GUERNSEY LEGAL AID SERVICE

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The Legal Aid Schemes are established under The Legal Aid (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law, 2003, The Legal Aid (Guernsey and Alderney) (Schemes and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance, 2018 and the Legal Aid (Guernsey and Alderney) Rules, 2019.

Guernsey Legal Aid Service ("GLAS") is the name of the service that administers the Legal Aid Schemes. GLAS is run by the Legal Aid Administrator who is an independent statutory official appointed by the States of Guernsey.

<u>Legal Aid – Green Form</u>

The Guernsey Legal Aid Service does not offer legal advice; we merely arrange the funding for persons who need the help of an Advocate and who cannot afford to pay for those services.

We administer a scheme whereby a person who is financially eligible may ask an advocate to provide up to 2 hours of advice and assistance- "the Green Form Scheme" and also potentially apply for full legal aid.

We enclose:-

FAQ leaflet List of advocates who undertake legal aid work Civil or Criminal Information sheet

You should contact one of the firms on the list and ask to be seen under the Green Form Scheme. This is a means tested scheme and provided an applicant is financially eligible, the applicant may have up to 2 hours advice and assistance about a legal problem they are currently facing.

When you go to the first appointment you must take with you evidence of you and any partner's income/benefits for the previous week, together with evidence of rent/mortgage/board & lodgings and any child maintenance you pay.

The Advocate will undertake a financial assessment and you may be eligible for the 2 hours completely free or upon the payment of a contribution. If you are in receipt of Income Support you will only be required to provide evidence of this benefit. It would make the best use of the time available if you take with you to the appointment any information/documentation that you may have regarding your query.

If any applicant and their partner has savings or assets (ignoring the house they live in or any asset currently under dispute), worth in excess of: -£15,000 (for a single householder or non householder with no children); £18,000 (for a couple who ordinarily live together in the same household with no children); £20,000 (for a couple or single householder with one child dependant); £25,000 (for a couple or single householder with two child dependants or

Green Form Information Sheet (Effective 6th January 2023)

£27,000 (for a couple or single householder with three or more child dependants), they will not be financially eligible for any legal aid.

If the matter is one that falls into scope of the legal aid scheme (there are various matters which are not covered) and the Advocate considers there are sufficient legal merits to pursue legal proceedings they will provide us with a legal opinion on the merits to enable you to apply for a full legal aid certificate. We will also ask you to fill in a financial application form. As with green form, legal aid under a full certificate is not necessarily free and a contribution to costs and disbursements may be required, dependent upon the financial assessment.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.