

Keycard 2008 - changes for criminal advice and assistance/ABWOR from 30 June 2008

There are several changes to the current Keycard, issued in April 2008, because of the summary criminal legal assistance reforms. As we will not be issuing a new Keycard, you should note the following changes to the April 2008 edition:

Page 11

Contribution levels for criminal general advice and assistance

You should use the contribution table for civil diagnostic advice and assistance cases shown on page 11 for criminal general advice and assistance cases.

Page 12

Initial limits of authorised expenditure

The initial limits for criminal advice and assistance change from 30 June 2008.

You should therefore delete the existing paragraphs on criminal advice and assistance, and replace with the following.

Criminal advice and assistance/ABWOR initial limits

For criminal advice and assistance and criminal ABWOR cases, the initial limits of expenditure can be either £35, £90, £185, £550, or £165, depending on the type of criminal advice and assistance or ABWOR being used:

- £35 applies for general advice and assistance, where advice is being given prior to the service of a complaint or direct measure, or if the direct measure is accepted
- £90 applies for standard advice and assistance where advice is being given after the issue of a summary complaint or if the direct measure is being challenged
- £90 applies to advice given in connection with solemn criminal matters
- £185 applies for ABWOR cases on a block fee basis in JP court cases. This is the £150 block fee with the £25 fee for any diet where a social enquiry report (SER) is being considered, together with £10 for any outlays.
- £550 applies for ABWOR cases on a block fee basis in the Sheriff Court and Stipendiary Magistrates Court cases. This is the £515 block fee with the £25 fee for any diet where a SER is being considered, together with £10 for any outlays.
- £165 applies for ABWOR cases for Parole Board proceedings, or if a second or subsequent diet has been ordered by the court for any other cases where ABWOR is available on a chargeable basis
- £90 applies where it relates to ABWOR for any other summary criminal matter.