

## Key statistics 2006 - 2011

### Section notes

1. Figures for grants and refusals of applications do not necessarily equal numbers of applications, since decisions on applications received towards the end of one year may not be reached until the following year
2. Unless otherwise stated, figures for accounts paid include VAT and are prepared on a cash basis.
3. In tables showing accounts paid, unless otherwise stated, outlays include all payments other than fees paid to solicitors and advocates - for example, expert witnesses.
4. A zero 0 indicates that no values were recorded for the units being used. A dash - indicates that no value is applicable as either the information was not recorded or an invalid calculation is being attempted.

### 1.1 Initial applications for legal assistance

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	Percent change on	
						2009-2010	2006-2007
<b>Civil</b>							
Civil advice and assistance	105,694	85,802	90,908	95,277	90,098	-5.4%	-14.8%
Civil ABWOR	3,520	4,144	4,320	4,280	4,331	1.2%	23.0%
Civil advice and assistance and ABWOR	109,214	89,946	95,228	99,557	94,429	-5.2%	-13.5%
Civil legal aid	16,291	15,861	17,738	22,028	21,251	-3.5%	30.4%
<b>Total civil legal assistance</b>	<b>125,505</b>	<b>105,807</b>	<b>112,966</b>	<b>121,585</b>	<b>115,680</b>	<b>-4.9%</b>	<b>-7.8%</b>
<b>Criminal</b>							
Criminal advice and assistance	123,211	104,220	52,065	27,864	27,545	-1.1%	-77.6%
Criminal ABWOR	19,017	17,308	39,279	47,142	42,853	-9.1%	125.3%
Summary criminal legal aid (Board granted)	89,984	82,657	64,457	61,056	59,159	-3.1%	-34.3%
Summary and ABWOR	109,001	99,965	103,736	108,198	102,012	-5.7%	-6.4%
Appeals	2,260	2,012	1,920	2,042	1,912	-6.4%	-15.4%
<b>Total criminal legal assistance</b>	<b>234,472</b>	<b>206,197</b>	<b>157,721</b>	<b>138,104</b>	<b>131,469</b>	<b>-4.8%</b>	<b>-43.9%</b>
<b>Children's</b>							
Children's advice and assistance	5,868	4,682	4,878	4,488	4,601	2.5%	-21.6%
Children's legal aid (including appeals)	4,461	4,199	4,603	4,650	4,734	1.8%	6.1%
<b>Total children's legal assistance</b>	<b>10,329</b>	<b>8,881</b>	<b>9,481</b>	<b>9,138</b>	<b>9,335</b>	<b>2.2%</b>	<b>-9.6%</b>
<b>Contempt of court</b>							
Contempt of court advice and assistance	538	591	334	183	191	4.4%	-64.5%
Contempt of court ABWOR	9	20	18	4	5	25.0%	-44.4%
Contempt of court legal aid	472	506	617	794	1,008	27.0%	113.6%
<b>Total contempt of court legal assistance</b>	<b>1,019</b>	<b>1,117</b>	<b>969</b>	<b>981</b>	<b>1,204</b>	<b>22.7%</b>	<b>18.2%</b>

