

Lancaster HLPAS-Specific Information

This document contains:

1. Acts of assistance for In-Court Duty Schemes
2. Corresponding and neighbouring Housing and Debt Procurement Areas
3. HLPAS Area Guide
4. Annex 1 – Questions raised at Market Engagement Event: Lancaster – 16 September 2025

1. ACTS OF ASSISTANCE FOR IN COURT DUTY SCHEMES

HLPAS Area	Courts Covered in HLPAS	Acts of assistance available for In Court Duty Scheme for 12 months
Lancaster	Lancaster County Court	88

2. CORRESPONDING AND NEIGHBOURING HOUSING AND DEBT PROCUREMENT AREAS

HLPAS Area	Corresponding LAA Housing and Debt Procurement Area	Local Authorities included in the Procurement Area	Neighbouring Housing and Debt Procurement Areas
Lancaster	West Lancashire	West Lancashire Borough Council Blackpool Council Chorley Borough Council Fylde Borough Council Lancaster City Council Preston City Council South Ribble Borough Council Wyre Council	East Lancashire Wigan St. Helens Knowsley Sefton

3. LANCASTER HLPAS AREA GUIDE

This HLPAS Area Guide provides information on the In-Court Duty Scheme stage of the Lancaster HLPAS from December 2025.

In addition to the information provided in this guide, please also view [Annex 1](#) outlining questions and responses to the market engagement event that took place on 16 September 2025.

About the court location(s) in this HLPAS Area

The court location(s) to be served in this HLPAS Area:

Court covered by the HLPAS Area	Address	Current Possession Listing Days
Lancaster County Court	Lancaster Civil & Family Court Lancaster Court House George Street Lancaster LA1 1XZ	Alternate Thursdays

Applicants will be awarded a number of Matter Starts to deliver Early Legal Advice in each full Schedule period. For this Contract and Schedules, the volume of Matter starts to be issued are as follows:

Schedule dates	Volume of Early Legal Advice Matter Starts
1 December 2025* – 31 August 2026	112
1 September 2026 – 31 August 2027	150
1 September 2027 – 30 June 2028	125

*This date is included for illustration purposes only and may be adjusted according to the start date of the contract. The LAA intends to award a contract under this process to commence as soon as possible after the assessment process is complete,

Details of the acts of assistance which will be issued to Providers to deliver the In-Court Duty Scheme for this HLPAS Area is set out in Section 1 of this HLPAS Specific Information.

Early Legal Advice volumes of Clients advised by the HLPAS Provider:

	Early Legal Advice claims	
Time Period	Aug 2023 – Aug 2024	Aug 2024 – Aug 2025
Volume of cases claimed	3	0*

*No data available as there is currently no provider contracted to this service

In-Court volumes in this HLPAS Area¹

The tables below indicate historical data for Lancaster:

Acts of assistance are numbers of Clients advised by the HPCDS or HLPAS Provider:

Scheme	Acts of assistance undertaken by the previous HPCDS/HLPAS Provider		
Time Period	Oct 2022 – Sep 2023	Oct 2023 – Sep 2024	Oct 2024 – Dec 2024
Lancaster County Court	0	9	0*

*No data available as there is currently no provider contracted to this service

Historic Listing Information is the number of possession cases listed in each time period. These figures represent the overall number of clients that could be eligible for HLPAS advice: ²

Court	Time period	Total number of Listings ³	Listing Information – Types of Hearing			
			Mortgage	Accelerated Landlord	Private Landlord	Social Landlord
Lancaster County Court	Q1 – Q4 2021	174	45	40	68	21
Lancaster County Court	Q1 – Q4 2022	496	115	154	166	61
Lancaster County Court	Q1 – Q4 2023	566	112	172	139	143
Lancaster County Court	Q1 – Q4 2024	561	123	173	134	131
Lancaster County Court	Q1 – Q2 2025	244	55	77	47	65

Based on data relating to claims made across all HLPAS areas during the 2024 calendar year, we would expect approximately 25% of court cases to be eligible for legal aid and be claimed under the In Court Duty Scheme. This is a national figure, however, and may vary considerably from area to area and may not accurately represent the potential cases eligible for legal aid and claimed under the In Court Duty Scheme for the Lancaster HLPAS Area.

All information relating to the volume and value of work included within this HLPAS Area Guide is based on information available to the LAA including information that has been reported by HPCDS/HLPAS Providers. This information should not be relied upon by prospective bidders. The LAA gives no guarantees or warranties regarding the accuracy of any information or regarding the actual volume or value of any HLPAS Contract Work during the contract term.

¹ Acts of Assistance data is drawn from the Legal Aid Agency's internal Management Information. Listing information is taken from HMCTS court listing data available at [Mortgage and landlord possession statistics - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/mortgage-and-landlord-possession-statistics)

² The number of matters is indicative of footfall in the court and clients eligible for the HLPAS service. However, clients may opt to not utilise the HLPAS Service for a variety of reasons.

³ Claims listed and warrants

4. ANNEX 1 – Questions raised at Market Engagement Event: Lancaster – 16 September 2025

1. Could the day or the frequency of the court listing be changed if this is a barrier to providing a service?

Listing patterns may be capable of being changed locally if required and if agreed between all parties.

2. Is there the possibility to deliver remote advice?

The preferred delivery option is face-to-face provision for all in-court support. Remote advice may be appropriate for pre court work only.