



**Craig Whittaker MP**

**CALDER VALLEY**

[www.craigwhittakermp.co.uk](http://www.craigwhittakermp.co.uk)

**Legal Aid for Early Advice**

Thank you for contacting me about legal aid for early advice.

Maintaining access to justice must continue to be at the heart of the Government's reforms, and legal aid resources should be focused on those who most need help. Last year almost £700 million was spent on legal aid in civil cases.

It is presently the case that the Government is assessing the legal aid changes brought in under LASPO through a post-implementation review of the legislation, which will report later in 2018.

The Government has also said it wants to increase the support available to those who represent themselves in the family courts. Since 2015 £5 million has been invested to support litigants in person through a range of measures designed to provide additional information, support and guidance.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Craig Whittaker'.

Craig Whittaker MP