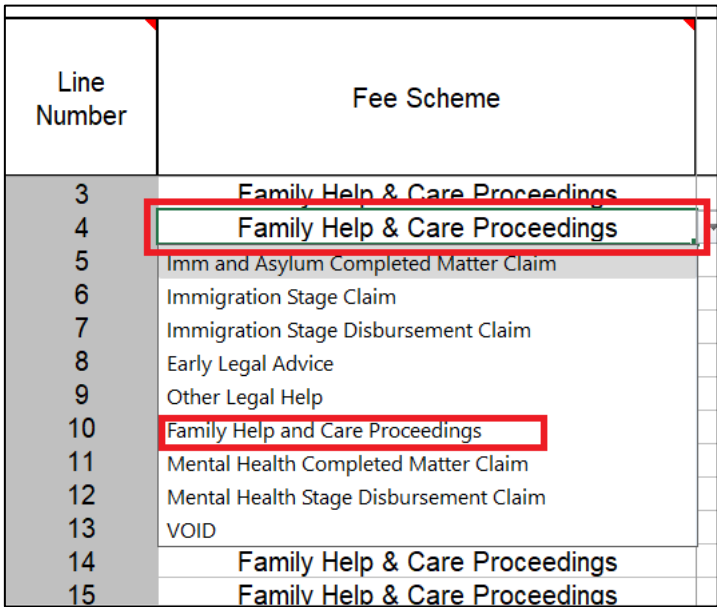




Submit a Bulk Claim

Frequently asked questions (FAQ)

Questions	Response
Common Problems	
SaBC not appearing in SILAS	ADDED 04 FEB: SaBC will be visible to users who have been assigned access, from the morning of 4 February. Your SILAS Firm Admin will need to assign users access.
Formatting fields	ADDED 04 FEB: Please ensure that formatting is followed as per the 'Guidance for SaBC claims' document available on www.gov.uk/guidance/submit-a-bulk-claim-sabc Deviation from the stated formatting can result in a failed submission.
Sorting claim data	ADDED 04 FEB: Following a successful submission, your claims data will be displayed on the service, you will see 10 claims per page. Should you choose to sort or filter the claims, this will only apply to the page being viewed.
Family claims not appearing in bulkload export file – blank lines	UPDATED 16 FEB: This may occur where a Family provider has copied data into v1.39 of the bulkload spreadsheet from an earlier version in which the

Questions	Response																												
	<p>formatting in the “Fee Scheme” fields differ slightly. Old versions have the option “Family Help & Care Proceedings” including the ampersand character (&) where as v1.39 replaces this with “and”.</p> <p>As a result, the claim line is not picked up for the export file.</p> <p>We would ask providers to avoid copying data directly between different version of the bulkload spreadsheet where possible – if you have, then you can click on the individual “Fee Scheme” cell for each claim, select “Family Help and Care Proceedings” and then when you re-create an export file, the claims should then feed through into it.</p>  <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Line Number</th><th>Fee Scheme</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>3</td><td>Family Help & Care Proceedings</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>Family Help & Care Proceedings</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>Imm and Asylum Completed Matter Claim</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>Immigration Stage Claim</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>Immigration Stage Disbursement Claim</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>Early Legal Advice</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>Other Legal Help</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>Family Help and Care Proceedings</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>Mental Health Completed Matter Claim</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>Mental Health Stage Disbursement Claim</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>VOID</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>Family Help & Care Proceedings</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>Family Help & Care Proceedings</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Line Number	Fee Scheme	3	Family Help & Care Proceedings	4	Family Help & Care Proceedings	5	Imm and Asylum Completed Matter Claim	6	Immigration Stage Claim	7	Immigration Stage Disbursement Claim	8	Early Legal Advice	9	Other Legal Help	10	Family Help and Care Proceedings	11	Mental Health Completed Matter Claim	12	Mental Health Stage Disbursement Claim	13	VOID	14	Family Help & Care Proceedings	15	Family Help & Care Proceedings
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Null entries in fields	<p>UPDATED 16 FEB: Where a field does not need to be populated, do not enter “null” as the value, leave it as blank.</p> <p>For instance, in a PROD claim, do not enter “null” in the name fields.</p>																												
Mediation submissions: outreach field	<p>ADDED 04 FEB: The outreach field requires 3 figures to be valid e.g. “002”</p>																												
I have no matters to report?	<p>ADDED 10 FEB: If you have NMS (no matter starts) to report there is a tick box within the bulkload spreadsheet e.g.</p>																												