#### Notes

1. Before 2007-2008 contempt of court advice and assistance and ABWOR include criminal intimations only.

**1.2 Grants of legal assistance**

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	Percent change on	
						2009-2010	2006-2007
<b>Civil</b>							
Civil advice and assistance	105,694	85,802	90,908	95,277	90,098	-5.4%	-14.8%
Civil ABWOR	3,520	4,144	4,320	4,280	4,331	1.2%	23.0%
Civil advice and assistance and ABWOR	109,214	89,946	95,228	99,557	94,429	-5.2%	-13.5%
Civil legal aid	12,065	11,572	12,113	15,049	13,068	-13.2%	8.3%
<b>Total civil legal assistance</b>	<b>121,279</b>	<b>101,518</b>	<b>107,341</b>	<b>114,606</b>	<b>107,497</b>	<b>-6.2%</b>	<b>-11.4%</b>
<b>Criminal</b>							
Criminal advice and assistance	123,211	104,220	52,065	27,864	27,545	-1.1%	-77.6%
Criminal ABWOR	19,017	17,308	39,279	47,142	42,853	-9.1%	125.3%
Summary criminal legal aid (Board granted)	81,146	74,102	59,019	55,810	50,603	-9.3%	-37.6%
Summary criminal legal aid (court granted)	1,540	1,480	397	72	30	-58.3%	-98.1%
Total summary criminal and ABWOR	101,703	92,890	98,695	103,024	93,486	-9.3%	-8.1%
Solemn criminal legal aid	13,898	12,782	12,410	12,066	11,724	-2.8%	-15.6%
Automatic legal aid	1,110	946	1,184	1,320	1,173	-11.1%	5.7%
Appeals	2,134	1,874	1,783	1,891	1,762	-6.8%	-17.4%
Duty solicitor appearances (including PDSO)	34,713	36,041	29,017	21,036	18,272	-13.1%	-47.4%
<b>Total criminal legal assistance</b>	<b>277,316</b>	<b>248,753</b>	<b>195,154</b>	<b>167,201</b>	<b>153,962</b>	<b>-7.9%</b>	<b>-44.5%</b>
<b>Children's</b>							
Children's advice and assistance	5,868	4,682	4,878	4,488	4,601	2.5%	-21.6%
Children's legal aid (including appeals)	4,461	4,206	4,571	4,606	4,710	2.3%	5.6%
<b>Total children's legal assistance</b>	<b>10,329</b>	<b>8,888</b>	<b>9,449</b>	<b>9,094</b>	<b>9,311</b>	<b>2.4%</b>	<b>-9.9%</b>
<b>Contempt of court</b>							
Contempt of court advice and assistance	538	591	334	183	191	4.4%	-64.5%
Contempt of court ABWOR	9	20	18	4	5	25.0%	-44.4%
Contempt of court legal aid	472	506	617	794	1,008	27.0%	113.6%
<b>Total contempt of court legal assistance</b>	<b>1,019</b>	<b>1,117</b>	<b>969</b>	<b>981</b>	<b>1,204</b>	<b>22.7%</b>	<b>18.2%</b>
<b>Total grants of legal assistance</b>	<b>409,943</b>	<b>360,276</b>	<b>312,913</b>	<b>291,882</b>	<b>271,974</b>	<b>-6.8%</b>	<b>-33.7%</b>

**Notes**

1. Before 2007-2008 contempt of court advice and assistance and ABWOR include criminal intimations only.

## 1.3 Total payments for administration and legal aid

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	Percent change on	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	2009-2010	2006-2007
<b>Grant-in-Aid</b>							
Staff costs	8,499	9,000	9,248	9,762	9,754	-0.1%	14.8%
Running costs	3,717	3,899	4,008	3,298	2,929	-11.2%	-21.2%
Capital	610	294	285	318	487	53.1%	-20.2%
<b>Total Grant-in-Aid</b>	<b>12,826</b>	<b>13,193</b>	<b>13,541</b>	<b>13,378</b>	<b>13,170</b>	<b>-1.6%</b>	<b>2.7%</b>
Legal Aid Fund (gross expenditure)	161,837	167,826	160,804	161,375	173,060	7.2%	6.9%
Less legal assistance income received	11,668	12,762	10,562	10,894	11,669	7.1%	0.0%
<b>Total net legal aid expenditure</b>	<b>150,169</b>	<b>155,065</b>	<b>150,242</b>	<b>150,481</b>	<b>161,391</b>	<b>7.2%</b>	<b>7.5%</b>
<b>Total administration and legal aid</b>	<b>162,995</b>	<b>168,258</b>	<b>163,783</b>	<b>163,859</b>	<b>174,561</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>7.1%</b>

