
From: XXXXX
Sent: 08 June 2021 12:02
To: Christopher Moss; Marie McDonald
Cc: Rohini Teather
Subject: RE: Legal Aid Census - just 4 days left
Hi,

I have already given my views. In short, I wish I had never joined the profession as the hours in Criminal Law are pathetic, the pay, that has not been increased for 20 years plus, with in fact huge cuts, doing more and more work for absolutely nothing. For example, in the Crown Court cases, I am unable to have conferences because I, and counsel, do not get paid. If I worked for someone, it is the only profession I know where I, for example, gone in salary over the 27 years, and 20 years qualified. I spend about 8 hours travelling to represent a client and returned. I was paid my petrol. Absolutely nothing for the travel time for a client in the Army that had previously attempted suicide and with more and more rules/audits/red tape ie a minimum of 4 audits with at best, an hourly rate of around £54/hour though it is a fixed fee that if it goes on long enough, particularly in police stations; it can work out at less than minimum wage, forced to have an office if you have legal aid at the £54/hour rate when alternatively, you can do private work for £280/hour and work from home with usually no audits.

Kind Regards.

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Managing Director/Solicitor