Questions	Response
	"Tick here to indicate you are reporting ZERO Civil Mattr Starts".
Error message - Invalid File. Please upload a file in the correct format.	ADDED 10 FEB: Please check that you are uploaded one file per office. Only one office can be included in an individual file, you cannot combine offices.
Macros – untrustworthy source	<p>ADDED 10 FEB: This may be something you need to resolve with your IT support.</p> <p>The spreadsheet is published on the official GOV.UK website, which is the trusted source of documentation for the Legal Aid Agency. You should have confidence in downloading files from here. All materials undergo standard assurance and integrity checks before publication.</p> <p>The spreadsheet makes use of macros for data validation and generation of a file for upload into our systems. Unfortunately, it is not possible to provide a non-macro version without removing this functionality. The file can be opened with macros disabled, but users would need to complete data validation and file generation manually.</p> <p>We understand that you may have a policy in place to restrict the use of macros. Where possible, you may wish to review these settings to allow macros from trusted and verified sources, such as the GOV.UK website.</p> <p>If you 'save as' and re-open the bulkload file you will be able to chose to mark this as a 'trusted' file. This can't be done by opening the file in browser or downloads.</p>
Which Family Fee Code to use with Divorce, petitioner, advice only	<p>ADDED 10 FEB: Where advice only, is given to the Petitioner, then FVP010 should be claimed with FPL01 as the case/stage reached code.</p> <p>FVP100 would be used with FPL10 where the petition is issued.</p>
Outcome item error – errors in spelling of “tags”(fields) or unrecognised entries	UPDATED 16 FEB: There may be different reasons for receiving this error message, but it can relate to an asset tag (field) being included in a claim which is not one accepted by SaBC or a misspelling of one.

Questions	Response
	<p>For instance:</p> <p>Misspelling ELIGIBLE_CIENT_INDICATOR whereas it should be ELIGIBLE_CLIENT_INDICATOR (missing the L in Client).</p> <p>COURT_LOCATION_HPcds should be COURT_LOCATION_HPCDS.</p> <p>Inclusion of a tag that is not recognised:</p> <pre><outcomeItem name="RESIDENCE_TEST"/></pre> <p>In crime claims, <pre><outcomeItem name="SCHEDULE_REF"/></pre></p>
<p>Immigration – the Exemption code CM001 does not appear in the dropdown list in the bulkload spreadsheet, apart from the first line</p>	<p>ADDED 16 FEB: It appears that the code does not appear in the v1.39 of the bulkload beyond line 1 of the spreadsheet.</p> <p>We have requested that it be added in the next iteration.</p> <p>Until then providers can:</p> <p>Click on the Exemption Criteria on line 1, click on CM001. Hold CTRL and C on the cell, then right click on the cell you want to copy it into and select “paste values” (the little clipboard with 123 at the bottom).</p> <p>If that does not work for you, then providers can omit the reference from their claim and retain a note that there was a technical error – SaBC will not reject the claim if it is omitted.</p>
<p>SaBC is not allowing me to enter any claims that concluded after 31 January 2026 – this is different to how CWA worked.</p>	<p>ADDED 16 FEB: We are urgently taking steps to adjust the validation to replicate what CWA would previously have allowed. We will be alerting providers who have flagged this to us and they will have a choice as to whether to wait for the change in validation (which will be released before 17th) or remove the affected claims and add them to next month’s submission.</p> <p>Either way, this is a technical problem beyond Providers’ immediate control and if this is a factor in not</p>

