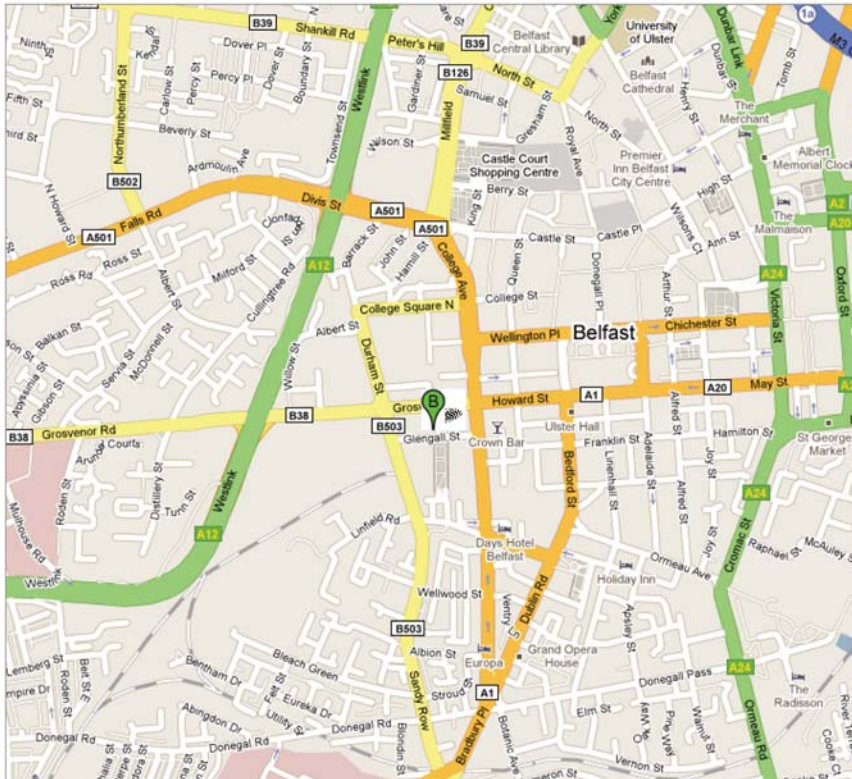


Map of Venue: Grosvenor House, 5 Glengall Street Belfast BT12 5AD



Civil Justice Conference 2009



Special thanks to the event sponsors:



ASA Civil Justice Conference - 20th November 2009
Belfast Central Mission
Grosvenor House
5 Glengall Street
Belfast
BT12 5AD

Who is the ASA?

The Advice Service Alliance is a partnership organisation comprising Advice NI, Law Centre NI and the Citizens Advice. Its purpose is to promote the role of independent advice services and to represent the interest of the advice sector to government and other stakeholders.

Who is the conference for?

The ASA has organised this conference to further the debate on the future of Civil Legal Services in Northern Ireland in the context of devolution of policing and justice. Civil legal services is an area which often gets overlooked in this wider debate but which ASA believes is vitally important for Citizens seeking legal redress on important areas of law including those pertaining to social welfare, employment, immigration and consumer issues. At present Northern Ireland is behind England, Wales and Scotland in reform of civil justice and this conference will explore developments in these jurisdictions and what lessons can be learned in implementing reform here.

The conference is aimed at all those involved in legal services including those working in the areas of social welfare law.

Agenda

Opening Remarks - Conference Chair Rev Harold Good OBE

9.30am **Registration**

10.00am **Opening welcome:** *Lord Justice Declan Morgan*

10.20am **Opening Doors - The advice and information strategy for Northern Ireland –** *Margaret Ritchie MLA Minister for Social Development*

10.40 **Experiences and alternative models in England and Wales -** *Steve Hynes Director Legal Action Group*

11.00am **The role of advice services in Northern Ireland –** *Derek Alcorn, Advice Services Alliance*

11.20 **Tea/Coffee**

11.45 **Panel discussion**
Maura McCallion - ASA
Steve Hynes – Legal Action
Maeve Walls - DSD
Jeremy Harbison - NILSC
Donald Eakin - Law Society NI
Bar Council - TBC

12.30pm **Lunch**