

UCL Integrated Legal Advice Clinic 2018/19 impact report

CENTRE FOR
ACCESS TO JUSTICE

UCL Integrated Legal Advice Clinic

Access to justice is not an abstract ideal. For very many people, access to justice means securing necessities as basic as food or a roof over their head. But in the UK, legal advice is increasingly inaccessible, especially for the vulnerable. Cuts to Legal Aid enacted in 2013 have drastically reduced the availability of free legal advice and representation for those unable to pay for a solicitor. Through our UCL Integrated Legal Advice Clinic (UCL iLAC), UCL is placing itself on the front line of this challenge. 2018/19 has been yet another exciting year for the Clinic and to demonstrate this impact we are delighted to share some recent highlights and updates below.

Delivering an integrated approach

Since our last update on the Clinic's success in securing two legal aid contracts in housing and community care law, we have been putting this resource into full effect. From 1st September 2018, the Clinic has been able to provide legally aided services alongside its pro bono work, taking on 23 cases that have been funded by legal aid.

The legal aid contracts have meant that we have been able to instruct counsel and take several housing cases to Court, securing better outcomes for our clients as well as being able to obtain expert evidence to support their cases. As the only university to currently hold legal aid contract in these areas, our full range of services ensures that all of our clients receive the support they require and we can help the broadest spectrum of clients.

Meeting a new demand

Training the next generation

This year we had 35 students volunteer at UCL iLAC –