

Procurement of Civil Legal Aid, Immigration Telephone Advice Services in England and Wales from 1 June 2021

Cancellation Notice with effect from 30 April 2021

On 10 December 2020, the Legal Aid Agency ("LAA") published an invitation to tender for Civil Legal Aid, Immigration Telephone Advice Services ("ITA Services") in England and Wales from 1 June 2021 on its e-Tendering portal.

In accordance with the LAA's right to do so pursuant to paragraph 5.24 of the Invitation to Tender Information for Applicants ("**IFA**") document, Applicants are notified that the LAA has cancelled the procurement process in its entirety.

This means that the LAA will not proceed with the award of any ITA Services contracts under that procurement process.

The LAA received insufficient compliant tenders that met the minimum quality requirements. The procurement process therefore did not result in the award of any contracts to provide ITA Services from 1 June 2021.

To ensure on-going access to ITA Services for Clients beyond 1 June 2021, the LAA has extended the existing contract with the current ITA Services provider (Optimus Law Ltd) For a period of 12 months to 31 May 2022. During this time the LAA and Ministry of Justice are undertaking a review of the ITA service to consider the commission of this service in the future.