

Appendix 1

Social Welfare Advice Procurement Review 2017-22

Proposed Tiers of Advice

Lead director: Alison Greenhill Date: 24th August 2016

Proposed Tiers of Advice

(Example of tiers of advice for clients with financial problems)

Tier	Overview	Detail
1	Assisted information and signposting	 Involves giving clients the information they need, to enable them to know more and do more about their situation. Includes information about rights, policies and practices, national and local services and various agencies that can help them. The responsibility rests with the client whether to take any further action or not
2	General advice and general advice with casework	 Includes diagnosis of a client's enquiry and their financial circumstances, giving information and explaining their options and identifying further action to take. Some assistance is provided, for example contacting third parties (e.g Council Tax Department or enforcement agents on the client's behalf, form completion and drawing up a budget.) This level of service may be provided either by self-contained interviews, following by the customer taking responsibility for further action Or, ongoing casework support including all of the above and taking action on behalf other client, with the advice provider taking responsibility for follow-up work.
3	Specialist advice and tribunal representation	 A specialist service accredited by the Financial Services Authority undertakes advice and casework at a level where detailed knowledge of law is required. This would involve intensive one-to-one support and casework up to litigation and advice on Court hearings, including bankruptcy, insolvency, Debt Relief Orders and appropriate financial products.