

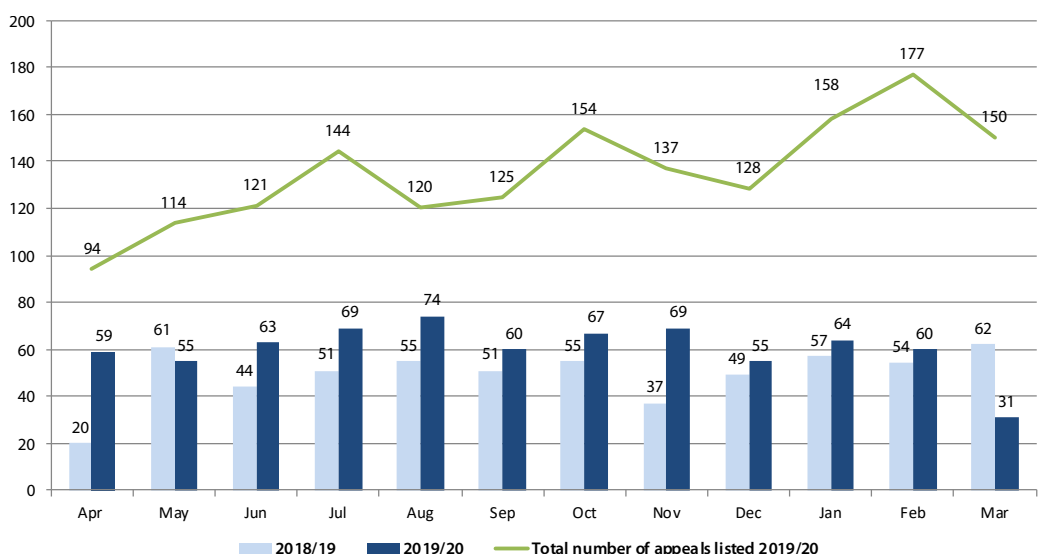
ASAP quarterly monitoring report

DUTY SCHEME

TOTAL NUMBER OF APPELLANTS ASSISTED

In Q4 we helped 155 appellants. Including dependants, the total number of people reached was 231. The number of appeals that ASAP assisted in tailed off in the second half of March as the Covid-19 pandemic took hold and our services became affected. However, the pandemic did not seem to have an impact on the overall number of hearings, which rose in Q4. Consequently, we only assisted 48% of appellants who had an oral hearing (excluding people who we could not help for reasons outside our control).¹

Duty scheme: total number of appellants assisted Q1-Q4



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- These are cases that are withdrawn or adjourned prior to the hearing; cases that are designated by the Tribunal as being 'ASAP barred' (the Tribunal prohibits us from assisting when an appellant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 A minority of cases will also have been withdrawn, adjourned or struck out
- This figure is adjusted to take into consideration clients whose appeals were withdrawn or who didn't attend their hearings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	62	71	72	66	56
% Remitted	10	9	9	9	9	13
% Dismissed	22	25	18	17	21	26
% Other	9	4	3	1	4	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 76%.

APPEAL SUBJECT

ASAP appeals in Q4 were dominated by section 95 (s95) destitution cases, which rose by almost 60% compared with Q3. Section 4 (s4) appeals dropped by 54%; it's not clear why but we do not believe it was linked to the Covid-19 crisis.

TOP ISSUES IN Q4:²

- s95 destitution cases (90 cases):** 76% allowed, 8% remitted, 16% dismissed.
- s4 destitution cases (20 cases):** 80% allowed, 20% dismissed.
- s4 regulation 3(2)(e) – further submissions cases (12 cases):** 75% allowed, 25% dismissed.

REFERRALS

Referral numbers continued to increase. We received 359 referrals (17 more than last quarter) and were able to meet 60% of these referrals.³

<< CLIENT PROFILE

- The top nationalities of appellants were Iranian, Pakistani, Nigerian, Iraqi (=4) and Afghan (=4).
- 61% of appellants were men, 39% were women.
- 23% of appellants had children.
- Most appellants lived in London (18%), Scotland (16%), the North West (15%), and Yorkshire and Humber (14%).
- 49% experienced circumstances that may have made them more vulnerable. Most commonly these were health issues, with 12% suffering from mental health problems, 15% from physical health problems and 8% from both.



ADVICE LINE



We took 199 calls this quarter from 81 agencies

- Calls mainly came from agencies in London (32%), Yorkshire and Humber (10%), the North West (10%) and Scotland (8%).
- 59% of calls related to s4 or s95 support; 13% were about access to schedule 10 support. The remaining calls related to Home Office or tribunal procedures, section 98 support or other issues.
- Only 3% of calls were general in nature. Most users had questions about an individual's case. Of these, 40% concerned women, 60% men.
- The top nationalities were Iraqi, Pakistani, Nigerian, Eritrean (=4) and Albanian (=4).
- 18% of calls related to families with children; 12% of calls concerned single parent families.
- Advisers who called the advice line were helping people living in a variety of circumstances:
 - 77 (44%) received support from the Home Office or a local authority (including 10 people supported under the national referral mechanism for victims of trafficking)
 - 76 (44%) survived thanks to the help of their community, including charities (including 24 people who were housed by charities and 10 who were sleeping rough)
 - 21 (12%) were either detained or supported themselves through other means.
- In 58% 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 60 women this quarter; 31 (52%) of women faced circumstances which may have made them more vulnerable, 14 of whom had experienced gender-based violence.
- 21 women had children, 16 of whom were single parents.

Advice line

- In 36 of the 78 calls relating to women, agencies reported instances of gender-based violence.
- 55 women (71%) experienced circumstances that may have made them more vulnerable.
- 21 had children, 18 of whom were single parents.



ASYLUM SUPPORT ADVICE NETWORK (ASAN)

- ASAN welcomed 78 new members in Q4.
- Membership stands at 883 advisers throughout the UK.
- There were 196 conversations generating 525 posts among 446 people.
- Even though lockdown began at the tail end of the quarter, Covid-19 dominated the group, generating 64 conversations and 233 posts among 188 advisers. In January and February, conversations on the new accommodation and advice contracts continued, although to a lesser extent than the previous 6 months. Other topics of discussions covered a wide variety of subjects related to asylum support entitlement.