<u>Legal Aid Agency extends Housing</u> <u>Possession Court Duty Scheme Contracts</u>

The LAA wrote to current HPCDS providers in July 2018 with an offer to extend their current contracts for one year with the right to extend for a further 12-month period.

This Contract was due to expire on 30 September 2019, however, the LAA is exercising its right to extend contract by a further 12 months. This is to enable Ministry of Justice to develop its policy approach for HPCDS services.

Current HPCDS contracts will now end on 30 September 2020.

Providers do not need to do anything to accept the extension. The LAA will begin to issue notices of the extension to the 2013 HPCDS Contract to individual providers in August. The new schedules will be issued by the end of September 2019.