

WHO WE ARE

The Rochdale Legal Advice Partnership (RLAP) is a Project which is funded by the Big Lottery – Advice Plus (BIG) funds.

The three providers of legal advice in Rochdale

- Rochdale & District Citizens Advice Bureau,
- Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council Advice Services
- Rochdale Law Centre

are partners in this Project with the aim of creating a network of legal advice referral services.

The Project will transform advice delivery services in Rochdale borough by creating accessible legal advice service for hard to reach people. The Rochdale Legal Advice Partnership will become the major provider of advice.

Over 7,000 people in extremely difficult circumstances will have had their lives improved by avoiding disadvantage through timely, accurate and effective legal advice across the Rochdale Metropolitan Borough.

Clients can access the service through the partner organisations:-

Partners

Rochdale CAB

Rochdale Law Centre

Rochdale MBC Advice Service

Clients can also access the Project via the Partners agencies if they use their service. They can ask to be referred to the Project or book an appointment at one of the outreach sessions at the Partner agencies venue.

Partner agencies

Springhill Hospice

HMP Buckley Hall

Rochdale Victim Support

Rochdale PCT

WHAT WE DO

The Rochdale Legal Advice Partnership helps solve problems which are central to people's lives, including debt and consumer issues, benefits, housing, legal matters, employment, and immigration.

WHAT DOES RLAP OFFER

- Help with claiming benefits – from calculating entitlement and filling in forms to help with social security appeal tribunals.
- Negotiate with shops
- Negotiate with creditors and re-schedule debts to achieve an acceptable repayment plan.
- Give advice on court procedures
- Write letters or phone companies and service providers on behalf of clients
- Refer clients to specialist caseworkers for complex problems or to other agencies when appropriate.

TO REFER A CLIENT TO THE PROJECT

The Advice Referral Form (ARF) will need to be completed for all clients referred to the project. Once the ARF form is completed, it can be faxed or emailed to the Project Coordinator.

The Project employs three people:

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Project Coordinator

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