

## 1. Key statistics 2017-2022

### Appendix notes

1. Figures for accounts paid include VAT and are prepared on a cash basis, unless stated otherwise.
2. Outlays include all non-fee payments to solicitors and advocates - for example the cost of expert witnesses.
3. A zero 0 indicates that no values were recorded. A dash "-" indicates that no value is applicable.
4. Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2017-18 figures are part-year from 25 January 2018.

## 1.1 Initial applications for legal assistance

	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	Percent change on	
						2020-2021	2017-2018
<b>Civil</b>							
Civil advice and assistance and ABWOR	63,647	61,112	58,105	44,658	44,416	-1%	-30%
Civil legal aid	17,549	18,219	18,083	14,589	15,831	9%	-10%
<b>Total civil legal assistance</b>	<b>81,196</b>	<b>79,331</b>	<b>76,188</b>	<b>59,247</b>	<b>60,247</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>-26%</b>
<b>Criminal</b>							
Criminal advice and assistance	18,682	10,123	9,161	8,791	7,241	-18%	-61%
Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act - Advice and assistance and ABWOR	2,316	16,898	17,361	16,391	14,736	-10%	-
Criminal ABWOR	26,660	26,192	25,985	19,045	20,151	6%	-24%
Summary criminal legal aid (SLAB assessed)	49,194	43,670	45,078	36,947	42,440	15%	-14%
Summary and ABWOR	75,854	69,862	71,063	55,992	62,591	12%	-17%
Solemn	10,616	11,482	11,828	13,295	13,549	2%	28%
Appeals	501	489	487	298	312	5%	-38%
<b>Total criminal legal assistance</b>	<b>107,969</b>	<b>108,854</b>	<b>109,900</b>	<b>94,767</b>	<b>98,429</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>-9%</b>
<b>Children's</b>							
Children's advice and assistance	4,279	3,823	3,674	2,944	2,835	-4%	-34%
Children's ABWOR	4,383	4,814	4,622	3,375	4,196	24%	-4%
Children's advice and assistance and ABWOR	8,662	8,637	8,296	6,319	7,031	11%	-19%
Children's legal aid (including appeals)	2,806	2,712	2,695	1,865	1,968	6%	-30%
<b>Total children's legal assistance</b>	<b>11,468</b>	<b>11,349</b>	<b>10,991</b>	<b>8,184</b>	<b>8,999</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>-22%</b>
<b>Total initial applications for legal assistance</b>	<b>200,633</b>	<b>199,534</b>	<b>197,079</b>	<b>162,198</b>	<b>167,675</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>-16%</b>

1.2 Grants of legal assistance	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	Percent change on	
						2020-2021	2017-2018
<b>Civil</b>							
Civil advice and assistance and ABWOR	63,647	61,112	58,105	44,658	44,416	-1%	-30%
Civil legal aid	13,093	13,561	14,825	12,135	13,502	11%	3%
<b>Total civil legal assistance</b>	<b>76,740</b>	<b>74,673</b>	<b>72,930</b>	<b>56,793</b>	<b>57,918</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>-25%</b>
<b>Criminal</b>							
Criminal advice and assistance	18,682	10,123	9,161	8,791	7,241	-18%	-61%
Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act - Advice and assistance and ABWOR	2,316	16,898	17,361	16,391	14,736	-10%	-
Criminal ABWOR	26,660	26,192	25,985	19,045	20,151	6%	-24%
Summary criminal legal aid (SLAB assessed)	43,819	40,123	41,106	33,942	37,029	9%	-15%
<b>Total summary criminal and ABWOR</b>	<b>70,479</b>	<b>66,315</b>	<b>67,091</b>	<b>52,987</b>	<b>57,180</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>-19%</b>
Solemn criminal legal aid	9,772	10,457	11,050	12,492	12,376	-1%	27%
Court granted legal aid	2,620	2,554	2,448	1,096	1,598	46%	-39%
Appeals	480	458	464	286	296	3%	-38%
Duty solicitor appearances (including PDSO)	10,845	9,509	11,026	5,240	5,514	5%	-49%
<b>Total criminal legal assistance</b>	<b>115,194</b>	<b>116,314</b>	<b>118,601</b>	<b>97,283</b>	<b>98,941</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>-14%</b>
<b>Children's</b>							
Children's advice and assistance	4,279	3,823	3,674	2,944	2,835	-4%	-34%
Children's ABWOR	4,383	4,814	4,622	3,375	4,196	24%	-4%
Children's advice and assistance and ABWOR	8,662	8,637	8,296	6,319	7,031	11%	-19%
Children's legal aid (including appeals)	2,380	2,319	2,365	1,696	1,770	4%	-26%
Children's automatic legal aid	229	136	143	63	71	13%	-69%
<b>Total children's legal assistance</b>	<b>11,271</b>	<b>11,092</b>	<b>10,804</b>	<b>8,078</b>	<b>8,872</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>-21%</b>
<b>Total grants of legal assistance</b>	<b>203,205</b>	<b>202,079</b>	<b>202,335</b>	<b>162,154</b>	<b>165,731</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>-18%</b>

