







# DIRECTORY OF ADVICE SERVICES FOR ISLINGTON COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

## February 2016

This edition has been produced by Islington Law Centre for use by local community organisations as part of the Big Lottery funded Advising Islington Together project

The research for this directory has been revised by Islington Law Centre in February 2016. We have made efforts to ensure that the information is up to date but services are subject to change and we regret that we cannot guarantee that there are no errors.







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#### INTRODUCTION

This guide is intended for use by community, voluntary and faith groups in Islington. It provides information about the main sources of help at a local, regional and national level for key areas of social welfare law advice. It incorporates the information contained in the money advice guide produced by the Islington Debt Coalition. We are very grateful to them for making this available.

We have made every effort to ensure that the information provided is accurate at the time of writing, but it is often necessary for agencies to change the way in which services are delivered, so it is worth phoning or emailing agencies to check what help is currently available.

The guide has been produced by Islington Law Centre. Inclusion in the guide does not mean that an agency is recommended, but these are agencies who carry out work which is relevant to a significant number of local residents.

Information provided is mostly taken from information provided to us by the agency themselves, and we are not liable for any errors, omissions or loss caused as a result of relying on the information provided.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact Islington Law Centre on **info@islingtonlaw.org.uk**, or write to:

Islington Advice Directory Feedback Islington Law Centre 38 Devonia Road London N1 8JH

We welcome feedback, and hope that you find this directory useful.

#### Some areas of law for which legal aid is still available;

#### These include:

- housing (if home at risk)

- asylum

- family issues (where there is DV)

- debt (if home at immediate risk)

- welfare benefits upper tribunal

- family mediation

education (SENDIST only)

- discrimination

- community care

- crime

- mental health

Further details are available under the "Legal Aid" section.

#### **HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE**

#### Finding the right source of advice

Information is organised under the key relevant topic: consumer, debt, education, employment, housing immigration and asylum and welfare rights.

Agencies are then listed alphabetically for those agencies that have a direct service for the borough. Details of relevant agencies at a regional or national level are listed at the end of that section. Some agencies and projects will be listed more than once as they cover more than one relevant topic.

We have not included every agency – in order to provide a manageable amount of information, we have focused on those agencies who are able to deal with a number of external enquiries (i.e. we have not included those groups who provide support only to their own members) and those who have a significant level of access in terms of hours of opening.

There are lots of national agencies who provide very specific help to particular groups in the community – useful information about these can be obtained from the internet and from reference books. If you are unsure whether an agency exists that can meet particular needs, you can contact either the Reception and Referral Service at Islington Law Centre (Monday-Friday 9.30 to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm in person, or by phone 020 7288 7630 or by email info@islingtonlaw.org.uk).

At present, there are no local voluntary sector organisations offering assistance in criminal law or family law. However, the section on legal aid and private practice solicitors gives details of some local solicitors' firms who can assist with such issues.

#### Eligibility

All of the agencies listed are open to Islington residents, but some of them are only available to those on a low income. Some have other eligibility criteria – for example, living in a particular part of the borough. None of the advice agencies listed charge for their services (although people may need to pay for other items such as court fees or representation). However, there may be a charge for telephone calls, especially from mobile phones. A number of agencies will call clients back if necessary, and/or offer home visits where needed.

Some agencies are able to assist non-Islington clients, but space does not permit us to list this information here. Some of these are arrangements are complex and you are advised to ask the relevant agency if you have a service member from another borough.

Unfortunately, demand for advice services is high and some services are booked up some weeks in advance, or will have a temporary hold on taking on new clients. In such circumstances, the agency may well be able to help you to identify an alternative source of help. Alternatively, you can try contacting the Law Centre's reception service or Citizens' Advice Islington (details above). The Community Legal Advice service or the Law Society may also be able to assist in finding a solicitor.

## **Legal Aid and LawWorks**

Although there have been major changes to the Legal Aid Scheme since April 2013, some areas of law are still covered.

However, a number of these areas of law are only available via a **mandatory telephone gateway.** Please contact an advice agency if you need help in making contact via this route. If you need face to face help, they will assess whether you are eligible for this.

The following guidance has been produced by the Legal Aid Practitioners' Group.

Whilst access to legal aid has been reduced, it is important that clients who are eligible are assisted to access it, as it will often cover the costs of an interpreter and/or specialist reports as well as casework.

www.gov.uk/check-legal-aid

#### **LEGAL AID IS STILL AVAILABLE FOR THESE TYPES OF CASES:**

**Housing** – possession proceedings and eviction including counter claims for disrepair, unlawful eviction, homelessness including asylum support for accommodation, anti-social behaviour cases, harassment injunctions, serious disrepair

**Asylum and Immigration** – asylum applications, detention, applying for indefinite leave to remain after relationship breakdown due to domestic violence of an EU citizen applying to stay after domestic violence, applying to stay as a victim of trafficking, proceedings before SIAC, TPIM notices, applications for asylum support (if you have applied for housing and financial support)

**Family Issues** – family mediation to resolve disputes about children and finance on a relationship breakdown, social services being involved with your children, injunctions against a violent or abusive partner or family member, other family problems if you or your child have suffered or are at risk of violence or abuse, forced marriages

**Debt** – if you might lose your home because of mortgage arrears, or a creditor is taking you to court to sell your home, or a creditor is making you bankrupt

**Welfare Benefits and Council Tax Reduction** – for appeals to the Upper Tribunal, High Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court

**Mental Health** – for representation at mental health tribunals

**Education** – if you disagree with a special educational needs decision about your child

**Discrimination** – if you have been unlawfully discriminated against **Community care** – if you are unhappy with care being provided for an old or disabled relative

Crime - e.g. being arrested charged or questioned by the police

**Also...**Clinical negligence for babies injured during pregnancy or around birth

- An inquest into the death of a family member
- Protection from harassment
- Advice on disabled facilities grants, on civil claims re abuse and sexual assault allegations, confiscation proceedings, gang-related violence, nuisance caused by environmental pollution and cross-border disputes
- Appeals against a decision stopping you from working with children and vulnerable adults
- Exceptional case funding is available in some cases for human rights issues

If you want to find out if you are eligible for free advice in an area of law please contact the Legal Aid Gateway on 0345 345 4345 or visit www.gov.uk/civil-legal-advice

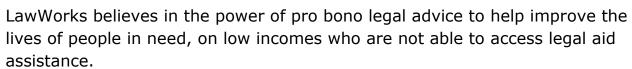
#### LawWorks

LawWorks National Pro Bono Centre, 48 Chancery Lane, WC2A 1JF

**Tel:** 020 7092 3940 **Fax:** 02072423407

**Opening Hours:** Monday to Friday 10am-4pm

Website: www.lawworks.org.uk



Please note that LawWorks does not give legal advice. However here is a list of local legal advice clinics who may be able to help, offering free legal advice sessions which LawWorks supports. The clinics provide free initial advice to individuals on various areas of law including social welfare issues, employment law, housing matters and consumer disputes.

#### **Islington**

- Consultations Legal Advice Clinic (Employment & Housing)
- City / Matrix School Exclusions Project
- Islington Law Centre Evening Clinic (Monday Wednesday)
- Rights of Women Various Clinics
- Start-Ed City University Clinic (New Business Forum)

#### Camden

- BPP Law School Legal Advice Clinics
- Camden CAB Kentish Town CAB Service Legal Advice Clinic
- Camden CAB Holborn CAB Service Legal Clinic
- University of the Arts London/Own-it Intellectual Property Clinic
- University of Law, Bloomsbury Legal Advice Centre



## **General and Consumer**

#### CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU (CAB) ISLINGTON

222 Upper Street, N1 1XR

**Tel:** 03444 889 626

**Website:** www.cabislington.org.uk

**Telephone** advice Mondays to Fridays 10am - 1pm and 2pm -

4pm,

citizens advice bureau

The CAB supports residents of the London Borough of Islington to resolve their debt, benefits, housing, employment, consumer and other problems. Their website holds useful information on issues such as debt, employment, and welfare benefits. Please note that you need an appointment to see an advisor.

# LONDON BOROUGH OF ISLINGTON COUNCIL



222 Upper Street, N1 1XR www.islington.gov.uk

**Tel:** 020 7527 2000 **Minicom:** 020 7527 1900

**Contact centre Opening Hours:** Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

**Sign video call centre:** Monday to Friday 9am-5pm

Telephone Hours: Monday to Friday 8am-6pm except Wednesday 8.30am-

6pm

A range of signposting and other help is available and the Council's website gives details of their own services and those provided by other agencies.

#### ISLINGTON ENERGY ADVICE TEAM

222 Upper Street, N1 1XR

**(S)** Provides specialist help

Web: www.islington.gov.uk/energy Email: energy.advice@islington.gov.uk

Tel: **0800 953 1221** 

You can contact the Energy Advice Team on a whole range of energy saving subjects including fuel bills and debt, fuel switching, draught proofing, heating controls and systems.

