

Proposals for the Review of Summary Criminal Legal Assistance

Making your response

We ask you to consider and comment on the views expressed in the paper. In it you will find facts and figures about the current summary criminal legal assistance scheme, how it works, who is involved and at what stage, how applications are made, decided and how members of the profession are paid for the work they undertake on behalf of their clients. We would ask you to consider and comment on the views which have been expressed taking into account the proposals flowing from the other current major reviews, such as that of Sheriff Principal John McInnes.

In setting out your comments, you should respond to the specific proposals that are set out in Chapter 1, and also comment on other sections of the paper. We are seeking comments to our proposals by **Friday 16 July 2004**. If you cannot respond by this date please let us know.

You should complete this response form, to give information and to advise if that response is confidential. This will help ensure we handle responses appropriately. The response form also includes a summary of the recommendations to which we are seeking comments.

Written comments should be submitted by 16 July, confirming by whom the response is being made, to:

Review of summary criminal legal assistance
Communications Department
The Scottish Legal Aid Board
44 Drumsheugh Gardens
EDINBURGH EH3 7SW

Alternatively you can send your response by:

- Hays DX to: DX ED555250 Edinburgh 30
- Legal post to: LP2 Edinburgh 7

You can also fax your response to: 0131 220 4878
Or email: general@slab.org.uk

Copies of the discussion paper and response form are available on the Board's website at www.slab.org.uk, or you can request a copy from the Board's Communications Department, direct tel 0131 240 1985 or email general@slab.org.uk

If you have any queries on the paper, contact: Kingsley Thomas, Manager of Criminal Applications, direct telephone 0131 240 2085 or email thomaski@slab.org.uk

Please complete this form and return it with your comments

Part A - Your details

All respondents should complete this part. Please complete the details below and attach it with your response. This will help ensure we handle your response appropriately:

Name:

Organisation (if applicable):

Postal Address:

Postcode:

Telephone:

Fax:

email:

1) Are you responding as: (please tick one box)

an individual (go to 2)

on behalf of a group or organisation (go to 3)

2) a) **(Individuals)** - Do you agree to your response being made available to the public?

Yes

No (go to 4)

2) b) Where confidentiality is not requested, we will make your response available to the public on the following basis (please tick one of the following boxes, and then go to 4)

Yes, make my response, name, and address all available

Yes, make my response available, but not my name or address

Yes, make my response and name available, but not my address

3) **(On behalf of groups or organisations)** - Your name and address as respondees will be made available to the public. Are you content for your response to be made available also?

Yes

No

3) b) If you are replying on behalf of a representative group please summarise the people or organisations your group represents:

4) We will share your response internally with other policy teams who may be addressing the issues you discuss. They may wish to contact you again in the future, but we require your permission to do so. Are you content for the Scottish Legal Aid Board to contact you again in future for consultation or research purposes?

Yes
No

Part B - Your comments

Use of this part of the form is optional - further or more detailed responses can be submitted to us in the manner you find most convenient. If you do not use this part of the form, please refer to specific recommendations or paragraph numbers from the report where appropriate, to help us to analyse your response.

In setting out your comments, you should respond to the specific proposals that are set out in Chapter 1, Executive Summary, which starts on page 3 (these section headings are set out below). We would also welcome your comments on other sections of the paper.

Section 1.4 - The existing system

Are you in favour of the recommendations? Yes No Don't know

Comments:

Section 1.5 - An integrated system

Are you in favour of the recommendations? Yes No Don't know

Comments:

Section 1.6 - Duty solicitors

Are you in favour of the recommendations? Yes No Don't know

Comments:

Section 1.7 - Financial eligibility

Are you in favour of the recommendations? Yes No Don't know

Comments:

Section 1.8 - Fees

Are you in favour of the recommendations? Yes No Don't know

Comments:

Other issues

The paper covers a range of other issues. Are there any other issues you would like to raise or comments you would like to make on these proposals? Please refer to specific recommendations or paragraph numbers from the report where appropriate, to help us to analyse your response.

Comments:

Thank you for completing this form.