

Procurement Plan for Wakefield

Procurement Summary

1. Family Services

We intend to make available approximately **1,900** new matter starts (NMS) for the provision of face-to-face Family advice within the procurement area (PA) of Wakefield.

There is currently good access to family advice in the PA. However, we want to ensure this is maintained across the PA without affecting access to family advice in particular locations.

- We will therefore invite providers to bid under **Service Specification B** which will allow providers 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 within Access Points where specified.
- Where providers wish to undertake private family work they must bid for and undertake a minimum of **100** Legal Help cases per year.
- Those wishing to undertake only public law children cases must commit to undertake at least **5** public law certificated cases per year.

2. Social Welfare Law Services

We are currently working in partnership with Wakefield MDC to develop a jointly commissioned Community Legal Advice Service. This commissioning exercise will include all available NMS for the core Social Welfare Law (SWL) categories of Community Care, Debt, Employment, Housing, and Welfare Benefits advice and a small proportion of the PA's Family advice. Therefore we will not tender for Social Welfare Law or Housing and Family as part of this bid round.

3. Access

There is currently good access to family advice in the PA. However, we want to ensure we retain access in key access points within the PA.

We will therefore make NMS available for particular access points within the PA and use criteria that require providers to deliver services in at least one of these areas through a permanent presence.

District	NMS allocated for Family
Wakefield	1,140
Pontefract/Castleford	760

4. Budget

Current spend in this area is higher than that which we would expect to spend in Family services according to the Indicative Spend Budget Model. It is therefore unlikely that we would wish to actively increase the provision of Family services and matter starts will be carefully managed with the aim of remaining within the level of current spend.

5. Current Supply (September 08 – August 09)

Category	No. of Providers (contracts)	NMS opened	Certificates issued
Family (public)	11	2,418	520
Family (private)	17		862

		Current Family Services	
	Total providers	Providers delivering 5+Public law certs	Providers delivering family private only
Total Solicitor Providers	17	10	6
Total NFP Providers	0	0	0