We provide advice over the phone, by e-mail and in person and can advise on:

- insulation
- no cost and low cost ways to save energy
- efficient heating systems
- low energy lighting
- local and national grants and discount schemes
- understanding bills
- renewable energy technologies

A **winter warmth check** is also available for residents over 60 or with a heart or respiratory condition or on a low income with a child under the age of 5.

# ISLINGTON LAW CENTRE



38 Devonia Road N1 8UY 8JH

(S) Provides specialist help

**Tel:** 020 7288 7630

**E-mail:** info@islingtonlaw.org.uk **Website:** www.islingtonlaw.org.uk

**Opening Hours:** Monday to Friday 9.30am-1pm and 2pm-5pm,

Consumer advice appointments are available on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings between 7 and 9pm at the Law Centre office at 38 Devonia Road N1 8JH. The service is aimed at people on low incomes who need advice on a problem that would normally come within the small claims court limit. The advice sessions are run by volunteer solicitors under the supervision of Law Centre staff. Clients need to book appointments in advance and can do so by telephoning 020 7288 7630 between 7 and 9pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

#### TRADING STANDARDS



#### www.tradingstandards.uk/advice/

The Consumer Codes Approval Scheme has members who are committed to proving a fair service to their customers, including a dispute resolution service should there be a complaint. You can find an approved member on this site. When things go wrong with service or products not purchased through a trusted trader scheme.

You can use the site to find your nearest Trading Standards office, (for Islington this is based at the CAB office at 222 Upper Street.

Unfortunately they cannot help with your individual complaints - that's the job of Citizens Advice Consumer Advice line who pass your complaints to the appropriate local authority trading standards service.

To report a complaint call the helpline on 03454 04 05 06\*

Or you can report your complaint online at <a href="https://www.adviceguide.org.uk">www.adviceguide.org.uk</a>

Trading Standards can provide you with some advice on your rights and how to avoid fake goods and rogue traders in the UK, **shop safely across European borders** and online.

#### **ACTION FRAUD**

To report a fraud contact www. **Action Fraud UK**. Or call 0300 123 2040 (textphone 0300 123 2050).



They provide a central point of contact for information about fraud and financially motivated internet crime.

#### WHICH



www.which.co.uk/consumerrights

## **Debt**

#### ISLINGTON DEBT COALITION

Islington Debt Coalition has published a helpful directory of debt services in the borough that can be

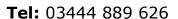


downloaded from the Islington Council website here:

http://www.islington.gov.uk/advice/Pages/default.aspx

# CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU (CAB) ISLINGTON

, 222 Upper Street London N1 1XR



**Website:** www.cabislington.org.uk

**Telephone** advice Mondays to Fridays 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 4pm,

The CAB supports residents of the London Borough of Islington to resolve their debt, benefits, housing, employment, consumer and other problems. Their website holds useful information on issues such as debt, employment, and welfare benefits. Please note that you need an appointment to see an advisor.

#### **CAMDEN**

Tel: 0300 330 0646

Email: fif@camdencabservice.org.uk

**Fax:** 020 7554 3598 **Text:** 07948 447 926

Website: www.camdencabservice.org.uk ,

#### **Face to Face Disability and Debt Advice**

The Financial Inclusion Fund Disability Project offers debt advice at Camden Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) to people who:

- Live in Greater London (any London Borough)
- Are blind, deaf, have learning disabilities or are caring for a disabled child
- Have debt/financial problems



If you are an agency and have clients who could benefit from this specialised service, they can arrange to see them at your premises, set up a regular advice session at your premises, or clients can be referred to them and they will make home visits if necessary.

#### **Islington GP's Surgeries**

Camden CAB deliver an advice service to Islington residents registered with local GP Surgeries.

We support people who are either at risk of losing their employment because of ill-health or who are unemployed and considering work options.

We can help to maximise your income by checking that you are claiming all the benefits you are entitled to.

We offer advice on returning to work and the effects it may have one your benefits.

We can help you manage debt

We can help with benefit claims, with appealing a negative benefit decision We can see anyone registered at a GP surgery in Islington.

The CAB team working on the project sees patients by appointment at the designated GP surgeries. Please speak to a receptionist at any of the following surgeries and ask to make an appointment to see us.

4 Naoroji Street, WC1X 0GD, 020 7837 2020 Amwell Practice\*, Archway Practice\*, 652 Holloway Road, N19 3NU, 020 7272 0111 **Elizabeth Avenue Practice**. 2 Elizabeth Avenue, N1 3BS, 020 7226 6363 Goodinge Medical Centre\*Goodinge Close, North Road, N7 9EW, 020 7619 6670 Hanley Medical Centre\*, 51 Hanley Road, N4 3DU, 020 7527 1500 Holloway Road Medical Centre\*, 140 Holloway Road, N7 8DD,020 7607 8259 Killick Street Health Centre, 75 Killick Street, N1 9RH, 020 7833 9939 Ritchie Street Surgery, 34 Ritchie Street, N1 0DG, 020 7837 1663 River Place Practice\*, Essex Road, N1 2DE, 020 3316 8444 161/2 St. Peter's Street, N1 8JG, St Peters Street, 0870 4280 5888 \*These surgeries will see non-registered patients.

#### ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE (RCJ)

The RCJ CAB can provide specialist debt advice. Appointments must be booked through their appointment line between 10am and 1pm Monday-Friday on 0844 856 3534.

Website: www.rcjadvice.org.uk

#### ISLINGTON LAW CENTRE

38 Devonia Road, N1 8JH **Telephone:** 020 7288 7630 **Email:** info@islingtonlaw.org.uk **Website:** www.islingtonlaw.org.uk,

specialist help



(S) Provides

The Law Centre has some debt service on site or a referral can be made to one of the Outreach services listed below.

#### INDEPENDENT ADVICE PROJECT

The Independent Advice Project is funded by Islington Council (and formerly by Homes for Islington) to provide residents of Council properties with free access within their local community to independent, expert advice on a range of housing and money problems.

Islington Law Centre is independent of Islington Council and Partners for Improvement in Islington and all advice is impartial and confidential.

#### Who can use the service?

Both tenants and leaseholders of Islington Council can use the service regardless of whether their home is managed by Islington Council or Partners for Improvement in Islington. Former tenants of Islington Council who still owe money to Homes for Islington or Partners for Improvement in Islington can also access the service.

#### Will the advice provided help me?

Since the project started it has helped hundreds of residents resolve outstanding issues and improve their financial positions.

#### **Information about appointments**

- If you need an interpreter or signer to be present during your appointment or if you need other assistance please let the Area Housing Office know and they will make appropriate arrangements in time for your appointment.
- As many residents use this service you may have to wait a few weeks for your appointment. LBI will call or send you a mobile text to remind you about your appointment a couple of days before you meet the advisor so please give us a contact number when you book your appointment.
- An appointment with an advisor will last 30 minutes.
- Please do not forget to bring with you any letters or other information about your problem that might assist the advisor.
- If you will not be able to make it to your appointment please telephone the area office to let them know as soon as possible. By doing this they can arrange for someone else to be seen in your place and arrange another appointment for you if you still wish to see an advisor.

#### THREE OUTREACH ADVICE PROJECTS

The Law Centre provides an outreach service providing debt, welfare benefits and housing advice to 3 areas each week. Appointments are made by contacting HOYD or ILC. Currently there is approximately a 2 month wait.

#### Essex Road Advice Project Finsbury Park Advice Project South Islington Advice Project

Islington Law Centre provides a telephone advice service on contested debt, credit arrangements, Debt Relief Orders, bankruptcy and fuel debt. It also undertakes casework. Appointments can be made by ringing the telephone advice line listed above. You cannot get face to face advice without an appointment. However, if you need to see someone an appointment will be made for you, via the telephone system and the Law Centre may be able to take on your case.

#### **LONDON CAPITAL CREDIT UNION**

Jeremy Hopgood Rooms, Caxton House, 129 St John's Way, N19 3RQ

London Capital Credit Union the savings & loans co-operative

Tel: 020 7561 1786

**Email:** info@credit-union.coop

**Website:** www.credit-union.coop (G) Provides general help and a

potential solution

**Opening hours:** Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri; 9.30am-5pm. (Closed Thurs)

#### Face to Face Support and Information on Money Matters

The credit union encourages saving rather than borrowing but also provides low cost loans at times of need. It specializes in transferring high interest debts to reduce interest payments and increasing the disposable income of the borrower. To access the services clients must:

- Live or work in Islington or the City of London
- Be willing to join the credit union and commit to saving, however little.

The credit union has a small friendly staff and volunteer team and capacity is limited. Appointments are advisable but not required. The service is not suitable for clients with problem high value debts.

#### ISLINGTON INCOME MAXIMISATION SERVICE

338-346 Goswell Road, EC1V 7LQ

**Telephone:** 0800 731 8081

(free phone Monday-Friday 9.30am-4.30 pm)

**Email:** benefitcheck@islington.gov.uk

benefits



(S) Provides specialist help on

The Income Maximisation Service helps people claim their full entitlement to benefits and support them with benefit advice when considering education, training and employment options.

