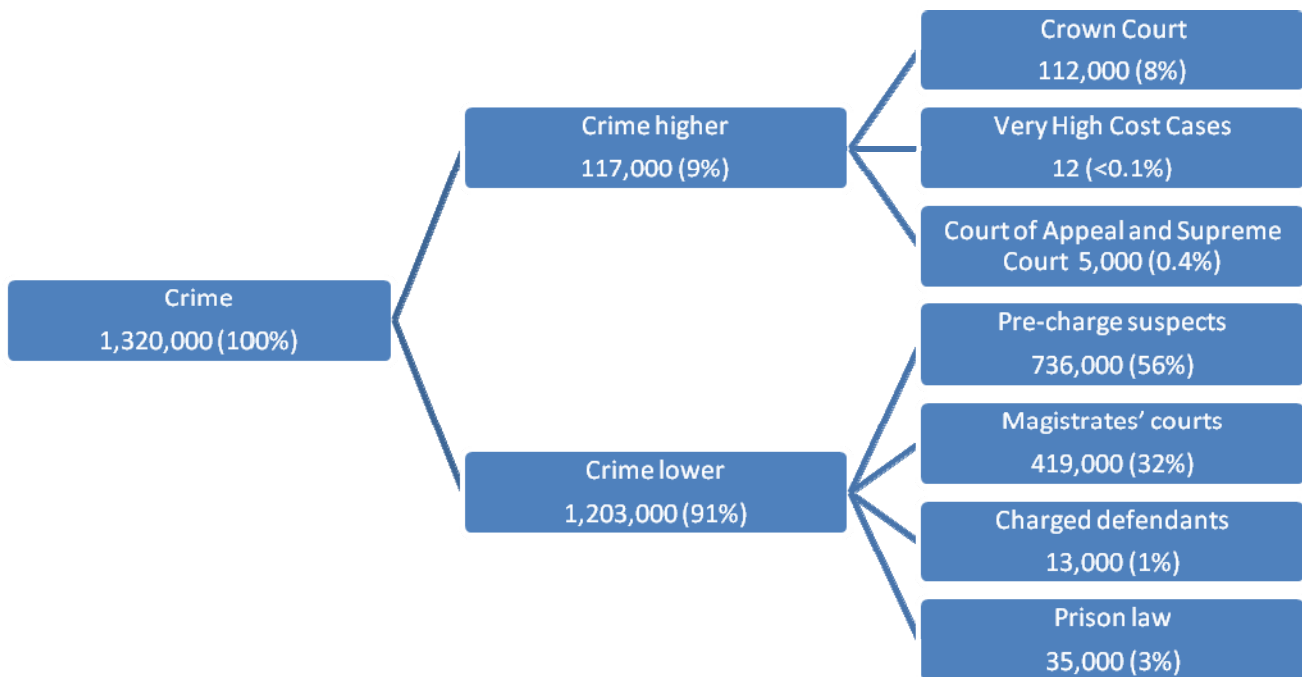
Figures given in this report reflect each of the areas above with information from pre-charge, the early court system and prison assistance found in the crime lower section and the more serious Crown Court, Higher Courts and high cost case information provided in the crime higher section.

Workload in the wider CJS has fallen and as a consequence work further down the system has also seen a fall. The largest reduction in overall workload within criminal legal aid has been in the magistrates' court area with a drop of 21 per cent in completed proceedings between 2008 and 2013².

Prison law is the only area of criminal legal aid in which volumes have risen compared to 2007-08, with an increase of ten per cent. However, volumes within prison law have been gradually falling since 2009-10.

² Table 3.1 of the main tables in Court Statistics (Quarterly) January to March 2014
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/court-statistics-quarterly>

Figure 5: Volumes within criminal legal aid area 2013-14



Note: figures have been rounded so may not sum to totals

Crime higher

All criminal cases are potentially within the scope of the criminal legal aid scheme, subject to the Interests of Justice test and the means test operating to exclude cases.

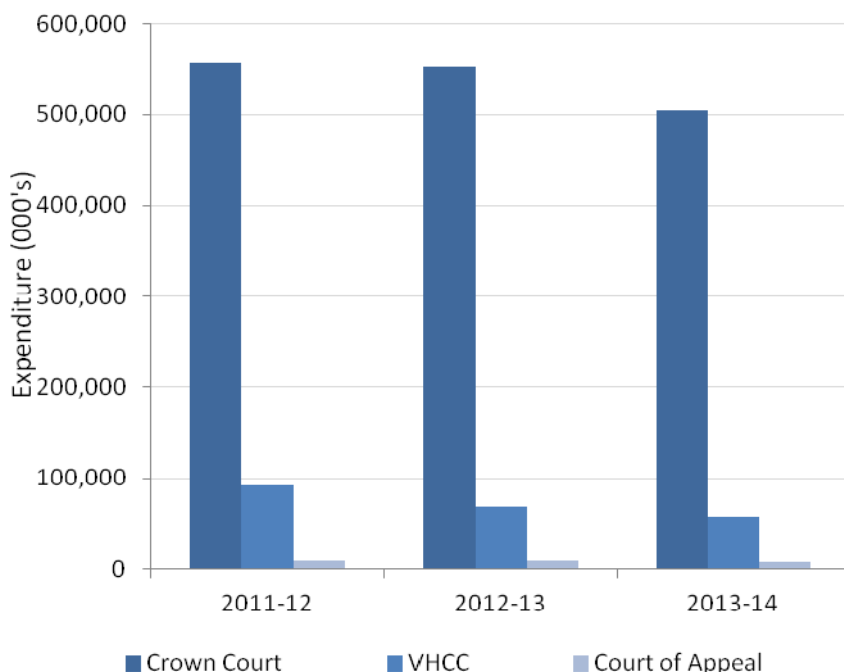
The last few years have seen falls in volume in the crime higher category (see figure 6). These have been driven by a fall in the volume of representations in the Crown Court. Expenditure in crime higher has also decreased over the last three years, with falls in all three categories.

Figure 6: Workload within crime higher, 2011-12 to 2013-14

	Representation at Crown Court	Very High Cost Cases	Court of Appeal and Supreme Court
2011-12	132,570	28	5,778
2012-13	123,120	20	5,643
2013-14	111,927	12	4,906

Note: Figures for Representation at Crown court are based on litigator graduated fee scheme only.

Figure 7: Total expenditure in crime higher by scheme, 2011-12 to 2013-14



Representations at Crown Court

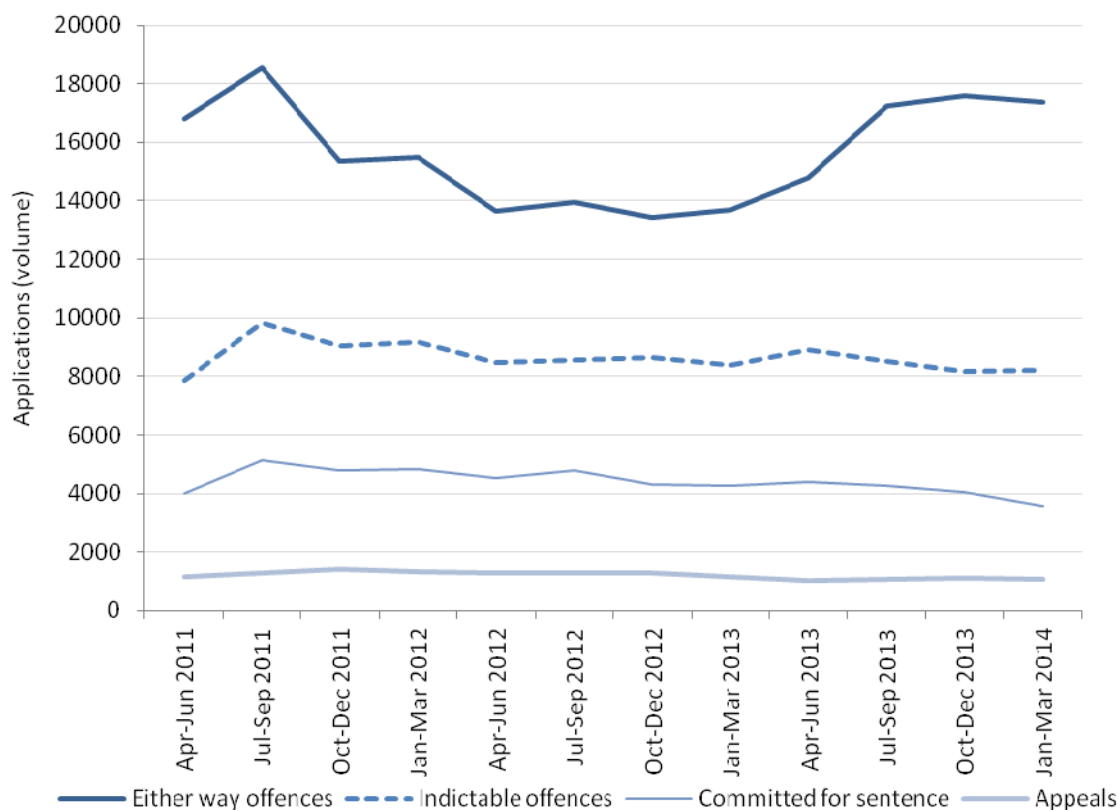
The workload in the Crown Court can be broadly split into the following categories:

- *Either way offence:* An offence which can be tried either before the magistrates' court or the Crown Court.
- *Indictable offence:* A criminal offence that can only be tried in the Crown Court.
- *Committed for sentence:* A case where a magistrate decides that the penalties available to them are inadequate and commits the case to the crown court for sentencing.
- *Appeals:* The Crown Court deals with appeals from magistrates' court against conviction and sentence

There has been an increase of nine per cent in the volume of publicly funded representations within the Crown Court in the last year. This is driven by a 22 per cent increase in either way cases, which is similar to trends in Crown Court completions³. The number of trials for indictable only offences in the Crown Court remained almost unchanged from the previous year, committals to the Crown Court for sentencing fell by nine per cent and appeals against sentencing and verdicts from the magistrates' courts fell by 15 per cent.

³ Table 3.2 of the main tables in Court Statistics (Quarterly) January to March 2014
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/court-statistics-quarterly>

Figure 8: Workload within the Crown Court – representation orders granted, 2011-12 to 2013-14



Very High Cost Cases (VHCCs)

VHCCs are those cases in which, if the case were to proceed to trial, it would be likely to last more than 60 days. These cases can span a number of years and while the volumes are relatively small the number of related contracts with providers and the amount spent are high in comparison. The LAA makes decisions in relation to authority to incur expenditure for expert reports and runs a High Cost Case contracting scheme seeking to limit expenditure on the small number of Crown Court cases that account for a large proportion of total expenditure on criminal legal aid.

Total expenditure on VHCC in 2013-14 was £57 million, a reduction of 16 per cent compared to the previous year. Falling VHCC costs are due to changes in rates paid and also a general change in the number of cases that are dealt with under the graduated fee schemes that cover all other casework. This area represents less than one per cent of the volume but ten per cent of the overall cost of publicly funded cases in the Crown Court.

For each VHCC opened there may be multiple defendants, each represented by a different provider, with separate VHCC contracts. Figure 9 below shows the number of VHCC's opened since 2006-07, together with the number of individual contracts signed, contracts closed and the total expenditure. In 2013-14, 11 of the 12 cases opened were for fraud cases.

Figure 9: VHCC workload since 2006-07

Financial Year	High Cost Crime Cases Opened	High Cost Crime Contracts Opened	High Cost Crime Contracts Closed	High Cost Crime Expenditure (£m)
2006-07	56	417	426	105
2007-08	54	391	399	125
2008-09	63	437	433	112
2009-10	55	426	313	95
2010-11	33	264	460	93
2011-12	28	227	294	92
2012-13	20	112	222	68
2013-14	12	72	216	57

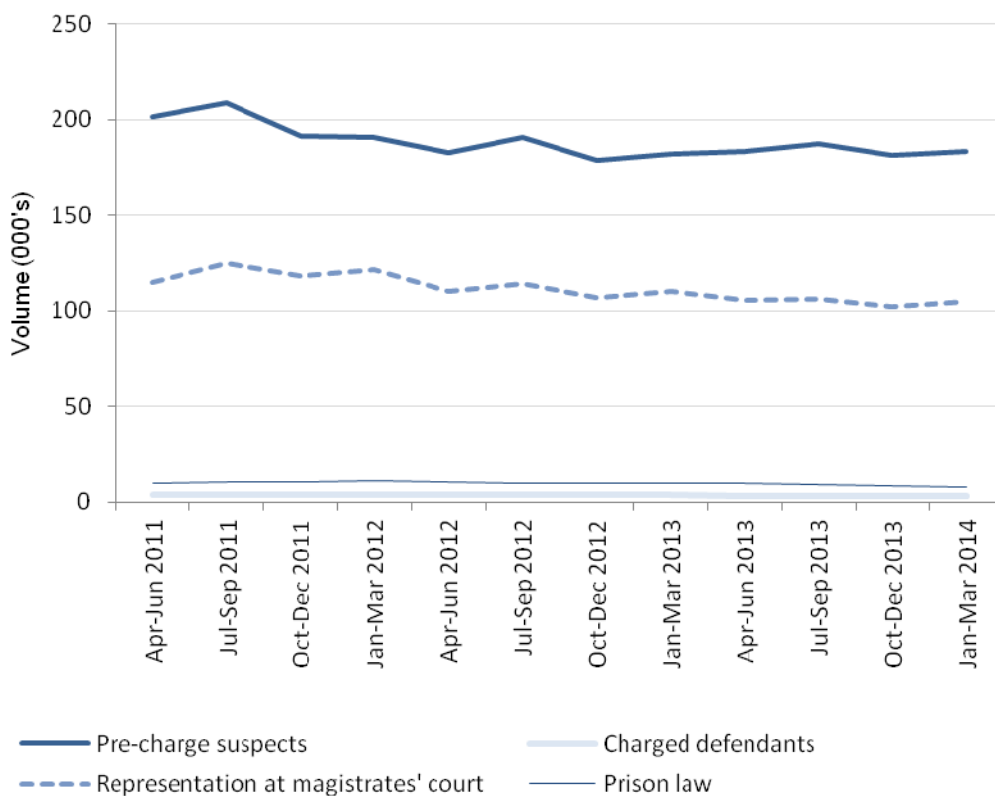
Court of Appeal and Supreme Court

Volumes in the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court have fallen in the last three years, and expenditure has followed a similar trend. The largest volume in this area comes from the court of appeal, in 2013-14 court of appeal cases made up 87 per cent of this category.

Crime lower

There was a steady decline in the crime lower workload between 2008-09 and 2012-13, although this has stabilised in the last 18 months. There has been a 21 per cent decrease in crime lower workload since 2008-09 compared to a two per cent fall in the last year.

Figure 10: Workload within crime lower, Apr-Jun 2011 to Jan-Mar 2014



Pre-charge suspects

Pre-charge work is the largest area of crime lower and in 2013-14 it made up over 60 per cent of the workload. Anyone in England and Wales who is interviewed by the police or attends a police station can receive advice funded by legal aid either on the telephone or by a solicitor in attendance with the suspect. The LAA has limited control over the volume of police station claims. Changes to police numbers and priorities will lead to changes in the number of arrests, charges and cautions.

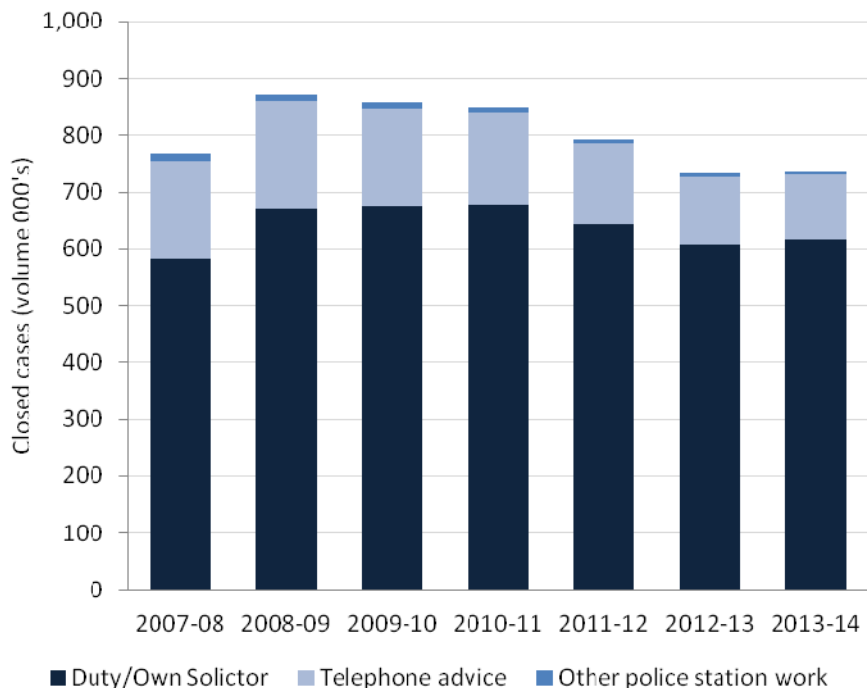
The overall workload in 2013-14 remained stable compared to the previous year (see figure 11). Over time the trend has been gradually decreasing from a peak in 2008-09. A similar trend can be seen in recorded crime figures which have also been reducing in the same period⁴.

The majority of the pre-charge workload consists of suspects receiving legal help with a solicitor in attendance. In 2013-14 the volume of this work was eight per cent lower than the peak in 2008-09.

⁴ <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/crime-stats/crime-statistics/period-ending-december-2013/stb-crime-stats-dec-2013.html#tab-Overall-level-of-crime>

There has been a steady decline in telephone advice given with figures in 2013-14 nearly 40 per cent lower than in 2008-09. Workload in other police station work has also fallen, and is now less than half of the peak in 2008-09.

Figure 11: Volume of workload with pre-charge suspects



Magistrates' court

The overall workload in magistrates' courts where a representation order is required (including court duty solicitor sessions) in 2013-14 fell by five per cent when compared to the previous year. The trend follows the general fall in workload over the last few years with a 29 per cent reduction when compared with 2007-08. This is consistent with the trend in the magistrates' court workload which has fallen by 21 per cent between 2008 and 2013⁵. This is driven by the fall in those where a representation order is required as these cases account for more than 80 per cent of the magistrates' court workload.

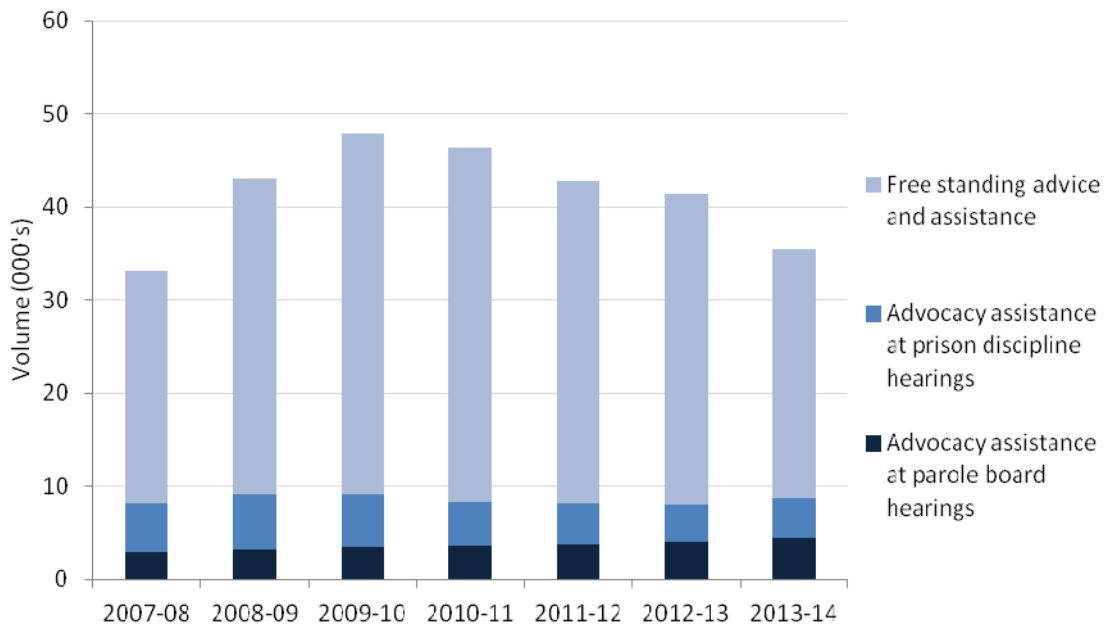
Prison Law

In Prison law there was a 49 per cent increase in volume between 2007-08 and 2009-10, but since then figures have been gradually decreasing (see figure 12). 2013-14 has seen a 14 per cent fall compared to the previous year. From December 2013, under the Legal Aid Reform programme, there were changes to the scope of legal aid available for prison law⁶. The effect of these changes on the figures for 2013-14 will be limited as they were introduced part way through the year, but they may have been a factor in the large decrease this year.

