

How to get advice ?

Phone us on 01823 448971 and leave a message

If it is urgent, call the free **Adviceline** on 0808 278 7842 and talk to an adviser - if they can't give you the advice you need there and then, ask to be referred to the **Litigants in person service** and one of the team will call you back as soon as they can

Go online and fill out our online enquiry form at citizensadvicetaunton.org.uk/get-advice

Referrals

If you're a local organisation working with someone who needs our Litigants in Person help you can refer them directly (with consent) using our secure online referral form: citizensadvicetaunton.org.uk/litigants-in-person

"I really couldn't thank you enough for the help you provided, you made every part of the process as stress free as it could have been and made going through the paperwork side of things as easy and clear as possible."

Citizens Advice Taunton is the operating name of Taunton and District Citizens Advice Bureau. Charity registration number 1050297. Company limited by guarantee. Registered number 2900368 England. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority FRN: 617766.

Have you experienced gender violence or abuse and are now representing yourself in family court?

The Somerset Litigants in Person service may be able to help



**citizens
advice**

Taunton

What is it?

The **Litigants in Person** service exists to **help people** who are trying to manage the court process without a solicitor or legal representation - a 'Litigant in Person'.

It's available to **anyone living in Somerset** and it is **free**.

Our **specialist trained advisers** can give you advice about your legal rights and court processes, provide practical assistance with paperwork or applications, help you prepare for court, and support at court.

We can help with a variety of issues, including:

- Referrals to a mediator
- Child arrangements
- Divorce and financial remedies
- Non-molestation orders
- Occupation orders or transfer of tenancy



Who's eligible?

To **qualify for help** from the Litigants in Person service you need to be able to **say 'yes'** to each of these following:

- I have experienced some type of gender violence or abuse e.g. domestic abuse
- I need advice or practical assistance to deal with a legal issue against my abuser
- I am not eligible for legal aid (or I haven't been able to find a legal aid solicitor that will help me)
- I don't have the money to pay for a solicitor.

Your lived experience of abuse

We ask our Litigant in Person clients to help us understand their lived experiences through anonymous client surveys.

We use the information you share with us to campaign for better support for survivors still affected by abuse and to improve the Litigant in Person service.

"Just a line to thank you from the bottom of my heart for all the help and kindness that you have shown to me and my son. This has been quite a year for us both and we can now see the light at the bottom of what has been a very dark tunnel."