#### **ISLINGTON PEOPLE'S RIGHTS**

6-9 Manor Gardens, N7 6LA

**Tel: 0207 561 3685** (advice line)

**Email:** info@ipradvice.org.uk **Website:** www.ipradvice.org.uk,

islington people's rights

(S) Provides specialist help

#### **Advice Line**

The Advice Line is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays 2-4pm on 020 7561 3685. Appointments are booked through the Advice Line and take place at the Manor Gardens Centre in Holloway, or St Luke's Community Centre in EC1. Most sessions are weekly, booked up to 2 weeks in advance.

#### Mental Health Services - appointment via centre

North Rehabilitation and Recovery Team

1 Lowther Road, London, N7 8US

South Rehabilitation and Recovery Team

11 Southwood Smith Street, London, N1 OYL

Complex Depression, Anxiety and Trauma, (CDAT) Team

St Pancras Hospital, St Pancras Way, NW1 OPE

Islington Crisis Resolution Team

Highgate Mental Health Centre, Dartmouth Park Hill, N19 5NX iCope

10 Manor Gardens, London N7 6JS

Carer Services – appointment via Carers Hub Islington Carers Hub, c/o Age UK Islington, 6-9 Manor Gardens, N7 6LA

## **Drug and Alcohol Services and Probation Services – appointment via centre**

Cranstoun Drug Services, 28b King Henry's Walk, N1 4PB

Islington Drug and Alcohol Specialist Services (IDASS), 592 Holloway Road, N7 6LB

Probation Office, 401 St John Street, EC1V 4RW

IPR provides debt advice, 'second tier' welfare rights advice and advocacy at its office in Manor Gardens on Monday mornings and all day Thursdays. Appointments can be made through its advice line on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays 2pm-4pm. This service is not for form filling or the lodging of initial claims but for more complex cases.

#### **DEBT SUPPORT TRUST**



Tel; 0800 085 0226

**Website:** http://www.debtsupporttrust.org.uk/

A useful website which holds information about debt advice and welfare benefits nationally.

#### **MARY WARD LEGAL CENTRE**



10 Great Turnstile, WC1V

Tel: new clients **020 7831 7079**existing clients **020 7269 5480** 

Opening times (phone); Mon-Fri 10am-1pm, 2pm-5pm. Closed on Wed.

Website: www.marywardlegal.org.uk S) Provides specialist help

Opening times (visits)

Mon-Fri 9.30am-1pm, 2pm-5.30pm.

Debt drop-in Fri 10am-12.30pm / Debt line 020 7269 0292, Mon-Thu 10am-1pm.

Housing drop-in Thu 10am-12noon

Welfare Benefits drop-in Tue 10am-12noon (for people eligible for free legal advice).

Mary Ward Legal Centre provides free legal advice to people throughout London who are

living on low incomes and they offer a full range of support and assistance with welfare

benefits matters

#### **TOYNBEE HALL**



The Community Centre, Old Castle Street, E1 7NT

Email; advice@toynbeehall.org.uk

**Tel: 020 7392 2953**, Monday - Friday, 9am to 5pm to book an appointment Daily appointments are available between the hours of 10 - 5pm. *There is currently a waiting time of approximately 8 days for an appointment. There are also appointments available for Thursday evenings.* 

Our debt advice service is a free, confidential service that provides face-to-face debt advice to anyone concerned about debt or money problems. Get in touch by phone, in person or online and book an appointment.

We can help with; Pay-day loans, Credit or store cards, Council tax arrears, Catalogue or hire purchase debt, Overdrafts, Court fines, Rent or mortgage arrears, Bankruptcy, Utility debt.

#### **NATIONAL DEBTLINE**

**Tel:** 0808 808 4000 Call us for free debt advice

(Monday to Friday 9am - 8pm, Saturday 9.30am - 1pm)

Website: www.nationaldebtline.org (S) Provides

specialist help



This service is part of the Money Advice Trust. It provides telephone advice only. Its website provides detailed information on how to manage debts and includes material that can be downloaded such as sample letters to send to creditors and budgeting sheets.

**To get advice now;** Use **My Money Steps** to get free online debt help

## **Education**

# CENTRE 404 FAMILY SUPPORT



Centre 404 Open Access, Northern Health Centre 580 Holloway Road, N7 6LB

**Tel**: 020 7607 8762 generalist help

(G) provide

Website; family@centre404.org.uk Open Monday - Thursday 9:30 - 12pm

Advice and support for parents of children with special educational needs and disabilities.

#### ELFRIDA RATHBONE ADVOCACY PROJECT

7 Dowdney Close, Bartholomew Road, NW5 2BP

**Tel:** 020 7424 1601/1628

**Fax:** 020 7424 1605, *(S)* Provides specialist

help:

Advice and support for parents with children who have special educational needs Please call and speak to someone for pre-book appointment. There are special projects for health advocacy, and for SEN advocacy for newly arrived families. Office opens Monday to Friday 9am -5pm

#### **ADVISORY CENTRE FOR EDUCATION (ACE-ED)**

Advisory Centre for Education (ACE-ED) 36 Nicholay Road, N19 3EZ

**Website:** ace-ed.org.uk, **(S)** Provides specialist

help

Email: enquiries@ace-ed.org.uk

**Telephone Advice Line**: 0300 0115 142

(Monday to Wednesday 10am-1pm term time only)



ACE provides free independent advice and information for parents and carers in England and Wales on a range of state education and schooling issues, particularly where there are problems, including:

- Exclusions
- Bullying
- Admissions
- Special Educational Needs
- Attendance

PLEASE NOTE: We are a small organisation and rely on volunteers to help us provide advice. Sometimes we may not be able to open the adviceline as advertised. If you hear a closed message please contact one of the organisations listed below.

Please do not leave a message as unfortunately we will not be able to call you back.

## **Employment**

#### ACAS HELPLINE

acas

Euston Tower, 286 Euston Rd, NW1 3DP help

(S) provides specialist

Website: www.acas.org.uk,

**(G)** provides generalist

help

ACAS stands for Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service. They aim to improve organisations and working life through better employment relations. They help with employment issues including flexible work, sick pay, maternity leave, paternity, by supplying up-to-date information, independent advice and high quality training, working with employers and employees to solve problems and improve performance.

Use `Helpline Online' to ask a question.

You can also call an Acas helpline adviser on 0300 123 1100 (8am-8pm Monday to Friday and 9am-1pm Saturday).

Customers with a hearing or speech impairment may prefer to contact us using the Text Relay service **by dialling** 18001 0300 123 1100.

#### **UNIVERSITY OF LAW**

#### **EMPLOYMENT TELEPHONE ADVICE**

UOLETA is a pro bono clinic based at the College of Law, Bloomsbury and gives **employment law advice to employees or former employees** (not employers).

#### **Employment and family telephone advice**

If you have an employment or family enquiry that can be answered over the telephone, then after our initial assessment we will refer you to our evening service to be advised by a volunteer employment or family lawyer, assisted by our students, in a FREE telephone call. Please call **01483 216528** or e-mail **ssadvice.centre@law.ac.uk** 

# CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU (CAB) ISLINGTON

222 Upper Street, N1 1XR

Website: www.cabislington.org.uk ,

Telephone: 03444 889 626

Monday to Friday 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 4pm

They support residents of the London Borough of Islington to resolve their debt, benefits, housing, legal, discrimination, employment, immigration, consumer and other problems. Their website holds useful information on issues such as debt, employment, and welfare benefits. Please note that you will need to make an appointment to see an advisor.

#### **ISLINGTON LAW CENTRE**

38 Devonia Road, N1 8JH **Telephone:** 020 7288 7630 **Email:** info@islingtonlaw.org.uk

www.islingtonlaw.org.uk,

(S) Provides specialist help
Website:

Islington Law Centre is able to offer a casework service to Islington residents. Help can be provided on a range of employment related matters including:-

- Minimum wage and working hours
- Maternity and parental rights
- Discrimination and harassment at work
- Disciplinary and grievance procedures
- Changes to terms and conditions
- TUPE
- Unfair dismissal
- Redundancy.

Please contact our reception team in order to request an appointment.

#### MARY WARD LEGAL CENTRE



10 Great Turnstile, WC1V 7JU help

. (S) Provides specialist

Tel: new clients 020 7831 7079 existing clients 020 7269 5480

Opening times (phone) Mon-Fri 10am-1pm, 2pm-5pm. Closed on Wed.

Website: www.marywardlegal.org.uk

Opening times (visits)

Mon-Fri 9.30am-1pm, 2pm-5.30pm.

Debt drop-in Fri 10am-12.30pm, Debt line 020 7269 0292, Mon-Thu

10am-1pm.

Housing drop-in Thu 10am-12noon

Welfare Benefits drop-in Tue 10am-12noon (for people eligible for free legal advice).

