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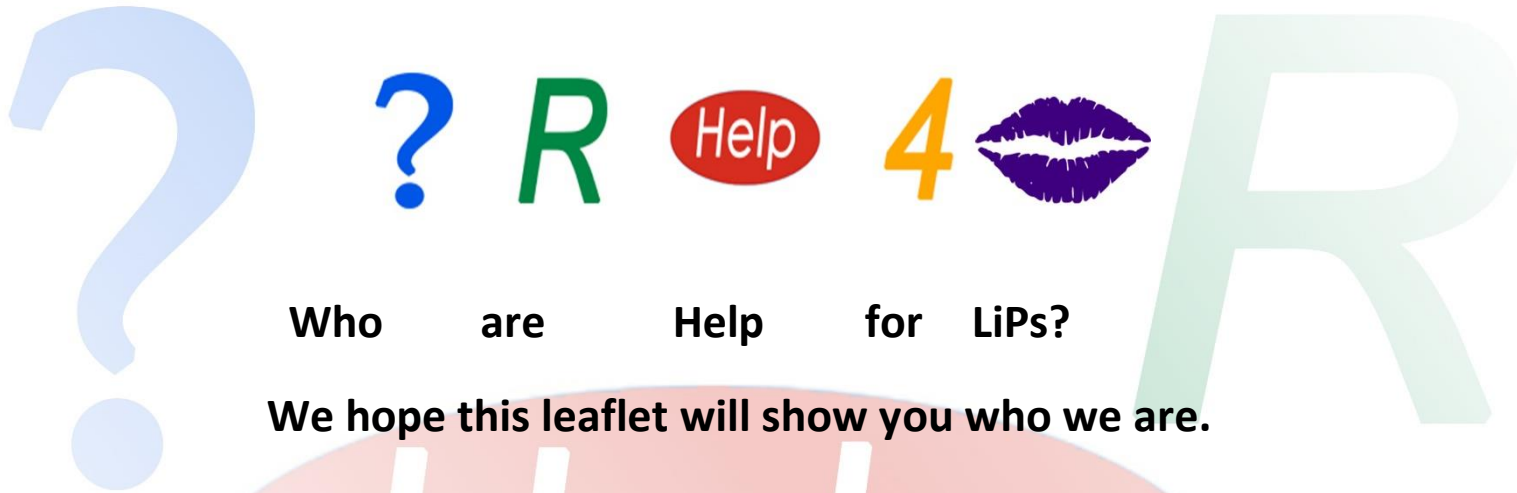
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Help

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Who are Help for LiPs?

We hope this leaflet will show you who we are.

Were you confused by our cover?

LiPs are confused by the Law.

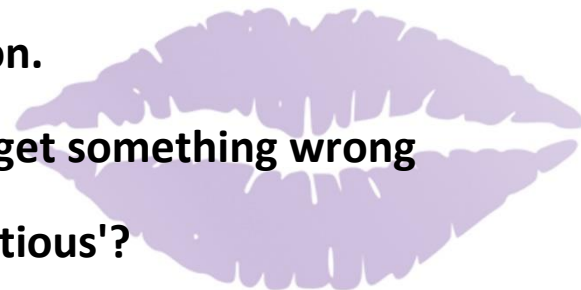
Is our cover childlike?

Lips are children in the Law.

Children need education.

How many times should we allow a child get something wrong

before we label them 'vexatious'?



H4L © Help for Litigants in Person

Jeff Lampert, co-founder

Jeff Lampert, with Brad Meyer, co-founded Help4LiPs (H4L) because they recognised the need for Litigants in Person (LiPs) to have crucial information before they went to Law. They realised there was a huge abyss between what the man in the street expected and what the processes of going to Law involved. A former public company chairman, Jeff had the experience of going to the law against a high street bank and losing – even though justice should have been on his side. He realised he needed to be able to represent himself, but didn't have the knowledge or resources to know where to start.