Questions	Response
	<p>being able to submit by 17th, we will look at contingency options to avoid financial disadvantage. We do recognise the challenge and are taking quick action to minimise disruption.</p>
Nil submissions	<p>ADDED 16 FEB: Providers should still submit a nil return even if they have no matters or outcomes to report – please refer to page 7 of the SaBC User Guide which confirms what you need to report within your submission file.</p> <p>If you would normally use the Bulkload Spreadsheet then you would complete the front page as per the instructions in sections 1-8 of the SaBC_bulkload-spreadsheet-guidance_v1.22_Windows_only_docx. Then go to the civil tab and click “create civil bulkload file” as per the instructions in section 14.</p>
Inability to submit a “nil bill”	<p>You cannot submit nil bills in SaBC (i.e. a claim for £0) – any claim that has a Fee Code, which all claims must have, will generate a fee even if that claim has no profit costs or disbursements recorded against it.</p> <p>If for any reason you do not need to submit a claim, you retain a note for audit and do not include a line in your submission.</p> <p>If you have submitted a claim in error, which has generated a fee, please complete the claim amendment form and sending it to PA-ClaimAmend@justice.gov.uk, you will need to request that each is voided.</p>
Error message – Invalid UTF-8	<p>If the values the provider has reported contain apostrophes or accents over the E for instance, then it will generate this error message:</p> <p>e.g. <outcomeItem name="CLIENT_FORENAME">ADÉLA</outcomeItem></p> <p>The client's forename contains É (E with acute accent), which is encoded as a single byte 0xC9 (the Latin-1/ISO-8859-1 representation). In UTF-8, É should be encoded as two bytes 0xC3 0x89.</p> <p>As per general gov.uk guidance we only accept UTF-8 encoding.</p>

Questions	Response
	In this example, this could be changed to an “E”.
Accidentally submitted a nil or incomplete submission for a contingency month	If you accidentally made a nil submission, please add those claims into another month yet to be claimed of the contingency period. Please then notify your Contract Manager so when they are reviewing and reconciling the accounts they understand what happened and why.
Accidentally submitted no claims or missed claims from my January submission	<p>We cannot currently delete a submission, and you would not be able to submit a further file for the same month,</p> <p>Depending on the number of claims you have omitted, you may wish to simply add them to your next month’s submission, or if the value is significant, speak to your Contract Manager regarding any contingency options.</p> <p>Please ensure that you check your file before uploading.</p>
You Said We Did	
‘Submission period’ added to submission search results	ADDED 10 FEB: The submission period “MONTH YEAR” will now appear as a column when searching for a submission.
Matter starts count added to matter starts tab	ADDED 10 FEB: Within the submission summary screen you will now see a matter starts tab and count “Matter Starts (XXX)”.
Ability to navigate to claim details warning message tab	ADDED 10 FEB: Within the submission summary screen you will be able to click “View” to navigate directly to the claim details of claims which are displaying warning messages.
Error in SaBC validation for “Follow on work” field fixed	ADDED 16 FEB: Developers fixed an error on 13 Feb which was preventing providers entering anything other than Y or N in this field, which conflicted with guidance. Any value should now be accepted.
General FAQ	

Questions	Response
What is submit a bulk claim?	Submit a Bulk Claim (SaBC) is a new digital service that will enable providers to bill for civil controlled work and crime lower work.
Is there any lee way on the 20 th March deadline for contingency claims?	<p>ADDED 10 FEB: The final reconciliation will take place 4th May. If contingency claims data is not submitted to us by 20th March, it will affect the reconciliation values. Please refer to our FAQs which confirms the reconciliation timeframe Submit a Bulk Claim (SaBC) - GOV.UK</p> <p>Before any reconciliation takes place, and providers will be supplied with confirmation of any difference in value between contingency submissions and actual submissions by their Contract Manager.</p>
What is the issue that you have identified with immigration claims prepared using earlier versions of the bulkload spreadsheet?	<p>UPDATED 4 FEB: We have identified two issues with the export files created by earlier versions of the bulkload spreadsheet preceding v1.39. Any exports created using these versions for immigration claims, did not carry across the values entered in the 'travel time' field. As this field is one which is mandatory in SaBC, this may may lead to the submission being rejected.</p> <p>We have also identified that it is not possible to simply copy the data into the latest version of the spreadsheet, as there is an incompatibility which leads to some claims not then feeding through to the export.</p> <p>We are communicating directly with all immigration providers regarding what they need to do, in order to submit their affected claims – they will be able to use the Fee Code Mapping tool to update their export with the necessary data to create a new export file that SaBC will accept and will contain all of the necessary data. Providers will be given a copy of the tool and instructions, and we hope to identify those affected and target follow up support if needed.</p>
Will the system be temporary or permanent? How long will it last for?	<p>The primary aim of the new service is to provide a replacement for the previous system, removing the need for contingency processes. It will be an interim solution and is not intended to be our long term, transformed solution. We anticipate that the system will be in place for a period of approximately 18-24 months</p> <p>This system will have an improved user interface and will be easier to update and change. We are working to</p>