Mary Ward Legal Centre provides free legal advice to people throughout London who are

living on low incomes and they offer a full range of support and assistance with welfare

benefits matters

## **Housing**

#### **ISLINGTON LAW CENTRE**

38 Devonia Road, N1 8JH **Telephone:** 020 7288 7630 **Email:** info@islingtonlaw.org.uk **Website:** www.islingtonlaw.org.uk,

specialist help



(S) Provides

Help can be provided with a range of issues including:

- Overcrowding and allocations
- Disrepair
- Rental arrears
- Possession proceedings
- Evictions
- Homelessness
- Referrals for under 21's

Primary access to the Law Centre's housing services is via one of our outreach projects. They are listed below.

#### INDEPENDENT ADVICE PROJECT

The Independent Advice Project is funded by Islington Council (and formerly by Homes for Islington) to provide residents of Council properties with free access within their local community to independent, expert advice on a range of housing and money problems.

Islington Law Centre is independent of Islington Council and Partners for Improvement in Islington and all advice is impartial and confidential. Advice sessions cover Issues such as:

- Disrepair problems
- Possession proceedings
- Homelessness
- Transfer and bidding issues
- Rent arrears and debt problems
- Housing Benefit and council tax benefit
- Welfare benefit entitlements, including pension credits and disability leaving allowance
- How to maximize your income

#### Who can use the service?

Both tenants and leaseholders of Islington Council can use the service regardless of whether their home is managed by Islington Council or Partners

for Improvement in Islington. Former tenants of Islington Council who still owe money to Homes for Islington or Partners for Improvement in Islington can also access the service.

#### Will the advice provided help me?

Since the project started it has helped hundreds of residents resolve outstanding issues and improve their financial positions.

#### **Information about appointments**

- If you need an interpreter or signer to be present during your appointment or if you need other assistance please let the Area Housing Office know and they will make appropriate arrangements in time for your appointment.
- Appointments take place as follows:
  - Upper Street: Tuesdays 1pm 4pm
  - Holland Walk: Wednesdays 1pm 4pm
  - Old Street: Thursdays 1pm 4pm
- As many residents use this service you may have to wait a few weeks for your appointment. LBI will call or send you a mobile text to remind you about your appointment a couple of days before you meet the advisor so please give us a contact number when you book your appointment.
- An appointment with an advisor will last 30 minutes.
- Please do not forget to bring with you any letters or other information about your problem that might assist the advisor.
- If you will not be able to make it to your appointment please telephone the area office to let them know as soon as possible. By doing this they can arrange for someone else to be seen in your place and arrange another appointment for you if you still wish to see an advisor.

#### How can I make an appointment?

Appointments to see an advisor must be booked through one of London Borough of Islington's local area housing offices. The area housing office telephone numbers are:

**Upper Street;** Tel: 020 7527 5300 **Holland Walk**; Tel: 020 7527 7452 **Old Street**; Tel: 020 752**7 6218** 

Tenants of Islington Council can use the service regardless of whether their home is managed by Islington Council or Partners for Improvement in Islington. Former tenants of Islington Council who still owe money to PFI can also access the service.

#### THREE OUTREACH ADVICE PROJECTS

The Law Centre provides an outreach service providing debt, welfare benefits and housing advice to 3 areas each week. Appointments are made by contacting HOYD or ILC. Currently there is approximately a 2 month wait.

#### **Essex Road Advice Project**

Housing Advice at Packington Children's Centre, 32 Popham Road, N1 8SJ Wednesday 10 am -1 pm

#### **Finsbury Park Advice Project**

Housing Advice at Community Language Support Services (CLSS) St Melitus Church N4 Monday 1 - 4 pm.

#### **South Islington Advice Project**

Housing Advice at Somali Speakers Association Tuesday 12 noon – 3 pm

## **Islington Law Centre Youth Homelessness Project STREETLEGAL**

Contact detail: Islington Law Centre, 38 Devonia Road, London, N1 8JH

**Telephone:** 020 7288 7630

This project is funded by BBC Children in Need and other funders and the project covers Enfield and Barnet in addition to serving clients from Camden and Haringey as well as Islington.

Our caseworkers see clients aged between 16-24 yrs and have particular expertise in working with clients aged 16 to 18 who are facing possession proceedings, eviction or homelessness and young asylum seekers who are having problem with housing issues. The service works with clients who are in receipt of support from Social Services as well as those who have previously been looked after by the local authority, and those without other support. Clients can be referred by youth agencies or can self-refer. We can also provide advocacy support to the client.

#### MARY WARD LEGAL CENTRE

10 Great Turnstile, WC1V 7JU

Tel: new clients 020 7831 7079 existing clients 020 7269

5480

Opening times (phone); Mon-Fri 10am-1pm, 2pm-5pm. Closed on Wed.

Website: www.marywardlegal.org.uk S) Provides specialist help

Opening times (visits)

Mon-Fri 9.30am-1pm, 2pm-5.30pm.

Debt drop-in Fri 10am-12.30pm, Debt line 020 7269 0292, M-Th 10am-1pm.

Housing drop-in Thu 10am-12noon

Welfare Benefits drop-in Tue 10am-12noon (for people eligible for free legal advice).

Mary Ward Legal Centre provides free legal advice to people throughout London who are

living on low incomes and they offer a full range of support and assistance with

benefits matters



#### **BPP LEGAL ADVICE CLINIC (BLAC)**

BPP Law School, 68-70 Red Lion Street, Holborn, WC1R 4NY

**Tel:** 020 7430 5668 Email: blac@bpp.com

**(S)** Provides specialist

help

#### Housing and Family Matters. The service is entirely free;

At your appointment you will meet with two student advisors who will interview you. Then the student advisers will research your matter, supervised by qualified legal professionals, and then send you a letter giving legal advice within two weeks. The BLAC Housing Clinic is here to assist if you need legal advice regarding the following issues:

- Leaseholder disputes concerning service charges, administration charges and major works charges.
- Various landlord and tenant issues including rent deposit disputes and management company issues.
- Preparation for hearings at the Residential Property Tribunal Service.
- Representation of clients before the Residential Property Tribunal and the Rent Assessment Committee.

#### **HOUSING AID CENTRE**



Housing Aid Centre, 222 Upper Street, N1 1XR

Email: advice.housing@islington.gov.uk,

This is a service provided by Islington Council which offers assessment of entitlement to housing for people who are homeless or threatened with homelessness. Housing provided for people considered in priority need of housing. Tenancy relations service, general housing advice and advice and assistance for single and non-priority homeless people. Rent deposit scheme.

It is also where the Local Housing Allowance Team are based, who work with people affected by the changes to benefits (eg the cap on the amount that can be claimed, the new rules for people under 35 etc). They can, for example, help tenants' negotiate with their landlords.

#### **How to contact**

**D**rop-in, phone or contact for appointment.

Opening times: Monday to Friday 9 am to 5 pm in person,

8 am to 6 pm by telephone (8.30 am Wednesdays).

For out of hour emergencies, contact the Town Hall (020 7527 6378)

# THE HOXTON TRUST LEGAL ADVICE SERVICE

156 Hoxton Street, Hoxton, N1 6SH

Telephone: 020 7613 4174 (Monday to Friday 9am-

Fax: 020 7613 1213

**Drop in:** Monday and Thursday 10.30am-12.30pm

**Email: las@hoxtontrust.org** or admin@hostontrust.org

The Hoxton Trust Legal Advice Service provides free, independent, impartial and confidential advice in all areas of social welfare, including general and specialist casework, benefits, debt, housing, employment, consumer and education issues.

As a legal advice service, they have developed particular expertise in housing benefits and housing possession cases representing clients in court to obtain adjournments or suspended possession orders.

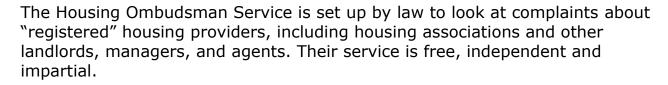
# HOUSING OMBUDSMAN SERVICE

81 Aldwych, WC2B 4HN

**Tel:** 0300 111 3000, **Fax:** 020 7831 1942 **Email:** info@housing-ombudsman.org.uk ,

**Opening Hours:** Monday to Friday 9.15 - 5.15pm

(S) provides specialist advice



If you think your landlord has provided a poor service or managed your home badly, they can look at your complaint. They can also advise landlords on how to run an effective complaints procedure. Please contact them if you want advice, a complaints form or more information about the Service, or to find out whether your landlord is registered with them.

#### THE LEASEHOLD ADVISORY SERVICE

Fleetbank House, 2-6 Salisbury Square, London, EC4Y 8JX

**Tel:** 020 7382 2500

Website: www.lease-advice.org Email: info@lease-advice.org,

Leasehold advisers are available for Telephone advice from 9:00am to 5:00pm Monday to Friday.

LEASE, The Leasehold Advisory Service, is an Executive Non-Departmental Public Body (ENDPB) funded by Government to provide free legal advice to leaseholders, landlords, professional advisers, managers and others on the law affecting residential leasehold and common-hold.

