

Suffolk Law Centre Services

Our working hours are Monday to Friday 9am-1pm and 2pm-5pm. All of our services are available by appointment only. Aside from our European Union Settled Status and Family Support Clinic services, all appointments are currently carried out by telephone unless not practicable otherwise, as our office is closed to the public.

To enquire about booking an appointment please visit <https://forms.suffolklawcentre.org.uk/forms/> and complete the relevant form.

You can also contact us by emailing office@suffolklawcentre.org.uk or telephoning 01473 408111.

A free interpreting service is available upon request for all of our services.

Law Advice Centre

We offer 30 minutes of free legal advice in areas including the following:

- Family: Such as divorce and financial matters
Case Study: "My husband has started divorce proceedings against me and he wants to keep our house that we both paid for. Can you give me guidance on the format of divorce proceedings and what my position is with the house?"
- Housing: Such as possession proceedings, disrepair, and allocations
Case Study: "I have moved into a house that has large amounts of mould in it. Is my landlord responsible for this?"
- Employment: Such as furlough enquiries, dismissals, and employment contract issues
Case study: "My employer put me on furlough. After furlough ended, I was at work for about a week, and I was then dismissed for 'misconduct' with no warning. What can I do?"
- Immigration: Such as help with completing paperwork and advice on the procedure for yourself or family members who would like to enter and stay in the country. For instance, applications for indefinite leave to remain or for a visa.
Case study: "Can you give me advice for my wife's application for indefinite leave to remain as the spouse of a British citizen?"
- Wills, Probate and Elder Care: Such as responsibilities when having power of attorney, finding out who the executors of a will is, and whether probate has been agreed.

Case study: "My father has died and I do not know who the executor of his will is. I do not have a copy of the will and I do not know how it will be distributed. Probate has not yet been agreed."

- Personal Injury: Such as workplace injuries, injuries from faulty equipment or repair work, and medical negligence.

Case study: "I was injured in a fall because of shabby work by the local council."

"I was injured after a faulty piece of equipment that I used broke."

"I suffered significant side effects after an operation in hospital."

"My condition became worse because my doctor didn't take me seriously."

Tackling Discrimination in the East

We provide advice and casework on matters of unlawful discrimination in employment and accessing goods and services such as education, housing, and leisure. We can also assist with police complaints.

Case study: "I have been bullied at work because of my race. I had no other choice but to resign because of the effect that it had on my mental health."

"I have mobility issues which mean that I struggle to access my local pub. I have raised this with the pub staff and nothing has been done."

Housing

We offer housing advice and casework support across a range of housing issues. Our services are available regardless of whether your landlord is a public authority, private landlord, social landlord or other landlord.

Please note that we do not advise landlords.

We may be able to act under Legal Aid in cases of:

- Allocations
- Disrepair
- Landlord or Neighbour Harassment
- Homelessness
- Possession Proceedings

Family Support Clinic

This service helps those who are experiencing family legal issues focused on children. We offer 1 hour of free legal advice for those have ongoing proceedings at the Family Court or are considering making an application to them.

We also offer assistance with completing court application forms.

We can help with the following issues:

- Child contact
- Child maintenance
- Special guardianship
- Child abduction
- Parental responsibility

EU Settlement Scheme

We provide support to EU citizens in securing settled or pre-settled status in the United Kingdom. We help with submitting applications, checking on the progress of applications and communicating with the Home Office Resolution Centre.

Please note that applications need to be made before 30th June 2021 for EU citizens to be able to remain in the United Kingdom.

Our project lead speaks English, Polish, and French and a free interpreting service is available for other languages.