

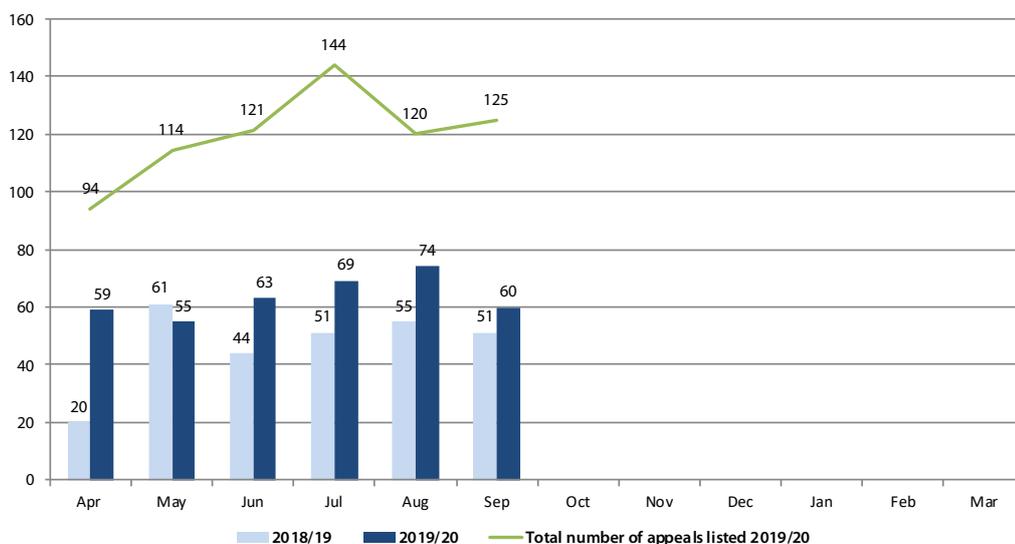
## ASAP quarterly monitoring report

### DUTY SCHEME

#### TOTAL NUMBER OF APPELLANTS ASSISTED

In Q2 we helped 203 appellants. Including dependants, the total number of people reached was 283. We assisted 76% of appellants who had an oral hearing (excluding people who we could not help for reasons outside our control).<sup>1</sup>

Duty scheme: total number of appellants assisted, Q1–Q2



#### 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**1** These are cases that are withdrawn or adjourned prior to the hearing; cases that are designated by the Tribunal as being 'ASAP barred' (the Tribunal prohibits us from assisting when an appellant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 A minority of cases will also have been withdrawn, adjourned or struck out.

**3** This figure is adjusted to take into consideration clients whose appeals were withdrawn or who didn't attend their hearings.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	2019/20	2018/19
% Allowed	59	62			60	56
% Remitted	10	9			10	13
% Dismissed	22	25			24	26
% Other	9	4			6	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 67%.

#### APPEAL SUBJECT

The rise in section 95 (s95) destitution appeals observed last quarter continued into Q2. As a result, s95 destitution appeals have taken over as the top issue in Q2. The increase is due to the Home Office's new approach to decision making whereby applicants for support are no longer given an opportunity to supply further information or clarification before a decision is made.

#### TOP ISSUES IN Q2:<sup>2</sup>

- s95 destitution cases (67 cases):** 58% allowed, 8% remitted, 29% dismissed
- Section 4 (s4) regulation 3(2)(e) – further submissions cases (56 cases):** 68% allowed, 12.5% remitted, 12.5% dismissed
- s4 destitution cases (25 cases):** 68% allowed, 32% dismissed
- s4 medical cases (14 cases):** 36% allowed, 50% remitted, 7% dismissed
- s95 and s4 breach of conditions cases (8 cases):** 75% allowed, 12.5% remitted, 12.5% dismissed.

#### REFERRALS

Due to the increase in the number of appeals this quarter, we have received a record number of referrals (310 from 67 agencies). We were able to meet 85% of these.<sup>3</sup>



## CLIENT PROFILE

- The top nationalities of appellants were Iranian, Iraqi, Nigerian, Pakistani, Afghan (=5) and Somali (=5).
- 66% of appellants were men, 34% were women.
- 23% of appellants had children.
- Most appellants lived in the London (19%), the North West (18%), Yorkshire and Humber (14%) and the East Midlands (11%).
- 63% experienced circumstances that may have made them more vulnerable. Most commonly these were health issues, with 23% suffering from mental health problems, 12% from physical health problems and 16% from both.



## ADVICE LINE



**We took 233 calls this quarter from 84 agencies.**

- Calls mainly came from agencies based London (37%), Yorkshire and Humber (10%), the North West (10%) and Scotland (9%).
- 72% of calls related to s4 or s95 support. We continued to receive a number of calls (7%) 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 4% of calls were general in nature. Most users had questions relating to an individual's case. Of these, 37% were men, 63% were women.
- The top nationalities were Iraqi, Iranian (=2), Afghan (=2), Pakistani (=3), Eritrean (=3) and Albanian (=3).
- 21% of calls related to families with children, including 10% single parent families.
- 42% of calls related to people receiving support from the Home Office or the local authority. 51% survived thanks to the help of their community, including charities. This includes 14% who were housed by charities and 7% who were sleeping rough. The remainder were either detained or supporting themselves through some other means.
- In 55% of calls, the individuals had to deal with additional issues, mainly health problems, which could have increased their vulnerability.

## WOMEN'S PROJECT

### *Duty scheme*

- We helped 69 women this quarter; 48 (70%) of women faced circumstances which may have made them more vulnerable, 19 of whom had experienced gender-based violence.
- 28 women had children, 17 of whom were single parents.

### *Advice line*

- In 29 of the 83 calls relating to women, agencies reported instances of gender-based violence.
- 56 women (68%) experienced circumstances that may have made them more vulnerable.
- 31 had children, 21 of whom were single parents.



## ASYLUM SUPPORT ADVICE NETWORK (ASAN)

- ASAN welcomed 52 new members in Q2. Membership stands at 893 advisers throughout the UK.
- There were 163 conversations generating 363 posts among 311 people.
- The biggest subject this quarter by far related to the problems surrounding the change in Home Office advice and accommodation contracts and in particular difficulties in getting through to Migrant Help's phone line (15 conversations among 56 advisers in 67 posts). Other conversations included support options for people on bail, queries about family reunion, obtaining medical treatment, and applying for travel warrants for clients.