Questions	Response
	<p>ensure any new processes are as intuitive and user friendly as possible.</p> <p>The Government has allocated over £20 million in extra funding this year to start the programme to replace systems with modern, resilient and flexible technology. We want to work with providers and service users to help shape our thinking on the key challenges and options for transforming the service in the longer term.</p>
When will the new system be implemented?	ADDED 29 Jan: Submit a Bulk Claim (SaBC) will be launched on 4 February 2026. Providers must use it to upload their January submission by 17 February.
How will I access SaBC?	Providers will be able to access the service via Sign in to Legal Aid Services (SILAS) and can upload their bulkload or case management system exported data file directly into SaBC.
When will I be able to access SaBC from?	UPDATED 10 Feb: The SaBC app will not be visible in SILAS until 4 February. From that date, SILAS Firm Admins will be able to assign the app to their users.
Where can I find guidance on how to assign the role on SILAS, once its available?	<p>ADDED 29 Jan: You can follow the steps outlined in the "How to amend or remove services, roles or offices from a user" section of 'Manage your users' FAQs on the SILAS page of the Legal Aid Learning website:</p> <p>SiLAS: Manage your users – frequently asked questions – Legal Aid Learning</p>
Where can I find guidance on how to upload a submission into SaBC?	ADDED 29 Jan: Please refer to the SaBC User Guide which can be found on the dedicated Submit a Bulk Claim page on gov.uk – see the Guidance document section.
Are there any webinars that I can watch or attend to see a demonstration of SaBC?	ADDED 29 Jan: You can watch the recorded system walkthrough on the LAA Training website, here:

Questions	Response
	<p>Civil - legalaidlearning.justice.gov.uk/submit-a-bulk-claim-civil/</p> <p>Crime - legalaidlearning.justice.gov.uk/submit-a-bulk-claim-crime</p> <p>Five Webinars on how to submit a claim using SaBC are available here for you to sign up to Submit a Bulk Claim walkthrough events Eventbrite.</p> <p>These run from Wednesday 28 January to Thursday 12 February.</p>
What functionality will the service have?	<p>The service will check the file that is uploaded and calculate the price of each claim within it. If any information is missing or if fundamental errors have been made within the submission, it will be rejected prior to calculating costs.</p>
Why are you implementing a new code when you are still asking for all the same information as CWA?	<p>Adding in a new fee code means the interim system can be built at pace.</p> <p>This is because CWA used a range of information from different fields to calculate the relevant fee, escape fee threshold, and cost limits (where relevant) in each category of law. In some categories it used a number of different fields. The new single fee code incorporates information into one data field, creating a uniform way of the system pricing a case, which has significantly simplified the digital build time.</p> <p>It is important that we have the same level of data capture that we had pre-incident. This information helps drive market insights and inform policy developments and allows for claim validation and additional Assurance checking.</p>
Where can we find more information on the new fee codes?	<p>The latest fee code information has been sent out to software vendors and is available on the dedicated SaBC page on GOV.UK:</p> <p>Submit a Bulk Claim (SaBC) - GOV.UK</p> <p>This includes:</p>

