

Resolution working for you – FOI request

The Legal Aid Committee is concerned that people facing relationship breakdown are not able to access legal aid in relation to finances. However, the LAA does not publish data in this level of detail.

Sion Williams has kindly submitted the following request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 on behalf of the committee. We will keep you informed of the LAA's response.

Please provide the following information in relation to Legal Aid Agency finance certificates:

1. For each of the last three completed financial years, the number of individual legal aid provider firms that were granted at least one finance certificate in that year.
2. For each of the same financial years, the total number of finance certificates issued in that year.
3. For each of the same financial years, the total number of private law children certificates issued in that year.
4. The total amount of firms which held a contract with the legal aid agency for each of the last three completed financial years.

For the avoidance of doubt:

- By “finance certificate” I mean certificates issued under the civil legal aid scheme authorising funding for financial remedy proceedings.
- By “firm” I mean a legal aid provider organisation, rather than individual fee earners.
- By “private law children” I mean certificates issued under the civil legal aid scheme authorising funding for child arrangements orders.

If the information is held in a different format (for example by calendar year rather than financial year), please provide the closest equivalent and explain the basis used.

If any part of this request cannot be complied with, please specify the exemption relied upon and provide any information that can be disclosed.