They can provide advice by telephone, by letter or email, or in person at the office; they can arrange seminars and group meetings where large numbers of leaseholders want to discuss a joint issue. They publish a wide range of free advice notes.

LEASE provides FREE initial advice to members of the public on residential long leasehold and park homes law. We can help if your enquiry is about a flat or leasehold house with a lease longer than 21 years or **park homes**. LEASE is not able to advise on:



THE LEASEHOLD

ADVISORY SERVICE

- assured or assured shorthold tenancies (eg, if rent is paid weekly or monthly)
- commercial leases (a shop or other business)

#### SHELTER

Shelter

88 Old Street, EC1V 9HU specialist help

(S) Provides

Free Housing Advice National Helpline; 0808 800 4444 or 020 7505 2000 Website: http://england.shelter.org.uk/,

Shelter is a charity that works to alleviate the distress caused by homelessness and bad housing.

They do this by giving advice, information and advocacy to people in housing need, Shelter cannot house you, but they can give confidential help to people with <u>all kinds of housing problems</u>. The website also holds some very useful information leaflets.

# THE CONNECTION AT ST MARTIN IN THE FIELD'S



helping homeless people seven days a week

The Connection at St Martin's 12 Adelaide Street , WC2N 4HW

Website: http://www.connection-at-stmartins.org.uk/what-we-do/housing-and-

advice.htm

Telephone: 020 7766 5544

CSTM offers specialist advice, support and advocacy to recently homeless people across London, and can assist with emergency accommodation.

## **Immigration and Asylum**

#### **ISLINGTON LAW CENTRE**

Islington Law Centre

38 Devonia Road N1 8JH

Tel: 020 7288 7630

**Email:** info@islingtonlaw.org.uk (S) Provides specialist help

Website: www.islingtonlaw.org.uk,

The Law Centre provides some advice, assistance and representation in immigration and asylum matters, including work for unaccompanied minors. Please call the main enquiries line.

#### **ASYLUM AID**

Club Union House,

253-254 Upper Street, N1 1RY

**Telephone advice line:** 0207 354 9264 Mon – Fr, 10 – 12pm

Asylum Aid offers free legal advice and representation. The best way to reach their services is through their advice line. They do not have drop-in services.

Their advice line offers free one-off advice to individual asylum-seekers and organisations working with them. Their capacity is limited.



# REFUGEE COUNCIL, BRIXTON OFFICE (HEAD OFFICE) REFUGEE COUNCIL ONLINE

Refugee Council, 240/250 Ferndale Road, SW9 8BB

Website: www.refugeecouncil.org.uk

#### I am a refugee

The Refugee Council works with refugees to help them build lives in the UK. If you have recently been granted leave to remain or if you are returning to us for help, we offer advice on the following:

- · Advice for people who have recently been granted refugee status
- · Advice and support for refugees on getting into training for employment
- Advice and help on securing private rented accommodation
- Access to Therapeutic support

Also search our **services directory** to find services in your local area including ESOL classes, help with meeting new people and support groups.

#### **Seeking Asylum**

The Refugee Council offers practical support to people who are seeking asylum. If you are seeking asylum and are having difficulties accessing support or protection we offer:

- **destitution services** (hardship support to people seeking asylum at each of its offices. In London we offer a destitution service where people can access to food, shower and laundry facilities and referral to legal advice services who can support you with your claim for protection and access to support.)
- access to therapeutic services
- access to legal and asylum support services.

#### **Important notices:**

- 1. Refugee Council can advise on rights and entitlements and the meaning of laws. We cannot provide legal advice or legal representation. If we cannot help, we will provide a list of qualified legal representatives.
- 2. Although we can give immigration advice, we cannot change decisions made by the Home Office about someone's case.
- 3. Refugee Council has received exemption from the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner to provide immigration advice and holds the Quality Mark for our advice work.

#### **HACKNEY MIGRANT CENTRE**

St. Mary's New Church Rooms,
Spensley Walk (off Stoke Newington Church Street)
London N16 9ES



**Tel:** 07504 332 706

Email: info@hackneymigrantcentre.org.uk

PLEASE NOTE, OUR DROP-IN IS OVERSUBSCRIBED SO WE ARE ASKING AGENCIES NOT TO SIGNPOST ANYONE TO US AT THE MOMENT AS WE ARE HAVING TO TURN LOTS OF PEOPLE AWAY EVERY WEEK.

Hackney Migrant Centre is a charity that runs a weekly drop-in for asylum seekers, refugees and migrants. During the drop-in we offer free advice on immigration and housing and benefit problems. We also have a health advocate that can help with access to NHS services and GP registration.

The drop-in is held every Wednesday ONLY, 11-4pm, registration from 10am. Please be aware that demand is very high on our service and we cannot guarantee that we will be able to assist everyone who approaches us.

We continue to only see the first 40 visitors to our service and we then triage the first 40 visitors between 11-12.30pm (if you come after time, there is a strong chance we will not be able to assist you), who will then be booked in for afternoon advice slots after lunch, between 1.00-4.00pm. Each week we are seeing more people than our advisers can deal with so we might not be able to offer everyone an advice slot with an adviser. Also, we are mainly providing initial advice. If your immigration case does not qualify for legal aid, we might not be able to help you find a pro bono representative, as we have a waiting list of cases for whom we cannot find lawyers. We can give you lists of private solicitors who we recommend.

# HARINGEY MIGRANT SUPPORT CENTRE

St John Vianney Church Hall, 386 West Green Road, N15 3QL

**Tel:** 07544 078 332

Website: www.haringeymsc.org

At the Haringey Migrant Support Centre we provide:

- Advice on immigration and welfare issues
- Health advice and help in accessing NHS services

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- A hot meal
- A space to relax and socialise

The Centre is open every Monday from 13:00-16:00 and visitors can arrive from noon to register. Please note that we are extremely busy these days so be prepared for long waiting times. We can normally see up to 40 visitors and sometimes have to turn people away. If you are coming to seek advice on immigration, housing or welfare, please bring all relevant documents.

# UK LESBIAN AND GAY IMMIGRATION GROUP



UKLGIG provides support to LGBTQ asylum seekers in the UK, particularly through their asylum legal meetings and helpline.

Address: 32-36 Loman Street, Southwark, London SE1 0EH

Asylum Support Tel: 020 7922 7811

Admin Tel: 020 7922 7812

Helpline: 020 7922 7811 - Monday to Friday, during office hours

Website: www.uklgig.org.uk

#### Asylum Support Meetings

The meetings may be a vital first point of contact for those who have not yet made an asylum application, who have a real fear of persecution if they return home. We will explore issues such as what an asylum claim based on sexuality involves, how to access good quality representation, what constitutes a fresh claim etc.

UKLGIG volunteer lawyers will begin with presentations on key themes and there will be an open discussion, providing an invaluable opportunity for information sharing and mutual support.

Thu Feb 4, 2016, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Tue Mar 1, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Thu Apr 7, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Tue May 3, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Thu Jun 2, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

#### Partnership Meetings

The meetings start with a talk, usually by two solicitors, who will cover the main issues arising out the latest immigration rules affecting partners. They will answer general questions within the meeting. Afterwards you can have an informal one to one discussion with one of the solicitors, but you may have to be patient – those who arrive at the meeting first will also be first on the

solicitors list. To give everyone a chance, individual sessions are for maximum 10 mins.

We do urge you to read our comprehensive **summary of the current immigration rules** before coming to the meeting.

Those who attend the partnership meetings will understand that, with the continually increasing costs associated with **asylum seekers support work**, which is now our primary focus, we cannot afford to run these meetings at a loss. The solicitors (who normally charge £200 or more per hour) donate their Saturday afternoons once a month. You can play your part in the vital asylum work (and come to as many partnership meetings as you need) by joining as a member or friend of the group (min £20). There will be a suggested donation of £10 for non-members (couples or individuals) towards the costs of our vital asylum support work.

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Sat Feb 20, 1 – 4pm
Sat Mar 19, 1 – 4pm
Sat Apr 16, 1 – 4pm
Sat May 21, 1 – 4pm
Sat Jun 18, 1 – 4pm
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We can **ONLY** respond to your asylum queries <u>if you are already in the UK</u>.

## **Welfare Rights**

# CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU ISLINGTON



222 Upper Street London N1 1XR

Tel: 0344 889 626

Website: www.cabislington.org.uk

**Telephone** advice Mondays to Fridays 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 4pm

They support residents of the London Borough of Islington to resolve their debt, benefits, housing, legal, discrimination, employment, immigration, consumer and other problems. Their website holds useful information on issues such as debt, employment, and welfare benefits. Please note that you will need to make an appointment to see an advisor.

#### **CAMDEN**

Tel: 0300 330 0646

Email: fif@camdencabservice.org.uk

**Fax:** 020 7554 3598 **Text:** 07948 447 926

Website: www.camdencabservice.org.uk ,

## citizens advice bureau

#### **Islington GP's Surgeries**

Camden CAB deliver an advice service to Islington residents registered with local GP Surgeries.