Questions	Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A document listing all of the fee codes and how they map to a pre-existing matter type or other code - Updated guidance for reporting civil, mediation and crime matters <p>We have also published material on our Legal Aid Learning website which further explains how the codes can be mapped for Family, Mediation, Immigration and Crime.</p>
<p>What will be changing for providers?</p>	<p>UPDATED 29 JAN: Claims will not be able to be submitted on a case-by-case basis. Providers will only be able to submit claims via exports from case management software or the bulk upload spreadsheet export.</p> <p>You can continue to use the bulk upload spreadsheet without a need for a case management system that enables claim exports.</p> <p>The bulk upload spreadsheet has been updated; the main change is the addition of a new Fee Code column. This has been introduced to create a uniform way of the system pricing a case as CWA relied on different fields to trigger fees in different categories. Existing data fields will still need to be completed.</p> <p>We have also created a version of the bulk upload spreadsheet designed specifically for those using MacBook operating systems. While this version does not have all the updated functionality of the Windows version (such as the Fee Code dropdown), it should assist providers who encountered compatibility issues when trying to use the Windows version. The MacBook version will have further iterations in due course, to ensure it fully reflects the Windows version.</p>
<p>Why can't you continue contingency measures until we have a permanent system? What is the need for this temporary system?</p>	<p>UPDATED 29 JAN: The contingency process requires significant amounts of operational work to run and relies on providers manually calculating fees due and providing information to the LAA to enable payments to be made.</p> <p>We want to reduce the manual effort needed from providers and are also mindful that the longer it runs,</p>

Questions	Response
	<p>the higher the burden will be on providers to reconcile payments made during the contingency period. Therefore, we need to move away from contingency payments as soon as possible and towards a more sustainable billing system. We have limited any additional administrative burden as much as possible.</p> <p>Adding in a new fee code means the interim system can be built at pace. We are working to make this as straightforward and user friendly as possible for providers.</p> <p>The contingency process has now ended and all future monthly submissions for controlled work, crime lower and mediation must be made using Submit a Bulk Claim (SaBC).</p> <p>The first submission you must make via SaBC, will be your January submission which must be uploaded by 17 February.</p> <p>Providers can find further guidance on the submission of claims for matters for which you made use of the monthly contingency process on the dedicated Submit a Bulk Claim page on GOV.UK.</p>
<p>How will I reconcile cases started pre-incident?</p>	<p>There is no difference to how claims are reconciled regardless of when they started. All reconciliation will be completed using submission data for April 2025 claims onwards.</p>
<p>Once I've submitted my contingency claims by 20 March, if there are any differences between the value of these and the value of payments made under contingency, what will the LAA do?</p>	<p>ADDED 29 Jan: Once submissions are uploaded, a review will take place in April 2026 before any reconciliation takes place, and providers will be supplied with confirmation of any difference in value between contingency submissions and actual submissions by their Contract Manager.</p> <p>Your Contract Manager will reach out for a discussion where there are significant differences in the figures and there will be an opportunity to rectify any issues or omissions.</p> <p>Final reconciliation will take place on the payment due 4 May 2026.</p>

Questions	Response
Will I be paid for the costs of making software changes	LAA do not pay provider costs of making changes.
What if software vendors won't be ready in time?	We have been working closely with vendors since August 2025, and feedback indicates that most of them will be ready for a February launch date. We would encourage providers to liaise with their own software vendors to confirm they are prepared for go-live. If you have concerns about a particular vendor, please reach out and let us know.
Are you able to share a list of approved software vendors?	We do not have an approved list of vendors - there are many on the market and they offer a number of services and providers should see what suits their business needs best.
If my case management system can produce an export file containing all the claim information needed for SaBC and in an accepted format, do I still need to complete the bulkload spreadsheet as well?	ADDED 04 FEB: No. You only need to complete a bulkload spreadsheet, if your own case management system cannot export your claims data into a suitable export file.
Will SaBC indicate if a claim has exceeded the escape fee threshold?	Yes. The service will flag any cases in which the reported costs exceed the escape fee threshold. This will be visible in SaBC once your submission has been calculated.
When can I start uploading my contingency claims?	ADDED 29 Jan: While providers can start doing so from 4 February, we would ask that you focus on uploading your January submission by 17 February as that will be needed to trigger your monthly payment in March. You can then then focus on uploading your contingency submissions between 18 February and 20 March.
Do I need to upload my monthly submissions in date order?	ADDED 29 Jan: No. Unlike CWA, SaBC will allow you to submit your claims in any order – that allows you to

