

# [Crime news: extension of 2017 crime contract to 31 March 2021](#)

We are extending the 2017 Standard Crime Contract by 12 months to 31 March 2021.

A headline intentions document is available on GOV.UK informing providers about the extension.

## **Why is this happening?**

This is being done so that we can consider the outcome of Ministry of Justice reviews into criminal legal aid and the means tests before we put a new crime contract in place.

These reviews are due to report towards the end of summer 2020.

## **Next Steps**

We will begin to issue contract extension notices to individual providers in the next month. The new schedules will be issued before the end of March 2020.

## **Further information**

[Standard Crime Contract 2017](#) – to download ‘headline intentions’ document

[Criminal legal aid review](#)

[Means test review into thresholds for legal aid entitlement thresholds](#)