Never one to give up a fight, he took his battle against Lloyds Bank and their receivers Grant Thornton to the Institute of Chartered Accountants, the London Stock Exchange, the Bank of England, the FSA, and finally ended up the subject of [a debate in the House of Commons](#). While his case was received sympathetically and contributed to a change of law (FSMA 2000), he realised the law courts were the only place where he could actually get justice and recompense.

He soon realised he wasn't alone and became aware of other Litigants in Person struggling against the process. He watched people who had lost their homes and businesses turning up in court with Tesco bags containing their evidence. When asked to produce evidence by the court they would spend minutes at a time carefully sifting through their papers to find the relevant piece of paper. He saw some Litigants in Person become so cynical about the system that they would coach new LiPs into how to ambush the judge ten minutes before a hearing; this wasn't to anyone's advantage. He recognised a need for people to become more informed so that they could utilise the legal process instead of interfering with it. H4L enables people to go into the law with more understanding of the process, which will help them to achieve justice.

Among the current developments Jeff is most proud of with H4L is the co-operation with CaseLines. He is also excited about the current discussion being held with Lexis Nexis. H4L is a boutique organisation that can act and react instantly and it has already made a difference to people's lives.

Jeff is the grandfather of six, all under 10 years of age. He expects to be constantly apologising for the chaos his generation is leaving to his grandchildren.

Jeff continues with long running litigation in Portugal. There are no LiPs in Portugal, which is good, as he does not speak any Portuguese. Jeff also continues with his own litigation focused on Lloyds Bank personal guarantees.

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Brad Meyer, co-founder, co-author of The Forensics of Legal Fraud

Any walk of life can bring you into the realm of experts who speak English, but an English with nuances, innuendos and acronyms that leave you as a lay person none the wiser. Think of the last builder you talked with about a house renovation. Think about your last visit to a medical consultant. Think about your last dialogue with a financial investment house. Think about the car mechanic who said the job was a lot more complicated than you thought. You needed clarity on what they were actually saying about a suggested procedure. Proceeding in blind faith was just not going to cut it. You had choices to make and you wanted to be able to make informed decisions. It was the same for me when a house alarm company tried to triple dip its hands into my bank account and it's the same for all Litigants in Person that I have met. When each sentence in a document requires you to look up word and phrase definitions, and those definitions use others words and phrases that need looking up as well, you know you need help from someone who can break it down for you. That was the original vision we had for Help4LiPs: a place on the web, where the overwhelming task of making an informed decision – regardless of where one was in the dispute resolution process - was broken down into smaller, digestible steps; steps a LiP could understand. It was this vision that I shared with Jeff Lampert and that moved us to establish H4L as a Community Interest Company. [Explanation of the use of H4L matrix.](#)



Paul Williams M.A., F.C.A.

In my professional capacity as an accountant I have worked with H4L co-founder, Jeff Lampert, assessing and recovering libor interest overcharges levied on SMEs. During this time, I have reviewed financial elements of Jeff's own claims as a Litigant in Person and have assisted with H4L. My early career was with a Big Four accountant and a US multinational. Any legal problem was passed to in house legal departments or top firms of solicitors. In stark contrast, the SME sector that I have been involved with in recent years has no such resources and it is often uneconomic to engage legal advisers for their litigation. H4L through its website information brings valuable information to assist these smaller businesses to understand and navigate through the complex legal system.

Daniel Jani, H4L volunteer coordinator

I joined H4L 3 years ago as a volunteer and this has turned into a full time position. Within the company I am responsible for IT and coordinating our volunteers. My legal qualifications and work experiences with Litigants in Person have enabled me to see the LiP-issue from different perspectives, and I am convinced that H4L is playing a crucial role in building a bridge between legal professionals and LiPs. In the 21st century a vital element of that bridge is making use of technology. In the legal process this will save a huge amount of time and costs for all parties. We are very excited to work with CaseLines and Lexis Nexis and it is in our intention to roll out this model to help all LiPs.