Questions	Response
	submit your January submission prior to the ones from April to December
If I upload a file for one submission month before 17 February, can I still upload a further submission for contingency claims before 17th or do I need to wait until 18th?	<p>ADDED 29 Jan: Yes, you can if you haven't already uploaded a file for that submission month, area of law and office. SaBC will reject a submission if you have already done so.</p> <p>For instance, if you have submitted a file for your September 2025 crime lower claims for a particular office, SaBC will not allow you to submit another for the same submission month, area of law and office.</p> <p>You could, however, still upload a submission for any other month, office or area of law.</p> <p>Refer to the SaBC User Guide for more information on what you can and cannot upload into the service.</p>
The guidance on SaBC and the Bulkload spreadsheet refer to an "Area of Law" – would different categories such as Family and Mental Health, be considered different "Areas of Law"?	<p>ADDED 04 FEB: No, Family and Mental Health (and any civil categories) are different <u>categories of law, but fall under the same Area of Law – Civil.</u></p> <p><u>There are 3 Areas of Law – Civil, Crime and Mediation</u></p>
I managed to upload my April 2025 submission into CWA before the cyber-attack – will I need to upload it again into SaBC?	ADDED 29 JAN: Yes, all submissions for April 2025 claims will need to be uploaded into SaBC, regardless of whether they were uploaded into CWA before the cyber-attack.
When submitting my contingency claims, should I upload all of the claims which should have been reported since April 2025, in one submission or one for each month?	We would ask providers to create and upload a submission for each month; this will aid the reconciliation of your accounts as we will be able to identify which (if any) months differ between amounts requested via contingency, and the value of the subsequent claims reported.
Where I identify that a submission from the	UPDATED 04 FEB: We would ask that you amend the submission you drafted, prior to submitting it on SaBC,

Questions	Response
contingency period contained an error or omission, how should I address that?	<p>to take account of any changes you need to make as a result of that error.</p> <p>At present, these contingency claims do not exist on an LAA system, therefore rather than uploading them and then asking us to amend them, please amend them within your submission before uploading it.</p>
I submitted a claim amendment which was processed before the incident but was never paid/recovered. Do I need to submit these again when you have a system to correct CWA submissions?	<p>ADDED 29 JAN: No; any claim amendments processed up to 15 May 2025 have been considered by the reconciliation team when making payments. Any amendments received, but not processed, will be completed once a solution to amending CWA claims is available.</p> <p>Any questions in relation to payments and which amendments have been considered please contact reconciliation@justice.gov.uk</p>
Will I still be required to report the number of New Matter Starts (NMS) opened each month, in SaBC?	<p>Yes. Providers will use SaBC to report both their NMS usage data and the details of their outcome claims, each month.</p>
Should my contingency submissions contain details of the NMS usage since April 2025?	<p>Yes. For each month during that contingency period, you should upload a submission which confirms your NMS usage for that month, and the details of any outcome claims for that month.</p>
The export file that my case management system has been updated to produce, does not include any NMS data – what should I do?	<p>ADDED 29 JAN: If you are unable to upload any NMS data in your submission for this reason, then you can continue to upload the submission, so we have your outcome claims data.</p> <p>You will need to liaise with your software vendor to ensure that the export function can include this data as soon as possible for future submission months.</p> <p>You should submit a claim amendment request, detailing the NMS that you should have reported, and we will add that to the record in SaBC once we are able to.</p>

Questions	Response
<p>Why has the Fee Mapping tool not been released to all providers?</p>	<p>The tool has been specifically designed to assist providers who have prepared submissions during the contingency and who are unable to add fee codes to them (via their case management system) OR would need to manually update their bulkload submission.</p> <p>Most providers will either be able to re-run any submissions to include the fee code or may not have prepared them as yet. The tool is not designed to help a provider prepare their submission as business as usual.</p> <p>To avoid and confusion and enable those providers that would benefit from the use of the tool and potential additional support, we have chosen to not publish it but to issue it to those who are identified via the triage survey, to need it.</p> <p>Please refer to the Submit a Bulk Claim (SaBC) - GOV.UK page for a link to the survey.</p>
<p>I am an immigration provider and prepared my submissions during the contingency before details of SaBC were released – do I need to update my claims?</p>	<p>Yes. If the draft submissions do not include the fee code, then you will need to add it. This may be possible via your case management system, or you may benefit from the Fee Mapping tool.</p> <p>You should also be aware that SaBC will contain validation which limits the costs credited, if the costs reported exceed any applicable cost limit, without a prior authority number being reported.,</p> <p>You should ensure that where this maybe the case, you update your submission prior to it being uploaded, to include the PAN or reduce your costs accordingly.</p>
<p>Can you please confirm where I can find my current schedule reference number or what it may be?</p>	<p>UPDATED 10 FEB: Current schedule numbers for all Contracts would be in the following formats:</p> <p>Crime: CRM/NANNNA/25</p> <p>Civil: NANNNA/2024/02</p> <p>Mediation: NANNNA/MEDI2024/02</p> <p>For all three contracts NANNNA would be your account number.</p>