⁵ Completed proceedings in table 3.1 of the main tables in Court Statistics (Quarterly) January to March 2014 <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/court-statistics-quarterly>

⁶ <http://www.justice.gov.uk/offenders/parole-board>

Figure 12: Volume of workload with prison law

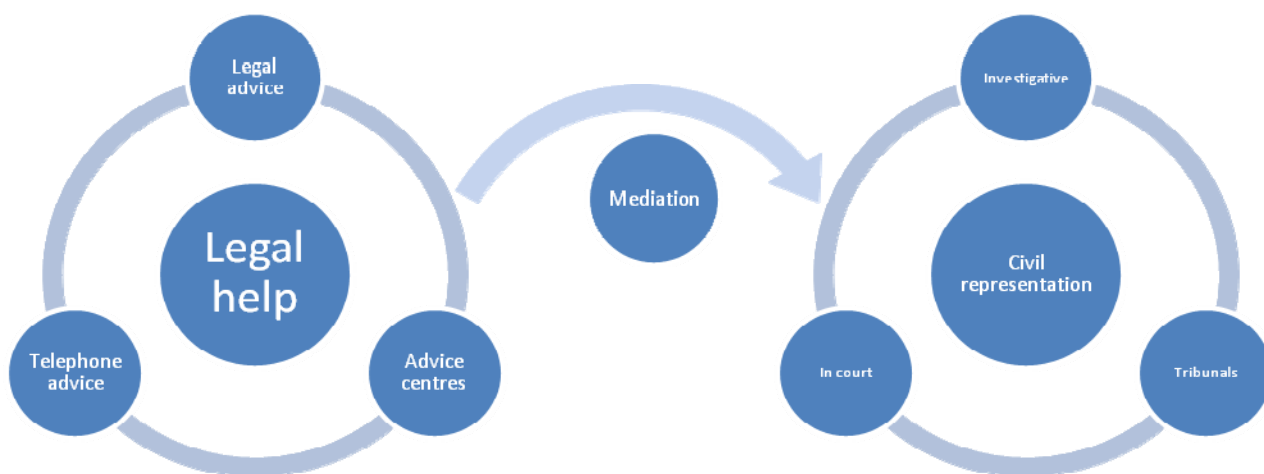


Three quarters of prison law cases in 2013-14 were for free standing advice and assistance cases. The Parole Board considered over four thousand (13 per cent) at a legal aid funded oral hearings and finally the LAA also funded over four thousand (12 per cent) disciplinary hearing claims, which were heard by Independent Adjudicators (IAs).

Civil & Family – Community Legal Service

Many events and issues in people's lives require legal assistance, these can be simple phone calls to a not for profit advice centre or a long drawn out divorce with attempted mediation and further court appearances.

Legal help is usually the first point of civil legal advice and covers help via telephone, face-to-face and not for profit centres. Many of these will then extend into civil representation with full investigations undertaken or in court representation given although it is possible enter straight into civil representation.



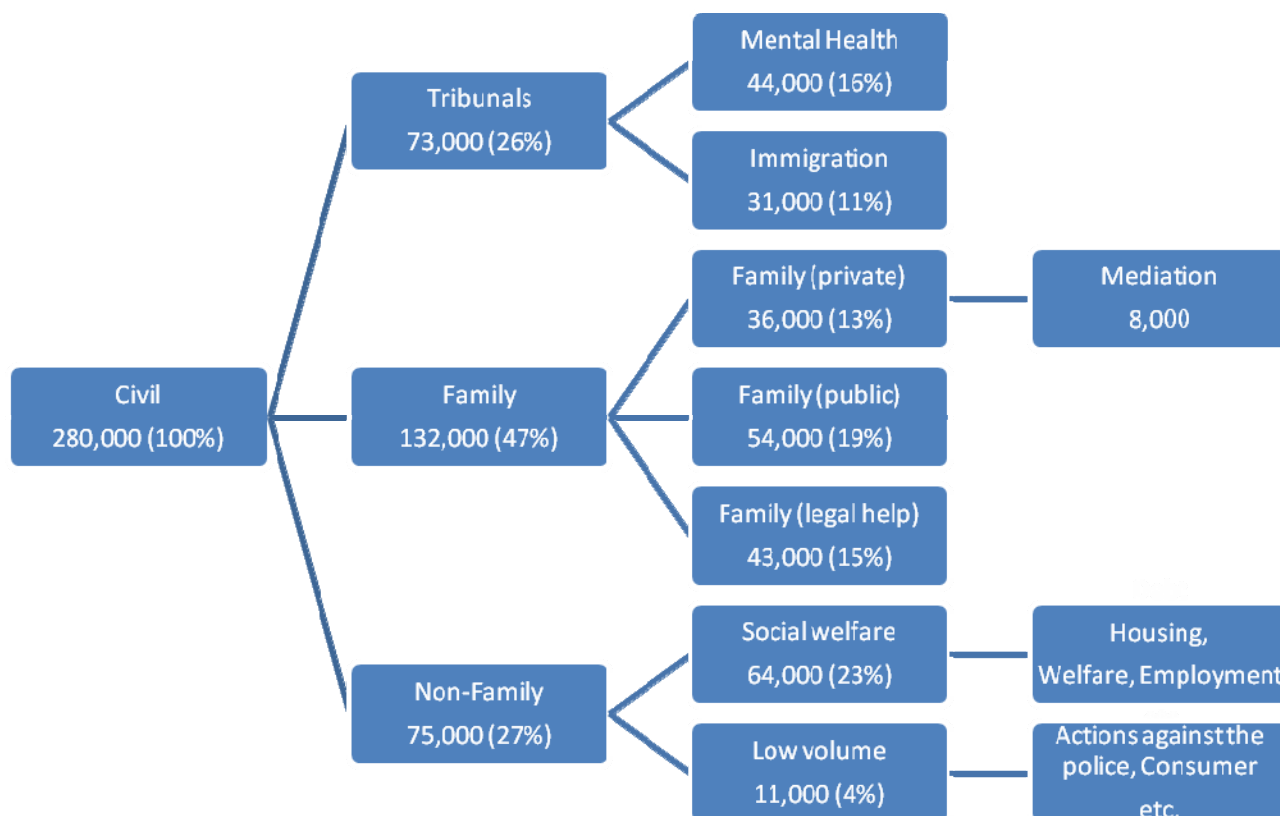
A wide range of categories of civil law are covered within the legal aid provisions although the availability of legal help has changed over time to reflect the changing nature of the civil system. These wide ranging categories, including debt, immigration and divorce, and the type of work contained within each are given in Annex A.

There have been changes in the makeup of levels of service funded by civil legal aid. The volumes of new matters started for legal help have fallen by over 80 per cent between 2009-10 and 2013-14. The number of certificates granted for civil representation have fallen by 30 per cent between 2010-11 and 2013-14.

The longer term trend in civil representation is consistent with the trend in civil courts statistics which show a steady decrease in the total number of hearings and trial since 2008⁷.

⁷ See table 1.1 of the main tables in Court Statistics (Quarterly) January to March 2014
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/court-statistics-quarterly>

Figure 13: Volumes within civil legal aid area (acts of assistance, excludes housing possession court duty scheme and telephone operator service)



¹ The figure for family mediation is not included within the Family (private) total

Note: figures have been rounded so may not sum to totals. Figures are taken from legal help matters started and civil representation certificates granted.

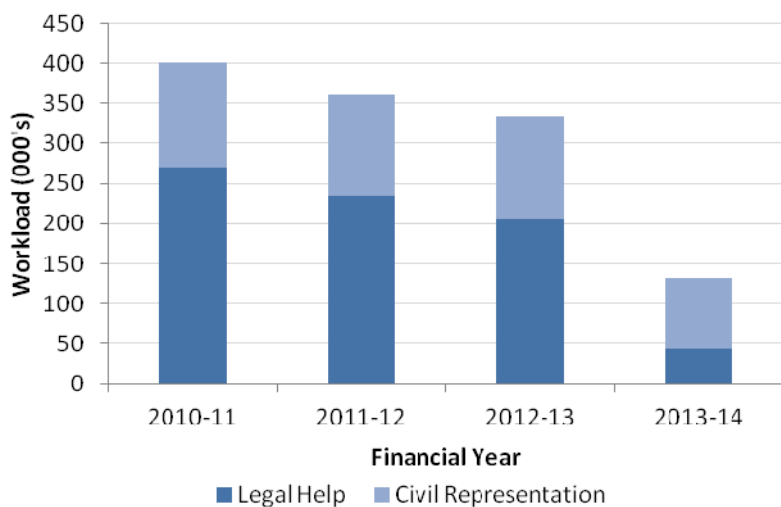
Family

The category of family legal aid covers work on both private and public law and includes work associated with the Children Act, domestic abuse, financial provision and family mediation. Figures for each category are not available for legal help matters.

In the last four years volumes in family law have been decreasing. However, in the last year there has been a 60 per cent drop compared to the year before. This change is likely to be driven by the change in scope for legal aid as a result of the LASPO Act. From the civil representation figures, the largest falls have been in private law Children’s Act proceedings (over 30,000 fewer certificates granted). This is consistent with the changes implemented under LASPO as legal aid is now only available for private family law cases if there is evidence of domestic violence or child abuse and for child abduction cases.

Despite large falls in other areas of the family workload, decreases in family public law have been much smaller. Family public cases are primarily driven by the issuing of proceedings by individual Local Authorities. These cases are non-means and merits tested, and LAA has no control over the volume of these cases.

Figure 14: Family workload: Legal Help and Civil Representation



Note: Data is from legal help matters started and civil representation certificates granted

Family Mediation

The process of settling outside of the court system using alternative dispute resolution is cheaper and quicker than using the courts but it also allows for a more flexible approach. Increasingly the courts have introduced a mediation stage in proceedings to encourage parties to settle rather than litigate their dispute to the end.

Family mediation allows a neutral mediator help the parties to reach a mutually acceptable compromise while conciliation gives the mediator the power to suggest grounds for compromise.

Arbitration is the voluntary submission by the parties of their dispute to the judgment of a neutral arbitrator. Agreement is normally contained in writing in a contract. The main advantages are seen as expertise, speed and flexibility and the fact that arbitrations are private.

Figure 15: Family mediation figures since 2006-07

Financial year	Assessments	Mediation Starts	Starts as % of assessments	Agreements	Agreements as % of Starts
2006-07	22,758	13,918	61%	8,996	65%
2007-08	22,665	13,239	58%	9,164	69%
2008-09	24,152	13,537	56%	8,989	66%
2009-10	27,138	14,745	54%	9,939	67%
2010-11	26,388	14,186	54%	9,920	70%
2011-12	31,338	15,357	49%	9,799	64%
2012-13	30,662	13,609	44%	9,076	67%
2013-14	13,354	8,400	63%	6,613	79%

The use of mediation has fallen in the last year (see figure 15), but this may be due to the reduction in scope of legal aid due to the LASPO Act and coincides with a fall in the total number of family cases. Whilst volumes have decreased, the last year has seen an increase in the proportion of assessments that then turn into mediation starts.

The number of full and partial agreements has also decreased, but in 2013-14 the proportion of those reaching agreements rose to 79 per cent of all mediation proceedings started. This is an increase compared to previous years where around two-thirds of those starting full mediation reached agreement without having to enter the court system.

Non-family – social welfare law (SWL)

The social welfare law categories include community care, debt, housing and welfare benefits. This area was impacted by the LASPO Act changes and this is reflected in the statistics for the last year. Social welfare volumes have fallen by 79 per cent in 2013-14 compared to 2012-13. Within this the largest falls were in welfare (over 88,000 fewer) and debt (nearly 80,000 fewer) when compared to the previous year.

Although there have been big falls in the last year, social welfare volumes have been falling since 2010-11. In this category overall there was a 29 per cent fall between 2010-11 and 2012-13, with falls across all five areas (see figure 16).

In 2013-14 housing was the largest volume area, making up 89 per cent of social welfare, with community care making up a further six per cent and debt four per cent.

Figure 16: Workload in non-family social welfare law, 2010-11 to 2013-14

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Social Welfare	411,647	368,123	294,839	64,291
Community care	7,097	7,453	6,242	3,848
Debt	128,825	109,511	81,984	2,561
Employment	25,450	20,295	16,172	18
Housing	129,147	120,119	102,063	57,719
Welfare benefits	121,128	110,745	88,378	145

Note: Workload has been calculated by adding legal help matters started and civil representation certificated granted.

Non-family – low volume (LV)

This category differs from other civil and family categories as need is thinly distributed within the population, and demand is greatly influenced by the location and advice provided by low volume providers. They cover actions against the police, clinical negligence, consumer and general contract, education, personal injury, civil liberties (public law) and other meritorious cases. Individually, workload on the low volume categories is so low that it is difficult to see specific trends.

Figure 17: Workload in non-family low volume, 2010-11 to 2013-14

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Low Volume	24,690	21,198	17,029	10,903
Actions against the police etc.	4,725	5,168	4,167	2,970
Clinical negligence	6,884	6,286	5,258	1,146
Consumer	1,512	699	457	54
Discrimination	-	-	1	2,388
Education	4,814	3,900	3,093	1,210
Personal injury	857	533	325	5
Public law	2,979	3,318	3,150	2,664
Miscellaneous	2,919	1,294	578	466

Note: workload has been calculated by adding legal help matters started and civil representation certificated granted.

The changes to scope in the LASPO Act and previous changes have meant that the volume of personal injury workload has reduced to just five. Other areas affected by the LASPO Act and showing large falls are clinical negligence and education.

Tribunals

Legal aid in these categories (mental health and immigration & asylum) covers representation at a tribunal.

Mental health

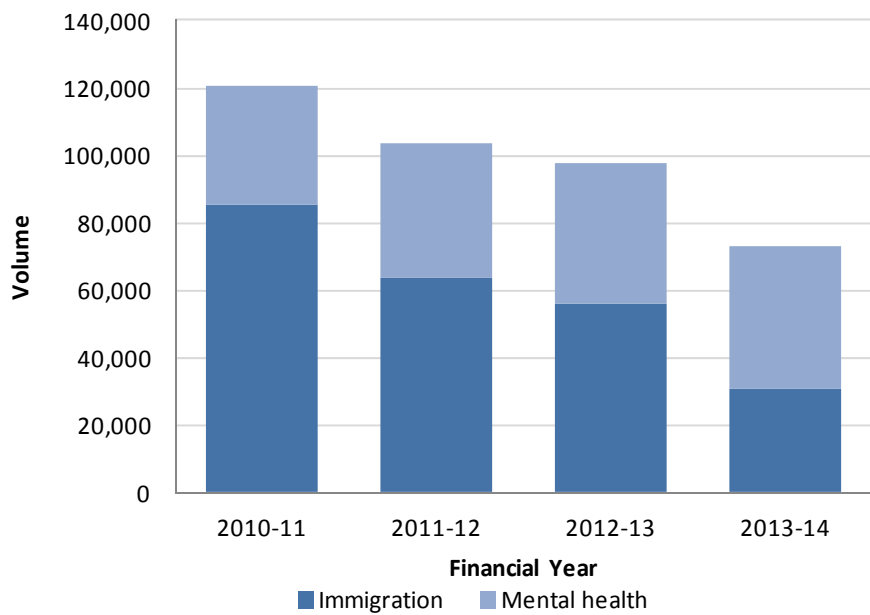
Within mental health the majority of funding is applied in providing assistance to sectioned clients appealing the terms of their detention before a mental health tribunal. There is a statutory duty to provide advice and representation in these cases, and they are funded without reference to a client's means. The number of providers carrying out this work is small compared with other categories. Providers have to travel to discrete NHS and private hospital locations to advise high priority detained clients.

Between 2010-11 and 2013-14 there has been a steady increase in the volume of legally aided mental health tribunals. In 2013-14 there was a one per cent increase compared to the previous year (see figure 18).

Immigration

Under the changes made in the LASPO Act, the majority of immigration cases are no longer in scope for legal aid. This was reflected in the figures which showed a 45 per cent decrease in 2013-14 compared to the previous year.

Figure 18: Workload in mental health and immigration, 2010-11 to 2013-14



Note: workload has been calculated by adding legal help matters started and civil representation certificated granted.

Appealing decisions

Providers who are unhappy with decisions in relation to their contract can ask for an internal review and/or for the matter to be referred to the Contract Review Body. If they are still unhappy their ultimate remedy is to go to arbitration.

The internal complaints procedure includes a route to compensation for maladministration, basically any error or omission which has led to financial loss. The scheme is unlimited in terms of the amount of compensation that can be claimed, although claims for over £5,000 go to the Customer Redress Committee and then for approval to the MoJ.

Appeals against decisions

The number of appeals against representation decisions on financial and legal grounds has fallen by 11 per cent when compared to the previous year. The proportion of appeals granted has remained fairly steady over the last seven years with a slight fall in the last two years (see figure 19).

Figure 19: Appeals against decision for legal aid (civil representation only) since 2007-08

	Financial year						
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Number financial and legal appeals	11,264	10,074	10,267	10,540	11,246	9,843	8,792
Number granted	1,388	1,366	1,418	1,245	1,318	1,014	910
% Granted	12%	14%	14%	12%	12%	10%	10%

Appeals against representation provided

When granting public funding to an individual, their opponents or other third parties may make representations against the grant or continuation of funding. Representations may be made concerning the legal merits of the case, the financial means of the applicant, or both.

Figures had been in decline between 2008-09 and 2011-12 with a fall of 25 per cent in the period (see figure 20). However, the figures in 2012-13 showed an increase of 19 per cent compared to the previous year. There has been a two per cent fall in 2013-14, but numbers are still above the low point of 2011-12.

Figure 20: Appeals against representation provided since 2007-08

Financial Year	Merits &			Total
	Merits	Means	means	
2007-08	1,166	1,143	162	2,471
2008-09	1,241	1,289	147	2,677
2009-10	1,146	1,298	126	2,570
2010-11	1,119	901	114	2,134
2011-12	1,046	855	117	2,018
2012-13	1,149	1,162	93	2,404
2013-14	1,385	882	77	2,344

Exceptional Case Funding: applications and determination

Clause 10 of the Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (LASPO) introduced the practice of applying for Exceptional Case Funding (ECF) from the 1 April 2013.

