

# Crime news: advocacy assistance now claimable on intensive paper reviews



Providers of criminal legal aid services will now be able to claim advocacy assistance fees for intensive paper reviews.

The changes have been made by the Legal Aid Agency (LAA) following on from the Parole Board's [recent announcement](#) that face-to-face oral hearings will be postponed due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

As a result of this decision, cases directed or listed for an oral hearing will continue either as a remote hearing or be dealt with under a new intensive paper review process.

## **Amendments**

We have amended the 2017 standard crime contract relating to prison law following consultation with representative bodies. Once a case is directed or listed for an oral hearing then the case will be claimable as advocacy assistance.

This also includes when a decision is taken under the new intensive paper review process.

We have also amended contracted work and administration (CWA) codes guidance for reporting crime lower work.

The new contract and reporting amendments are effective from 26 June 2020.

## **Further information**

[Standard Crime Contract 2017](#) – to view amended contract specification effective from 26 June 2020

[CWA codes guidance](#) – to view 'updated guidance for reporting crime lower work'

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1. 26 June 2020

We have added additional information on guidance for reporting crime lower work in contracted work and administration (CWA).

2. 29 May 2020

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