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H4L in the community

H4L focuses on 3 key areas:

1. Helping its local law centre;
2. Working with CaseLines;
3. Developing its website.

Due the austerity cuts, law centres are massively under-resourced and in desperate need of help. New legal graduates are finding it harder and harder to find relevant work experience. H4L is a potential solution with its arrangement with its local law centre that is currently being trialed successfully in Brent. H4L recruits law students and newly qualified legal professionals for volunteering work and refers them to Brent Community Law Centre (BCLC). We are all learning from the experiments of the trial at BCLC and it is intended to replicate this model nationwide.

Ann John OBE, former leader of Brent Council

After 24 years as a councillor and leader of the council in Brent, I was aware of how diverse our community is. To many people in Brent the Court is a frightening place. H4L can hopefully make it less frightening for many of them. The austerity cuts have made many more people Litigants in Person (LiPs). By providing a simple web-based information service as well as the CaseLines process and H4L volunteers to Brent Community Law Centre, we are making a difference to LiPs and the people in our local community.



[Help4LiPs in the local community.](#)

Alison Plaku, volunteer coordinator at Brent Community Law Centre

H4L has been providing us with pro bono legal volunteers since the beginning of 2014. The volunteers are invaluable in assisting solicitors with clients, carrying out research, preparing bundles and helping with various admin duties. They have also engaged in reception, taking calls for



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our very busy, daily advice line service. Some of our callers are able to be signposted to the Help4Lips website empowering them to seek the justice they deserve. Most recently we have worked with H4L volunteers from BarBri International, who needed to complete 50 hours of pro bono work to gain access to The New York Bar. The volunteers have been able to assist with our evening pro bono Criminal Law Clinic.

H4L has introduced us to a new innovative online bundling service called Caselines. Like ourselves, Help4Lips recognises the barrier people face in fighting justice due to the cut backs in Legal Aid funding.

Krishma Patel, volunteer

I started working for H4L in February 2014. At the time I wanted to do something to promote access to justice, whilst developing my legal skills. I started off working with law firms to build up H4L's online information matrix to assist Litigants in Person to represent themselves in different areas of law. H4L has a strong relationship with the local law centre (Brent Community Law Centre) and the opportunity arose for me to assist in the setting up and promotion of a new Young People's Law Service (YPLS) in Brent. This involved visiting schools and delivering talks on the YPLS, as well as encouraging young people interested in a legal career to get experience.

Following this, I was very lucky to be given the opportunity of working with a LIP, who was bringing a multi-million pound banking action. I drafted his witness statement, discussed his case and attended conferences with counsel. This really helped to hone my skills in terms of drafting, analysis and extracting relevant information.

[My experience with H4L was very beneficial.](#) I was a valued team member, I was able to network and meet a number of lawyers and I worked on a very high value case, giving me a real insight into the difficulties faced by LIPs.

I was also applying for pupillage at the time and it seemed clear that many chambers were very interested in my work with Help4LiPs. I am now on pupillage and I am sure that when I come across a LIP in future practice, I will be well equipped to assist them where I can.

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Sonia Marinello, volunteer

Help4LiPs offers step by step guidance on the legal process and legalese for relative beginners. It is a strong social concept which allows litigants with very little knowledge of the legal process to go about bundling their evidence through CaseLines, drafting witness statements, etc.

Legal Aid has been cut massively in many spheres from criminal law to family law, therefore there are so many individuals caught up in the court process with little - if any - assistance available costing the courts a huge amount of time and money. Having come from a background in Criminal Defence, where there were so many people unable to pay for their legal costs in the Magistrate Court, this system is invaluable.

Gurinder Gill, volunteer

H4L is a very useful organisation that provides people with information about how to litigate in person. With cuts to legal aid and people not being able to afford legal advice, this organisation is becoming more in demand as it works as an information centre to provide Litigants in Person with information. I have been involved with H4L for only a short period of time, but have already seen how it benefits Litigants in Person. As part of the criminal law clinics that run at Brent Law centre, I have seen how individuals who don't qualify for legal aid or who are not happy with their representation have been provided with free, independent help and been advised by the Law Centre what they should do, what they need to take to Court with them and how to put their case forward.