Questions	Response
	<p>For Civil and Mediation, the reference ends in 02 as it's the second schedule of this contract, running from Sep-25 to Aug-26)</p> <p>If the account were 1A123B, then for the schedule period Sep-24 to Aug-25 it would have been 1A123B/2024/01</p> <p>For Sep-25 to Aug-26 it will be 1A123B/2024/02</p> <p>For Crime, the previous schedule reference for the period Oct-24 to Sep-25 would have been:</p> <p>CRM/1A123B/23</p>
<p>If I have no claims to report in a given month, do I still need to submit a 'nil submission' for that month?</p>	<p>ADDED 04 FEB: Yes. Providers should continue to submit 'nil submissions' as they would have done via CWA, where there are no claims to report.</p> <p>It may be that while you have no claims to report you may have NMS.</p> <p>As set out in the SaBC User Guide, which can be found on Submit a Bulk Claim (SaBC) - GOV.UK, providers will need to create and upload a submission file, containing provider office and submission level information but no claim lines, for such a month.</p>
<p>When reporting cases for April to December, which have been assessed as Escape Fee Cases, do I put the original amount claimed or amount allowed after assessment/appeal?</p>	<p>ADDED 04 FEB: You should enter the original amount claimed for.</p> <p>The Escape Fee Cases team will subsequently update the claim to include the assessment details.</p> <p>If further costs have been allowed on assessment, these will have already been included in any payment that the Reconciliation Team has organised.</p>
<p>Can I preview a submission before I confirm it is submitted? What if there is an error?</p>	<p>ADDED 10 FEB: There isn't currently an ability to preview what you have uploaded and what it will be priced as before it is accepted and priced. Once it is accepted and priced it can't be changed other than, as you say, via a Claim Amendment.</p>

Questions	Response
	<p>You can send a claim amendment using an updated form – see Submit a Bulk Claim (SaBC) - GOV.UK for details.</p> <p>You can request either an amendment or to void the claim. If it significantly impacts your likely payment for next month, please liaise with your Contract Manager.</p> <p>The amendment function within SaBC is not yet completed, we will communicate when this has been actioned.</p>
Can I see an export of what I have uploaded?	<p>ADDED 10 FEB: We are currently working on developing an export function whereby you can export previous submission files. For the moment, providers can use the print function to print a copy of the screens which does show any warning messages and pricing for claim.</p>
Technical FAQ	
How will information be communicated?	<p>We are sharing technical information via email from the address NewBulkUpload-Queries@justice.gov.uk.</p> <p>Other queries should come through SubmitABulkClaimQueries@justice.gov.uk.</p>
Will nil submissions follow the same process as in CWA?	<p>The new system will allow for a nil submission to be submitted. Details of how to do this will be contained in the Submit a Bulk Claim User Guide which is available on the Submit a Bulk Claim (SaBC) - GOV.UK page.</p>
Will the same monthly deadlines apply? i.e. 20th of the month.	<p>Providers will need to use SaBC to upload their January submission, by 17 February. This early deadline is to allow the processing time required to ensure payments are made on time at the start of March. No further changes to the deadline of the 20th are expected in 2026.</p>

