



Legal Aid Agency

This form is NOT mandatory but can be annexed to the application made in the Apply for Prior Authority to Incur Disbursements online service to support your application for Prior Authority.

This decision to grant Prior Authority is subject to the LAA's approval of the attached application for prior authority

Defendant's Name	
UFN	
MAAT Number	
Type of Expert	
Court Details	

Issues to be considered before supporting the application for Prior Authority for a defendant to instruct an expert in Criminal Proceedings before the Court.

1.	Have the prosecution and the defence engaged prior to the hearing and discussed the need for expert evidence in the case?	
2.	What is the disputed issue in the case which requires expert evidence to enable the court to make a finding of fact?	
3.	Will the prosecution be instructing an expert in the case?	

4.	Why is it also necessary for the defendant to instruct an expert in the case?	
5.	Which party will be responsible for serving the necessary evidence on the expert to enable the letter of instruction to be answered?	
6.	What are the questions that the parties have agreed that the expert should address?	
7.	Has the defendant identified an expert with appropriate qualifications? If so, whom?	
8.	How long will be required for the expert to prepare a statement or report to be served on the prosecution and lodged with the court?	

Signature of Legal Advisor/DJ(MC) (Or Court Stamp)	The Court consider this expert report necessary and supports this application for Prior Authority.
Court Email Address	

Please upload this document in the Apply for Prior Authority to Incur Disbursements online service along with a detailed quote from the chosen expert with a full breakdown of preparation & travel times, including the address where the expert is based (not correspondence address). Both documents must be uploaded electronically.