

What Counts as Domestic Violence?

The Legal Aid Authority will accept the following evidence of domestic violence. This must be provided by you before we are able to sign you up to any form of Legal Aid, unless you are looking for Help with Mediation, a Domestic Violence Injunction or Local Authority Care Proceedings relating to children.



- A** Your opponent has a relevant unspent conviction for a domestic violence offence.
 - B** Your opponent has a relevant police caution for a domestic violence offence, given to him or her within the 24 month period immediately before the date of the application for Legal Aid.
 - C** Evidence of relevant criminal proceedings against your opponent for a domestic violence offence, which are still going through the Court and have not finished.
 - D** A relevant protective Injunction Order against your opponent, which is in force or which was granted within the last 24 month period immediately preceding the date of your application for Legal Aid.
 - E** An undertaking by your opponent within 24 months immediately preceding the date of the application for Legal Aid, provided always that you did not give an undertaking in the same or similar terms at the same time (known as cross undertakings).
 - F** A letter from the person appointed Chair of a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference, confirming that you were referred to the Conference as a high risk of domestic violence and the Conference has, within the last 24 months, put in place a plan to protect you.
 - G** A copy of a Finding of Fact within previous proceedings, within the last 24 months, confirming that there has been domestic violence.
 - H** A letter or report from a Health Professional (GP, Accident and Emergency Doctor, Nurse or Health Visitor) confirming:
 - (i)** They have examined you within the last 24 months.
 - (ii)** They are satisfied that you had injuries or a condition consistent with those of a victim of domestic violence.
 - (iii)** They had no reason to believe that your injuries or condition were not caused by domestic violence.
 - I** A letter from a Social Services Department confirming that, within the last 24 months, you have been assessed as being, or are at risk of being, a victim of domestic violence.
 - J** A letter or report from a Domestic Violence Support Organisation confirming:
 - (i)** That, within the last 24 month period, you were admitted for a period of 24 hours or more to a refuge established for the purpose of providing accommodation for victims of, or those at risk of, domestic violence.
 - (ii)** The dates on which you were admitted and, where relevant, left the refuge.
 - (iii)** That you were admitted because of allegations of domestic violence.
- Please note that the allegations have to be in relation to the person that you are currently having problems with. These allegations cannot be in relation to a previous or different partner as you will not qualify for Legal Aid.

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