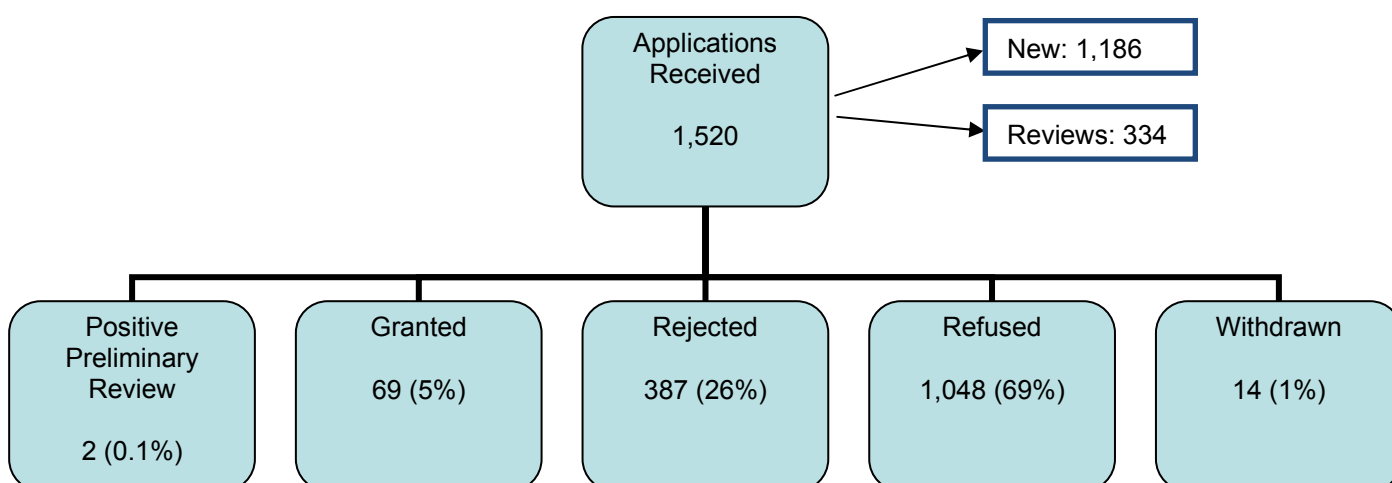
An ECF application for civil legal services is made where a case falls outside the scope of legal aid but the client or conducting solicitor believes there is evidence to support there being a requirement to provide funding because failure to do so would be a breach of, or having regard to any risk that failure to do so would be such a breach of, their Convention rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998), or any rights of the individual to the provision of legal services that are enforceable EU rights.

An ECF determination can only be granted if:

- the above exceptional case criteria are met, and
- the relevant criteria set out in the Civil Legal Aid (Merits Criteria) Regulations are met, and
- the relevant criteria set out in the Civil Legal Aid (Financial Resources and Payment for Services) Regulations are met

Part 8 of the Civil Legal Aid (Procedure) Regulations 2012 informs that there are particular exceptions that apply to the procedures of ECF. There is no appeal provision only a right to an internal review, there is no emergency provision, or delegated functions. There is however a provision that allows an ECF determination to take effect from a date earlier than the actual date of the determination.

Figure 21: Process map setting out the assessment of ECF applications received and determinations made by the LAA ECF Team. This covers the period from April 2013 to March 2014.



All applications received in 2013-14 have been determined with an average turnaround time for assessing new and reviewed ECF applications of 7 working days (excluding cases awaiting assessment). The turnaround time for each application starts on the date it is received by the LAA ECF team. The majority of ECF applications (95 per cent, 1,440 applications) were received

from a legal aid provider. Only five per cent (80 applications) were received directly from the client.

Unlike other legal aid applications, clients can make ECF applications directly to the Legal Aid Agency. If the ECF application sent directly by the client is likely to be granted their application is given a positive preliminary view, subject to a full ECF Application being submitted in conjunction with a Legal Aid provider.

Figure 22: Summary of all ECF applications received in 2013-14, split by category of law and by determination.

Area of Law	Positive					Total
	Preliminary View	Granted	Refused	Rejected	Withdrawn	
Family	2	9	584	220	6	821
Immigration	0	4	189	39	3	235
Inquest	0	53	86	60	1	200
Other	0	1	49	32	4	86
Housing/Land Law	0	1	52	27	0	80
PI/Clinical Negligence	0	0	63	2	0	65
Inquiry/Tribunal	0	1	6	6	0	13
Welfare Benefits	0	0	11	0	0	11
Debt/Consumer/Contract	0	0	6	0	0	6
Education	0	0	2	0	0	2
Discrimination	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total	2	69	1,048	387	14	1,520

More than half of all applications (54 per cent) were family applications. A typical family application is in private family law proceedings. These may concern the right of contact with and residence of the applicant's child or the division of matrimonial assets. These cases generally involve determination of civil rights and obligations. In assessing these applications the overarching question to consider is whether withholding of legal aid would make the assertion of the claim practically impossible or lead to an obvious unfairness in proceedings.

Provider information

Legal aid services in England and Wales are delivered through two types of service providers, contracted providers and referral providers.

There has been a steady reduction in the number of contracted legal aid providers since 2007-08. This decline is driven largely by a fall in the number of civil providers.

Criminal legal aid volume is mainly demand led whereas civil legal aid volume is controlled by the LAA awarding a maximum number of new matter starts to each contracted provider.

Since 2007-08 the number of civil providers has fallen by 39 per cent (as at the end of the 2013-14 financial year) and criminal providers under contract have decreased by 16 per cent. In the last year the number of civil providers has reduced by 11 per cent compared to the previous year. Crime providers have decreased by five per cent over the same period.

Figure 23: Providers split by civil and criminal (as at end of each financial year)

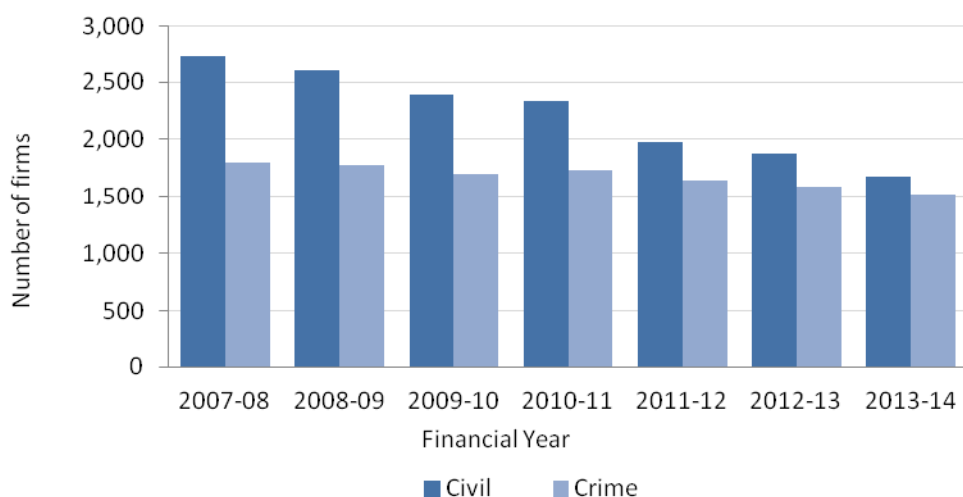
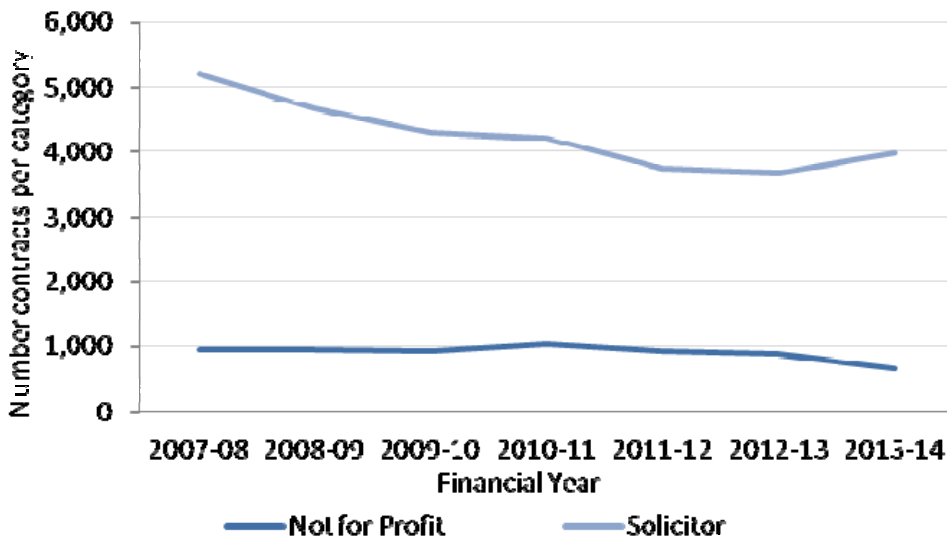


Figure 24: Categories of law held under contract (as at end of each financial year)



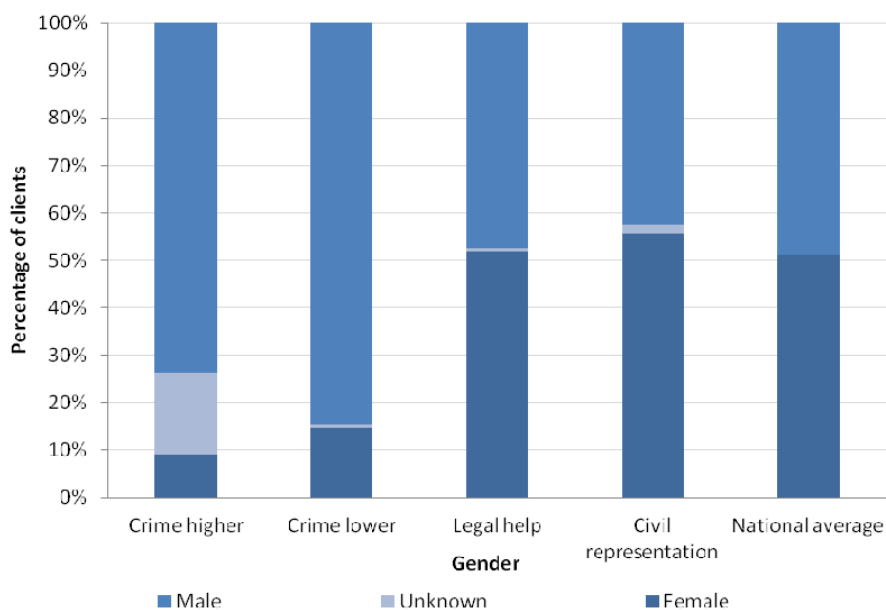
The total number of contracts held for providing legal aid across all civil categories of law has remained steady over the last three years, with just under 4,700 contracts open as at 31 March 2014, of which around 4,000 were held by solicitor firms and around 700 were held by Not-for-Profit organisations (see figure 24).

Clients of Legal Aid

The charts below show the breakdown of client diversity for crime, legal help and civil representation compared with the national breakdown from the latest 2011 census statistics

The overall criminal legal aid client gender profile differs from the national profile with a much greater proportion of male clients. This follows the same trend seen in the Criminal Justice System, with more male defendants passing through the system than females.⁸

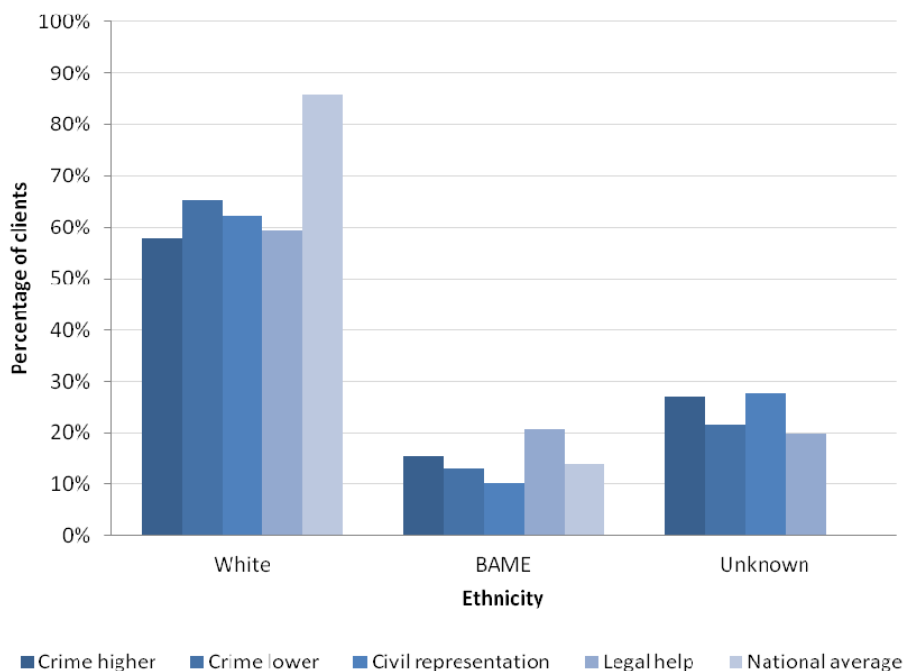
Figure 25: Proportion of clients by gender (closed cases in 2013-14)



⁸ MOJ, Criminal Justice statistics quarterly: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-justice/series/criminal-justice-statistics>

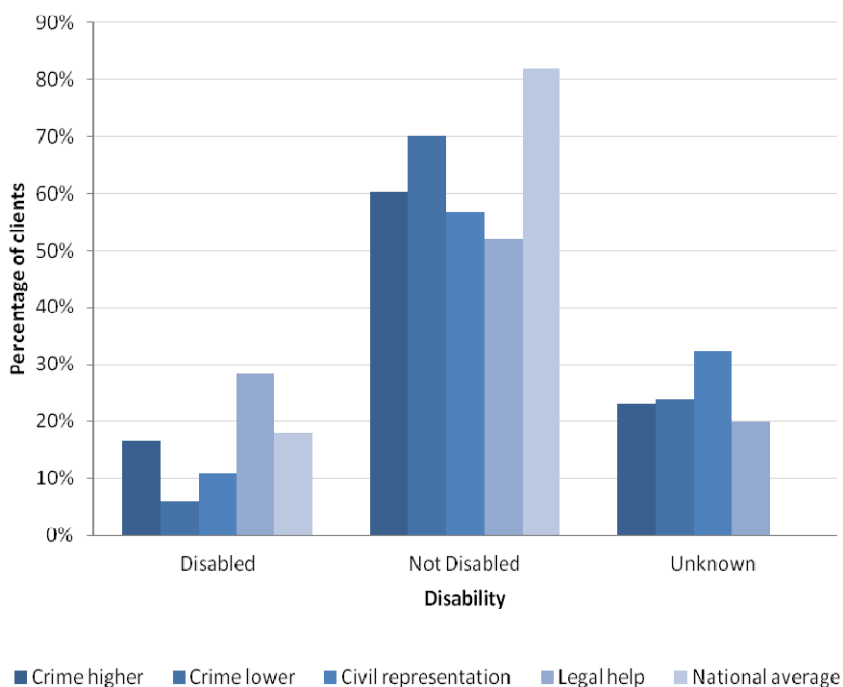
The overall civil legal aid client diversity profile differs from the national profile with a greater proportion of clients from black and minority ethnic (BAME) origin. This may be affected by the high numbers where ethnicity is unknown.

Figure 26: Proportion of clients by broad ethnic group (closed cases in 2012-13)



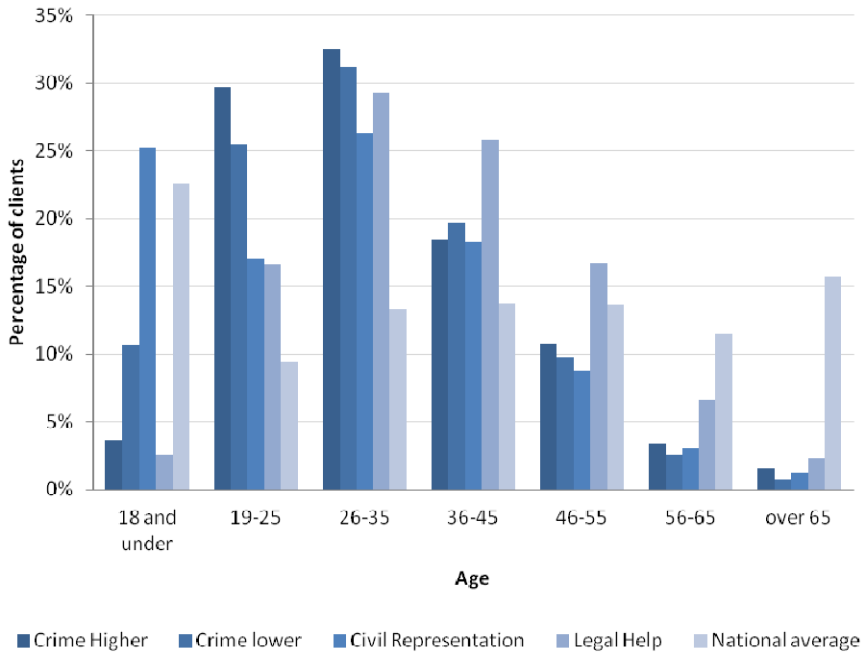
The overall civil legal aid client diversity profile differs from the national profile with a greater proportion of clients with a disability. This may be affected by the high numbers where the disability status is unknown.

Figure 27: Proportion of clients by disability status (closed cases in 2013-14)



The overall criminal legal aid client age profile has a much greater proportion of younger clients than the general population of England and Wales. This follows the same trend seen in the Criminal Justice System, with defendants passing through the system concentrated in younger age groups.

Figure 28: Proportion of clients by age (closed cases in 2013-14)



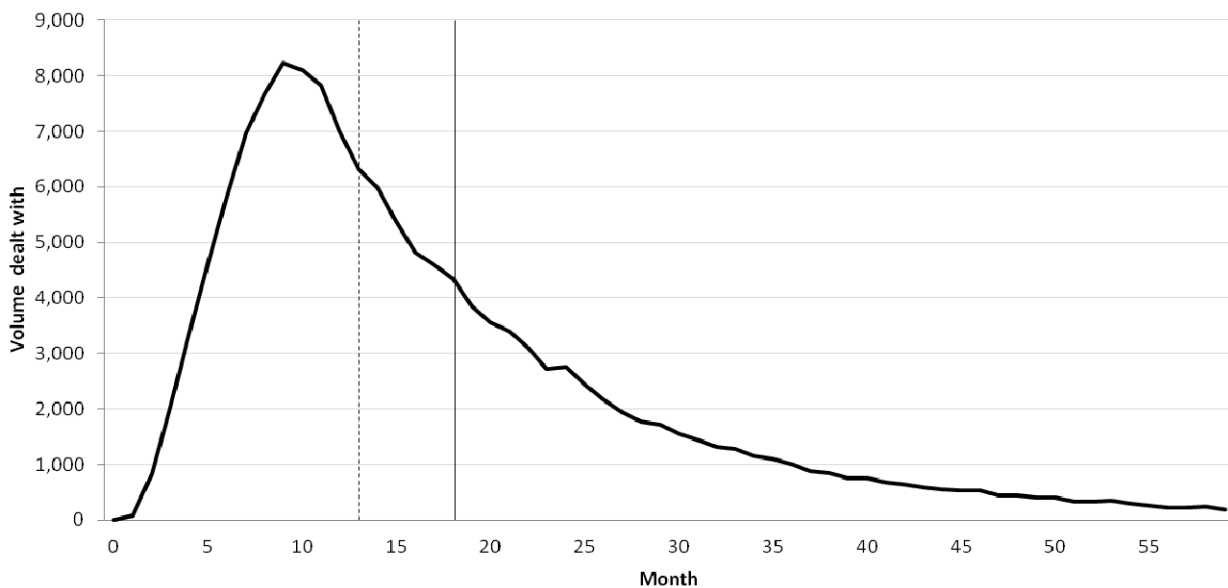
Timeliness

While not able to influence the duration of a case, the LAA is able to analyse the time taken from the granting of legal aid to the date when the final payment is made. This data is not regularly reviewed during the internal management information process and as such its inclusion in this document is experimental.

The timeliness data highlights the differences between the quicker Legal Help and Crime Lower work and the lengthier matters with multiple court hearings spread over a long time for Civil Representation and Crime Higher.