We support people who are either at risk of losing their employment because of ill-health or who are unemployed and considering work options.

We can help to maximise your income by checking that you are claiming all the benefits you are entitled to.

We offer advice on returning to work and the effects it may have one your benefits.

We can help you manage debt

We can help with benefit claims, with appealing a negative benefit decision. We can see anyone registered at a GP surgery in Islington.

The CAB team working on the project sees patients by appointment at the designated GP surgeries. Please speak to a receptionist at any of the following surgeries and ask to make an appointment to see us.

Amwell Practice*,	4 Naoroji Street, WC1X 0G	D, 020 7837 2020	
Archway Practice*, 652	2 Holloway Road, N19 3NU,	020 7272 0111	
Elizabeth Avenue Practice,	2 Elizabeth Avenue, N1 3B	S, 020 7226 6363	
Goodinge Medical Centre*, Go	oodinge Close, North Road, N7	9EW020 7619 667	'0
Hanley Medical Centre*,	51 Hanley Road, N4	3DU,	020 7
Holloway Road Medical Centre*, 140 Holloway Road, N7 8DD,		020 7	
Killick Street Health Centre,	75 Killick Street, N1 9RH,		020 7
Ritchie Street Surgery,	34 Ritchie Street, N1 0DG,		020 7
River Place Practice*,	Essex Road, N1 2DE,	020 3316 8444	
St Peters Street,	161/2 St. Peter's Street, N	1 8JG,	0870
*These surgeries will see non-reg	gistered patients.		

### ISLINGTON PEOPLE'S RIGHTS

6-9 Manor Gardens, N7 6LA

**Tel:** 0207 561 3685 (advice line) **Email:** info@ipradvice.org.uk **Website:** www.ipradvice.org.uk,

help



(S) Provides specialist

#### **Advice Line**

The Advice Line is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays 2-4pm on 020 7561 3685. Appointments are booked through the Advice Line and take place at the Manor Gardens Centre in Holloway, or St Luke's Community Centre in EC1. Most sessions are weekly, booked up to 2 weeks in advance.

#### **Mental Health Services – appointment via centre**

North Rehabilitation and Recovery Team

1 Lowther Road, London, N7 8US

South Rehabilitation and Recovery Team

11 Southwood Smith Street, London, N1 OYL

Complex Depression, Anxiety and Trauma, (CDAT) Team

St Pancras Hospital, St Pancras Way, NW1 0PE

Islington Crisis Resolution Team

Highgate Mental Health Centre, Dartmouth Park Hill, N19 5NX iCope

10 Manor Gardens, London N7 6JS

### **Drug and Alcohol Services and Probation Services – appointment via centre**

Cranstoun Drug Services, 28b King Henry's Walk, N1 4PB

Islington Drug and Alcohol Specialist Services (IDASS), 592 Holloway Road, N7 6LB

Probation Office, 401 St John Street, EC1V 4RW

IPR provides debt advice, 'second tier' welfare rights advice and advocacy at its office in Manor Gardens on Monday mornings and all day Thursdays. Appointments can be made through its advice line on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays 2pm-4pm. This service is not for form filling or the lodging of initial claims but for more complex cases.

### **ISLINGTON LAW CENTRE**

38 Devonia Road, N1 8JH

**Tel:** 020 7288 7630

**Email:** info@islingtonlaw.org.uk

Website: www.islingtonlaw.org.uk, (S) Provides

specialist help



Islington Law Centre provides a range of welfare rights services including representation at Tribunal. Access is via one of the outreach sessions listed below, or for initial help clients can self-refer to the form filling clinic. Some other agencies listed in the guide refer into the welfare rights team.

### **Independent Advice Project:**

This service provides welfare rights and advocacy for Council and Partners for Islington tenants. Four advice sessions are held each week in the council offices in Lyon Street, Upper Street and Holland Walk. 24 appointments are provided in total each week. Appointments are made through the LBI housing offices or via Islington Law Centre.

### Information about appointments

- If you need an interpreter or signer to be present during your appointment or if you need other assistance please let the Area Housing Office know and they will make appropriate arrangements in time for your appointment.
- Appointments take place as follows:
  - Upper Street: Mondays and Tuesdays 1pm 4pm
  - Holland Walk: Wednesdays 1pm 4pm
  - Old Street: Thursdays 1pm 4pm
- As many residents use this service you may have to wait a few weeks for your appointment. HfI will call or send you a mobile text to remind you about your appointment a couple of days before you meet the advisor so please give us a contact number when you book your appointment.
- An appointment with an advisor will last 30 minutes.

- Please do not forget to bring with you any letters or other information about your problem that might assist the advisor.
- If you will not be able to make it to your appointment please telephone the area office to let them know as soon as possible. By doing this they can arrange for someone else to be seen in your place and arrange another appointment for you if you still wish to see an advisor.

### How can I make an appointment?

Appointments to see an advisor must be booked through one of Islington Council's local area housing offices or via ILC. The area housing office telephone numbers are:

Upper Street Tel: 020 7527 5300
 Holland Walk Tel: 020 7527 7452

• **Old Street** Tel: 020 7527 6218

### **Three Advice Projects**

The Law Centre provides an outreach service providing debt, welfare benefits and housing advice to 3 areas each week. Appointments are made by contacting ILC or HOYD:-

#### **Essex Road Advice Project**

Welfare Benefits Advice at New River Green Children's Centre, 23 Ramsey Walk, N1 2SX

Tuesday 9.30 am to 12.30 pm

### **Finsbury Park Advice Project**

Welfare Benefits Advice at Ambler Children's Centre, Blackstock Road, N4 2DR Thursday 9 am to 12 noon

### **South Islington Advice Project**

Welfare Benefits Advice at Islington Bangladesh Association, 71 Caledonian Road N1 9BT

Wednesday 10 am to 1 pm

### Advice offered by the unit includes:

We assist and advise on all aspects of welfare benefit entitlement from initial form-filling to representation at the Social Security First-Tier Tribunal and the Upper Tribunal.

We can help you with claims for:

- Income Support
- Job Seekers Allowance
- Employment and Support Allowance
- Disablility Living Allowance
- Tax credits
- · Housing and Council Tax Benefit
- Social Fund Applications

### MARY WARD LEGAL CENTRE



10 Great Turnstile WC1V 7JU

(S) Provides specialist help

Tel: new clients 020 7831 7079 existing clients 020 7269 5480

Opening times (phone) Mon-Fri 10am-1pm, 2pm-5pm. Closed on Wed.

Website: www.marywardlegal.org.uk

Opening times (visits)

Mon-Fri 9.30am-1pm, 2pm-5.30pm.

Debt drop-in Fri 10am-12.30pm, Debt line 020 7269 0292, Mon-Thu

10am-1pm.

Housing drop-in Thu 10am-12noon

Welfare Benefits drop-in Tue 10am-12noon (for people eligible for free legal advice).

Mary Ward Legal Centre provides free legal advice to people throughout London who are

living on low incomes and they offer a full range of support and assistance with welfare

benefits matters

## **Other Legal Advice**

## CORAM CHILDREN'S LEGAL CENTRE



**Child Protection Project** 

Coram Community Campus, Gregory House, 48 Mecklenburgh Square, WC1N 2QA

(S) provides specialist help

**Tel:** 0207 713 0089 **Fax:** 0207 713 0749

**Advice line: 08088 020 008** 

Migrant Children's Project Advice Line: 0207 636 8505

Email: clclondon@essex.ac.uk

Website: www.childrenslegalcentre.com,

Telephone advice and on-going support for families in breakdowns and other family issues. The Coram Children's Legal Centre provides free independent legal advice to children, parents, carers and professionals. The level of advice will vary from telephone assistance to full legal representation.

### **DISABILITY LAW SERVICE**

The Foundry, 17 Oval Way, SE11 5RR

Tel: 020 7791 9800 Minicom: 020 7791 9801 Fax: 020 7791 9802, (S) Provides specialist help The Disability Law Service

E-mail: advice@dls.org.uk
Website: www.dls.org.uk

Monday – Friday, 10 – 1pm, 2 – 5p Community Care, Employment, Disability Discrimination, Welfare Benefits, Trusts, Blue badges and others

DLS provides free advice via information, factsheets, training courses and telephone and written advice. Unfortunately DLS cannot provide advice in as many areas of law as we would prefer. Within our current funding we are able to provide telephone advice in the following areas of law; Community Care, Employment, Disability Discrimination.

## **Other Types of Support**

This section lists local agencies that can offer non-legal assistance to vulnerable clients. The agencies below are by no means the only agencies providing such help to local people, but they do cover some of the most frequent enquiries.

