

News story: Civil news: court-assessed online claim change to speed payments

A breakdown of individual hearings for court-assessed claims under the Family Advocacy Scheme (FAS) will be required for submissions after 14 August 2014.

Any FAS advocacy, including 'bolt-ons', should be broken down individually and no longer submitted at summary level only. This will help to speed up payments.

How will the process work?

Guidance on how to enter a breakdown of individual hearings is provided on the Client and Cost Management System (CCMS) training website – see link below.

When creating the bill, on the 'multiple fee scheme bills' screen, you will need to click 'yes' to the top option, 'would you like to bill for FAS?'.

Alternatively, CCMS' bulk upload feature can be used to provide the breakdown where providers already use this function.

Claims submitted from 14 August 2017 onwards that do not have this breakdown will be rejected so that they can be amended and resubmitted.

Benefits

Breaking down the fees in your online claim will:

- allow CCMS to cross-check rates and dates claimed
- reduce the need for us to ask you for further information
- simplify the process by making paper-based and online-based claims the same

This only applies to claims assessed by the court and including any advocacy under the FAS. There are no changes to submissions under other online billing schemes.

Further information

[CCMS training website](#) – see 'court assessed bill' under 'closing cases and submitting bills'

[CIV Claim 1A](#) – to download checklist with evidential requirements for court assessed claims

News story: Statement on Grenfell Tower: 14 June 2017

A Downing Street spokesperson gave a statement on the Grenfell Tower fire.

A Downing Street spokesperson said:

“The Prime Minister is deeply saddened by the tragic loss of life in the Grenfell Tower and is being kept constantly updated on the situation.

“She has asked for a cross-government meeting at the Civil Contingencies Secretariat to take place at 4pm to co-ordinate the response and ensure the government is ready to assist the emergency services and local authorities as necessary.

“The Prime Minister’s thoughts are with all of those affected by this terrible incident and the emergency services, who are working tirelessly in very difficult circumstances.”

News story: Lord Keen of Elie QC reappointed as Advocate General for Scotland

Lord Keen of Elie QC has been reappointed as Advocate General for Scotland.

Commenting on his reappointment, Lord Keen said:

It is a great honour to be reappointed as the Advocate General for Scotland, and I look forward to continuing to advise the UK Government on all aspects of Scots law.

News story: Future manufacturing and

materials: apply for funding

As a UK business you can apply for a share of £15 million to develop solutions to the challenges of future manufacturing and materials.

Up to £15 million will be made available by Innovate for UK businesses to work on innovative projects in the manufacturing and materials sector.

Creating a competitive advantage

New manufacturing processes and materials can be a source of global competitive advantage. The UK already has a strong position. It is the ninth largest producer in the world with an output of \$247 billion. This competition aims to support manufacturing and materials as enablers of product innovation.

We are looking to fund projects that tackle identified technical and commercial challenges. These should lead to increased productivity, competitiveness and growth for UK small and medium-sized enterprises.

Focus areas

Applications should focus on innovations in:

- manufacturing systems, technologies, processes or business models, such as new product introduction processes or remanufacture
- materials development, properties, integration or reuse. Materials could include nanomaterials, ceramics, metals and inter-metallics, polymers, composites, coatings, smart materials and joining of dissimilar materials

Competition information

- the competition is open, and the deadline for registration is midday on 12 July 2017
 - project should range between £50,000 and £2 million and last between 6 months and 3 years
 - projects must be led by a business and involve at least one SME
 - projects longer than 12 months or with costs of more than £100,000 must involve 2 or more businesses
 - businesses could attract up to 70% of their total project costs, depending on their size
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Press release: Labour Market Statistics

Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland:

I welcome today's Labour Market Statistics, which demonstrate continued stability in the Northern Ireland economy.

The unemployment rate is down to 5.4 per cent, the lowest since the great crash in 2008 and those claiming unemployment related benefits has fallen again, with a drop of 52 per cent since the series peak in 2013.

Almost 10,000 new jobs were created in Northern Ireland over the year, meaning more people with the security of a job and a regular pay packet for themselves and their family.

Political stability is a fundamental basis for economic success and securing devolved institutions in Northern Ireland is vital to keep this momentum going as we continue to build an economy that works for everyone.