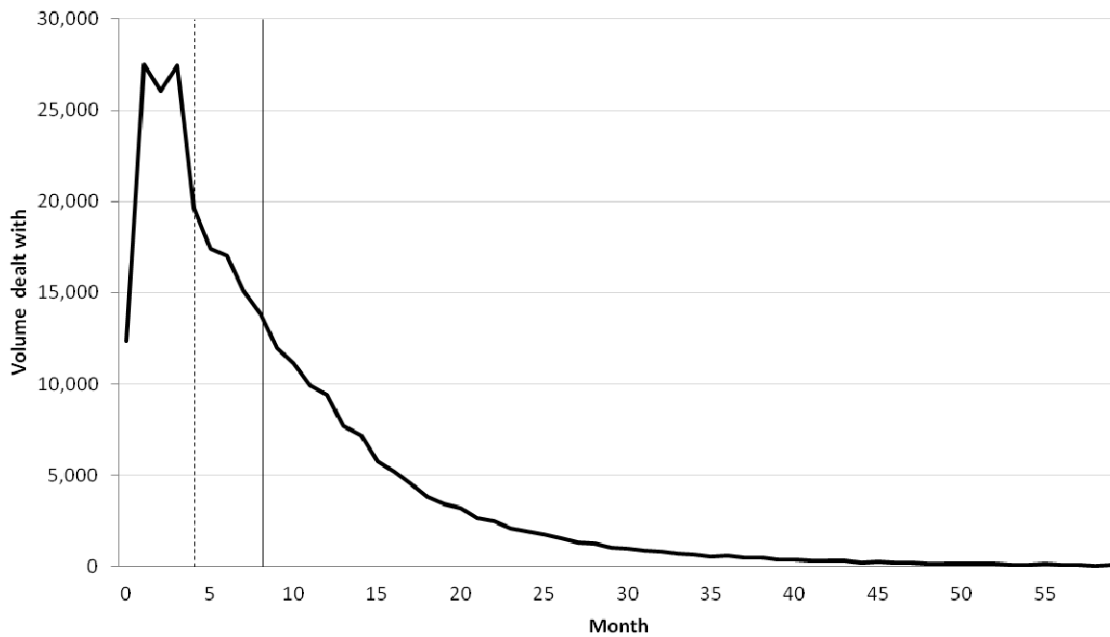
Each of the charts below shows two kinds of average for the time taken in each area of legal aid. The mean (solid vertical line) shows the total length of time taken divided by the number of cases, and the median (dotted vertical line) shows the middle value, where half of all cases took longer and half took less time. The mean can be skewed upwards where the underlying data has a minority of very lengthy cases, so the median can be more representative of a typical case.

Figure 29: Timeliness of Civil Representation completed matters, 2013-14



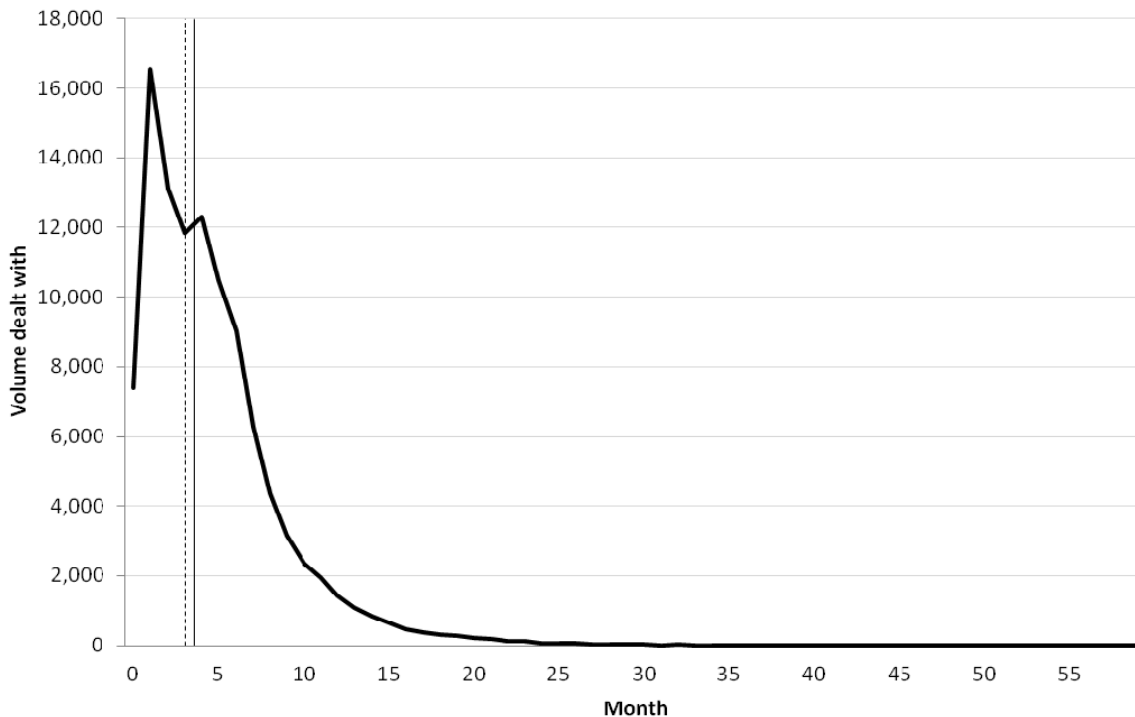
In 2013-14, the mean time taken for Civil Representation completed matters was just over 19 months, which compares with just under 21 months for matters completed in the previous year. The median fell to 14 months, from 15 months in the previous year.

Figure 30: Timeliness of Legal Help completed matters, 2013-14



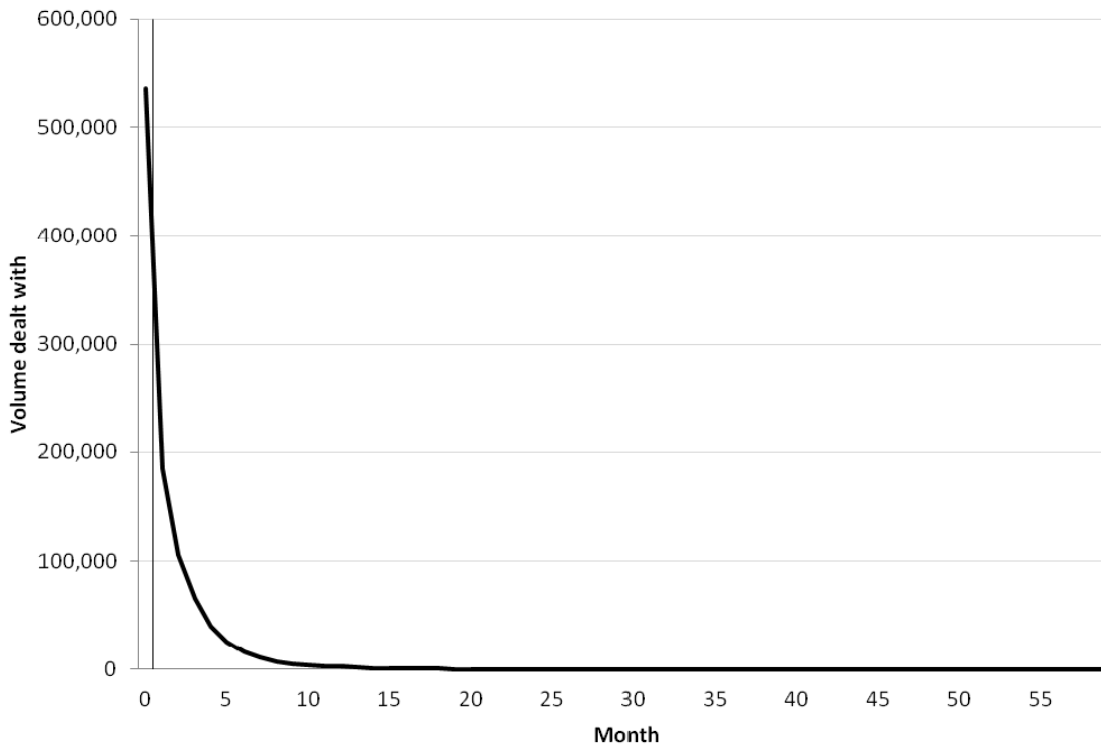
The mean time taken for legal help matters in 2013-14 was just over nine months, which compares with just over seven months in the previous year. However the median was five months, unchanged from the previous year.

Figure 31: Timeliness of Crime Higher (Crown Court) completed matters, 2013-14



In 2013-14, the mean time taken for Crime Higher (Crown Court) matters was between four and five months, which compares with just under five months in the previous year. The median remained unchanged at four months.

Figure 32: Timeliness of Crime Lower completed matters, 2013-14



Both the median (less than one month) and the median (between one and two months) for Crime Lower are low due to the large majority of pre-charge work, and to a lesser extent those matters with fewer court hearings, which occur on the same day at the police station in attendance with the suspect. These figures are virtually unchanged compared with the previous year.

Tables

Summary

Table 1 Legal aid workload summary since 2001-02

Criminal legal aid

Table 2.1 Crime lower workload (count)

Table 2.2 Crime lower workload (value)

Table 2.3 Crime lower workload (quarterly)

Table 3.1 Magistrates' courts: legal aid applications and grants

Table 3.2 Crown Court: legal aid applications and grants

Table 4.1 Crime higher workload

Table 4.2 Litigator Graduated Fee Scheme (LGFS)

Table 4.3 Advocate Graduated Fee Scheme (AGFS)

Table 4.4 Crown Court graduated fee schemes

Table 4.5 High Cost Crime cases

Civil legal aid

Table 5.1 Legal help matters started (count)

Table 5.2 Legal help matters completed – Solicitors and NfP only (count)

Table 6.1 Civil representation, applications received

Table 6.2 Civil representation, certificates granted

Table 6.3 Civil representation, certificates completed

Table 6.4 Civil representation costs met by LAA

Table 6.5 Civil representation costs met by opponent

Table 6.6 Civil representation outcomes

Table 7.1 Mediation assessment

Table 7.2 Mediations

Appeals, providers and acts of assistance

Table 8.1 Appeals – against representation decision

Table 8.2 Appeals – against representation provided

Table 9 Civil Legal Help – Providers available

Table 10 Overall Summary Acts of Assistance and Expenditure since 2007-08

Guidance on tables and supplementary information.

In addition to the supplementary excel tables, and in line with the MoJ commitment to provide information in a reusable format there are accompanying csv files published containing historical data for further manipulation by users. All these workbooks and CSV files can be accessed at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/legal-aid-statistics>

Symbols and conventions

The following symbols have been used throughout the tables in this bulletin:

0 = Nil

- = Not applicable

.. = Not available

Data before 2010-11 have not been updated from previous versions of this report. Data for 2011-12 and 2012-13 have been updated and may be different to previous publications as data are taken from a live database.

Table 1: Legal aid workload summary since 2001-02

Volume of work in legal aid 2001-02 to 2013-14, with quarterly data for Apr-Jun 2011 to Jan-Mar 2014

Financial Year	Quarter	Crime lower	Crime higher			Crime higher total	Legal help		Civil representation			Civil total
			Representation at Crown Court ^{1,2}	Very high cost cases	Court of Appeal and Supreme Court		New matters started ³	Completed matters ⁴	Applications received	Certificates granted	Certificates closed ⁵	
2001-02		1,685,094	..	..	..	..	764,697	748,890	..	..	..	..
2002-03		1,549,626	..	..	..	..	811,848	798,033	..	..	..	..
2003-04		1,579,751	..	..	..	..	709,769	756,569	..	..	..	..
2004-05		1,505,674	..	..	..	..	654,267	715,837	..	..	..	..
2005-06		1,528,383	..	..	..	..	783,455	786,522	..	..	..	..
2006-07		1,462,987	..	56	..	..	851,023	876,071	..	..	..	..
2007-08		1,381,424	..	54	..	..	807,459	735,436	..	..	..	..
2008-09		1,521,547	..	63	..	..	893,812	756,446	..	..	..	..
2009-10		1,501,156	126,143	55	..	..	942,882	904,261	..	..	..	..
2010-11		1,429,294	130,459	33	..	..	803,914	815,340	187,588	153,602	124,887	957,516
2011-12		1,331,364	132,570	28	5,778	138,376	705,295	674,848	176,375	148,274	133,916	853,569
2012-13		1,233,251	123,120	20	5,643	128,783	592,368	602,241	190,641	150,453	133,315	742,821
2013-14		1,203,473	111,927	12	4,906	116,845	172,501	328,319	113,180	107,944	143,545	280,445
2011-12 ³	Apr-Jun	330,825	25,621	4	..	..	146,490	147,176	42,787	34,867	30,328	..
	Jul-Sep	348,473	41,872	14	..	..	153,048	144,784	45,623	37,575	35,833	..
	Oct-Dec	324,005	27,202	9	..	..	132,861	137,916	43,403	37,527	33,046	..
	Jan-Mar	328,061	37,875	1	..	..	149,436	146,745	44,562	38,305	34,709	..
2012-13	Apr-Jun	307,466	32,480	1	..	..	129,486	132,650	43,543	36,134	33,396	..
	Jul-Sep	319,612	29,737	6	..	..	128,907	128,059	45,515	37,791	31,959	..
	Oct-Dec	299,966	31,993	5	..	..	112,448	122,314	44,248	36,444	33,734	..
	Jan-Mar	306,207	28,910	8	..	..	115,372	124,577	57,335	40,084	34,226	..
2013-14	Apr-Jun	302,487	27,822	5	..	..	35,910	107,700	34,550	34,771	35,664	..
	Jul-Sep	306,523	28,616	4	..	..	37,957	79,253	26,334	25,144	34,280	..
	Oct-Dec	295,546	28,889	3	..	..	36,565	61,996	26,430	23,541	35,665	..
	Jan-Mar	298,917	26,600	0	..	..	39,736	57,286	25,866	24,488	37,936	..

¹ Figures before the higher crime schemes transferred to the Legal Services Commission are not available

² Based on litigator graduated fee scheme only

³ All figures exclude Housing possession court duty scheme and Telephone operator service, quarterly figures also exclude telephone advice service so figures will not sum to yearly totals

⁴ Quarterly figures exclude telephone advice service so figures will not sum to yearly totals

⁵ Data does not include cases completed in the LAA's new administrative system, including these would raise completed volumes by an estimated 0.6% and total value by less than 0.5%.

Table 2.1: Crime lower workload (count)

Case volume for crime lower 2001-2 to 2013-14

Type													Count
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Pre-charge suspects	674,837	753,001	771,688	780,966	805,078	786,441	767,360	871,093	856,617	847,900	792,808	733,829	736,343
Attendance	482,373	545,901	563,811	575,814	617,362	633,131	584,107	671,266	676,536	678,532	641,797	608,407	616,187
Attendance on immigration issues	-	2,428	4,028	3,306	2,555	807	380	226	96	65	39	34	52
Duty solicitor standby (claims)	31,832	32,769	33,849	34,630	35,023	33,881	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Telephone advice only	133,993	144,059	147,153	150,415	134,615	103,800	92,022	54,414	42,908	37,181	27,925	22,455	20,711
Telephone advice admin costs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
CDS Direct telephone advice	-	-	-	-	-	-	77,908	134,141	126,968	123,740	115,497	96,738	94,627
Free standing advice and assistance (not in police station)	24,823	26,127	20,870	14,685	13,954	13,790	12,379	10,357	9,446	7,861	7,094	5,777	4,399
Warrants of further detention	1,816	1,717	1,977	2,116	1,569	1,032	564	689	663	521	456	418	367
Charged defendants¹	288,644	120,537	116,602	49,797	34,514	31,206	24,087	18,381	18,020	17,809	15,598	15,984	12,978
Post charge police station advice and assistance	82,742	9,701	20,283	19,827	17,882	15,273	11,397	4,473	3,044	2,371	1,580	1,260	1,112
Refused means test form completion fee	-	-	-	-	-	-	185	1,593	1,798	1,703	1,919	1,582	1,351
Early cover	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,311	2,387	3,136	3,137	3,145	2,783	2,194
Preparation: representation order refused	-	-	-	5,066	6,849	5,908	3,342	3,931	4,333	3,918	3,974	3,662	3,070
Advice and assistance	99,192	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Advocacy assistance	31,154	27,154	23,982	6,241	3,789	3,178	1,637	1,167	1,138	1,308	756	699	615
Assistance by way of representation	779	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Appeals, reviews and other courts	1,695	1,522	1,604	1,984	2,282	2,254	1,838	2,278	2,960	3,203	3,638	4,282	3,396
Civil assistance on criminal matters	-	908	612	359	265	243	863	683	883	1,092	1,280	1,693	1,240
Firms claiming for file review payments	-	1,661	1,587	1,569	1,709	1,390	1,030	915	822	853	5	1	-
Early first or administrative hearings	34,911	34,520	31,277	4,929	296	134	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Free standing advice and assistance	38,171	44,782	37,257	9,822	1,442	1,330	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Extended court sitting hours pilot	-	289	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Representation at Magistrates' court²	716,366	664,905	677,733	659,213	668,863	618,939	557,784	589,621	578,599	517,230	480,153	442,042	418,727
Lower standard fees	470,265	449,921	467,474	459,233	462,695	410,630	366,586	403,488	397,040	348,748	321,214	291,651	273,505
Higher standard fees	89,733	91,866	87,086	82,566	87,059	87,412	76,019	71,358	71,694	61,206	57,760	54,414	52,660
Non-standard fees and exempt cases	38,222	32,818	33,187	30,065	31,553	34,401	31,232	25,708	23,049	20,462	18,237	18,154	17,756
Second claims for deferred sentencing	-	921	1,526	1,609	1,487	1,121	694	643	596	469	881	898	713
Court duty solicitor (sessions)	118,146	89,379	88,460	85,740	86,069	85,375	83,253	88,424	86,220	86,345	82,061	76,925	74,093
Prison law	5,247	11,183	13,728	15,698	19,928	26,401	32,193	42,452	47,920	46,355	42,805	41,396	35,425
Free standing advice and assistance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38,794	38,037	34,642	33,330	26,752
Advocacy assistance at prison discipline hearings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,672	4,738	4,352	4,027	4,194
Advocacy assistance at parole board hearings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,454	3,580	3,811	4,039	4,479

¹ No representation required or refused

² Figures include Court duty solicitor sessions

Table 2.2: Crime lower workload (value)

