

Headline intentions on extending the 2022 Standard Crime Contract

The LAA will be extending the 2022 Standard Crime Contract by 24 months to 30 September 2025. The 24 months' extension is made under paragraph 2.3 of the Contract for Signature document.

The Ministry of Justice is continuing work on the next phase of the policy development of the Criminal Legal Aid Independent Review proposals.

The LAA considers that it would be best placed to tender for a future Crime Contract once the outcome of this policy work is known. Once this is complete, the LAA will start the contract and tender design process.

The LAA will begin to issue notices of the extension to the 2022 Crime Contract to individual providers by the end of May 2023. The new schedules will be issued later in 2023.

The LAA is engaging with representative bodies to discuss potential changes that could be introduced through the 2022 Crime Contract to increase flexibility and reduce administration for providers, as well as more structural changes for a future Crime Contract.

Further information on the Ministry of Justice's response to the criminal legal aid review can be found here:

[Response to Independent Review of Criminal Legal Aid - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/response-to-independent-review-of-criminal-legal-aid)