### **ISLINGTON CARERS HUB**

Islington Carers Hub, Manor Gardens Centre, 6 – 9 Manor Gardens, N7 6LA

Telephone: 020 7561 5517 / 0800 085 1141

Fax: 020 7281 9091

Website: www.islingtoncarershub.org Email: info@islingtoncarershub.org ,



ICC offers specialist information, advice, advocacy and support for all carers over the age of 18 in the borough of Islington. Their services include welfare benefits and housing advice, raising grants for equipment and respite, signposting to other services, support groups, events, a regular newsletter and fact pack.

ICC is an equal opportunities organisation, independent of Social Services, and woks in partnership with the statutory agencies and voluntary and community organisations in Islington to promote and provide better and more accessible services for carers.

## CENTRE 404 FAMILY SUPPORT



Centre 404 Open Access, , 404 Camden Road, N7 0SJ General Enquiries - 020 7607 8762 Carers for Adults - 020 7697 1336, Carers for Children - 020 7697 1325

family@centre404.org.uk

**G)** provide generalist help,

Advice and support for parents of children with special educational needs and disabilities, including welfare benefits and social care, as well as workshops, groups and training events. Also has a team that supports parents/carers of adults with learning disabilities.

### **FAMILY ACTION ISLINGTON**

24 Angel Gate, City Road, London, EC1V 2PT

Tel: 020 7254 6251

**Email:** islington@family-action.org.uk **Website:** www.familyaction.org.uk



Islington Children's Support Service offers support to families who have children
aged
5 – 13 years and who are facing challenges.
For example:
☐ Conflict between parents and children
☐ School attendance or exclusion
☐ Children's behaviour
☐ Adult relationship difficulties
☐ Domestic violence
☐ Bereavement
☐ Physical or mental health issues
☐ Discrimination
☐ Homelessness and low income

### **STUART LOW TRUST**

Office 7, 24-27 White Lion Street, N1 9PD

Tel: 020 7713 9304, Email: info@slt.org.uk Website: www.slt.org.uk,



The Stuart Low Trust is a <u>health promotion</u> charity based in Islington.

They run a variety of activities to help improve people's wellbeing especially those experiencing social isolation or mental distress. We welcome participants regardless of their circumstances.

### MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS



Islington Crisis Phone Line – mental health crisis service – 020 7226 9415 or 0800 345 7779

This service operates between 5:00pm and 6:00am, (operated by One Housing Group)

There is also Highbury Grove Crisis resource centre, 18 Highbury Grove, London, N5 2EA,

which offers an alternative to hospital admission by providing 24 hour access to focused emotional and social support for people in a mental health crisis. Please contact 020 7288 1051 for more information or to arrange an appointment.

### **SOLACE WOMEN'S AID**

**Tel:** 020 7619 1350 **Fax:** 020 7619 1357

Email: advice@solacewomensaid.org
Website: www.solacewomensaid.org

solace women's aid

(S) Provides specialist help

Women's Aid Advice Service offers information, advice and support about domestic and sexual violence. The services include Advice, Counselling, Drug and Alcohol Service, Solicitors, Irish Travellers Outreach and Resettlement Service, Life Skills, Refuge Accommodation, Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy Service, Floating Support

Solace Woman's Aid Advice Service is available on Freephone 08088025565 **Hours** 

Monday – Friday 10am – 4pm, + Tuesday 6 – 8pm Freephone 24hour National Domestic Violence Helpline 0808 2000 247

Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre National Freephone Helpline 0808 801 0305.

Mon 10-2, Tue 10-1, 6-8, Wed & Thur 1-5, Fri 10-2. rapecrisis@solacewomensaid.org

Calls are free from landlines and mobile phone providers such a as 3, O2, Orange, Virgin, Vodaphone and T-mobile network.

Solace also welcomes calls from deaf and hearing impaired callers using RNID Typetalk. Interpretation services are available on the advice freephone number

trough Language line which provides instant phone line interpretation in over 100 languages. Interpreters (Including British Sign Language) can be booked for face to face appointments.

### AGE UK ISLINGTON (PREVIOUSLY KNOWN AS AGE CONCERN)



6-9 Manor Gardens, , N7 6LA

**Tel:** 020 7281 6018

**Email:** gethelp@ageukislington.org.uk **Website:** www.ageuk.org.uk/islington

**(S)** provides specialist help **(G)** provides generalist help

IAC provides **help to support older people and their carers** at times when they need it most, perhaps when they are feeling down and vulnerable. Advice is provided through a range of projects including:

- Access and Inclusion: This service provides information and advice on a
  wide range of issues including welfare benefits, health and disability
  concerns, housing issues, community care and family and personal
  concerns for over-55's, or those who support them, whether carers,
  relatives and friends. Advice can be provided in English, Hindi, Urdu and
  Bengali.
- Benefits Take-Up Service: This service works in partnership with the Housing Benefits section of Islington Council. It aims to maximise the income of Islington's Older People through checking their Attendance Allowance, Pension Credit and Council Tax Benefit eligibility. Help is provided with benefit applications.
- BME (Black and Minority Ethnic) Elders Work: A mutual support drop-in group for Asian older people group at our Sotheby Mews Day Centre on Thursdays. Health, recreational, social, cultural, physical and educational activities can all be accessed as well as Advice in Hindi, Urdu and Punjabi. IAC also provide an outreach, advice and practical support service to help develop BME groups to support their older populations and link into mainstream services.

## VICTIM SUPPORT ISLINGTON



Octavia House 50 Banner Street, London,

EC1Y 8ST

**Tel:** 0845 450 3936, 0808 1689 111 **Web:** www.victimsupport.org.uk

**Email:** supportline@victimsupport.org.uk,

(S) provides specialist help

**Victim Support** is the independent national charity **for people affected by crime**. Staff and volunteers offer free and confidential information, practical help and emotional support for victims of any crime, whether or not it has been reported and regardless of when it happened.

The organisation operates via a network of affiliated local charities, the Witness Service and the **Victim Supportline (0845 30 30 900).** 

### **ISLINGTON MIND**

Archway Business Centre 19-23 Wedmore Street London N19 4RU Monday to Friday in between 9.30am-4pm



**Telephone:** 020 3301 9850

Email: admin@islingtonmind.org.uk

Organisation works to support people with mental health issues locally. The provided services include counselling, day centre, mind works, employment and training advice, job services, hospital advocacy.

### **CRISIS SKYLIGHT**

66 Commercial Street, E1 6LT Tel: 0300 636 1967

Email: enquiries @crisis.org.uk

Offers training and support to homeless people.



### **CENTREPOINT**

Website: www.centrepoint.org.uk

Central House, 25 Camperdown Street, London E1 8DZ 0845 466 3400

Offers support and assistance to young homeless people.



## ASYLUM SUPPORT APPEALS PROJECT



ASAP, Ground Floor, Anchorage House, 2 Clove Crescent, East India Dock, E14

2BE

Tel: 020 3716 0284

Advice Line: 020 3716 0283(Mon, Wed, Fri 2-4pm)

www.asaproject.org.uk

ASAP provides advice to individuals and organisations about welfare support for asylum seekers

### REFUGEE ACTION LONDON

Victoria Charity Centre, 11 Belgrave Road, London, SW1V 1RB

Tel: 020 7952 1511



Assists asylum seekers and migrants. The Choices scheme specifically helps asylum seekers who are considering voluntary return to their country of rigin.

Asylum advice and asylum support advice will be provided by **Asylumylum** You can contact them on **0808 8000 630**. *Monday 10 - 12, 2 - 4pm* 

Asylum Help provides confidential and impartial advice and guidance to adult asylum seekers and their dependants throughout the UK in a language they understand.

Please note that we are able to give advice on rights and entitlements but we are not able to provide legal advice or legal representation. If we cannot help, we will provide you with a list of qualified legal representatives.

## BAIL FOR IMMIGRATION DETAINEES



Address: 1b Finsbury Park Road, N4 2LA

Tel; 020 7456 9750 (please call between 10 a.m.to 12 p.m, Mon to Thurs)

enquiries@biduk.org www.biduk.org

BiD provides information and advice to asylum seekers and migrants in immigration detention.

### **RED CROSS**

Aztec Row, 5 Berners Road,

Angel, N1 0PW

Telephone: 020 7704 5670

Website: www.redcross.org.uk Email: londonru@redcross.org.uk Mon, Tues, Thurs 10.30 – 4pm



The British Red Cross provides support and assistance to asylum seekers and refugees in the UK, including orientation, provision of supplies for destitute asylum seekers, support for young people and women, and family reunion and resettlement.

## Voluntary **Action** Islington

200a Pentonville Road London N1 9JP

Tel: 020 7832 5800 Fax: 02078325835

Email: information@vai.org.uk or

volunteer@vai.org.uk

Website: www.vai.org.uk

Voluntary Action Islington has contact with a wide range of groups in the borough and may be able to help you identify a group providing help and support to people from a particular community – for example, a particular first language, or a specific disability or sensory impairment. It is possible now to make an individual appointment for volunteering.

They can also assist people who want to set up a new community organisation.

