



Statement

21st December 2011

Police Station duty scheme update - Solicitor Contact Line

The Scottish Legal Aid Board's Solicitor Contact Line continues to operate to ensure that suspects who request advice under S15A of the Criminal Procedure (Legal Assistance, Detention and Appeals) (Scotland) Act 2010 receive it timeously.

Notification of requests for advice

Period	Total Calls	Daily Average
4 th July - 1 st August	1736	62
1 st August - 5 th September	2280	65
5 th September - 3 rd October	1747	62
3 rd October - 31 st October	1777	63
31 st October - 5 th December	2197	63
5 th December - 12 th December	400	57
12 th December - 19 th December	444	63

Breakdown of advice provided

Period	Telephone advice provided by:	
	Contact Line	Referred to Named Solicitor
4 th July - 1 st August	756	980
1 st August - 5 th September	798	1485
5 th September - 3 rd October	592	1155
3 rd October - 31 st October	579	1198
31 st October - 5 th December	698	1499
5 th December - 12 th December	123	277
12 th December - 19 th December	147	297

Suspects requiring a personal attendance:

Period	Number of clients	Advice provided by :			
		Board employed solicitor	PDSO Solicitor	Duty Solicitor	Named Solicitor *
4 th July - 1 st August	106	32	37	28	9
1 st August - 5 th September	190	22	45	95	28
5 th September - 3 rd October	133	21	32	71	9
3 rd October - 31 st October	168	30	36	87	15
31 st October - 5 th December	229	22	29	133	45
5 th December - 12 th December	56	6	5	36	9
12 th December - 19 th December	69	7	6	38	18

*These are attendances by named solicitors that we are aware of. Named solicitors may have made more personal attendances, once the details of the calls were passed on to them but we do not hold this information.

Police Station duty scheme - Participation Figures

We continue to see an increase in the number of private solicitors who are now participating in the Police Station Duty scheme, following the decision by the Law Society and local faculties that solicitors should now participate in the scheme.

As at Monday 19th December, there were participating in the Police Station Duty Scheme:

587 solicitors (including 23 PDSO and 10 Board Employed solicitors) and 248 firms (PDSO and the Board's Solicitor Contact Line are included as one firm each).

This is an increase of 6 individual private solicitors and 5 firms from the figures shown on the previous week's statement dated 12th December 2011.

Of the 49 duty plan areas:

- 11 are covered solely by private solicitors (last week 11)
- 30 are covered by a mix of private solicitors, board employed solicitors and PDSO (last week 30)
- 8 are covered by Board employed solicitors and PDSO only (last week 8).