Values for crime lower 2001-2 to 2013-14

Type	Value (£'000)												
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Pre-charge suspects	140,226	168,762	175,505	172,213	184,824	188,014	180,628	192,459	187,259	179,503	169,475	160,144	160,683
Attendance	118,586	145,274	152,495	152,461	166,138	170,795	159,025	179,019	174,632	170,018	161,235	153,145	154,921
Attendance on immigration issues	-	540	810	535	351	139	87	64	28	17	10	10	12
Duty solicitor standby (claims)	10,143	10,328	10,501	10,528	10,505	10,462	8,268	-	-	-	-	-	-
Telephone advice only	8,272	9,109	8,625	6,197	5,519	4,350	3,780	2,066	1,561	1,357	1,049	847	781
Telephone advice admin costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,820	6,492	6,737	4,044	3,285	3,086	2,605
CDS Direct telephone advice	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,731	3,221	2,821	2,744	2,614	1,959	1,490
Free standing advice and assistance (not in police station)	2,491	2,755	2,172	1,514	1,526	1,543	1,585	1,434	1,334	1,232	1,197	1,012	803
Warrants of further detention	734	756	902	978	786	725	333	164	146	92	84	85	71
Charged defendants¹	36,480	17,383	16,731	10,351	9,809	8,835	6,906	6,784	8,013	7,453	5,777	6,983	5,344
Post charge police station advice and assistance	14,166	893	1,798	1,317	1,139	1,016	712	382	281	223	159	133	125
Refused means test form completion fee	-	-	-	-	-	7	91	84	63	71	47	48	40
Early cover	-	-	-	-	-	106	204	272	276	274	250	251	197
Preparation: representation order refused	-	-	-	289	405	349	203	233	247	230	225	209	175
Advice and assistance	8,865	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Advocacy assistance	4,881	4,132	3,716	1,906	1,895	1,835	952	600	471	508	279	208	202
Assistance by way of representation	983	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Appeals, reviews and other courts	323	683	923	1,673	2,244	1,804	1,798	2,432	3,994	3,795	4,363	5,559	4,180
Civil assistance on criminal matters	-	129	88	68	71	77	162	204	204	278	434	556	424
Firms claiming for file review payments	-	3,293	3,422	3,458	3,728	3,437	2,784	2,578	2,477	2,074	21	19	-
Early first or administrative hearings	3,997	3,899	3,449	575	46	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Free standing advice and assistance	3,265	4,301	3,335	1,065	282	181	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Extended court sitting hours pilot	-	53	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Representation at Magistrates' court²	323,007	316,917	318,514	307,908	315,435	308,116	269,566	265,592	254,335	225,276	210,945	198,436	190,138
Lower standard fees	152,283	154,849	160,781	157,938	157,924	141,423	123,595	132,249	127,766	110,429	103,108	95,141	89,792
Higher standard fees	73,168	79,741	76,369	74,227	78,527	79,487	66,588	61,526	62,140	53,801	51,343	47,569	46,171
Non-standard fees and exempt cases	73,695	61,774	60,740	56,052	58,784	66,596	58,197	48,809	42,055	37,832	33,247	33,484	32,073
Second claims for deferred sentencing	-	243	393	418	418	311	199	188	169	135	290	316	241
Court duty solicitor (sessions)	23,861	20,310	20,231	19,273	19,782	20,299	20,987	22,820	22,205	23,080	22,958	21,925	21,861
Prison law	1,088	3,557	4,947	6,731	8,742	12,489	15,992	21,606	24,891	25,452	22,709	21,336	19,945
Free standing advice and assistance	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14,304	14,700	12,817	11,865	9,812
Advocacy assistance at prison discipline hearings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,722	3,258	2,018	1,762	1,703
Advocacy assistance at parole board hearings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,865	7,494	7,874	7,709	8,430

¹ No representation required or refused

² Figures include Court duty solicitor sessions

Table 2.3: Crime lower workload (quarterly)

Case volume and total value for crime lower, quarterly for Jan-Mar 2013 to Jan-Mar 2014

Type	Count					Value (£'000)				
	Jan-Mar 2013	Apr-Jun 2013	Jul-Sep 2013	Oct-Dec 2013	Jan-Mar 2014	Jan-Mar 2013	Apr-Jun 2013	Jul-Sep 2013	Oct-Dec 2013	Jan-Mar 2014
Pre-charge suspects	181,785	183,564	187,768	181,572	183,439	39,901	40,118	41,029	39,394	40,142
Attendance	152,315	153,235	156,942	151,463	154,547	38,406	38,610	39,481	38,136	38,694
Attendance on immigration issues	9	8	13	16	15	2	2	3	4	4
Duty solicitor standby (claims)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Telephone advice only	5,272	5,293	5,324	4,952	5,142	196	200	203	185	192
Telephone advice admin costs	..	..	..	..	..	665	709	733	490	672
CDS Direct telephone advice	22,662	23,785	24,250	24,020	22,572	356	378	377	372	363
Free standing advice and assistance (not in police station)	1,433	1,150	1,133	1,048	1,068	259	199	212	193	199
Warrants of further detention	94	93	106	73	95	17	19	20	14	18
Charged defendants¹	3,943	3,558	3,433	2,976	3,011	1,719	1,478	1,390	1,185	1,291
Post charge police station advice and assistance	315	320	319	245	228	39	35	37	28	24
Refused means test form completion fee	354	340	314	364	333	11	10	9	11	10
Early cover	658	594	545	511	544	59	53	49	46	49
Preparation: representation order refused	912	751	838	708	773	52	43	48	40	44
Advice and assistance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Advocacy assistance	177	194	178	120	123	47	68	56	36	42
Assistance by way of representation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Appeals, reviews and other courts	1,059	1,009	884	746	757	1,354	1,150	1,067	928	1,035
Civil assistance on criminal matters	468	350	355	282	253	158	118	125	95	86
Firms claiming for file review payments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Early first or administrative hearings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Free standing advice and assistance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Extended court sitting hours pilot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Representation at Magistrates' court²	110,248	105,509	106,189	102,328	104,701	49,831	47,663	47,503	47,608	47,363
Lower standard fees	72,797	68,909	69,790	65,966	68,840	23,784	22,587	22,820	21,738	22,648
Higher standard fees	13,667	13,196	13,141	12,945	13,378	11,931	11,541	11,545	11,361	11,724
Non-standard fees and exempt cases	4,458	4,455	4,237	4,933	4,131	8,515	7,957	7,544	9,028	7,544
Second claims for deferred sentencing	233	193	175	170	175	82	66	62	58	56
Court duty solicitor (sessions)	19,093	18,756	18,846	18,314	18,177	5,519	5,513	5,533	5,424	5,391
Prison law	1,027	1,164	1,033	1,079	1,203	1,904	2,181	5,027	4,899	4,665
Free standing advice and assistance	8,116	7,608	7,063	6,560	5,521	2,942	2,742	2,599	2,411	2,061
Advocacy assistance at prison discipline hearings	1,088	1,084	1,037	1,031	1,042	472	432	424	434	412
Advocacy assistance at parole board hearings	1,027	1,164	1,033	1,079	1,203	1,904	2,181	2,004	2,054	2,192

¹ No representation required or refused² Figures include Court duty solicitor sessions

Table 3.1: Magistrates' court: legal aid applications and grants

Number of applications and number granted for legal aid funding for cases heard at the magistrates' courts

Financial Year	Quarter	Summary only offences		Either way offences		Committal for sentence		Unknown ¹		Total	
		Volume of applications	Volume granted	Volume of applications	Volume granted	Volume of applications	Volume granted	Volume of applications	Volume granted	Volume of applications	Volume granted
2010-2011		202,233	184,966	191,929	181,032	9,257	8,784	71,247	66,075	474,666	440,857
2011-2012		222,449	203,774	214,444	203,742	14,157	13,385	21	18	451,071	420,919
2012-2013		199,690	183,086	196,907	187,267	12,662	11,900	19	19	409,278	382,272
2013-2014		183,093	168,933	201,254	193,295	9,734	9,244	32	31	394,113	371,503
2010-2011	Apr-Jun	29,410	27,030	27,979	26,607	861	819	70,331	65,278	128,581	119,734
	Jul-Sep	60,519	55,306	57,179	53,903	2,399	2,282	813	709	120,910	112,200
	Oct-Dec	54,702	49,897	53,393	50,262	2,744	2,614	70	58	110,909	102,831
	Jan-Mar	57,602	52,733	53,378	50,260	3,253	3,069	33	30	114,266	106,092
2011-2012	Apr-Jun	55,781	50,995	52,845	50,026	3,263	3,084	11	8	111,900	104,113
	Jul-Sep	59,682	54,842	56,233	53,472	3,842	3,625	5	5	119,762	111,944
	Oct-Dec	52,031	47,612	52,130	49,603	3,502	3,329	2	2	107,665	100,546
	Jan-Mar	54,955	50,325	53,236	50,641	3,550	3,347	3	3	111,744	104,316
2012-2013	Apr-Jun	50,047	45,608	48,997	46,410	3,243	3,027	16	16	102,303	95,061
	Jul-Sep	52,566	48,244	51,567	49,005	3,355	3,166	1	1	107,489	100,416
	Oct-Dec	47,892	43,986	47,724	45,434	3,112	2,914			98,728	92,334
	Jan-Mar	49,185	45,248	48,619	46,418	2,952	2,793	2	2	100,758	94,461
2013-2014	Apr-Jun	46,135	42,404	49,846	47,804	2,802	2,651	29	28	98,812	92,887
	Jul-Sep	47,827	44,102	50,790	48,702	2,573	2,444			101,190	95,248
	Oct-Dec	43,508	40,227	49,701	47,782	2,397	2,286	1	1	95,607	90,296
	Jan-Mar	45,623	42,200	50,917	49,007	1,962	1,863	2	2	98,504	93,072

¹ In some applications the case type is not known and during system introduction this information was not recorded

Table 3.2: Crown Court: legal aid applications and grants

Application grant rate of legal aid funding for cases heard at the Crown Court

Financial Year	Quarter	Either way offences		Indictable offences		Committal for sentence		Appeals ¹		Total	
		Volume of applications	Volume granted	Volume of applications	Volume granted	Volume of applications	Volume granted	Volume of applications	Volume granted	Volume of applications	Volume granted
2010-11		57,366	57,366	28,761	28,761	11,664	11,256	4,125	3,846	101,916	101,229
2011-12		66,222	66,222	35,875	35,875	19,387	18,738	5,442	5,181	126,926	126,016
2012-13		54,757	54,756	34,079	34,079	18,565	17,881	5,206	4,975	112,607	111,691
2013-14		66,993	66,993	33,818	33,818	16,880	16,277	4,403	4,211	122,094	121,299
2010-11	Apr-Jun	6,683	6,683	3,950	3,950	1,165	1,122	551	520	12,349	12,275
	Jul-Sep	16,402	16,402	9,910	9,910	3,243	3,119	1,285	1,208	30,840	30,639
	Oct-Dec	16,487	16,487	9,070	9,070	3,666	3,547	1,294	1,219	30,517	30,323
	Jan-Mar	17,794	17,794	5,831	5,831	3,590	3,468	995	899	28,210	27,992
2011-12	Apr-Jun	16,825	16,825	7,846	7,846	4,144	4,003	1,224	1,149	30,039	29,823
	Jul-Sep	18,552	18,552	9,839	9,839	5,306	5,145	1,350	1,291	35,047	34,827
	Oct-Dec	15,364	15,364	9,033	9,033	4,945	4,771	1,468	1,397	30,810	30,565
	Jan-Mar	15,481	15,481	9,157	9,157	4,992	4,819	1,400	1,344	31,030	30,801
2012-13	Apr-Jun	13,636	13,636	8,485	8,485	4,694	4,509	1,329	1,269	28,144	27,899
	Jul-Sep	13,968	13,968	8,563	8,563	4,945	4,774	1,325	1,264	28,801	28,569
	Oct-Dec	13,440	13,440	8,655	8,655	4,500	4,330	1,355	1,295	27,950	27,720
	Jan-Mar	13,713	13,712	8,376	8,376	4,426	4,268	1,197	1,147	27,712	27,503
2013-14	Apr-Jun	14,768	14,768	8,935	8,935	4,546	4,392	1,058	1,011	29,307	29,106
	Jul-Sep	17,245	17,245	8,511	8,511	4,422	4,262	1,093	1,055	31,271	31,073
	Oct-Dec	17,603	17,603	8,158	8,158	4,198	4,058	1,153	1,097	31,112	30,916
	Jan-Mar	17,377	17,377	8,214	8,214	3,714	3,565	1,099	1,048	30,404	30,204

¹ Appeal cases do not require income contribution but will be required to pay a fixed contribution at the end of their appeal if it is unsuccessful

Table 4.1: Crime higher workload

Case volume, total value and average cost of legal aid funding for the crime higher legal aid scheme

Crime Higher schemes	2011-12			2012-13			2013-14		
	Value (£'000)	Volume of case	Average case cost	Value (£'000)	Volume of case	Average case cost	Value (£'000)	Volume of case	Average case cost
Litigator Graduated Fee Scheme (LGFS) ¹	335,451	132,570	2,530	312,105	123,120	2,535	283,365	111,927	2,532
Advocate Graduated Fee Scheme (AGFS) ¹	221,170	114,081	1,939	240,260	120,109	2,000	220,785	118,408	1,865
Complex Crime Unit ^{2,3}	91,739	..	..	67,665	..	..	56,776	..	..
Proceeds of crime and escapes from GFS	23,096	7,918	2,917	16,322	7,833	2,084	15,312	7,540	2,031
Higher Courts	8,738	5,778	1,512	8,491	5,643	1,505	7,287	4,907	1,485
Court of Appeal	..	..	..	4,533	4,922	921	3,601	4,245	848
Supreme Court	..	..	..	662	21	31,531	314	13	24,172
Senior Court costs office	..	..	..	3,295	700	4,707	3,372	649	5,196
Total	680,194	260,347	2,613	644,842	256,705	2,512	583,526	242,782	2,403

¹ The figures for graduated fee schemes are based on total value of cases that were completed in the relevant year, whereas previous published figures were shown on the basis of when payments were made. This change has been made to bring the reporting of payments into line with the adjacent figures on volume of cases. Some payments relating to the first part of 2011-12 were processed in a previous, separate payment system from which it is not currently possible to determine the precise timing of case completion, and these payments have therefore been excluded, which reduces the total for the year. For a quarterly breakdown of these figures please see tables 4.2 and 4.3

² The Complex Crime Unit manages all Very High Cost Cases under a criminal legal aid contract

³ No average cost of claims is reported as each contract has multiple staged payments

Table 4.2: Litigator Graduated Fee Scheme (LGFS)

Litigator Graduated Fee Scheme (LGFS), volume and value

Financial Year	Quarter	Volume						Value (£'000)							
		Trial	Cracked Trial	Guilty Plea	Committal for Sentence	Appeal	Other ¹	Total LGFS	Trial	Cracked Trial	Guilty Plea	Committal for Sentence	Appeal	Other ¹	Total LGFS
2009-10 ²		17,399	31,080	49,132	17,723	6,101	4,708	126,143	132,238	78,556	42,722	5,364	1,820	533	261,234
2010-11		20,071	35,846	47,701	15,118	4,912	6,811	130,459	141,883	102,718	50,750	5,146	1,705	771	302,973
2011-12		20,967	33,676	47,040	18,879	4,758	7,250	132,570	162,376	106,855	57,316	6,442	1,629	834	335,451
2012-13		21,422	28,554	42,645	19,315	4,610	6,574	123,120	175,831	81,483	45,742	6,668	1,626	754	312,105
2013-14		19,511	23,604	43,854	16,491	3,794	4,673	111,927	172,341	60,344	43,112	5,689	1,332	548	283,365
2011-12	Apr-Jun	4,059	6,748	9,131	3,493	639	1,551	25,621	33,809	21,046	10,976	1,205	232	173	67,440
	Jul-Sep	6,179	10,604	15,000	6,296	1,842	1,951	41,872	43,078	32,527	18,376	2,119	601	223	96,923
	Oct-Dec	4,534	6,925	9,692	4,221	1,018	812	27,202	35,521	22,238	12,003	1,437	363	93	71,655
	Jan-Mar	6,195	9,399	13,217	4,869	1,259	2,936	37,875	49,969	31,046	15,960	1,681	433	345	99,434
2012-13	Apr-Jun	5,602	8,308	11,385	4,611	1,042	1,532	32,480	44,018	24,991	12,965	1,604	364	174	84,116
	Jul-Sep	5,048	6,698	10,195	4,886	1,231	1,679	29,737	44,726	20,057	10,757	1,684	436	198	77,858
	Oct-Dec	5,706	7,174	11,158	4,989	1,236	1,730	31,993	45,725	18,421	11,977	1,690	441	196	78,449
	Jan-Mar	5,066	6,374	9,907	4,829	1,101	1,633	28,910	41,363	18,014	10,044	1,690	385	186	71,682
2013-14	Apr-Jun	4,982	6,275	10,395	3,988	935	1,247	27,822	42,020	16,335	10,379	1,389	339	152	70,613
	Jul-Sep	5,134	6,068	10,777	4,412	998	1,227	28,616	48,576	15,305	10,838	1,552	353	144	76,768
	Oct-Dec	4,903	5,894	11,535	4,288	1,043	1,226	28,889	41,038	14,537	11,028	1,458	365	140	68,566
	Jan-Mar	4,492	5,367	11,147	3,803	818	973	26,600	40,707	14,167	10,867	1,290	275	112	67,419

¹ The figures for other include Mags Committal fee, Breaches of Crown Court Orders, Elected cases not proceeded, Hearings Subsequent to Sentence and Contempt hearings

² The figures for LGFS for 2009-10 are only partial as payments only cover Crown Court cases started after January 2008

Table 4.3: Advocate Graduated Fee Scheme (AGFS)

Advocate Graduated Fee Scheme (AGFS), volume and value

Financial Year	Quarter	Volume							Value (£'000)						
		Trial	Cracked Trial	Guilty Plea	Committal for Sentence	Appeal	Other ¹	Total AGFS	Trial	Cracked Trial	Guilty Plea	Committal for Sentence	Appeal	Other ¹	Total AGFS
2011-12 ²		19,112	28,118	39,469	14,281	3,632	9,469	114,081	107,632	68,784	38,581	3,183	726	2,264	221,170
2012-13		22,481	26,968	41,039	16,593	3,780	9,248	120,109	140,500	58,660	34,647	3,555	749	2,149	240,260
2013-14		22,193	23,291	44,942	15,812	3,454	8,716	118,408	136,569	42,180	35,991	3,318	678	2,049	220,785
2011-12	Apr-Jun	1,844	3,210	4,767	1,285	388	2,008	13,502	9,550	7,420	4,722	310	81	431	22,513
	Jul-Sep	4,312	6,932	10,178	3,873	1,043	1,746	28,084	23,664	16,280	10,184	856	200	428	51,613
	Oct-Dec	5,995	8,336	11,897	4,253	1,064	2,850	34,395	34,488	21,084	11,600	949	219	678	69,017
	Jan-Mar	6,961	9,640	12,627	4,870	1,137	2,865	38,100	39,931	24,001	12,075	1,067	226	727	78,026
2012-13	Apr-Jun	5,786	7,566	10,418	4,102	882	2,279	31,033	36,459	17,144	9,341	909	177	621	64,652
	Jul-Sep	5,583	6,669	10,305	4,202	994	2,324	30,077	38,578	15,138	8,734	901	199	484	64,034
	Oct-Dec	5,814	6,593	10,450	3,975	855	2,225	29,912	33,955	13,618	8,596	831	163	481	57,645
	Jan-Mar	5,298	6,140	9,866	4,314	1,049	2,420	29,087	31,507	12,759	7,976	914	211	562	53,929
2013-14	Apr-Jun	5,684	6,245	10,738	3,609	822	1,973	29,071	32,765	11,769	8,877	745	163	433	54,750
	Jul-Sep	5,739	5,783	10,731	4,233	875	2,231	29,592	40,866	10,563	8,718	897	173	556	61,774
	Oct-Dec	5,377	5,590	11,504	4,066	920	2,298	29,755	30,498	9,938	9,057	867	182	541	51,083
	Jan-Mar	5,393	5,673	11,969	3,904	837	2,214	29,990	32,440	9,910	9,339	809	161	519	53,178

¹ The figures for other include Mags Committal fee, Breaches of Crown Court Orders, Elected cases not proceeded, Hearings Subsequent to Sentence and Contempt hearings

² The figures for AGFS for 2011-12 are only partial due to the phased rollout of payments made by LAA

