



Ministry
of Justice

Lord Bellamy KC

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
for Justice

Sir Robert Neill MP
Chair, Justice Select Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

MoJ Ref: 107721

4 August 2023

Dear Sir Bob,

IMPROVING OUTCOMES THROUGH LEGAL SUPPORT GRANT

I wrote to you in December 2022, following an announcement by the Ministry of Justice of new grant funding for charities providing support to people facing legal problems. I am writing now to update you on this.

In March 2023, following a competitive process, the Access to Justice Foundation were appointed to administer the £10.4m Improving Outcomes through Legal Support (IOTLS) grant on behalf of the Ministry of Justice. The grant runs from July 2023 until March 2025.

The grant will build on the success of previous legal support grants, with a greater emphasis on data and evidence collection and the provision of at-court support. Organisations awarded funding provide a range of support services, from early intervention to enable individuals to resolve their problems as early as possible, to support at court for those who need it.

The Access to Justice Foundation received a significant response to the grant, with bids from a wide range of national, regional and sector specific organisations. Charities were notified of the outcome of their bid on 2 June 2023. 59 organisations were awarded funding altogether, including funding specifically for at-court support services awarded to 9 organisations operating in 51 courts. Just under £2m of the grant funding has been allocated to organisations providing at court support.

The Ministry of Justice values the essential work carried out by organisations providing early legal support and advice, which is why since 2015 the department has invested over £25m to support the sector. This new funding will continue to support people experiencing legal problems to resolve them as early as possible.

Kind regards,

LORD BELLAMY KC