## 1.3 Total payments for administration (£000)

	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	Percent change on	
						2020-2021	2017-2018
<b>Administration spend</b>							
Staff costs	9,715	9,840	10,632	10,856	11,210	3%	15%
Running costs	2,236	1,715	1,711	1,817	2,572	42%	15%
Capital	74	63	96	244	80	-67%	8%
<b>Total administration spend</b>	<b>12,025</b>	<b>11,618</b>	<b>12,439</b>	<b>12,917</b>	<b>13,862</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>15%</b>

## 1.4 Number of cases paid to solicitors

	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	Percent change on	
						2020-2021	2017-2018
<b>Civil legal assistance</b>							
Civil advice and assistance and ABWOR	54,628	52,019	49,755	39,043	34,372	-12%	-37%
Civil legal aid	13,578	13,243	12,789	9,209	10,832	18%	-20%
<b>Total civil legal assistance</b>	<b>68,206</b>	<b>65,262</b>	<b>62,544</b>	<b>48,252</b>	<b>45,204</b>	<b>-6%</b>	<b>-34%</b>
<b>Criminal legal assistance</b>							
Criminal advice and assistance	10,065	6,269	5,186	4,244	3,922	-8%	-61%
Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act - Advice and assistance and ABWOR	1,299	12,176	13,682	13,670	12,337	-10%	-
Criminal ABWOR	24,077	24,116	23,875	19,474	18,206	-7%	-24%
Summary criminal legal aid	45,307	40,964	38,577	26,098	32,974	26%	-27%
Solemn criminal legal aid	9,787	9,378	10,366	7,007	9,011	29%	-8%
Court granted legal aid	2,009	1,815	1,866	825	1,032	25%	-49%
Appeals	1,089	1,016	1,036	625	594	-5%	-45%
Duty	8,919	7,448	8,628	3,959	3,893	-2%	-56%
ID/Viper Parades	1,032	1,026	942	739	859	16%	-17%
<b>Total criminal legal assistance</b>	<b>103,584</b>	<b>104,208</b>	<b>104,158</b>	<b>76,641</b>	<b>82,828</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>-20%</b>
<b>Children's legal assistance</b>							
Children's advice and assistance	2,353	2,121	1,862	1,418	1,258	-11%	-47%
Children's ABWOR	5,172	4,986	5,164	3,517	4,269	21%	-17%
Children's legal aid	2,452	2,394	2,332	1,524	1,555	2%	-37%
<b>Total children's legal assistance</b>	<b>9,977</b>	<b>9,501</b>	<b>9,358</b>	<b>6,459</b>	<b>7,082</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>-29%</b>
<b>Total legal assistance</b>	<b>181,767</b>	<b>178,971</b>	<b>176,060</b>	<b>131,352</b>	<b>135,114</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>-26%</b>

## Notes

1. Duty figures are the solicitors' number of appearances on behalf of accused persons.
2. The ability to report ID/Viper attendances was introduced during 2016-2017. Figures are part-year from 21 October 2016.
3. These figures do not include work done by employed solicitors such as CLAO & PDSO.