**1.4 Number of cases paid to solicitors**

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	Percent change on	
						2009-2010	2006-2007
<b>Civil legal assistance</b>							
Civil advice and assistance	93,047	82,645	76,149	77,864	77,448	-0.5%	-16.8%
Civil ABWOR	2,756	2,998	4,282	3,756	3,526	-6.1%	27.9%
Civil legal aid	11,891	12,685	12,866	13,137	14,241	8.4%	19.8%
<b>Total civil legal assistance</b>	<b>107,694</b>	<b>98,328</b>	<b>93,297</b>	<b>94,757</b>	<b>95,215</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>-11.6%</b>
<b>Criminal legal assistance</b>							
Criminal advice and assistance	117,857	103,387	59,335	20,882	17,623	-15.6%	-85.0%
Criminal ABWOR	16,519	15,100	28,375	43,388	40,291	-7.1%	143.9%
Summary criminal legal aid	80,790	81,477	65,014	49,298	54,040	9.6%	-33.1%
Solemn criminal legal aid	11,528	13,618	12,775	12,236	11,636	-4.9%	0.9%
Appeals	2,173	2,064	2,123	1,883	1,996	6.0%	-8.1%
Duty solicitor (see note 1)	34,116	34,493	27,734	19,821	17,104	-13.7%	-49.9%
<b>Total criminal legal assistance</b>	<b>262,983</b>	<b>250,139</b>	<b>195,356</b>	<b>147,508</b>	<b>142,690</b>	<b>-3.3%</b>	<b>-45.7%</b>
<b>Children's legal assistance</b>							
Children's advice and assistance	5,147	4,473	3,945	4,009	4,046	0.9%	-21.4%
Children's legal aid	3,535	3,764	3,706	4,075	4,007	-1.7%	13.4%
<b>Total children's legal assistance</b>	<b>8,682</b>	<b>8,237</b>	<b>7,651</b>	<b>8,084</b>	<b>8,053</b>	<b>-0.4%</b>	<b>-7.2%</b>
<b>Contempt of court legal assistance</b>							
Contempt of court advice and assistance	-	587	320	168	147	-12.5%	-
Contempt of court ABWOR	-	3	9	0	1	-	-
Contempt of court legal aid	345	430	461	595	760	27.7%	120.3%
<b>Total contempt of court legal assistance</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>1,020</b>	<b>790</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>908</b>	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>163.2%</b>
<b>Total legal assistance</b>	<b>379,704</b>	<b>357,724</b>	<b>297,094</b>	<b>251,112</b>	<b>246,866</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>	<b>-35.0%</b>

**Notes**

1. Duty solicitors' number of appearances on behalf of accused persons.
2. Before 2007-2008 advice and assistance for contempt of court is included within criminal and civil advice and assistance.

