

Workshop  
session 6  
Vicky Ling  
and Matthew  
Howgate



#LAPGConf21

Annual Legal Aid Conference

Legal Aid Sustainability &  
Adapting to the New Normal

**Monday 22 February to  
Friday 26 February 2021**

To book your place

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/t/lapg-annual-legal-aid-conference-tickets-137862415195>

Sponsored by Accesspoint, Advanced & John M Hayes

PLP element: Tuesday 23 February – Access to Advice in Wales, co-produced with PLP

Pricing Structure: See the back of this programme



# Planning for the new normal

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- Risk management
  - LAA Covid contingency provisions
  - Health, safety, well-being and supervision
- Compliance
  - Time to update the Manual
- Agility
  - What can we plan for?
  - LAA contract tenders



# LAA responses

- Check regularly
- These have been updated many times
- LAA needs to understand your situation
- They want to be flexible

→ [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) | National lockdown: stay at home

→ [Brexit](#) | Check what you need to do

[Home](#) > [Crime, justice and law](#) > [Legal aid](#)

Guidance

## Coronavirus (COVID-19): Legal Aid Agency contingency response

Advice setting out what the Legal Aid Agency is doing to help providers continue legal aid services for clients during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

Published 18 March 2020

Last updated 27 January 2021 — [see all updates](#)

From: [Legal Aid Agency](#)

Applies to: **Wales and England**

Contents

- [Legal Aid Agency ways of working](#)
- [Specific areas of provider work](#)

Related content

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Offices



# COVID risk assessments

## Safe working conditions

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**PRACTICE**

## Council shuts Bolton firm's office over links to 18 Covid cases

By [John Hyde](#) | 16 September 2020



**A** solicitors' firm in Bolton linked to 18 cases of coronavirus has had its office closed by the local authority. Accident Injury Solicitors was served with directions by environmental health officers on Friday to immediately close. The business will remain closed indefinitely until Bolton Council is satisfied improvements have been made.

New tighter restrictions were introduced in the town last week to curb the spread of the virus, after recording the highest rate of new Covid-19 cases in the country.

According to a news release published yesterday by the council, the office of AI Solicitors was shut down after family members related to employees working at the firm raised concerns about its practices.

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# Supervision

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- Well-being
- Social contact
- One-to-ones
- File reviews



# Compliance



Legal Aid  
Agency



SQM



Solicitors  
Regulation  
Authority

Lexcel

Legal Practice Quality Mark  
Law Society Accredited

ico.

Information Commissioner's Office





**WHILE YOU WERE IN THE BUILDING, DID YOU COME ACROSS A BIG BINDER TITLED "BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLAN"?**

Agility – planning

You can't necessarily plan  
for the future but you  
can try to plan to be  
ready for it...

# Next Legal Aid Contracts

- Crime contract extended to 31 March 2022 (with an option to extend to 30 September 2022)
- Civil contract extended to 31 August 2022
- Do you want the office and supervision provisions to change?







*"That's all Folks!"*