



9 January 2026

Dear Provider,

Average Payment Scheme

What is happening?

The final date to opt-in to the Average Payment for Civil Representation scheme is **Monday 12th January 2026** at noon. Final payments will be made along with the usual payment run on Monday 19th January.

For more information on how to opt into the scheme please see [Legal Aid Agency cyber security incident - GOV.UK](#).

Next Steps – Recoupment of Contingency Payments

In the week commencing Monday 19th January 2026, the LAA will issue a statement to every account that has opted into the Average Payment Scheme, at least once, with a schedule confirming how the recoupments will work, how much will be recovered each week and for how long they will run.

Statements will then be sent weekly by email. You will need to use a password to access the statement, for solicitor firms this will be your lead legal aid account number and for barristers this will be your legal aid account number. Instructions for opening the password protected statement will be repeated in the covering email.

The LAA will begin the recoupment schedule during the week commencing 26th January. The first recoupments will appear alongside the usual payment run on **Monday 2nd February 2026**.

The recoupment will be a set weekly value based upon the amount you have been paid through the Average Payment for Civil Representation Scheme and the number of weeks you have opted in. It is independent of the amount you are being paid that week.

Queries and concerns

Guidance on the Recoupment Schedule, including what to do if you are worried about your ongoing financial position, has been published on our Restoration hub: [Contingency Recoupment Providers Guide](#)

Please contact your Contract Manager if you have any concerns about the impact of closure of the Average Payment Scheme to your firm. Barristers should contact CivilClaimBC@justice.gov.uk