**1.5 Total cost to the taxpayer of legal assistance**

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	Percent change on	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	2009-2010	2006-2007
<b>Civil legal assistance</b>							
Civil advice and assistance	17,304	16,545	15,985	16,592	17,735	6.9%	2.5%
Civil ABWOR	1,912	2,624	4,886	4,590	4,300	-6.3%	125.0%
<b>Total civil advice and assistance and ABWOR</b>	<b>19,216</b>	<b>19,169</b>	<b>20,870</b>	<b>21,182</b>	<b>22,035</b>	<b>4.0%</b>	<b>14.7%</b>
Civil legal aid gross expenditure	31,428	33,133	32,002	35,011	38,834	10.9%	23.6%
Less civil legal assistance income received	11,668	12,762	10,548	10,880	11,655	7.1%	-0.1%
<b>Civil legal aid (net cost)</b>	<b>19,760</b>	<b>20,372</b>	<b>21,454</b>	<b>24,131</b>	<b>27,179</b>	<b>12.6%</b>	<b>37.5%</b>
CLAO gross expenditure	-	265	389	1,016	1,107	9.0%	-
CLAO income received	-	-	-	3	4	14.0%	-
<b>CLAO (net cost)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>1,013</b>	<b>1,103</b>	<b>8.9%</b>	<b>-</b>
Grant funded and in-court advice expenditure	-	-	-	916	1,773	93.5%	-
<b>Total civil assistance gross expenditure</b>	<b>50,644</b>	<b>52,568</b>	<b>53,261</b>	<b>58,125</b>	<b>63,749</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>25.9%</b>
Civil audit restitution	-	-	-	50	0	-100.0%	-
<b>Total net civil legal assistance</b>	<b>38,976</b>	<b>39,806</b>	<b>42,713</b>	<b>47,192</b>	<b>52,090</b>	<b>10.4%</b>	<b>33.6%</b>
<b>Criminal legal assistance</b>							
Criminal advice and assistance	8,132	7,451	4,267	1,083	977	-9.8%	-88.0%
Criminal ABWOR	3,724	3,534	11,104	20,068	20,116	0.2%	440.1%
<b>Total criminal advice and assistance and ABWOR</b>	<b>11,856</b>	<b>10,984</b>	<b>15,371</b>	<b>21,151</b>	<b>21,094</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>	<b>77.9%</b>
Summary criminal legal aid	52,134	52,604	42,855	31,665	35,309	11.5%	-32.3%
Solemn criminal legal aid	37,254	40,954	38,454	39,082	40,812	4.4%	9.5%
Appeals	3,310	3,334	3,366	3,323	4,160	25.2%	25.7%
Less criminal legal assistance income received	-	-	14	11	10	-1.1%	-
<b>Criminal legal aid (net cost)</b>	<b>92,698</b>	<b>96,892</b>	<b>84,661</b>	<b>74,059</b>	<b>80,270</b>	<b>8.4%</b>	<b>-13.4%</b>
Duty solicitor appearances	1,203	1,308	1,657	1,444	1,312	-9.1%	9.0%
Public Defence Solicitors' Office (PDSO)	864	1,321	1,456	1,583	1,509	-4.7%	74.6%
Criminal audit restitution	-	-	-	137	176	28.7%	-
<b>Total net criminal legal assistance</b>	<b>106,622</b>	<b>110,506</b>	<b>103,146</b>	<b>98,101</b>	<b>104,008</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>-2.5%</b>
<b>Children's legal assistance</b>							
Children's advice and assistance	458	419	388	414	449	8.3%	-2.1%
Children's legal aid	3,980	4,110	3,784	4,511	4,581	1.5%	15.1%
<b>Total children's legal assistance</b>	<b>4,439</b>	<b>4,529</b>	<b>4,172</b>	<b>4,925</b>	<b>5,030</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>13.3%</b>
<b>Contempt of court legal assistance</b>							
Contempt of court advice and assistance and ABWOR	-	31	27	20	23	15.1%	-
Contempt of court legal aid	102	149	145	166	197	19.0%	93.5%
<b>Total contempt of court legal assistance</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>18.5%</b>	<b>116.1%</b>
Miscellaneous payments	31	43	40	78	44	-43.6%	41.9%
Legal Aid Fund (gross expenditure)	161,837	167,826	160,804	161,375	173,060	7.2%	6.9%
<b>Total cost of legal assistance to the taxpayer</b>	<b>150,169</b>	<b>155,065</b>	<b>150,242</b>	<b>150,481</b>	<b>161,391</b>	<b>7.2%</b>	<b>7.5%</b>

**Notes**

1. Before 2007-2008 advice and assistance for contempt of court is included within criminal and civil advice and assistance.
2. The recovery of incorrectly paid monies through the work of the compliance auditors is shown as audit restitution lines.
3. Income from criminal legal assistance relates to A&A contributions and money repaid by solicitors and assisted persons.

**1.6 Average case cost**

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	Percent change on	
	£	£	£	£	£	2009-2010	2006-2007
<b>Civil legal assistance</b>							
Advice and assistance	186	200	207	213	229	7.5%	23.1%
ABWOR	694	875	1,176	1,222	1,220	-0.2%	75.8%
Civil legal aid	2,643	2,612	2,488	2,665	2,727	2.3%	3.2%
<b>Criminal legal assistance</b>							
Advice and assistance	69	69	67	52	55	6.9%	-19.6%
ABWOR	225	234	389	463	499	7.9%	121.4%
Summary criminal legal aid	645	646	659	642	653	1.7%	1.3%
Solemn criminal legal aid (excluding appeals)	3,232	3,007	3,001	3,194	3,507	9.8%	8.5%
Appeals	1,523	1,615	1,579	1,765	2,084	18.1%	36.8%
<b>Children's legal assistance</b>							
Advice and assistance	89	94	99	103	111	7.3%	24.5%
Children's legal aid	1,126	1,092	1,016	1,107	1,143	3.3%	1.5%
<b>Contempt of court legal assistance</b>							
Advice and assistance	-	83	79	117	157	34.2%	-
ABWOR	-	33	119	-	62	-	-
Contempt of court legal aid	295	346	310	278	259	-6.9%	-12.2%

**Note**

1. Before 2007-2008 advice and assistance for contempt of court is included within criminal and civil advice and assistance.

