

## Legal Aid

In April 2013, the Government brought in a new law which has severely restricted access to Legal Aid for family matters.

However, Legal Aid is still available as before for any cases regarding Social Services, Care and Local Authority matters and also for Domestic Abuse cases.

When Care proceedings are involved in respect of your children, you will be eligible regardless of your income. However, in Domestic Abuse cases and certain Social Services cases, you will only be eligible if your finances are below a certain limit.

Legal Aid is also available for contact, residence, divorce and finance matters if you have been a victim of domestic abuse, or if your matter concerns the children and the other person involved poses a risk to those children. However, the Legal Aid Agency will only accept specific documents as proof of this.

The rules governing who is eligible for Legal Aid are quite complicated. We would therefore urge you to contact us if you think you may be eligible. We may be able to tell you straight away that you would be eligible and can arrange you an appointment. Alternatively, if you [book a free half hour session](#) with one of our Solicitors, we can examine your situation fully and let you know as to whether or not you are eligible.

At KHF, we are not in agreement with the changes to Legal Aid and believe firmly that legal advice should be affordable and accessible for everyone. If you are not eligible, we have devised a number of [Fixed Fee packages](#) which are very competitively priced, so as to make it affordable to obtain legal advice.