

18 LEGAL MATTERS

It is generally advisable to consult a solicitor if you are concerned about any legal matters -they are listed in the Yellow Pages. If you are not sure whether a solicitor is necessary or you do not know how to find one contact your local Citizens Advice Bureau. (see section One – Advice and Information)

DISABILITY LAW SERVICE (DLS)

020 7791 9800

Minicom 020 7791 9801

www.dls.org.uk

DLS offers confidential, free advice to disabled people and families, carers and enablers in understanding their legal rights in respect of employment, discrimination, community care, education, welfare benefits and consumer/contract.

LEGAL SERVICES COMMISSION

0845 345 4345

www.legalservices.gov.uk

www.communitylegaladvice.org.uk

The Legal Services Commission is responsible for the Community Legal Advice service (legal aid). If you qualify for legal aid, you can get free advice about benefits, tax credits, housing, employment, education or debt problems. You can also listen to recorded messages about common legal problems, find quality local advice services for other types of problems and order legal information leaflets.

SOLICITORS FOR THE ELDERLY

0870 067 0281

www.solicitorsfortheelderly.com

Solicitors for the Elderly (SFE) is a national organisation of lawyers, such as solicitors, barristers, and legal executives who are committed to providing and promoting robust, comprehensive and independent legal advice for older people, their family and carers. To be a member of Solicitors for the Elderly, members must have obtained a set level of experience and passed an examination paper. Members are linked into a valuable network to keep them up to date with legal issues that affect older people, their family and carers, as case law and the legal framework in which they work changes and develops.