

## COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICE LEGAL HELP

The Community Legal Service will pay for Legal Help:

- If you pass the means test;
- If the benefit to you justifies the cost of the work;
- If you have no other means of paying for the work.

We will assess your finances to see if you qualify. We also have to consider whether the benefit to you is sufficient to justify the work to be done. If we do not think the benefit of the work is sufficient we will explain to you why that is so.

You must tell us of any change in your financial means while we are acting for you on Legal Help.

In a few cases the Legal Services Commission "statutory charge" applies if there is a shortfall between what the Legal Services Commission pays us and any costs we obtain from your opponent. When that happens the shortfall will come out of any compensation or damages we recover for you. We will advise you if the statutory charge applies in your case.

Under the Legal Help scheme we can advise you, write letters or draft documents for you. We can also pay for reports from experts, such as doctors or environmental health consultants, and we can pay for interpreters. In some cases we can represent you at court hearings.

However, in most cases we cannot go to welfare benefits tribunals with you and in order for us to go on the court record as your representative you must have Civil Legal Aid. If you need to apply for Civil Legal Aid we will advise you and help you to fill in the forms.

**ANY PROBLEMS OR QUESTIONS  
ask your caseworker**