I think the organisation is extremely beneficial to those who use it and raising awareness of such an organisation is very important as with legal aid cuts and people not being able to afford representation it will become a very effective tool for Litigants in Person.

H4L information website

[illegible]

H4L has developed an informational matrix (see the back page of this leaflet) that helps the visitors to the website to easily identify their legal position and find relevant information designed specifically to their situation. By improving on the usability of the site and including new areas in the matrix, H4L has been actively contributing to the struggling Litigants in Person community.

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H4L is also in discussions with [LexisNexis](#) as to the support they may offer to improve both the content and the functionality of H4L website. In addition to their commercial operations, LexisNexis has a strong focus and commitment to advancing the Rule of Law, and they consider support of Litigants in Person to fall within this ambition. H4L is looking forward to continuing our dialogue with LexisNexis into 2016 and to jointly exploring the benefits that a collaboration between the two organisations could bring.



H4L supporters

CaseLines is an online bundling service that helps Litigants in Person prepare their bundle in a time and cost-effective manner as well as acquire the process-driven mindset that litigation requires. H4L is currently working with its local law centre and CaseLines to introduce a concept designed specifically for Litigants in Person.

David Jackson, Netmaster Solutions (CaseLines)

Setting out as a Litigant in Person can be a scary experience. The legal system is necessarily complex, and everyone else has experience and access to tools which a LiP lacks. Our service, CaseLines, helps to level the field for LiPs. [Preparing your bundle online.](#)

CaseLines is a cloud based tool for preparation and presentation of legal bundles. It helps LiPs to be more professional with automatic pagination, full indexation, hyperlinking, case annotation and courtroom presentation facilities – all tasks which are time consuming and difficult for a novice to pick up. Users gain effectiveness in and reduce time and costs during bundle preparation.



H4L provides invaluable support, offering training and coaching for users of our service. We are pleased to be working with H4L to help Brent Community Law Centre (BCLC) pilot our service for a variety of claim types. Without Help4LiPs the Brent initiative could not have happened, but now we look forward to helping BCLC deliver an invaluable service to their clients.

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Nikki Turner, [SME Alliance](#)

SME Alliance is very supportive of the good work Help4LiPs is doing to support Litigants in Person. We are aware some of our members are already using the technical help H4L have been developing and have found it very useful. The battle for Litigants in Person remains as tough as ever, but we know H4L is doing much to make it easier in the future. Keep up the good work!

John Sizer of Public Access Clerks

H4L is a very useful first point of call for any Litigant in Person involved in litigation or thinking of starting an action. It is often difficult for individuals to know where to start, so H4L provides guidance on who to contact to take matters to the next stage. Their links with my business, Public Access Clerk gives them the opportunity to seek advice from barristers through the direct access route and also helps them order their documents through their association with CaseLines. Not having paperwork in order is one of the biggest hindrances to a LiP and such an association will inevitably allow their claim be taken more seriously and reduce court time. [Getting a Direct Access Barristers.](#)



Public Access Clerk
Finding you direct and cost-effective legal advice

With cuts to Legal Aid, the courts are being swamped with LiP's unfamiliar with the procedures and this is causing delay and extra cost to all concerned. So having an organisation that can give people guidance before they get involved in the court system can only be a good thing. LiP's and H4L need support and funding where possible to aid what is a creaking system when it comes to individuals seeking justice.

