

## Procurement Plan for North Derbyshire

---

### Procurement Summary

#### 1. Family Services

We intend to invite bids for **2,460** new matter starts (NMS) for the provision of face to face Family advice within the procurement area (PA) of North Derbyshire.

There is currently a good spread of family advice provision across the PA and we anticipate that this will continue to be the case. However, there are a number of access points within the area where the semi-rural nature of the population means providers will be unlikely to undertake a large volume of work. To ensure a good level of service provision for clients we will invite providers to bid under **Service Specification B**.

- Providers will be able to tender for **either** the full range of private Family work and / or public law children work.
- Providers will need to have a permanent presence in the PA and the access point(s) tendered for.
- Where providers wish to undertake private family work they must tender for and deliver a minimum of **50** NMS for per year.
- Those wishing to undertake only public law children cases must commit to undertake at least **5** certificated public law cases per year

#### 2. Housing and Family (Combined Service)

We will set aside a small proportion of the available NMS in Housing for providers wishing to deliver a combined Housing and Family service.

There has previously been limited demand for this service combination within the PA and we therefore intend to invite bids for **150** NMS across the PA for providers wishing to deliver Family and Housing services together.

Providers wishing to provide Housing as part of this service combination will be required to tender for and undertake a minimum of **50** NMS in Housing per schedule year.

#### 3. Social Welfare Law Services

We intend to invite bids for **1,310** NMS across the core Social Welfare Law (SWL) categories of Housing, Debt and Welfare Benefits advice, **100** NMS in Community Care and **330** Employment. There are currently access problems

in some parts of the PA and to develop better provision for clients across the PA we will invite these bids under **Service Specification B**.

Housing, Welfare Benefits and Debt will be tendered together as a bundle of services and providers will be required to both tender for and provide services in all three categories.

- Providers may bid to deliver Housing, Debt and Welfare Benefits either as a single legal entity or as part of a consortium.
- Providers delivering Housing, Debt and Welfare Benefits will need to have a permanent presence within the PA, or within the PAs of South Derbyshire or City of Derby.
- Providers delivering Housing, Debt and Welfare Benefits will be required to undertake a minimum of **50** NMS in each category per schedule year.
- Providers delivering Community Care will be required to undertake a minimum of **20** NMS per schedule year.
- Providers delivering Employment will be required to undertake a minimum of **30** NMS per schedule year.
- Community Care and Employment providers will be required to have a part-time presence in the PA.
- As SWL tenders are invited under **Service Specification B**, the requirement to employ an authorised litigator in Housing and/ or Community Care will not be an essential criterion.

However, where a competitive process is necessary to decide between bids, as part of the selection process we will prefer providers who can provide the best access to an authorised litigator. This might mean giving preference to those with an employed authorised litigator. We will also consider alternative arrangements but providers are advised that this may score lower in the ranking.

For Debt, Housing and Welfare Benefits, we will divide the available NMS for the PA between the three categories as follows:

PA	Debt	Housing	Welfare Benefits
North Derbyshire	500	390	420

#### 4. Access

There are some potential access issues within North Derbyshire as the area has a number of geographically distant market towns and a relatively large rural population. Currently not all SWL services are available from permanent locations within North Derbyshire.

We will therefore make NMS available for particular access points within the PA.

For Family providers we will also require that the provider has a permanent presence within the procurement area and a permanent presence in the access point(s) tendered for.

For providers delivering Debt, Housing and Welfare Benefits we will require that the provider has a part-time presence in the access point where they are tendering. We will also require that they have a permanent presence in either the PA of North or South Derbyshire or from the PA of the City of Derby. However in order to ensure the best levels of levels of access for clients in the area we will prefer providers that have a permanent presence in North Derbyshire.

<b>Access Point</b>	<b>NMS allocated for Family</b>	<b>NMS allocated for Debt</b>	<b>NMS allocated for Housing</b>	<b>NMS allocated for Welfare Benefits</b>
Derbyshire Dales and High Peak	890	180	150	150
Chesterfield, Bolsover and North East Derbyshire	1570	320	240	270

## **5. Budget**

Current spend in this area is lower than that which we would expect to spend in Family Legal Help according to the Indicative Spend Budget Model. Therefore, the total number of NMS available in this area will be increased from that which is currently being delivered to enable an increase in access to services which moves closer to that suggested by the Model.

Current spend in this area is lower than that which we would expect to spend in SWL Legal Help according to the Indicative Spend Budget Model. Therefore, the total number of NMS available in this area will be increased from that which is currently being delivered to enable an increase in access to services which moves closer to that suggested by the Model.

## **6. Current Supply: September 08 – August 09**

<b>Category</b>	<b>No. of Providers</b>	<b>NMS opened</b>	<b>Certificates issued</b>
Family (private)	22	2,327	536
Family (public)	16		390
Debt	4	504	0
Housing	3	533	30
Welfare Benefits	3	255	0
Employment	2	336	0
Community Care	0	0	0

		<b>Current SWL Services</b>					<b>Current Family Services</b>		
	Total Providers	Providers delivering 5 core SWL cats	Providers delivering 4 core SWL cats	Providers delivering 3 core SWL cats	Providers delivering 2 core SWL cats	Providers delivering 1 core SWL cat	Providers delivering Housing & Family	Providers delivering 5+Public law certs	Providers delivering family private only
<b>Solicitor</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>NFP</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>