**1.7 Payments made**

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	Percent change on	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	2009-2010	2006-2007
<b>Civil legal assistance</b>							
Advocates	4,929	5,666	4,937	5,996	6,305	5.1%	27.9%
Solicitor advocates	7	0	29	63	86	36.1%	-
Counsel	4,936	5,666	4,967	6,060	6,391	5.5%	29.5%
Solicitors	33,668	34,864	34,843	36,400	40,538	11.4%	20.4%
Outlays	12,039	11,772	12,688	13,733	13,940	1.5%	15.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>50,643</b>	<b>52,303</b>	<b>52,497</b>	<b>56,193</b>	<b>60,869</b>	<b>8.3%</b>	<b>20.2%</b>
<b>Criminal legal assistance</b>							
Advocates	12,100	12,106	9,913	9,546	11,063	15.9%	-8.6%
Solicitor advocates	2,761	2,698	2,500	2,711	3,255	20.1%	17.9%
Counsel	14,861	14,804	12,412	12,257	14,318	16.8%	-3.7%
Solicitors	83,984	87,129	82,209	77,314	81,034	4.8%	-3.5%
Outlays	5,709	5,944	5,269	5,651	6,021	6.6%	5.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>104,554</b>	<b>107,877</b>	<b>99,891</b>	<b>95,221</b>	<b>101,374</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>-3.0%</b>
<b>Children's legal assistance</b>							
Advocates	932	1,120	905	977	934	-4.4%	0.2%
Solicitor advocates	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Counsel	932	1,120	905	977	934	-4.4%	0.2%
Solicitors	3,126	3,051	3,024	3,630	3,700	1.9%	18.4%
Outlays	380	358	242	318	396	24.4%	4.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,438</b>	<b>4,529</b>	<b>4,171</b>	<b>4,925</b>	<b>5,030</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>13.3%</b>
<b>Contempt of court legal assistance</b>							
Advocates	8	20	17	10	10	-1.3%	26.0%
Solicitor advocates	11	25	17	16	10	-40.0%	-10.1%
Counsel	19	45	34	27	20	-25.2%	5.1%
Solicitors	0	131	131	154	196	27.5%	139.2%
Outlays	0	5	4	5	4	-23.3%	96.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>18.5%</b>	<b>113.6%</b>
<b>Duty solicitor appearances</b>							
Advocates	2	1	1	0	0	-47.6%	-100.0%
Solicitor advocates	1	1	1	0	0	-70.3%	-100.0%
Counsel	3	2	2	1	0	-55.3%	-100.0%
Solicitors	1,166	1,267	1,602	1,414	1,281	-9.5%	-99.9%
Outlays	35	40	50	29	31	7.8%	-99.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,204</b>	<b>1,308</b>	<b>1,654</b>	<b>1,444</b>	<b>1,312</b>	<b>-9.1%</b>	<b>-99.9%</b>

1.7 continued overleaf

**1.7 continued**

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	Percent change on	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	2009-2010	2006-2007
<b>Total legal assistance</b>							
Advocates	17,972	18,913	15,773	16,531	18,312	10.8%	1.9%
Solicitor advocates	2,779	2,724	2,547	2,791	3,352	20.1%	20.6%
Counsel	20,751	21,638	18,320	19,322	21,664	12.1%	4.4%
Solicitors	122,026	126,442	121,810	118,912	126,748	6.6%	3.9%
Outlays	18,165	18,118	18,253	19,736	20,392	3.3%	12.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>160,942</b>	<b>166,197</b>	<b>158,383</b>	<b>157,969</b>	<b>168,804</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>4.9%</b>

**Notes**

1. Fees paid to solicitors, advocates and solicitor advocates include VAT.
2. In this table payments made to counsel are the sum of amounts paid to advocates and solicitor advocates.
3. Before 2007-2008 advice and assistance for contempt of court is included within criminal and civil advice and assistance.
4. Payment figures from 2006-2007 were prepared on an accruals basis and included all accounts passed for payment during the year.
5. Payment figures from 2008-2009 were prepared on a cash basis. Precise comparisons with the figures before 2008-2009 cannot therefore be made.