### FOODBANK ISLINGTON - see also

in 'Reception' Folder - Free Food

Highbury Roundhouse & Youth Community Centre 71 Randalls Road, London, N5 1XB

Monday 2-5pm Saturday 2-5pm



### info@islington.foodbank.org.uk

Please call during office opening times (Mon 2pm-5pm and Sat 2pm-5pm) otherwise your call will be dealt with as soon as possible. General enquiries - 07753 222 755

Care professionals such as doctors, health visitors, social workers, CAB, police or ILC identify people in crisis and issue them with a foodbank voucher.

Foodbank clients then bring their voucher to a foodbank centre where it can be redeemed for three days emergency food. Volunteers meet clients over a cup of tea or free hot meal and are able to signpost people to agencies able to solve the longer-term problem.

Our foodbank also runs a rural delivery service, which takes emergency foodboxes to clients living in rural areas who cannot afford to get to a foodbank.

# Legal Aid & Private Practice Solicitors

There are various private firms of solicitors in Islington and the surrounding area who undertake work under the legal aid scheme – however please note the information on p.3 about cuts to legal aid and LAPG's list of areas of law that legal aid can still cover.

To be eligible for this scheme, clients need to be on a low income. Clients on means tested benefits are likely to be able to receive free help, if they have a case which is covered under the scheme - clients on slightly higher incomes may be asked to pay for part of their case. Clients with higher incomes, savings or assets may not be eligible at all.

Full details of firms offering such assistance are available from the Government site `Community Legal Advice' (Tel 0845 345 4 345 ) which will also provide you with a Gateway number re. Legal Aid. We list a few firms on the next pages.

#### PRIVATE PRACTICE SOLICITORS

There are some areas of law which are not generally covered by not for profit agencies and for which legal aid is not available. Details of solicitors can be found via the Law Society (Tel 020 7242 1222, www.lawsociety.org.uk – find a solicitor). Clients who do not quality for legal aid may need to find a private firm of solicitors to take on their case.

It should be noted that these firms are not being recommended – this is simply information about firms who are based locally and who may be able to assist.

### **Immigration and Asylum**

Birnberg Pierce 14 Inverness Street London NW1

Tel: 020 7911 0166

Wesley Gryk & Co (private only) 140 Lower Marsh

London SE1

Tel: 020 7401 6887 Fax: 020 7261 9585

Deighton Peirce Glynn

382 City Road London

EC1V 2QA

Tel: 020 7407 0007

Mordi & Co First Floor 402 Holloway Road London N7 6PZ

Tel: 020 7619 9666

Imran Khan & Partners 47 Theobald Road Bloomsbury London WC1X 8SP

Tel: 020 7404 3004

Frank Brazell and Partners

359 Goswell Road London EC1V 7JL Tel: 020 7689 8989

Kingsley Napsley (private only)

14 St John's Lane London EC1M 4AJ Tel: 020 7814 1200

Bindmans

236 Grays Inn Road London WC1 8HB Tel: 020 7833 4433

#### **Social Enterprise**

Green Roots Law 232 Hornsey Road London N7 7LL Tel: 020 7697 0147

info@greenrootslaw.co.uk www.greenrootslaw.co.uk

(wholly owned by Islington Law

Centre)

### **Crime**

Imran Khan & Partners 47 Theobald Road Bloomsbury

London WC1X 8SP Tel: 020 7404 3004

Clinton Davis & Co 26 Lower Clapton Road London E5

Tel: 020 8342 5800

Hodge Jones & Allen 180 North Gower Street

London NW1 2NB

Tel: 020 7874 8300

Birnberg Pierce 14 Inverness Street London NW1

Tel: 020 7911 0166

Kingsley Napsley (private only)

14 St John's Lane London EC1M 4AJ Tel: 020 7814 1200

Faradays 14 Seven Sisters Road London N7 7NS Tel: 020 7281 1001

Aitken Harter 398 Caledonian Road London N1 1DN Tel: 020 7607 5768

Bindmans 275 Grays Inn Road London WC1

Tel: 020 7833 4433

Frank Brazell and Partners

359 Goswell Road London EC1V 7JL Tel: 020 7689 8989

Wilson & Co 697 High Road London N17

Tel: 020 8808 7535

TV Edwards 35 Mile End Road London E1

Tel: 020 7790 7000

McMillen Hamilton McCarthy

67 Burdett Road London E3 4TN Tel: 020 8980 6060

**Bindmans** 

236 Grays Inn Road London WC1

Tel: 020 7833 4433

Percy Short & Cuthbert 402 Holloway Road

London N7

Tel: 020 7700 0265

Mordi & Co First Floor

402 Holloway Road London N7 6PZ Tel: 020 7619 9666

Tel. 020 7619 9666

### **Housing**

Deighton Peirce Glynn 382 City Road London EC1V 2QA

Tel: 020 7713 9434

Hopkin Murray Beskine 139-149 Fonthill Road London N4

Tel: 020 7272 1234

Hodge Jones & Allen 180 North Gower Street London NW1 2NB

Tel: 0800 096 3270

Osbournes 9 Pratt Street London NW1 0AE Tel: 020 7485 8811

**Grazing Hill** 67a Halliford street Islington N1 3HF

Tel: 020 7354 1444

Bindmans 236 Grays Inn Road London WC1

Tel: 020 7833 4433

TV Edwards 29 Mile End Road London E1

Tel: 020 7790 7000

Percy Short & Cuthbert 402 Holloway Road London N7 6PZ Tel: 020 7700 0265

Tyrer Roxburgh & Co, (Private) 1B St. Michael's Terrace London N22 7SJ

Tel: 020 8889 3319

Burke Niazi 470-474 Holloway Road London N7

Tel: 020 7263 7887

### **Family**

Frank Brazell and Partners 97 White Lion Street

London N1

Tel: 020 7689 8989

Hopkin Murray Beskin 139-149 Fonthill Road

London N4

Tel: 020 7272 1234

Burke Niazi

470-474 Holloway Road

London N7

Tel: 020 7263 7887

Osbornes 68 Parkway London NW1

Tel: 020 7485 8811

Bindmans

236 Grays Inn Road

London WC1

Tel: 020 7833 4433

McMillen Hamilton McCarthy Whitechapel Technology Centre

London, E1 1DU Tel: 020 7426 8833

Percy Short & Cuthbert 402 Holloway Road

London N7

Tel: 020 7700 0265

**Faradays** 

142 Seven Sisters Road

London N7 7NS

Tel: 020 7281 1001

Aitken Harter

398 Caledonian Road

London N1 1DN

Tel: 020 7607 5768

Tyrer Roxburgh & Co 1B St. Michael's Terrace

London N22 7SJ Tel: 020 8889 3319

TV Edwards

29 Mile End Road

London E1

Tel: 020 7790 7000

Hodge Jones & Allen 180 North Gower Street

London NW1 2NB

Tel: 0800 0963 270

Imran Khan & partners

47 Theobald Road

Bloomsbury

London WC1X 8SP Tel: 020 7404 3004

Mordi & Co (not Legal Aid)

First Floor

402 Holloway Road London N7 6PZ Tel: 020 7619 9666

Wilson & Co

697 High Road London N17

Tel: 020 8808 7535

Grazing Hill

67a Halliford street Islington

N<sub>1</sub> 3HF

Tel: 020 7354 1444

### **Mental Health**

Bindmans 275 Grays Inn Road London WC1

Tel: 020 7833 4433

Hodge Jones & Allen 180 North Gower Street London NW1 2NB

Tel: 0800 096 3270

Deighton Peirce Glynn 382 City Road London EC1V 2QA

Tel: 020 7407 0007

Burke Niazi 470-474 Holloway Road London N7

Tel: 020 7263 788

TV Edwards 35 Mile End Road London E1 4TP

Tel: 020 3440 8000

### **Neighbourhood Dispute**

Hopkin Murray Beskine 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Tower House 139-149 Fonthill Road London N4 3HF

Tel: 020 7272 1234

Hodge Jones & Allen 180 North Gower Street London NW1 2NB

Tel: 0800 096 3270

### **Employment**

Hodge Jones & Allen 180 North Gower Street London NW1 2NB **0800 096 3270** 

Bindmans 275 Grays Inn Road London WC1

Tel: 020 7833 4433

Percy Short & Cuthbert 402 Holloway Road London N7 6PZ Tel: 020 7700 0265

TV Edwards 35 Mile End Road London E1 4TP Tel: 020 3440 8000 Bolt Burdon (Not LA) 16 Theberton Street London N1

Tel: 020 7288 4700

David Levene Ashley House 235-239 High Road London N22 8JF Tel: 020 8881 7777

Faradays 142 Seven Sisters Road London N7 7NS Tel: 020 7281 1001

### **Social Enterprise**

Green Roots Law
232 Hornsey Road
London N7 7LL
Tel: 020 7697 0147
info@greenrootslaw.co.uk
www.greenrootslaw.co.uk
(wholly owned by Islington Law
Centre)

NB: Legal Aid is only available for discrimination cases and has to be accessed via a telephone gateway. None of the above firms can be contacted directly for legal aid work.