

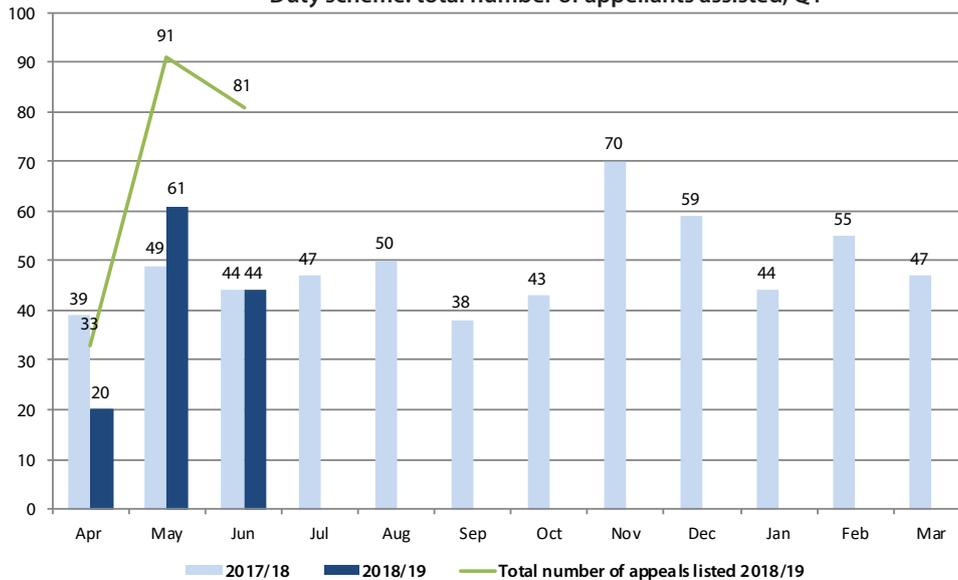
ASAP quarterly monitoring report

DUTY SCHEME

TOTAL NUMBER OF APPELLANTS ASSISTED

In Q1 we helped 125 appellants. Including dependants, the total number of people reached was 147. We assisted 86% of appellants who had an oral hearing (excluding people who we could not have helped, even if we had been able to).¹

Duty scheme: total number of appellants assisted, Q1



NOTES

1 These are cases that are withdrawn or adjourned prior to the hearing; cases that are designated by the Tribunal as being 'ASAP barred' (the Tribunal prohibits us from assisting when an appellant is represented by a law firm unless they received written consent from the firm); or cases where the client failed to attend or refused our assistance.

2 There is some overlap in these categories as some cases concerned more than one subject (for example they may have related to both destitution and further submissions). We have only indicated the proportion of allowed, remitted and dismissed cases. A minority of cases will also have been withdrawn, adjourned or struck out.

3 This figure is adjusted to take into consideration clients whose appeals were withdrawn or who didn't attend their hearings.

APPEAL OUTCOMES

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2018/19	2017/18
% Allowed	65				65	53
% Remitted	10				10	15
% Dismissed	18				18	20
% Other	7				7	12

The allowed rate was very high this quarter probably due to the large number of successful s4 (Section 4) destitution appeals. Where the tribunal remits an appeal against a decision to discontinue support, the appellant keeps their support. We consider this to be a successful outcome so add them to the allowed rate to produce a combined success rate of 70%.

APPEAL SUBJECT

The number of s4 destitution appeals has continued to increase. By contrast, there were only four s95 (Section 95) destitution appeals this quarter whereas the past two years have been dominated by these kinds of cases. The Home Office has not pointed to any change in policy or procedure which might explain this change. However, in March 2018 the Home Office introduced a new computer system which has caused a lot of delays in decision making. Once these teething problems are finally resolved we may see a return of these appeals.

TOP ISSUES IN Q1:²

- s4 destitution cases (28 cases):** 64% allowed, 4% remitted, 25% dismissed.
- s4 regulation 3(2)(e) – further submissions cases (31 cases):** 68% allowed, 13% remitted, 10% dismissed.
- s4 medical cases (12 cases):** 41.7% allowed, 41.7% remitted, 16.7% dismissed.
- s95 and s4 breach of conditions cases (11 cases):** 82% allowed, 9% dismissed.
- s95 not an asylum seeker case (6 cases):** 67% allowed, 17% remitted.

REFERRALS

We received 106 referrals from 43 agencies. We were able to meet 96% of these referrals.³



CLIENT PROFILE

- The top nationalities of appellants were Iranian, Iraqi, Eritrean, Pakistani and Zimbabwean.
- 78% of appellants were men, 22% were women.
- 14% of appellants had children.
- Most appellants lived in the North West (21%), Yorkshire and Humber (17%) and Scotland (15%).
- 47% experienced circumstances that may make them more vulnerable. Most commonly these were health issues, with 11% suffering from mental health problems, 10% from physical health problems and 10% from both.



ADVICE LINE



We took 144 calls this quarter from 64 agencies:

- Calls mainly came from London (37%), Scotland (16%), and Yorkshire and Humber (11%).
- 31% of calls were about s95 support; 29% about s4 support; 7% about s4 and s95 support; most other calls related to s98 support, s4(1) support and community care support.
- Only 8% of calls were general in nature. Most users had questions relating to an individual's case. Of these, 55% were men, 45% were women.
- The top nationalities were Nigerian, Iraqi and Iranian.
- 30% of calls related to families with children including 20% single parent families.
- 38% of calls related to people receiving government support; 34% were helped by their communities and charities while 12% survived exclusively thanks to charitable assistance. 10% had no support at all.
- In 49% of calls, the individuals had to deal with additional issues, mainly health problems, which could increase their vulnerability.

WOMEN'S PROJECT

Duty scheme

- We helped 27 women this quarter; 18 (67%) of women faced circumstances which may make them more vulnerable, 6 of whom had experienced gender-based violence.
- 10 women had children, 8 of whom were single parents.

Advice line

- In 15 of the 60 calls relating to women, agencies reported instances of gender-based violence.
- 33 women (55%) experienced circumstances that may make them more vulnerable.
- 33 had children, 25 of whom were single parents.



ASYLUM SUPPORT ADVICE NETWORK (ASAN)

- ASAN welcomed 60 new members in Q1.
- Membership stands at 883 advisers throughout the UK.
- There were 175 conversations generating 441 posts amongst 363 people. The biggest subject of discussion by far concerned the introduction of new bail restrictions, particularly on the right to study (12 conversations generating 108 posts). Other discussions focused on:
 - Problems with accessing medical care (9 conversations generating 38 posts)
 - The new system for booking accommodation (2 conversations generating 11 posts)
 - How to obtain the necessary proof of support for the Legal Aid Agency (1 conversation generating 11 posts).