Tom McCabe, Litigant in Person

My name is Tom McCabe. My wife and I have been forced into bankruptcy by a false claim of telecoms fraud by a firm of accountants. We continue to fight the economic oppression with the guidance of the H4L website. Just knowing that they are there fighting for justice is a great help. They are giving voice to the unheard in a system that favours the rich and oppresses the poor. [BBC South Today – the McCabe Family.](#)

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David Fabb, Litigant in Person

My name is David Fabb. Since 2006, I have had no option but to self-represent in over 23 High Court hearings and several bankruptcy hearings consequent upon an IP firm, by false accounting, securing control of my 11 company, 640 employee engineering group. The Civil Courts are, for most citizens, daunting and lonely places. I am sure that I would have retained a modicum of faith in English Law had I had access to the excellent and practical advisory, documentary and moral support of H4L. The growing tide of LiPs will gratefully applaud the long overdue principled and professional guidance you provide. You deserve the support of all. [Observations of an old LiP.](#)

D, Member of CASIA

I think any organisation that helps Litigants in Person is very worth while. I think your website is well put together and I am now going to read more about it and will send on the web-site address to our members.

G, email enquirer

Interesting & helpful. Thanks!

Natalie F, email enquirer

I have enjoyed your refreshing piece about misrepresentation and the many points that you cover.

Lewis E, email enquirer

I found your site to be a really helpful source of information.

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Previous Leaflets

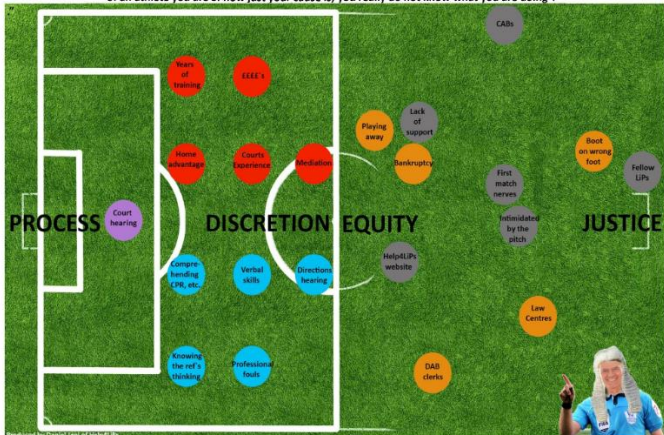
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A Litigant in Person's view

<p>UK Legal System Working</p> <p>UK Legal System offers this</p>  <p>£4,000,000</p> <p>Highly engineered by professionals for professionals</p>	<p>UK Legal System Not Working</p> <p>UK LIPs need this</p>  <p>£2,345</p> <p>Easy to suss out, simple to drive</p>
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For a LIP: PROCESS DEFEATS JUSTICE!

"A litigant in person going into court is a little bit like someone who is a great athlete taking on United or City... No matter how good of an athlete you are or how just your cause is, you really do not know what you are doing".



HAL Help for Litigants in Person

Based on an interview on You and Yours of BBC Radio 4 about Litigants in Person with Nicholas Lavender QC, Chairman of the Bar Council, Caroline Newman of Atticus Law Advocates and Jeff Lampert of Help4LIPs on Monday, 9 November 2014.

Click on the images to view our previous leaflets.

Join the twitter trend: **#DIYLAW**

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<div>DISPUTE AREAS</div> <div>RESOLUTION STEPS</div>		Consumer				Family			Contract	Tort		Property			Transport		Other								
		Product liability	Government Council for HMRC	Bank and credit card	Mis-selling: insurance, telephony	Other - trades, tenancy, tenancy, tenancy	Adoption	Children	Divorce	Wills and probate	Commercial	Consumer (except Prod. Liab.)	Negligence	Personal injury	Debt	Trespass (noise, etc.)	Tenants rights	Buyer and Seller rights	Accidents	Parking	Speeding	Discrimination	Immigration	Human Rights	Welfare and benefits
01 Talking it through																									
02 Asking a third part to help																									
03 Going for Mediation																									
04 Using Pre-Action Protocols																									
05 Issuing proceedings																									
06 Defending your position																									
07 Adjudication or arbitration																									
08 A lower court hearing/trial																									
09 Enforcement of court orders																									
10 Appealing a judge's decision																									
11 Using the appeal/higher courts																									
12 Going to the Supreme Court																									
13 Taking your case to the EU																									
		Information available																							
		Information available in 2016																							

Click Here for
H4L's information
matrix

[Explanation of the use of H4L matrix.](#)

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