Table 4.4: Crown Court graduated fee schemes

Crown Court expenditure (£'000) on graduated fee schemes by offence type

Offence Classification ¹	2012-13							2013-14						
	Trial	Cracked Trial	Guilty Plea	Committal for Sentence	Appeal	Other ²	Total	Trial	Cracked Trial	Guilty Plea	Committal for Sentence	Appeal	Other ²	Total
A Homicide and related grave offences	67,943	5,521	1,209	28	12	13	74,726	54,971	4,107	1,493	21	9	21	60,622
B Offences involving serious violence or damage and serious drug offences	110,425	57,989	33,250	774	22	263	202,722	108,831	44,714	34,073	340	13	289	188,260
C Lesser offences involving violence or damage, and less serious drug offences	20,685	16,027	12,109	981	291	177	50,270	18,582	10,901	10,715	379	109	181	40,867
D Serious sexual offences and offences against children	8,716	3,252	1,842	115	27	10	13,963	7,727	1,995	1,373	55	6	20	11,176
E Burglary, etc	4,501	4,769	6,175	847	41	87	16,420	3,383	3,374	5,848	384	17	100	13,106
F Other offences of dishonesty	6,051	5,939	5,589	957	144	69	18,749	6,071	3,891	5,244	440	80	124	15,850
G Other offences of dishonesty	3,198	3,320	1,605	96	15	8	8,242	1,399	1,184	1,194	109	18	12	3,916
H Miscellaneous other offences	6,436	6,413	6,245	6,284	1,797	1,947	29,122	6,842	4,928	6,778	7,209	1,745	1,726	29,227
I Offences against public justice and similar offences	6,653	1,839	1,249	49	18	37	9,844	6,287	1,509	1,300	25	10	37	9,168
J Serious Sexual Offences	38,077	10,470	5,874	81	7	85	54,595	46,829	9,099	6,405	38	3	65	62,439
K Other offences of dishonesty (high value)	43,647	24,603	5,242	10	2	89	73,592	47,989	16,822	4,678	7	0	1	69,497
Total	316,331	140,143	80,390	10,222	2,376	2,785	552,246	308,910	102,524	79,103	9,007	2,010	2,575	504,129

¹ Excludes cases where offence is unknown on the administrative system

² The figures for other include Mags Committal fee, Breaches of Crown Court Orders, Elected cases not proceeded, Hearings Subsequent to Sentence and Contempt hearings

Table 4.5: High Cost Crime cases

High Cost Cases- cases opened, contracts opened, contracts, and expenditure

Financial Year	Quarter	High Cost Crime Cases Opened	High Cost Crime Contracts Opened	High Cost Crime Contracts Closed	High Cost Crime Expenditure (£000s)
2006-07		56	417	426	104.57
2007-08		54	391	399	124.61
2008-09		63	437	433	112.09
2009-10		55	426	313	95.31
2010-11		33	264	460	93.09
2011-12		28	227	294	91.74
2012-13		20	112	222	67.66
2013-14		12	72	216	56.78
2011-12	Apr-Jun	4	55	75	20.24
	Jul-Sep	14	65	62	20.68
	Oct-Dec	9	79	103	27.90
	Jan-Mar	1	28	54	22.92
2012-13	Apr-Jun	1	22	81	19.79
	Jul-Sep	6	32	61	16.10
	Oct-Dec	5	27	41	16.19
	Jan-Mar	8	31	39	15.59
2013-14	Apr-Jun	5	17	57	17.82
	Jul-Sep	4	24	37	15.14
	Oct-Dec	3	24	69	13.20
	Jan-Mar	0	7	53	10.62

Table 5.1: Legal help matters started (count)

Legal help matters started for 2000-01 to 2013-14

Type	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Count
Total	803,828	764,697	811,848	709,769	654,267	783,455	851,023	807,459	893,812	942,882	803,914	705,295	592,368	172,501	
<i>(excluding Housing possession court duty scheme and Telephone operator service)</i>															
Family	318,496	317,903	338,888	299,188	272,903	283,830	280,466	263,009	287,004	309,054	270,048	234,481	205,617	42,798	
Social Welfare	249,501	226,938	237,262	223,682	226,891	339,212	406,531	392,800	446,009	471,418	398,223	355,138	281,737	52,703	
Community care	2,070	2,136	2,764	3,092	3,426	4,230	4,559	4,853	7,527	8,792	6,240	6,694	5,412	3,267	
Debt	52,193	48,751	53,842	54,851	58,253	102,542	121,287	111,463	132,936	146,731	128,459	109,280	81,792	2,423	
Employment	12,362	10,916	11,827	10,275	9,487	23,071	22,222	22,638	28,218	31,722	25,384	20,233	16,119	6	
Housing	90,456	84,502	87,931	80,260	83,193	110,404	133,311	127,257	139,771	140,500	117,035	108,208	90,052	46,870	
Welfare benefits	92,420	80,633	80,898	75,204	72,532	98,965	125,152	126,589	137,557	143,673	121,105	110,723	88,362	137	
Low Volume	73,284	59,687	51,289	37,563	29,327	34,785	38,666	31,337	29,442	25,762	18,230	15,033	11,094	7,176	
Actions against the police etc.	5,574	5,348	5,432	4,409	4,551	4,561	4,675	4,323	4,709	4,908	3,677	4,007	2,948	2,226	
Clinical negligence	4,550	4,800	4,554	4,041	3,649	3,558	3,724	3,832	3,597	4,052	3,979	3,648	2,859	114	
Consumer	12,194	9,239	7,321	4,985	3,891	3,848	3,827	3,360	3,084	2,776	1,227	550	335	0	
Discrimination															2,384
Education	3,131	3,371	3,498	2,886	2,646	7,279	11,930	9,067	7,102	5,329	4,675	3,775	2,956	1,167	
Personal injury	10,587	7,265	5,784	4,794	3,137	2,854	2,790	1,807	1,616	1,724	829	527	317	3	
Public law	1,477	1,412	1,803	1,601	1,632	1,800	1,758	1,935	2,463	2,221	1,495	1,626	1,353	1,097	
Miscellaneous	35,771	28,252	22,897	14,847	9,821	10,885	9,962	7,013	6,871	4,752	2,348	900	326	185	
Tribunals	162,547	160,169	184,409	149,336	125,146	125,628	125,360	120,313	131,357	136,648	117,413	100,643	93,920	69,824	
Immigration	138,841	134,238	155,865	120,440	94,236	91,317	91,037	84,899	94,983	98,539	82,790	61,129	52,710	28,038	
Mental health	23,706	25,931	28,544	28,896	30,910	34,311	34,323	35,414	36,374	38,109	34,623	39,514	41,210	41,786	
Housing possession court duty scheme	-	-	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33,842	31,831	29,625	33,752	33,575	46,160
Telephone operator service	-	-	-	-	..	..	..	..	..	235,947	290,574	264,339	200,737	154,945	161,915

Table 5.2: Legal help matters completed (count)

Legal help matters completed 2000-01 to 2013-14

Type	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	Count 2013-14
Total	761,583	748,890	798,033	756,569	715,837	786,522	876,071	735,436	756,446	904,261	815,340	674,848	602,241	328,319
<i>(excluding Housing possession court duty scheme and Telephone operator service)</i>														
Family	297,125	292,852	312,845	304,730	286,215	281,540	274,681	243,177	255,120	267,088	255,650	227,933	200,598	122,247
Social Welfare	242,357	234,217	242,420	230,155	222,190	314,839	390,124	364,576	341,194	447,509	380,345	316,163	284,446	102,119
Community care	1,660	2,114	2,534	3,088	3,241	3,724	4,152	3,860	6,045	7,266	5,674	4,731	4,512	3,635
Debt	50,145	50,140	56,109	55,269	54,891	91,176	120,148	108,340	107,129	140,900	126,502	101,085	84,726	17,909
Employment	12,706	11,112	12,264	11,015	9,835	20,966	19,471	20,781	13,429	31,003	24,989	17,766	15,892	2,601
Housing	86,727	87,911	88,461	82,730	81,635	104,605	128,324	114,689	100,737	131,708	108,712	96,021	87,877	49,481
Welfare benefits	91,119	82,940	83,052	78,053	72,588	94,368	118,029	116,906	113,854	136,632	114,468	96,560	91,439	28,493
Low Volume	89,615	66,956	58,115	43,317	31,558	35,000	40,557	28,039	22,018	23,090	19,159	13,834	11,370	9,057
Actions against the police etc.	6,221	5,451	5,178	4,988	4,381	4,205	4,101	3,849	5,138	4,276	3,930	3,134	2,533	2,310
Clinical negligence	4,874	4,748	4,553	4,177	3,687	3,389	3,165	2,947	4,182	3,297	3,731	3,327	3,154	1,186
Consumer	14,491	10,619	8,817	6,413	4,110	4,494	3,923	3,160	3,196	3,048	1,689	701	469	191
Discrimination														2,787
Education	3,184	3,601	3,625	3,219	2,870	7,221	13,832	8,877	2,001	4,860	4,665	3,896	3,191	1,090
Personal injury	23,152	10,633	7,983	5,781	4,125	3,615	2,924	2,216	1,773	1,761	1,331	727	458	293
Public law	1,290	1,432	1,565	1,609	1,472	1,582	1,562	1,462	2,145	1,666	1,422	1,321	1,181	1,026
Miscellaneous	36,403	30,472	26,394	17,130	10,913	10,494	11,050	5,528	3,583	4,182	2,391	728	384	174
Tribunals	132,486	154,865	184,653	178,367	175,874	155,143	170,709	99,644	138,114	166,574	160,186	116,918	105,827	94,896
Immigration	108,600	128,456	156,184	147,614	142,674	121,032	135,472	65,970	102,792	128,771	120,616	77,230	62,833	49,211
Mental health	23,886	26,409	28,469	30,753	33,200	34,111	35,237	33,674	35,322	37,803	39,570	39,688	42,994	45,685

Table 5.3: Legal help matters completed - Solicitors and NfP only (count)

Case volume, total value and average cost of legal aid funding for the Legal Help legal aid scheme

Type	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Count					
Total	782,606	689,956	576,621	507,600	306,235
<i>(excluding Housing possession court duty scheme, telephone advice service and Telephone operator service)</i>					
Family	255,873	229,736	206,488	180,893	116,127
Social Welfare	340,154	284,124	242,114	211,775	89,474
Community care	7,266	5,674	4,731	4,512	3,635
Debt	106,593	90,973	75,023	62,572	16,008
Employment	14,788	11,299	8,922	6,505	2,600
Housing	102,450	85,248	75,926	66,210	38,851
Welfare benefits	109,057	90,930	77,512	71,976	28,380
Low Volume	20,005	15,910	11,101	9,105	5,738
Actions against the police etc.	4,276	3,930	3,134	2,533	2,310
Clinical negligence	3,297	3,731	3,327	3,154	1,186
Consumer	3,048	1,689	701	469	191
Discrimination					
Education	1,775	1,416	1,163	926	558
Personal injury	1,761	1,331	727	458	293
Public law	1,666	1,422	1,321	1,181	1,026
Miscellaneous	4,182	2,391	728	384	174
Tribunals	166,574	160,186	116,918	105,827	94,896
Immigration	128,771	120,616	77,230	62,833	49,211
Mental health	37,803	39,570	39,688	42,994	45,685
Value					
Total	256,275	241,758	205,828	178,102	133,160
<i>(excluding Housing possession court duty scheme, telephone advice service and Telephone operator service)</i>					
Family	61,280	56,598	49,323	39,174	26,316
Social Welfare	76,293	68,332	60,678	50,699	24,537
Community care	2,808	2,500	2,285	2,251	2,024
Debt	23,928	21,387	17,859	13,957	3,847
Employment	4,781	4,387	3,955	2,730	1,359
Housing	22,596	20,149	18,781	15,805	10,274
Welfare benefits	22,180	19,908	17,799	15,956	7,033
Low Volume	5,899	5,950	5,314	4,938	3,617
Actions against the police etc.	1,587	1,731	1,596	1,444	1,301
Clinical negligence	972	1,271	1,237	1,285	588
Consumer	567	330	150	135	51
Discrimination					
Education	1,239	1,199	1,231	1,153	888
Personal injury	460	430	247	178	175
Public law	615	670	684	651	552
Miscellaneous	459	320	169	93	62
Tribunals	112,803	110,877	90,513	83,291	78,691
Immigration	79,151	74,619	54,207	45,578	39,053
Mental health	33,652	36,257	36,306	37,713	39,637

Table 6.1: Civil representation, applications received

Applications received for civil representation by category

Financial Year Quarter	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2011-12				2012-13				2013-14			
					Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
Total	187,588	176,375	190,641	113,180	42,787	45,623	43,403	44,562	43,543	45,515	44,248	57,335	34,550	26,334	26,430	25,866
Family	156,967	147,095	160,950	89,871	35,548	38,040	36,303	37,204	36,430	38,336	37,242	48,942	28,315	20,358	20,475	20,723
Combined family proceedings	8	12	8	2	2	5	4	1	2	1	2	3	2			
Domestic violence	19,951	17,652	17,387	16,158	4,461	4,805	4,199	4,187	4,317	4,392	4,150	4,528	3,841	4,133	4,173	4,011
Financial provision	15,074	10,977	12,835	2,772	2,777	2,848	2,677	2,675	2,379	2,439	2,316	5,701	2,229	174	163	206
Other family proceedings	3,886	3,591	3,634	833	889	974	810	918	841	852	717	1,224	563	101	83	86
Other public law Children Act proceedings	8,286	8,176	8,842	7,610	1,982	2,070	2,025	2,099	2,089	2,038	2,159	2,556	1,911	1,862	1,817	2,020
Private law Children Act proceedings	68,434	61,693	70,149	16,501	14,992	15,767	14,990	15,944	15,626	16,185	15,551	22,787	7,990	2,935	2,721	2,855
Special Children Act proceedings	41,328	44,994	48,095	45,995	10,445	11,571	11,598	11,380	11,176	12,429	12,347	12,143	11,779	11,153	11,518	11,545
Social Welfare	16,298	15,189	15,260	12,836	3,708	3,968	3,737	3,776	3,675	3,708	3,711	4,166	3,371	3,216	3,260	2,989
Community care	1,009	909	1,001	937	231	224	238	216	221	236	273	271	242	263	226	206
Debt	722	410	355	209	108	131	83	88	103	88	80	84	85	44	45	35
Employment	117	117	91	25	28	37	28	24	31	22	12	26	9	4	8	4
Housing	14,401	13,708	13,767	11,642	3,323	3,566	3,380	3,439	3,309	3,355	3,335	3,768	3,028	2,900	2,976	2,738
Welfare benefits	49	45	46	23	18	10	8	9	11	7	11	17	7	5	5	6
Low Volume	10,730	10,054	9,893	5,413	2,589	2,601	2,322	2,542	2,318	2,307	2,256	3,012	1,529	1,318	1,348	1,218
Actions against the police etc.	1,667	1,689	1,879	1,289	406	403	390	490	460	438	486	495	339	310	343	297
Clinical negligence	4,313	4,039	3,853	821	1,001	1,107	937	994	890	862	749	1,352	294	178	170	179
Consumer	746	384	297	73	121	93	83	87	83	83	45	86	61	4	4	4
Discrimination			1	22								1	6	3	8	5
Education	197	182	203	82	63	39	34	46	50	46	57	50	29	23	23	7
Personal injury	77	38	19	9	14	8	11	5	4	5	6	4	2	4	1	2
Public law	2,305	2,724	2,811	2,528	685	678	645	716	592	653	735	831	691	706	688	443
Miscellaneous	1,425	998	830	589	299	273	222	204	239	220	178	193	107	90	111	281
Tribunals	3,593	4,037	4,538	5,060	942	1,014	1,041	1,040	1,120	1,164	1,039	1,215	1,335	1,442	1,347	936
Immigration	2,955	3,278	3,849	4,440	798	800	820	860	939	999	868	1,043	1,186	1,290	1,198	766
Mental health	638	759	689	620	144	214	221	180	181	165	171	172	149	152	149	170

Table 6.2: Civil representation, certificates granted

Certificates granted including grants for emergency certificates for civil representation by category

Financial Year Quarter	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2011-12				2012-13				2013-14			
					Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
Total	153,602	148,274	150,453	107,944	34,867	37,575	37,527	38,305	36,134	37,791	36,444	40,084	34,771	25,144	23,541	24,488
Family	130,706	125,949	127,767	89,638	29,579	32,135	31,955	32,280	30,562	32,278	31,085	33,842	29,871	20,664	19,149	19,954
Combined family proceedings	10	12	5	2	2	4	4	2		2	1	2	2			
Domestic violence	18,038	16,257	15,720	15,231	4,088	4,397	3,806	3,966	3,914	3,968	3,680	4,158	3,629	4,023	3,751	3,828
Financial provision	9,846	7,336	6,201	3,815	1,619	1,786	2,049	1,882	1,486	1,493	1,481	1,741	2,795	725	166	129
Help with mediation	1															
Other family proceedings	1,353	1,390	1,353	399	304	366	378	342	325	363	321	344	295	59	23	22
Other public law Children Act proceedings	6,994	6,990	7,280	6,695	1,676	1,713	1,775	1,826	1,765	1,794	1,765	1,956	1,779	1,622	1,533	1,761
Private law Children Act proceedings	53,358	49,113	49,218	16,662	11,321	12,406	12,610	12,776	11,876	12,235	11,861	13,246	9,343	2,930	2,091	2,298
Special Children Act proceedings	41,106	44,851	47,990	46,834	10,569	11,463	11,333	11,486	11,196	12,423	11,976	12,395	12,028	11,305	11,585	11,916
Social Welfare	13,424	12,985	13,102	11,588	3,061	3,351	3,141	3,432	3,151	3,209	3,162	3,580	2,959	2,861	2,788	2,980
Community care	857	759	830	581	182	186	180	211	186	196	233	215	145	146	139	151
Debt	366	231	192	138	58	79	42	52	53	47	51	41	56	37	25	20
Employment	66	62	53	12	14	15	19	14	11	16	7	19	8	2		2
Housing	12,112	11,911	12,011	10,849	2,801	3,068	2,895	3,147	2,898	2,946	2,869	3,298	2,748	2,676	2,621	2,804
Welfare benefits	23	22	16	8	6	3	5	8	3	4	2	7	2		3	3
Low Volume	6,460	6,165	5,935	3,727	1,432	1,387	1,588	1,758	1,523	1,430	1,355	1,627	1,284	797	787	859
Actions against the police etc.	1,048	1,161	1,219	744	281	238	281	361	304	302	291	322	231	156	146	211
Clinical negligence	2,905	2,638	2,399	1,032	593	615	691	739	671	595	496	637	540	184	139	169
Consumer	285	149	122	54	37	39	31	42	39	38	27	18	42	10	2	
Discrimination			1	4								1	2		1	1
Education	139	125	137	43	39	25	27	34	27	34	42	34	14	15	11	3
Personal injury	28	6	8	2	3	1	2		4	2	1	1	1	1		
Public law	1,484	1,692	1,797	1,567	377	359	463	493	395	407	433	562	398	396	447	326
Miscellaneous	571	394	252	281	102	110	93	89	83	52	65	52	56	35	41	149
Tribunals	3,012	3,175	3,649	2,991	795	702	843	835	898	874	842	1,035	657	822	817	695
Immigration	2,494	2,566	3,143	2,538	675	540	674	677	772	744	717	910	562	704	718	554
Mental health	518	609	506	453	120	162	169	158	126	130	125	125	95	118	99	141

Table 6.3: Civil representation, certificates completed

Certificates completed for civil representation by category

Financial Year Quarter	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14 ¹	2011-12				2012-13				2013-14 ¹			
					Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar
Total	129,570	138,171	137,365	147,548	31,261	36,858	34,189	35,863	34,514	32,953	34,763	35,135	36,583	35,297	36,622	39,046
Family	108,170	117,574	118,205	129,374	26,471	31,463	28,857	30,783	29,195	28,452	30,019	30,539	32,021	30,755	32,230	34,368
Combined family proceedings	30	22	10	8	5	4	5	8	4	2	1	3	2	1	2	3
Domestic violence	15,749	16,066	15,214	14,231	3,506	4,250	3,861	4,449	3,968	3,751	3,805	3,690	3,653	2,992	3,529	4,057
Financial provision	10,537	9,396	7,724	7,023	2,207	2,463	2,507	2,219	2,191	1,934	1,831	1,768	1,721	1,628	2,044	1,630
Help with mediation	145	51	26	8	17	16	11	7	11	9	4	2	3	2	3	-
Other family proceedings	1,085	1,193	1,138	1,198	241	334	287	331	279	291	281	287	340	319	239	300
Other public law Children Act proceedings	6,395	6,316	6,236	6,954	1,531	1,674	1,521	1,590	1,526	1,441	1,649	1,620	1,674	1,681	1,644	1,955
Private law Children Act proceedings	46,168	48,818	44,940	44,249	10,984	13,629	11,959	12,246	11,755	10,837	10,939	11,409	11,636	11,144	10,835	10,634
Special Children Act proceedings	28,061	35,712	42,917	55,703	7,980	9,093	8,706	9,933	9,461	10,187	11,509	11,760	12,992	12,988	13,934	15,789
Social Welfare	11,670	11,309	10,983	11,311	2,443	2,939	3,071	2,856	3,054	2,553	2,635	2,741	2,752	2,772	2,837	2,950
Community care	701	705	685	706	138	147	214	206	200	134	169	182	157	167	176	206
Debt	326	287	219	179	70	82	74	61	70	52	53	44	45	47	44	43
Employment	68	46	39	27	9	13	17	7	13	4	10	12	8	8	5	6
Housing	10,506	10,254	10,021	10,386	2,220	2,692	2,762	2,580	2,769	2,359	2,397	2,496	2,535	2,545	2,612	2,694
Welfare benefits	69	17	19	13	6	5	4	2	2	4	6	7	7	5	-	1
Low Volume	7,263	7,001	5,988	5,019	1,830	1,770	1,661	1,740	1,761	1,433	1,495	1,299	1,304	1,291	1,157	1,267
Actions against the police etc.	834	786	841	794	178	184	171	253	259	185	202	195	196	231	168	199
Clinical negligence	3,301	3,542	2,764	2,355	973	869	829	871	813	683	691	577	592	595	549	619
Consumer	435	336	223	150	89	81	90	76	63	55	62	43	36	37	40	37
Discrimination	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Education	221	173	113	111	39	55	49	30	34	24	23	32	31	25	30	25
Personal injury	529	354	284	87	119	71	90	74	112	60	80	32	31	23	8	25
Public law	1,165	1,241	1,313	1,222	294	355	293	299	336	302	341	334	338	306	283	295
Miscellaneous	778	569	450	300	138	155	139	137	144	124	96	86	80	74	79	67
Tribunals	2,467	2,287	2,189	1,844	517	686	600	484	504	515	614	556	506	479	398	461
Immigration	2,218	1,939	1,790	1,461	444	600	518	377	404	435	517	434	404	392	318	347
Mental health	249	348	399	383	73	86	82	107	100	80	97	122	102	87	80	114

¹ Data does not include cases completed in the LAA's new administrative system, including these would raise completed volumes by an estimated 0.6% and total value by less than 0.5%.