## 1.5(a) Summary of total cost to the taxpayer of legal assistance (£000)

	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	Percent change on	
						2020-2021	2017-2018
Total net civil legal assistance	42,311	41,959	46,143	40,255	43,551	8%	3%
Total net grant funded	2,291	2,779	2,723	3,159	3,792	20%	66%
Total net criminal legal assistance	74,280	73,440	75,852	52,015	66,146	27%	-11%
Total net children's legal assistance	5,358	5,239	5,312	3,751	4,402	17%	-18%
Miscellaneous	301	375	822	153	265	73%	-12%
<b>Total cost of legal assistance to the taxpayer</b>	<b>124,541</b>	<b>123,792</b>	<b>130,853</b>	<b>99,333</b>	<b>118,156</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>-5%</b>

## Notes

See table 1.5(b)

## 1.5(b) Total cost to the taxpayer of legal assistance (£000)

	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	Percent change on	
						2020-2021	2017-2018
<b>Civil legal assistance</b>							
Total civil advice and assistance and ABWOR	19,606	19,492	21,596	19,879	18,856	-5%	-4%
Civil legal aid gross expenditure	30,406	31,371	31,342	26,846	32,675	22%	7%
Civil legal aid income received	(9,160)	(10,291)	(8,190)	(7,664)	(9,364)	22%	2%
Civil legal aid (net cost)	21,246	21,079	23,152	19,182	23,310	22%	10%
CLAO gross expenditure	1,478	1,403	1,414	1,211	1,525	26%	3%
CLAO income received	(19)	(16)	(19)	(17)	(140)	742%	629%
CLAO (net cost)	1,459	1,387	1,395	1,194	1,385	16%	-5%
Total civil assistance gross expenditure	51,491	52,266	54,353	47,935	53,056	11%	3%
Civil audit restitution	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	-	-
<b>Total net civil legal assistance</b>	<b>42,311</b>	<b>41,959</b>	<b>46,143</b>	<b>40,255</b>	<b>43,551</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>Grant funding</b>							
Grant funded expenditure	4,886	4,674	2,723	3,159	3,792	20%	-22%
Money Advice Service funding received	(2,595)	(1,895)	(0)	(0)	(0)	-	-100%
<b>Total net grant funded</b>	<b>2,291</b>	<b>2,779</b>	<b>2,723</b>	<b>3,159</b>	<b>3,792</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>66%</b>

Table 1.5 continued overleaf

## 1.5(b) Total cost to the taxpayer of legal assistance (£000) (continued)

	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	Percent change on	
						2020-2021	2017-2018
<b>Criminal legal assistance</b>							
Criminal advice and assistance	929	424	340	333	297	-11%	-68%
Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act - Advice and assistance and ABWOR	172	1,521	1,577	1,471	1,394	-5%	-
Criminal ABWOR	11,024	10,785	11,262	9,658	9,140	-5%	-17%
<b>Total criminal advice and assistance and ABWOR</b>	<b>12,125</b>	<b>12,730</b>	<b>13,179</b>	<b>11,463</b>	<b>10,832</b>	<b>-6%</b>	<b>-11%</b>
Summary criminal legal aid	26,947	24,830	23,802	15,949	20,774	30%	-23%
Solemn criminal legal aid	29,818	30,297	33,102	19,590	29,163	49%	-2%
Court granted legal aid	524	530	528	222	384	73%	-27%
Appeals	1,217	1,187	1,319	990	905	-9%	-26%
Criminal legal assistance income received	(21)	(14)	(11)	(4)	(4)	-3%	-82%
<b>Criminal legal aid (net cost)</b>	<b>58,485</b>	<b>56,829</b>	<b>58,741</b>	<b>36,748</b>	<b>51,222</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>-12%</b>
Duty	644	528	603	276	328	19%	-49%
ID/Viper Parades	182	184	192	159	188	18%	3%
Public Defence Solicitors' Office (PDSO)	2,254	2,240	2,283	2,392	2,574	8%	14%
Police Station Duty Scheme Contact Line	658	1,017	944	943	1,015	8%	54%
Glasgow Court Advisers	56	61	60	41	47	15%	-16%
Criminal audit restitution	(125)	(150)	(150)	(7)	(60)	749%	-52%
<b>Total net criminal legal assistance</b>	<b>74,280</b>	<b>73,440</b>	<b>75,852</b>	<b>52,015</b>	<b>66,146</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>-11%</b>
<b>Children's legal assistance</b>							
Children's advice and assistance	222	209	180	162	130	-19%	-41%
Children's ABWOR	2,341	2,381	2,423	1,744	2,085	20%	-11%
Children's advice and assistance and ABWOR	2,564	2,590	2,602	1,905	2,216	16%	-14%
Children's legal aid	2,817	2,662	2,723	1,851	2,192	18%	-22%
Children's legal aid income received	(22)	(13)	(13)	(5)	(5)	-1%	-76%
<b>Children's legal aid (net cost)</b>	<b>2,794</b>	<b>2,649</b>	<b>2,710</b>	<b>1,846</b>	<b>2,186</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>-22%</b>
<b>Total net children's legal assistance</b>	<b>5,358</b>	<b>5,239</b>	<b>5,312</b>	<b>3,751</b>	<b>4,402</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>-18%</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>							
Extraordinary interest payment to Advocates	0	0	0	0	100	-	-
Miscellaneous payments	301	375	822	153	165	8%	-45%
Legal Aid Fund (gross expenditure)	136,483	136,171	139,236	107,030	127,729	19%	-6%
<b>Total cost of legal assistance to the taxpayer</b>	<b>124,541</b>	<b>123,792</b>	<b>130,853</b>	<b>99,333</b>	<b>118,156</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>-5%</b>

