

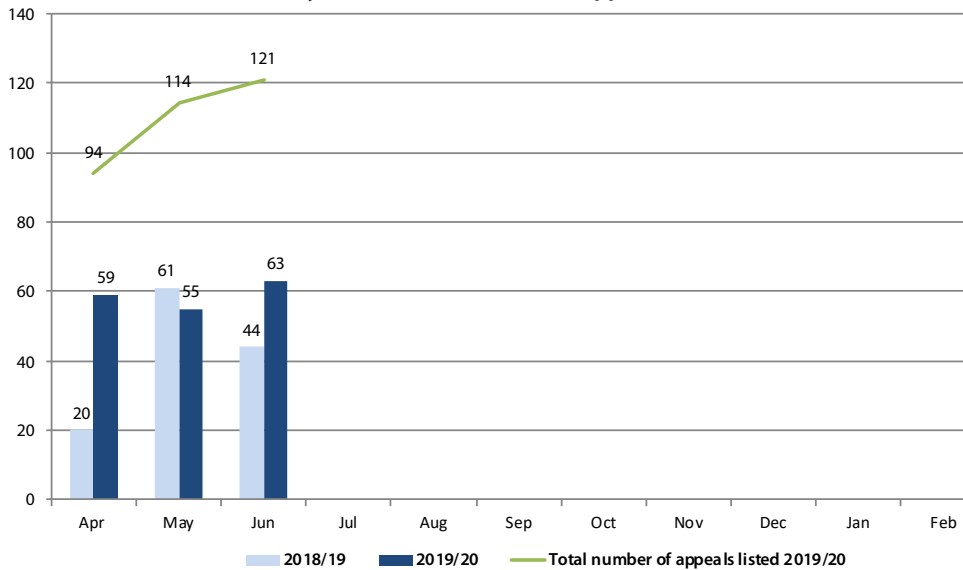
ASAP quarterly monitoring report

DUTY SCHEME

TOTAL NUMBER OF APPELLANTS ASSISTED

In Q1 we helped 177 appellants. Including dependants, the total number of people reached was 223. We assisted 80% 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

- These are cases that are withdrawn or adjourned prior to the hearing; cases that are designated by the Tribunal as being 'ASAP barred' (the Tribunal prohibits us from assisting when an appellant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
- 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 A minority of cases will also have been withdrawn, adjourned or struck out
- This figure is adjusted to take into consideration clients whose appeals were withdrawn or who didn't attend their hearings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	2019/20	2018/19
% Allowed	59				59	56
% Remitted	10				10	13
% Dismissed	22				22	26
% Other	9				9	5

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 65%..

APPEAL SUBJECT

The majority of our cases related to section 4 (s4) support. Most s4 appeals related to the question of when a person might be eligible as a result of further submissions or a medical condition. This quarter we have observed a sharp increase in section 95 (s95) destitution appeals, beginning in June (13 of 20 s95 destitution appeals occurred in June). These appeals are particularly complex and we are closely monitoring this development.

TOP ISSUES IN Q1:²

- s4 regulation 3(2)(e) – further submissions cases (56 cases): 57% allowed, 2% remitted, 27% dismissed
- s4 destitution cases (33 cases): 78% allowed, 12% remitted, 9% dismissed
- s4 medical cases (26 cases): 46% allowed, 19% remitted, 35% dismissed
- s95 destitution cases (20 cases): 75% allowed, 15% dismissed
- s95 and s4 breach of conditions cases (6 cases): 33% allowed, 17% remitted, 17% dismissed.

REFERRALS

There has been a steady increase in the number of appeals listed at the Asylum Support Tribunal this quarter resulting in a record number of referrals to the duty scheme. In Q1 we received 230 referrals from 60 agencies. We were able to meet 85% of these referrals.





CLIENT PROFILE

- The top nationalities of appellants were Iranian, Iraqi, Afghan, Pakistani, Nigerian (=5) and Albanian (=5).
- 69% of appellants were men, 31% were women.
- 17% of appellants had children.
- Most appellants lived in the North West (30%), Scotland (15%) and London (13%).
- 60% experienced circumstances that may make them more vulnerable. Most commonly these were health issues, with 21% suffering from mental health problems, 14% from physical health problems and 17% from both.



ADVICE LINE



We took 174 calls this quarter from 73 agencies

- Calls mainly came from London (25%), Yorkshire and Humber (12%), Scotland (11%) and the North West (11%).
- 62% of calls related to s4 or s95 support. We also received a significant number of calls (9%) relating to support options for people on bail. The remaining calls related to ongoing appeals, Home Office or tribunal procedures, the provision of section 98 support or other issues.
- Only 5% of calls were general in nature. Most users had questions relating to an individual's case. Of these, 55% were about men, 45% about women.
- The top nationalities were Iranian, Iraqi (=2), Eritrean (=2) and Pakistani.
- 22% of calls related to families with children including 13% single parent families.
- 41% of calls related to people receiving government support. 49% survived thanks to the help of their community, including charities. This includes 16% who were housed by charities and 11% who were sleeping rough.
- In 54% of calls, people had additional issues, mainly health problems, which could increase their vulnerability.

WOMEN'S PROJECT

Duty scheme

- We helped 55 women this quarter; 43 (78%) of women faced circumstances which may make them more vulnerable, 24 of whom had experienced gender-based violence.
- 35 women had children, 30 of whom were single parents.

Advice line

- In 13 of the 75 calls relating to women, agencies reported instances of gender-based violence.
- 47 women (63%) experienced circumstances that may make them more vulnerable.
- 45 had children, 37 of whom were single parents.



ASYLUM SUPPORT ADVICE NETWORK (ASAN)

- ASAN welcomed 24 new members in Q1. Membership stands at 944 advisers throughout the UK.
- There were 148 conversations generating 289 posts among 348 people.
- ASAN is mainly used by frontline workers to share information and get advice. A number of posts are about events or employment opportunities in the sector. However, of the advice related posts, most concerned:
 - Obtaining additional support (of different kinds) for families with children or pregnant women (10 conversations among 25 advisers generating 35 posts).
 - Problems opening bank accounts (3 conversations among 16 advisers generating 20 posts)
 - Questions about medical care (3 conversations among 11 advisers generating 13 posts)
 - Correct procedure for applying to switch from s4 to s95 support (2 conversations among 8 advisers generating 12 posts).