Table 6.4: Civil representation costs met by LAA

Volume and total value of the Civil Representation cases which have completed within this financial year

Civil representation	2012-2013					2013-14				
	Volume	Solicitors' profit costs (£'000)	Disburse - ments (£'000)	Counsel's fees (£'000)	Total cost (£'000)	Volume	Solicitors' profit costs (£'000)	Disburse - ments (£'000)	Counsel's fees (£'000)	Total cost (£'000)
Total	133,315	489,597	120,889	162,217	772,702	143,545	527,394	114,554	160,571	802,518
Family	117,991	451,302	110,316	140,828	702,446	129,161	492,958	106,297	143,334	742,588
Combined family proceedings	10	21	2	7	30	8	20	2	8	30
Domestic violence	15,204	34,406	5,798	6,991	47,196	14,211	31,906	4,601	5,815	42,322
Financial provision	7,554	21,431	2,819	5,806	30,056	6,855	17,727	2,356	4,986	25,069
Help with Mediation	25	26	1	0	28	8	9	0	0	9
Other family proceedings	1,119	2,890	675	782	4,347	1,193	3,907	758	1,334	5,999
Other public law Children Act proceedings	6,231	20,836	4,671	10,691	36,198	6,953	18,633	3,754	8,398	30,785
Private law Children Act proceedings	44,932	118,582	25,149	31,588	175,319	44,238	110,547	19,165	28,479	158,192
Special Children Act proceedings	42,916	253,108	71,202	84,963	409,273	55,695	310,208	75,662	94,313	480,182
Social Welfare	9,727	17,463	2,105	9,641	29,208	9,882	17,004	1,943	8,487	27,435
Community care	613	1,761	279	758	2,799	610	1,664	159	662	2,485
Debt	201	544	71	407	1,022	161	388	44	214	646
Employment	38	77	5	62	144	26	45	2	39	86
Housing	8,857	15,031	1,719	8,294	25,044	9,073	14,895	1,736	7,502	24,133
Welfare benefits	18	49	31	120	200	12	13	2	70	85
Low Volume	3,777	15,258	7,573	7,834	30,665	3,167	11,903	5,554	5,631	23,088
Actions against the police etc.	315	908	313	754	1,976	355	1,077	379	651	2,107
Clinical negligence	1,581	6,896	5,693	1,500	14,089	1,320	5,881	4,449	1,058	11,389
Consumer	188	550	160	453	1,163	109	549	78	479	1,106
Education	101	319	68	157	544	97	256	43	162	461
Personal injury	171	1,014	172	183	1,370	54	375	76	128	579
Public law	1,059	2,826	362	2,271	5,459	994	2,622	362	2,301	5,285
Miscellaneous	362	2,744	803	2,516	6,063	238	1,143	166	851	2,161
Tribunals	1,820	5,575	895	3,914	10,384	1,335	5,528	760	3,119	9,407
Immigration	1,436	1,955	264	2,384	4,604	959	1,459	205	1,209	2,873
Mental health	384	3,620	631	1,530	5,780	376	4,069	555	1,910	6,534

1 Data does not include cases completed in the LAA's new CCMS system, including these would increase completed volumes by an estimated 0.6% and total value by less than 0.5%.

Table 6.5: Civil representation costs met by opponent

Volume and total value of the Civil Representation cases which have completed within this financial year

Civil representation	2012-2013						2013-14					
	Volume	Solicitors' profit costs (£'000)	Disburse - ments (£'000)	Legal aid only costs (000s)	Counsel's fees (£'000)	Total cost (£'000)	Volume	Solicitors' profit costs (£'000)	Disburse - ments (£'000)	Legal aid only costs (000s)	Counsel's fees (£'000)	Total cost (£'000)
Total	4,050	94,411	24,755	2,338	21,973	143,476	4,003	84,116	22,474	2,004	21,033	129,627
Family	214	1,433	165	396	381	2,376	213	1,768	150	431	590	2,939
Domestic violence	10	54	7	43	11	114	20	172	13	33	103	320
Financial provision	170	1,117	129	233	300	1,779	168	1,431	127	286	456	2,300
Help with Mediation	1	3	0	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other family proceedings	19	227	25	26	55	334	5	78	6	2	17	103
Other public law Children Act proceedings	5	25	2	42	13	83	1	1	0	0	1	2
Private law Children Act proceedings	8	8	1	51	1	61	11	61	4	24	12	101
Special Children Act proceedings	1	1	0	1	0	1	8	25	0	86	2	113
Social Welfare	1,256	7,754	1,025	644	1,992	11,414	1,429	9,414	1,181	544	2,570	13,709
Community care	72	828	60	120	389	1,397	96	1,279	72	91	491	1,932
Debt	18	138	13	3	61	216	18	202	24	26	67	318
Employment	1	7	0	0	1	8	1	2	1	0	4	6
Housing	1,164	6,777	952	521	1,536	9,786	1,313	7,928	1,085	428	2,008	11,448
Welfare benefits	1	3	0	0	5	8	1	4	0	0	0	5
Low Volume	2,211	83,288	23,411	1,169	18,298	126,165	1,852	70,122	20,935	671	16,286	108,013
Actions against the police etc.	526	8,447	1,397	124	1,848	11,816	439	7,437	1,068	59	1,714	10,279
Clinical negligence	1,183	64,295	19,884	467	11,933	96,579	1,035	54,518	18,476	242	10,824	84,060
Consumer	35	378	58	11	135	582	41	458	52	3	153	666
Discrimination	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Education	12	156	11	7	33	207	14	230	22	37	95	385
Personal injury	113	4,265	1,321	4	1,025	6,615	33	2,681	827	12	733	4,253
Public law	254	3,938	326	378	2,363	7,005	228	3,265	278	295	2,034	5,872
Miscellaneous	88	1,809	416	177	961	3,362	62	1,533	211	22	733	2,498
Tribunals	369	1,936	154	129	1,303	3,522	509	2,812	207	359	1,587	4,965
Immigration	354	1,719	132	123	1,184	3,157	502	2,774	206	355	1,577	4,911
Mental health	15	217	22	6	119	364	7	38	2	4	11	55

Table 6.6: Civil representation outcomes

Outcomes reported and the benefits received by funded clients for the civil representation scheme.

Category of law	Stages reached and % with substantive benefits to client						Total number in sample	% Substantive benefit to client	Previous year	
	No proceedings issued		Proceedings issued but concluded before final hearing		Proceedings issued and concluded at a final hearing				Total number in sample	% Substantive benefit to client
	Volume	% Benefit	Volume	% Benefit	Volume	% Benefit			Total number in sample	% Substantive benefit to client
Total	9,121	47%	57,069	73%	78,515	64%	144,705	67%	134,138	68%
Family	3,892	44%	48,902	73%	74,096	65%	126,890	67%	115,922	69%
Combined family proceedings	1	0%	3	67%	3	100%	7	71%	7	86%
Domestic violence	674	34%	7,708	83%	5,579	82%	13,961	80%	14,801	80%
Financial provision	846	59%	3,711	86%	2,263	71%	6,820	78%	7,412	83%
Help with Mediation	4	75%	2	100%	0	0%	6	83%	25	88%
Other family proceedings	83	40%	744	63%	348	71%	1,175	64%	1,111	64%
Other public law Children Act proceedings	166	34%	2,135	56%	4,521	66%	6,822	62%	6,102	61%
Private law Children Act proceedings	1,911	41%	27,023	73%	14,839	75%	43,773	73%	44,266	74%
Special Children Act proceedings	207	52%	7,576	61%	46,543	59%	54,326	59%	42,198	60%
Social Welfare	2,513	56%	5,126	80%	3,480	67%	11,119	70%	10,698	71%
Community care	495	69%	130	84%	36	47%	661	71%	680	66%
Debt	21	48%	82	70%	64	58%	167	62%	206	65%
Employment	5	0%	8	63%	12	25%	25	32%	39	54%
Housing	1,988	53%	4,904	80%	3,365	67%	10,257	70%	9,756	71%
Welfare benefits	4	0%	2	0%	3	0%	9	0%	17	35%
Low Volume	2,242	38%	2,053	71%	593	54%	4,888	54%	5,612	51%
Actions against the police etc.	229	35%	454	78%	103	50%	786	62%	826	67%
Clinical negligence	1,258	30%	902	77%	172	66%	2,332	51%	2,674	46%
Consumer	58	40%	50	80%	28	43%	136	55%	199	46%
Education	67	75%	24	67%	14	43%	105	69%	107	62%
Personal injury	11	45%	19	89%	16	56%	46	67%	152	53%
Public law	545	52%	486	50%	174	48%	1,205	51%	1,266	50%
Miscellaneous	74	46%	118	73%	86	55%	278	60%	388	59%
Tribunals	474	65%	988	50%	346	45%	1,808	53%	1,906	56%
Immigration	417	68%	866	49%	149	36%	1,432	53%	1,513	56%
Mental health	57	46%	122	61%	197	52%	376	54%	393	56%

Table 7.1: Mediation assessments

Civil representation willingness test and mediation assessments, volume and value, 2006-07 to 2013-14

Financial Year	Quarter	Volume						Value (£)			
		Willingness Test Volume	Willingness Test Expenditure	Assessments ¹	Assessment meeting - separate	Assessment meeting - together	Assessment meeting - alone	Assessment meeting - separate	Assessment meeting - together	Assessment meeting - alone	Assessment Expenditure
2006-07		48,419	1,741,691	22,758	33,923	5,796	7,784	2,754,465	602,003	657,373	4,013,840
2007-08		48,122	1,561,669	22,665	34,056	5,637	7,841	3,117,433	708,733	729,803	4,555,969
2008-09		52,272	1,511,846	24,152	38,546	4,879	8,061	3,884,716	733,279	814,937	5,432,932
2009-10		59,451	1,705,811	27,138	44,763	4,756	9,633	4,475,338	708,383	968,172	6,151,893
2010-11		60,441	1,771,474	26,388	44,446	4,164	10,882	4,530,008	631,379	1,115,181	6,276,568
2011-12		66,421	1,976,385	31,338	54,538	4,068	14,784	5,633,630	627,341	1,535,281	7,796,253
2012-13		64,783	1,931,165	30,662	54,557	3,382	18,147	5,646,718	524,537	1,881,850	8,053,106
2013-14		147	4,410	13,354	24,293	1,207	4,777	2,503,837	186,129	492,696	3,182,662
2011-12	Apr-Jun	17,006	506,005	7,769	13,273	1,132	3,556	1,371,335	173,905	369,981	1,915,221
	Jul-Sep	17,516	520,955	8,221	14,253	1,094	3,942	1,470,682	168,985	409,937	2,049,603
	Oct-Dec	15,485	460,755	7,364	12,868	930	3,442	1,329,061	143,286	357,249	1,829,596
	Jan-Mar	16,414	488,670	7,984	14,144	912	3,844	1,462,554	141,165	398,114	2,001,833
2012-13	Apr-Jun	15,201	453,285	7,383	12,901	932	3,574	1,336,465	144,496	370,164	1,851,124
	Jul-Sep	15,050	448,480	7,334	13,045	811	3,930	1,349,889	125,818	408,332	1,884,039
	Oct-Dec	13,828	412,180	6,680	11,862	749	3,680	1,227,156	116,181	381,401	1,724,738
	Jan-Mar	20,704	617,220	9,265	16,749	890	6,963	1,733,209	138,042	721,954	2,593,205
2013-14	Apr-Jun	88	2,640	3,936	7,134	369	1,530	736,403	57,332	158,417	952,152
	Jul-Sep	9	270	3,337	6,052	311	1,181	623,976	47,632	122,074	793,681
	Oct-Dec	3	90	2,860	5,138	291	901	529,469	44,902	92,784	667,154
	Jan-Mar	47	1,410	3,221	5,969	236	1,165	613,989	36,263	119,422	769,674

¹ Figures for assessments include those with both parties in attendance and half of the attendance volume where both parties appear separately.

Table 7.2: Mediations

Civil representation mediation starts and mediation outcomes, volume and value, 2006-07 to 2013-14

Financial Year	Quarter	Mediation starts	Volume			Value (£)			Expenditure	
			Agreements reached	Full Agreement	Partial Agreement	No Agreement	Full Agreement	Partial Agreement		No Agreement
2006-07		13,918	8,996	8,535	461	4,616	4,739,392	264,902	1,503,736	6,508,031
2007-08		13,239	9,164	8,680	484	4,304	4,820,979	265,691	1,460,163	6,546,833
2008-09		13,537	8,989	8,485	504	4,375	4,949,272	297,509	1,451,159	6,697,940
2009-10		14,745	9,939	9,376	563	4,297	5,434,720	342,596	1,457,982	7,235,298
2010-11		14,186	9,920	9,352	568	4,101	5,269,125	354,599	1,374,201	6,997,924
2011-12		15,357	9,799	9,263	536	4,827	5,039,026	340,963	1,537,904	6,917,892
2012-13		13,609	9,076	8,632	444	4,911	4,490,601	260,900	1,556,017	6,307,518
2013-14		8,400	6,613	6,291	322	3,028	3,186,251	191,774	913,655	4,291,680
2011-12	Apr-Jun	3,781	2,359	2,235	124	1,090	1,246,093	81,403	368,359	1,695,855
	Jul-Sep	4,025	2,481	2,339	142	1,246	1,294,122	91,271	381,416	1,766,808
	Oct-Dec	3,735	2,425	2,290	135	1,199	1,225,308	85,031	379,961	1,690,300
	Jan-Mar	3,816	2,534	2,399	135	1,292	1,273,503	83,258	408,168	1,764,929
2012-13	Apr-Jun	3,566	2,508	2,375	133	1,223	1,242,265	79,430	392,483	1,714,178
	Jul-Sep	3,519	2,325	2,220	105	1,255	1,171,306	54,285	381,510	1,607,101
	Oct-Dec	3,242	2,234	2,131	103	1,189	1,114,759	61,699	375,001	1,551,460
	Jan-Mar	3,282	2,009	1,906	103	1,244	962,270	65,486	407,023	1,434,779
2013-14	Apr-Jun	2,700	2,123	2,018	105	958	1,048,183	63,904	286,979	1,399,066
	Jul-Sep	2,085	1,759	1,675	84	777	848,534	53,914	232,977	1,135,425
	Oct-Dec	1,876	1,435	1,373	62	653	690,141	34,512	201,795	926,448
	Jan-Mar	1,739	1,296	1,225	71	640	599,394	39,444	191,904	830,742

Table 8.1: Appeals – against representation decision

Category of law	2010-11			2011-12			2012-13			2013-14		
	Number of appeals	Number granted	% Granted	Number of appeals	Number granted	% Granted	Number of appeals	Number granted	% Granted	Number of appeals	Number granted	% Granted
Family	7,203	870	12%	8,033	1,002	12%	7,252	803	11%	6,736	745	11%
Combined family proceedings	2	0	0%	2	0	0%	0	0	..	0	0	..
Domestic violence	760	128	17%	816	132	16%	642	103	16%	651	147	23%
Financial provision	1,418	114	8%	1,189	112	9%	1,066	92	9%	1,109	82	7%
Help with Mediation	1	0	0%	3	2	67%	2	0	0%	0	0	..
Other family proceedings	377	18	5%	361	20	6%	394	39	10%	310	15	5%
Other public law Children Act proceedings	466	38	8%	565	50	9%	485	47	10%	543	58	11%
Private law Children Act proceedings	3,690	443	12%	4,360	476	11%	4,269	482	11%	3,591	370	10%
Special Children Act proceedings	489	129	26%	737	210	28%	394	40	10%	532	73	14%
Social welfare	1,182	126	11%	1,264	154	12%	1,016	86	8%	853	64	8%
Community care	90	11	12%	152	15	10%	144	8	6%	122	9	7%
Debt	132	7	5%	46	4	9%	54	2	4%	28	4	14%
Employment	16	1	6%	11	1	9%	16	1	6%	2	0	0%
Housing	940	106	11%	1,049	133	13%	796	75	9%	701	51	7%
Welfare benefits	4	1	25%	6	1	17%	6	0	0%	0	0	..
Low volume	2,078	217	10%	1,769	123	7%	1,274	80	6%	903	63	7%
Actions against the police etc.	301	32	11%	204	21	10%	182	8	4%	165	9	5%
Clinical negligence	944	109	12%	962	58	6%	650	42	6%	399	25	6%
Consumer	292	26	9%	125	4	3%	99	7	7%	44	7	16%
Discrimination	0	0		0	0		0	0		3	0	
Education	56	11	20%	64	9	14%	43	7	16%	23	3	13%
Personal injury	30	0	0%	20	0	0%	20	0	0%	9	1	11%
Public law	207	20	10%	231	19	8%	176	10	6%	211	17	8%
Miscellaneous	248	19	8%	163	12	7%	104	6	6%	49	1	2%
Tribunals	10,871	1,329	12%	11,590	1,375	12%	10,144	1,059	10%	9,092	948	10%
Immigration	165	49	30%	212	43	20%	257	43	17%	266	34	13%
Mental health	39	9	23%	50	5	10%	44	2	5%	34	4	12%
Total	10,667	1,271	12%	11,328	1,327	12%	9,843	1,014	10%	8,792	910	10%

Table 8.2: Appeals – against representation provided

Upon the granting of public funding opponents may make representations against the grant or continuation of funding.