## Notes

1. The recovery of incorrectly claimed monies is included within the audit restitution lines.
2. Income received from the Money Advice Service is their contribution to the Making Advice Work programme.
3. Income from criminal legal assistance relates to advice and assistance contributions and money repaid by solicitors and assisted persons.
4. The content and structure of the Miscellaneous figures has been reviewed and we have restated 20-21.

1.6 Average case cost (£)	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	Percent change on	
						2020-2021	2017-2018
<b>Civil legal assistance</b>							
Advice and assistance and ABWOR	359	375	434	509	549	8%	53%
Civil legal aid	2,239	2,369	2,451	2,915	3,016	3%	35%
<b>Criminal legal assistance</b>							
Advice and assistance	92	68	66	79	76	-3%	-18%
Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act - Advice and assistance and ABWOR	132	125	115	108	113	5%	-
ABWOR	458	447	472	496	502	1%	10%
Summary criminal legal aid	595	606	617	611	630	3%	6%
Solemn criminal legal aid	3,047	3,231	3,193	2,796	3,236	16%	6%
Court granted legal aid	261	292	283	269	372	38%	43%
Appeals	1,117	1,169	1,273	1,584	1,524	-4%	36%
<b>Children's legal assistance</b>							
Advice and assistance	95	99	97	114	104	-9%	10%
ABWOR	453	477	469	496	488	-1%	8%
Children's legal aid	1,149	1,112	1,168	1,215	1,409	16%	23%

1.7 Payments made (£000)	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	Percent change on	
						2020-2021	2017-2018
<b>Civil legal assistance</b>							
Advocates	3,390	3,514	3,728	3,062	3,674	20%	8%
Solicitor advocates	4	13	17	12	2	-83%	-53%
Solicitors	33,607	33,748	34,365	31,223	32,662	5%	-3%
Outlays	13,011	13,588	14,829	12,428	15,192	22%	17%
<b>Total</b>	<b>50,013</b>	<b>50,863</b>	<b>52,939</b>	<b>46,724</b>	<b>51,531</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>Criminal legal assistance</b>							
Advocates	8,025	8,639	9,029	4,595	8,479	85%	6%
Solicitor advocates	1,973	2,305	2,537	1,819	3,032	67%	54%
Solicitors	57,008	55,098	56,719	39,639	47,938	21%	-16%
Outlays	4,451	4,244	4,441	2,598	3,124	20%	-30%
<b>Total</b>	<b>71,457</b>	<b>70,286</b>	<b>72,726</b>	<b>48,650</b>	<b>62,573</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>-12%</b>
<b>Children's legal assistance</b>							
Advocates	456	392	366	236	477	102%	5%
Solicitor advocates	0	0	0	0	0	-	-
Solicitors	4,543	4,480	4,513	3,282	3,702	13%	-19%
Outlays	381	380	447	238	228	-4%	-40%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,381</b>	<b>5,252</b>	<b>5,325</b>	<b>3,757</b>	<b>4,407</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>-18%</b>
<b>Total legal assistance</b>							
Advocates	11,871	12,545	13,123	7,893	12,630	60%	6%
Solicitor advocates	1,977	2,318	2,554	1,831	3,034	66%	53%
Solicitors	95,158	93,326	95,597	74,144	84,302	14%	-11%
Outlays	17,844	18,212	19,717	15,264	18,544	21%	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>126,850</b>	<b>126,401</b>	<b>130,990</b>	<b>99,131</b>	<b>118,511</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>-7%</b>

**Note**

1. Fees paid to solicitors, advocates and solicitor advocates include VAT.