

## Email Bulletin (Contracting No.12): Guarantee State Pension Credit and Forms CW1 and CW2

- 1.1 Since 6<sup>th</sup> October 2003, there is a new passporting benefit under the Legal Aid scheme. Clients who directly or indirectly receive Guarantee State Pension Credit (under section 1(3)(a) of the State Pension Credit Act 2002) will be deemed to automatically satisfy the financial qualification criteria for income and / or capital.
- 1.2 A person is deemed to indirectly receive a benefit through their inclusion as a dependant on the benefit claim.
- 1.3 Forms CW1 and CW2 have been updated to reflect this change to financial eligibility.
- 1.4 Contracted agencies should note that the new forms must be used for all applications for funding from 20<sup>th</sup> October 2003 onwards.
- 1.5 If you use the old forms the application for funding will not be allowed. This is because you will not have addressed the issue of Guarantee State Pension Credit that is on the new form and therefore you will not have completed the eligibility section in full.
- 1.6 Update packs have been sent to contracted agencies who hold a copy of the Forms Masterpack and updated forms have been posted on the Legal Services Commission (LSC)'s website at <http://www.legalservices.gov.uk/misl/forms.htm>
- 1.7 The Legal Aid scheme Financial Eligibility Calculator on the LSC website at <http://www.legalservices.gov.uk/calculator/index.htm> has been updated accordingly.