	2011-12				2012-13				2013-14			
	Merits	Means	Merits & means	Total	Merits	Means	Merits & means	Total	Merits	Means	Merits & means	Total
Number received	1,370	1,133	160	2,663	1,146	1,250	78	2,474	1,276	945	96	2,317
(As % of total)	51%	43%	6%	-	46%	51%	3%	-	55%	41%	4%	-
Outcome of investigation into representations												
No change	827	516	69	1,412	899	791	69	1,759	1,097	562	51	1,710
Application refused	34	9	2	45	67	9	5	81	43	6	5	54
Certificate amended	6	30	4	40	11	30	0	41	13	32	3	48
Certificate discharged	165	90	19	274	156	61	5	222	213	96	8	317
Certificate revoked	14	210	23	247	16	271	14	301	19	186	10	215
Total representations closed out	1,046	855	117	2,018	1,149	1,162	93	2,404	1,385	882	77	2,344

Table 9: Civil Legal Help – Providers available

Volume of civil procurement area level provider contracts valid on the last day of the reported period, by category of law

Category of law	2011-12				2012-13				2013-14			
	All Solicitors	NFP	Telephone advice service		All Solicitors	NFP	Telephone advice service		All Solicitors	NFP	Telephone advice service	
Family	2,052	2,040	8	4	1,956	1,945	7	4	2,075	1,972	100	3
Actions against the police etc.	81	81	0	0	79	79	0	0	76	76	0	0
Clinical negligence	286	286	0	0	283	283	0	0	270	270	0	0
Community care	140	101	39	0	127	96	31	0	116	91	25	0
Consumer	37	29	8	0	37	29	8	0	0	0	0	0
Debt	356	91	258	7	337	89	240	8	662	432	225	5
Discrimination	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0	0	3
Education	29	22	5	2	26	18	5	3	3	0	0	3
Employment	179	100	76	3	169	92	74	3	0	0	0	0
Housing	530	324	203	3	509	308	198	3	660	431	224	5
Immigration	226	187	39	0	212	178	34	0	418	351	67	0
Mental health	192	189	3	0	257	254	3	0	250	246	4	0
Personal injury	116	116	0	0	113	113	0	0	0	0	0	0
Public law	109	95	14	0	113	99	14	0	113	99	14	0
Welfare benefits	359	86	268	5	345	86	252	7	15	4	11	0
Total non-family	2,640	1,707	913	20	2,607	1,724	859	24	2,586	2,000	570	16
Total	4,692	3,747	921	24	4,563	3,669	866	28	4,661	3,972	670	19

Please note that this table does not include the social welfare law (SWL) contracts held by community legal advice centres as these are issued under a different basis from other contracts

Licence only, and specialist Immigration Removal Centre contracts are also excluded

Table 10: Overall Summary Acts of Assistance and Expenditure since 2007-08

Number of acts of assistance and fund spend split by crime and civil areas.

Type	Area	Financial Year							
		2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	
Acts of Assistance ('000s)	Crime Lower ¹	1,379	1,432	1,408	1,338	1,252	1,235	1,203	
	Crime Higher ²	124	124	126	131	139	123	121	
	Crime total	1,502	1,556	1,534	1,469	1,391	1,358	1,324	
	Legal Help ³	835	1,164	1,266	1,096	940	782	381	
	Civil Representation ⁴	166	150	165	150	146	144	116	
	Civil total	1,000	1,314	1,431	1,246	1,086	925	497	
	Total	2,503	2,870	2,965	2,715	2,477	2,283	1,821	
	Expenditure (£m)	Crime Lower	476	498	463	444	431	385	367
		Crime Higher	674	677	657	686	670	591	541
		Crime total	1,150	1,175	1,121	1,130	1,101	975	909
Legal Help		254	274	324	278	223	184	130	
Civil Representation		541	613	792	707	755	758	671	
Civil total		795	887	1,116	985	978	942	801	
Total		1,945	2,062	2,237	2,115	2,078	1,917	1,710	

¹ Crime lower acts of assistance are based on claim volumes and exclude second claims for deferred sentencing.

² Crime higher acts of assistance are based on the number of representation orders granted for the Crown Court

³ Legal Help acts of assistance are based on new matter starts

⁴ Civil Representation acts of assistance includes granted civil representation applications and family mediation work

Annex A - Glossary of key terms

Terms used in the report and tables are explained below.

Act of assistance: Volumes of work dealt with are usually called an act of assistance and this is a measure of when a case starts (also see new matter starts). Although used as a proxy to show the number of people helped, they do not equate exactly as some clients may have received more than one act of assistance during the year and some acts of assistance may help more than one person.

Advocates' Graduated Fee Scheme (AGFS): The fee scheme which governs fees paid to advocates (barristers or solicitor advocates) who represent clients in criminal proceedings in the Crown Court, other than in cases which have been classified as very high cost (Criminal) cases. Payment is determined by proxy measures, the seniority of the advocate, offence type, pages of prosecution evidence, prosecution witnesses and days that the advocate spends at court at trial.

Appeals (in the Crown Court): The Crown Court deals with appeals from magistrates' courts against conviction and sentence in the Magistrates Court or Youth Court, hospital or guardianship orders, failure to comply with a supervision order and failure to make a football banning order. The Crown Court also has the power to alter a sentence or other order made by the Crown Court within 56 days of the date on which it was made.

Category and areas of law: The LAA defines areas of law (education, housing etc) thematically and contracts for the provision of advice and representation based on the categories below (see below for Crime Higher, Crime Lower, Civil Family, Civil Social Welfare law, Civil Non-Family Low volume and Civil Tribunals)

Civil: The area of law that concerns the rights and relations of private citizens – for example, disputes relating to unpaid debts or the enforcement/breach of contracts. Covers civil and family law but excludes criminal matters.

Civil Family categories:

Family controlled work both private and public law (Civil Family)

Children act - private (Civil Family): covers disputes about divorce, children issues (contact and residence), the separate representation of children where the court appoints it, and child abduction.

Domestic Abuse (Civil Family): injunctions, committal orders, or other orders for protection of a person from harm or forced marriages. Unlike other applications there is no upper limit to a victim's income or capital (they may have to pay a contribution).

Financial provision (Civil Family): ancillary relief i.e. money & property. There is a funding test for representation.

Other (Civil Family): This area covers proceedings relating to defended divorce, nullity, civil partnership rights or applications under the Human Embryology Act.

Children act – public (Civil Family): for children or parents in disputes with the state, particularly local authorities, on matters such as care proceedings and adoption. In care proceedings there is no means or merits test.

Family Mediation (Civil Family): enables separating or divorcing couples to reach decisions about their arrangements together, using an independent third party mediator.

Civil Low Volume: These differ from other Civil and family categories as need is thinly distributed within the population, and demand is greatly influenced by the location and advice provided by low volume providers.

Actions against the Police (Civil Low Volume): help with claims against the police such as assault, entering the home, false imprisonment, wrongful arrest, interference with property, malicious prosecution or other abuses of police authority.

Clinical Negligence (Civil Low Volume): help with claims for damages against all types of public and private medical practitioners, including doctors, nurses and dentists.

Consumer and general contract (Civil Low Volume): enables clients to obtain advice and bring civil law actions regarding contracts and their enforcement (except where this falls into another category).

Education (Civil Low Volume): legal help on problems to do with the education service, including failing to provide education e.g. special educational needs, exclusions, bullying and admissions.

Personal Injury (Civil Low Volume): enables clients to take action for compensation if they have suffered an injury due to someone's negligence or deliberate action. Most personal injury cases have now been excluded from the scope of legal aid. Most new cases involve applications to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board.

Public Law (Civil Low Volume): civil liberties or human rights advice including advice on data protection, freedom of information issues and how to challenge the decisions of public bodies.

Miscellaneous (Civil Low Volume): aimed at ensuring that meritorious cases can be brought and advice given for issues that do not fall within the scope.

Civil Social Welfare Law categories:

Community Care (Civil Social Welfare): help for people who are unable to look after themselves because of age, illness or disability. May include obtaining or challenging an assessment for adequate

services, challenging care home closures or contesting involuntary removal from home, by a local authority if deemed incapable of looking after yourself.

Debt (Civil Social Welfare): personal debts, both priority (e.g. council tax, rent arrears) and non-priority (credit cards), rescheduling debts (e.g. negotiating payment plans with creditors), challenging the validity of debts (e.g. due to dormancy) and personal insolvency/bankruptcy/Individual Voluntary Arrangements (IVAs).

Employment (Civil Social Welfare): unfair and wrongful dismissal, redundancy, employment contract, discrimination, strike action, data protection and employee confidentiality, terms and conditions and wages issues. Legal aid is available for assistance prior to an Employment Tribunal (not for representation at the Tribunal). It is available for representation at an Employment Appeal Tribunal.

Housing (Civil Social Welfare): help with issues arising out of where people live e.g. possession and eviction, disrepair, homelessness, allocation of housing, and other landlord and tenant issues. It also includes anti-social behaviour work (e.g. a local authority taking action against a tenant).

Welfare Benefits (Civil Social Welfare): covers receipt of and entitlement to benefits. Work in this category includes: challenging benefit decisions (e.g. where a benefit has been refused), gaining benefits a client is entitled to, benefit fraud and overpayments.

Civil - Tribunals

Mental Health (Civil Tribunals): covers all work where the primary legal issue relates to mental health, particularly where this is covered by the Mental Health Acts of 1983 and 2007, and the Mental Capacity Act 2005.

Immigration & Asylum (Civil Tribunals): covers legal help on anything to do with immigration into the UK, for example, questions relating to nationality or right to stay in this country or deportations. Also covers issues relating to asylum including representation before the Asylum and Immigration Tribunal and advice to appeal to higher courts.

Civil Representation: Representation by solicitors and barristers for civil cases, which could go to court (also see Licensed work).

Committal for sentence: Where, in the magistrates' court, an offender has been convicted of, or has pleaded guilty to, an either way offence, but the magistrates consider that the penalties available to them are inadequate having regard to the seriousness of the offence or combination of offences, they may commit the offender to the Crown Court for sentencing.

Community Legal Advice Centre (CLAC): These were walk-in Community Legal Advice Centres providing free, generalized, face-to-face

legal advice at an initial appointment and further specialized advice for people eligible for legal aid.

Complex Crime Unit: The Complex Crime Unit manages all Very High Cost Cases under a criminal legal aid contract.

Contracted Providers: The LAA contracts with solicitor firms and not for profit organisations to deliver face to face advice and assistance in both crime and civil, and to deliver advice over the telephone via Community Legal Advice (CLA) contracts. This includes contracted mediators who undertake mediation on behalf of legally aided clients.

Controlled Work: Work under the civil contract that covers legal advice and assistance (Legal Help), help at court and legal representation in front of Mental Health Review Tribunals and the Asylum and Immigration Tribunal.

Court of Appeal and Supreme Court (Crime Higher): The appeal and higher courts deal with smaller volumes of caseload but are generally more complex with points of law and other unusual case work.

Criminal Higher: Legal representation in the Crown Court and above.

Crown Court (Crime Higher): typically solicitor prepares case for trial and barrister or solicitor advocate provides representation.

Very High Cost Cases (Crime Higher): extensive evidence reviewed and case prepared by solicitor. Senior counsel (QC) often presents.

Court of Appeal and Supreme Court (Crime Higher): The appeal and higher courts deal with smaller volumes of caseload but are generally more complex with points of law and other unusual case work.

Criminal Lower: Work carried out by legal aid providers at police stations and in magistrates' courts in relation to people accused of or charged with criminal offences. Prison law is also included within this category.

Magistrates' Court (Crime Lower): solicitor preparation for appearance or trial. Representation within the magistrates' court, often by a solicitor advocate or junior barrister.

Police Station (Crime Lower): advice on rights and options pre-charge, in the station, in person by solicitor or outside the police station relating to pre-charge; or applications to extend detention.

Prison Law (Crime Lower): advice for prisoners relating to their treatment or discipline in prison (e.g. parole hearings) and their progression through the prison system.

Disbursements: Costs incurred by the provider that relate to expenses such as the cost of a travel, paying fees. For example, the payment of court fees, or paying other parties to undertake a service using experts' opinions.

ECF application: an ECF application for civil legal services is made where a case falls outside the scope of legal aid but the client or conducting solicitor believes there is evidence to support there being a requirement to provide funding because failure to do so would be a breach of, or having regard to any risk that failure to do so would be such a breach of, their Convention rights (within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998), or any rights of the individual to the provision of legal services that are enforceable EU rights.

ECF determinations - this is the decision taken on an application by the LAA ECF Team. Decision results are to either Positive Preliminary View, Grant, Refuse or Reject an application.

ECF granted- An ECF application can only be granted if:

- the exceptional case criteria are met, and
- the relevant criteria set out in the Civil Legal Aid (Merits Criteria) Regulations are met, and
- the relevant criteria set out in the Civil Legal Aid (Financial Resources and Payment for Services) Regulations are met

ECF new applications – this is the first application in relation to a particular set of proceedings.

ECF positive preliminary view- this is only viable on ECF applications made directly by the client, prior to a full ECF Application being received in conjunction with a Legal Aid provider.

ECF refuse – The application was assessed by the LAA ECF Team and the determination is to Refuse. ECF criteria were not met, so the application is refused with details for refusal provided.

ECF reject – The application was assessed by the LAA ECF Team and the determination is to Reject. Either the application was in scope for a non exceptional legal aid application, or not enough information has been provided in the application to make a determination, so the application is rejected with details for rejection provided.

ECF review applications – this relates to a request for an internal review of a determination previously made by the LAA ECF team.

Either way offence: An offence which can be tried either before the magistrates' court or the Crown Court. The appropriate venue is determined at a Mode of Trial hearing at the magistrates' court. If the magistrates determine that the matter is too serious or complex for summary trial, they can commit it to the Crown Court. If the magistrates determine that the case is suitable for summary trial, the defendant can elect for trial by jury.

Help at Court: Enables a solicitor or advisor to speak at a court or tribunal on an informal basis e.g. to argue that an order should not be enforced immediately.

Indictable offence: A criminal offence that can only be tried in the Crown Court.

Interests of justice test: The test is applied to criminal cases as part of the process to determine whether a client receives criminal legal aid. The provision of publicly funded representation is usually deemed to be in the interests of justice when the case is so serious that if the defendant is found guilty they are likely to face imprisonment, loss of livelihood or loss of reputation, where there are substantial questions of law to be argued, or the defendant is a minor, mentally handicapped, cannot speak English, or is otherwise incapable of following proceedings.

Legal Help: A form of civil legal services which includes advice and assistance about a legal problem, but does not include representation or advocacy in proceedings (also see Controlled work).

Licensed Work: Work under the civil contract that covers all legal representation (representation by solicitors and barristers for civil cases which could go to court) except work covered by Controlled Work or VHCC, which are managed under separate contracts.

Litigators' Graduated Fee Scheme (LGFS): The fee scheme which governs fees paid to solicitors who represent clients in criminal proceedings in the Crown Court, other than in cases which have been classified as Very High Cost (Criminal) Cases. Payment is determined by proxy measures, the type of offence, pages of prosecution evidence, and number of days of trial.

Means test: The process by which an assessment of clients' financial eligibility for public funding is made.

Merits test: The aim of the merits test is to ensure that only cases with reasonable prospects of success receive legal aid. The test does this by seeking to replicate the decision making process that somebody who pays privately would make when deciding whether to bring, defend or continue to pursue proceedings.

New matter starts: A matter refers to an instance of help given by a service provider to a legal aid client under Controlled Work and does not cover representation at court.

Referral Providers: The LAA does not currently contract directly with referral providers such as barristers and experts. Whilst contracted providers will in most cases seek prior authority from the LAA for payment of barristers and experts, it is the contracted provider who chooses when to instruct a referral provider and which barrister or expert to instruct. Referral providers are paid for each piece of work either directly by the LAA in the case of barristers, or via the contracted providers in the case of experts.

Very High Cost Cases (VHCC): extensive evidence reviewed and case prepared by solicitor. Senior counsel (QC) often presents.

Annex B - Explanatory notes

The statistics in this bulletin relate to work by the LAA in England and Wales during 12 months ending March 2014.

Data Sources and Data Quality

This section outlines the different data sources used to compile the statistics presented in the bulletin with discussion on data quality where relevant. The main sources of the statistics are compiled from administrative systems designed for the accurate management of the legal aid system.

There are many administrative systems used to create the statistics covering each of the main areas of legal aid:

Within crime higher figures are drawn from two systems, one for LGFS (Crown Court Legal Fees – CCLF) and another for AGFS (Crown Court Remuneration – CCR) they respectively provide the spend and work provided information for much of the Crime Higher data. High cost case information is drawn from the Complex Crime Unit (CCU) and their administrative system.

For Crime Lower data is taken from the Contracted Work and Admin system and supported with information from the Means Assessment Admin Tool (MAAT) giving information on the granting of legal aid.

For Civil Representation the figures are obtained from the Corporate Information Store (CIS), Client and case management system (CCMS) and their associated supporting systems.

For Legal Help, information is provided by the CWA system and its management information.

While the majority of information is held within source administrative systems some information is provided from other non-database sources including data on telephone advice, community legal advice centres and the housing court duty solicitor scheme.

The annual account figures used within this report are audited on a regular basis by the National Audit Office. Other numbers provided in this report use the same methodology as those used to produce the annual account figures and are continuously quality assured by the LAA. Figures are compared to other sources of data where possible, random individual case checks are performed and comparisons with other internal reports undertaken.

Revisions

In accordance with Principle 2 of the Code of Practice for Office Statistics, the MoJ is required to publish transparent guidance on its policy for revisions. A copy of this statement can be found at:

www.justice.gov.uk/downloads/statistics/mojstats/statistics-revisions-policy.pdf

The three reasons specified for statistics needing to be revised are changes in sources of administrative systems or methodology changes, receipt of subsequent information, and errors in statistical systems and processes. Each of these points, and its specific relevance to the legal aid statistics publication, are addressed below:

Changes in source of administrative systems or methodology changes

The data within this publication come from a variety of administrative systems. The document will present where there have been revisions to data accountable to switches in methodology or administrative systems with statistics affected within the publication appropriately footnoted.

Receipt of subsequent information

The nature of any administrative system is that data may be received late. For the purpose of this criminal justice statistics publication, the late data will be reviewed on a quarterly basis but, unless it is deemed to make significant changes to the statistics released; revisions will only be made as part of the final release containing the year's statistics. Should the review show that the late data has had a major impact on the statistics then revisions will be released as part of the subsequent publication.

Errors in statistical systems and processes

Occasionally errors can occur in statistical processes; procedures are constantly reviewed to minimise this risk. Should a significant error be found the publication on the website will be updated and an errata slip published documenting the revision.

Uses of the statistics

The main users of these statistics are departmental teams responsible for coordinating responses and requests to FOIs and PQs, Ministers and officials with responsibility for developing policy. The statistics are used to monitor the overall workload figures for the legal aid system.

Official Statistics

This Statistical Release is published at 9.30am on a date which has been pre-announced on the United Kingdom Statistics Authority Publication Hub (<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/index.html>).

A list of officials who have received pre-release access to this Statistical Release up to 24 hours in advance of publication is available on the Department's website (<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-justice/about/statistics#publication-schedule>)

Next Publication

The next release, Legal Aid Statistics Quarterly, will be released in September 2014.

Annex C - Contact points for further information

Press enquiries on the contents of this bulletin should be directed to the Ministry of Justice press office:

Andrew McGill
Tel: 020 3334 3524
Email: Andrew.McGill@justice.gsi.gov.uk

Other enquiries about these statistics should be directed to:

Mike Elkins
Chief Statistician
Justice Statistics Analytical Services
Ministry of Justice
7th Floor
102 Petty France
London
SW1H 9AJ
Tel: 020 3334 2946
Email: statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk

General enquiries about the statistical work of the Ministry of Justice can be e-mailed to: statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk

General information about the official statistics system of the UK is available from www.statistics.gov.uk

© Crown copyright
Produced by the Ministry of Justice

Alternative formats are available on request from
statistics.enquiries@justice.gsi.gov.uk