

Dear all

The message below is from the National Audit Office (NAO) about an important study they are undertaking on the provision of legal aid – please share this as widely as possible with colleagues and members of your organisations and encourage them all to respond! The deadline is **midday, Friday, 21 July 2023**.

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The [National Audit Office](#) (NAO) is carrying out a study on whether the government's provision of criminal and civil legal aid is delivering value for money and providing sufficient access to justice.

To help us with our report we would like to hear from legal professionals, and those who provide advice to individuals with legal issues, about your experience of the legal aid sector and the impact of the implementation of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012. This consultation will be open until **midday, Friday, 21 July 2023**.

This value for money study is separate from the work we do each year to audit and report on the Legal Aid Agency financial accounts. But it builds on our previous value for money report on [civil legal aid](#) in 2014.

We intend to publish our [value for money report](#) in early 2024. This work will assess:

- what progress government has made in understanding the full costs and cost savings from implementing LASPO;
- how government is ensuring that legal aid provides access to justice as intended; and
- how effectively government understands and works with others to manage the financial sustainability of the legal aid sector.

The National Audit Office (NAO) scrutinises public spending for Parliament and is independent of government and the civil service. We help Parliament hold government to account and we use our insights to help people who manage and govern public bodies to improve public services.

The consultation can be found at: <https://link.webropol.com/s/NAO-consultation-on-legal-aid> . If you have questions about the consultation, the NAO have a study email address, please address queries there: [legal.aid.study@nao.org.uk](mailto:legal.aid.study@nao.org.uk) .

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Many thanks  
Regards  
Alice



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