

## Referrals

### *Default position*

All advice and assistance that a volunteer lawyer provides by or through RLAS is provided free of charge which includes any follow up or on-going advice and assistance. This will mean:

1. a volunteer lawyer cannot be instructed (whether the lawyer is instructed directly or through her/his firm) by a client for ongoing or follow up work, where that further work is paid for (eg a private paying client or via the Legal Aid scheme or other schemes (such as insurance, no-win, no fee etc)) or non-paid-for but is outside of RLAS (ie not-accordance with *RLAS Guidance on permitted and non-permitted follow-up by lawyer volunteers*):
2. one volunteer lawyer cannot refer a client to another volunteer lawyer so that the other volunteer lawyer is instructed (whether the other volunteer lawyer is instructed directly or through her/his firm) to provide further advice and assistance which is paid for by the client or not paid for (see 1. above).

The above does not aim to stop a volunteer lawyer doing follow-up or further work outside of a RLAS session if they wish to or need to, but it has to be done on the same basis as at an RLAS advice session, ie without charge and in accordance with *RLAS Guidance on permitted and non-permitted follow-up by lawyer volunteers*.

Over the years there have been a few exceptions to the above, but generally the trustees need to make a decision, as the aim of RLAS that we only provide free legal advice and assistance, and is not place for lawyers to pick up work.

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