Questions	Response
Will we be able to delete an upload to fix errors, and then re-upload?	<p>UPDATED 29 JAN: Once successfully submitted, an upload cannot be deleted and then re-uploaded. If there are validation errors that result in a rejected submission, users will be advised and will be able to re-upload once errors have been corrected.</p> <p>An approach to amendments for claims submitted on SaBC, will be communicated in due course. Please do continue to complete and send an amendment form to PA-ClaimAmend@justice.gov.uk where you identify an amendment is needed to a claim submitted on SaBC.</p>
Will test platforms be provided before the system launches?	<p>UPDATED 29 JAN: No; due to the pace of delivery we will not initially have any test or sandbox environments available.</p> <p>We are also conducting some private beta testing on the submission of contingency claims with a small number of Providers between now and go-live to ensure the process is as smooth as possible.</p>
What is the position of the new field FEE_CODE within the xml column order?	<p>UPDATED 29 JAN: In the Bulk Upload Spreadsheet, the fee code will be in column 2 for civil and crime and in column 3 for mediation.</p> <p>The fee code should be the first outcome Item in the XML export.</p>
Is the new fee code the only change to what we report?	<p>The new fee code is the only addition to the bulk spreadsheet or previous bulk claim exports. There will be a replacement user interface for users to upload submissions through.</p>
Where providers have already prepared submissions for the contingency period, how will they approach this change?	<p>Most software vendors have confirmed they can rerun exports with the new fee codes. Please contact your vendor if they have not confirmed to you the steps you need to take.</p> <p>To assist those where this isn't possible, we have created a tool which will generate the applicable fee code for you to enable you to create a submission for SaBC.</p> <p>Please refer to the Submit a Bulk Claim Gov.uk page for information on this tool and to help identify if this will be of assistance to you.</p>

Questions	Response
The original comms stated that ‘the file must contain one submission only’- what does this mean for firms with multiple offices?	<p>One file per office, per area of law (civil, crime or mediation), must be uploaded into the system separately, rather than a submission covering multiple offices.</p> <p>For each provider office, there can be up to three separate submissions per submission period: one for Crime, one for Civil, and one for Mediation.</p> <p>The service validates submissions using this key: Office × Area of Law × Submission Period (e.g., Office 1234, Crime, January 2025).</p> <p>Only the first valid submission for that combination is accepted. Any later submission for the same combination—whether it’s a file or a nil submission—is rejected as a duplicate.</p> <p>This means:</p> <p>A firm with multiple offices may submit up to three files per office per period (one per area of law).</p>
It is possible that the order of a field on an xml upload is not important and can be moved if instructed?	Yes, if required fields are submitted.
I uploaded submissions previously into CWA – how will I be able to view these in future?	ADDED 29 JAN: These submissions will not sit in SaBC and we are working on resolving a way for providers to be able to view any historic data from CWA submissions.
Will I be able to export a summary of copy of my submissions out of SaBC?	ADDED 29 JAN: While this functionality will not be in place before the 17 February, we are working to make it available by the end of February if possible.
Will I be able to distinguish between my submissions when searching for them on SaBC?	<p>ADDED 29 JAN: Providers will be able to search for submissions and will be able to see the date that each were submitted, the office account, the area of law and the status of the submission.</p> <p>You won’t, upon launch of the system, be able to identify the submission month as part of the search. You will be able to cross check against your own records, of how many months you uploaded</p>

Questions	Response
	<p>submissions for, against each area of law and office, and when.</p> <p>We will be seeking to add the 'submission month' to the search function in due course.</p>
<p>When using the Bulkload Spreadsheet, I receive an error message such when pressing the 'Data check' button:</p> <p><i>Compile error in hidden module. DataChecksCrime. This error commonly occurs when code is incompatible with the version, platform, or architecture of this application. Click 'Help' for information on how to correct this error."</i></p> <p>Please advise what I need to do?</p>	<p>ADDED 04 FEB: The Bulkload Spreadsheet has been coded in a 64bit version of Excel (the most recent version). Unfortunately, some of the coding used in this version is not backwards compatible with the older 32bit versions of the software.</p> <p>It is likely that you are running an older, 32bit version and will need to update to a 64bit version to make full use of the spreadsheets functions.</p>

Version history

Version	Date	Reason
1	October 2025	FAQs created
2	17 October 2025	Contingency updates added
3	16 January 2026	Updates for Fee Mapping Tool
4	29 January 2026	Contingency updates added and clarification and how to access SaBC via SILAS from launch date
5	04 February 2026	Schedule reference, Area of Law, nil submissions information and common problems section added
6	10 February 2026	You Said We Did section added. More Common Problems added. Immigration follow on work, Family claim bulkload blank lines, export.
7	16 February 2026	Further Common Problems added

