



Rushmoor Citizens Advice Bureaux

14 October 2011

To all CAB Clients

**Farnborough CAB
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Dear CAB clients

I am sorry to tell you that from October 2011 Rushmoor CAB will have reduced capacity for specialist advice, particularly on welfare benefits and housing issues, but also in relation to debt.

This is because we have been forced to end our legal aid funding contract, which is how we pay for those advisers. We are very proud of the advice our team has given people with this funding, but the constantly changing complex funding rules mean that we cannot continue.

The Government also plans to cut the vast bulk of this funding, by stopping legal aid for all but the most desperate housing and debt problems and all benefit and employment problems. There is no alternative funding, and our volunteers can not cover such a big gap.

We believe the Government must protect funding for advice on these serious, but everyday, issues affecting thousands of people in Rushmoor every year. Legal aid bureaucracy must also be reformed, so charities like our bureau can employ advisers to help people in the most complex situations.

Rushmoor CAB is still able to offer general advice on all areas of law: anyone living or working in Rushmoor is welcome to come to us for help – see website for opening hours and telephone details.

Anyone concerned about the future of advice in Rushmoor should contact their MP to ask him to work in parliament to protect free legal advice.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Hughes'.

Alex Hughes
Chief Officer