



Statement

30 August 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. Demand for the services provided by the Contact Line remains at levels higher than our expectations.

Notification of requests for advice

Week	Number of calls	Daily Average
4 th July - 11 th July	458	65
11 th July - 18 th July	358	51
18 th July - 25 nd July	454	65
25 th July - 1 st August	466	67
1 st August - 8 th August	445	64
8 th August - 15 th August	519	74
15 th August - 22 nd August	435	62
22 nd August - 29 th August	456	66

Breakdown of advice provided

Week	Telephone advice provided by:	
	Contact Line	Referred to Named Solicitor
4 th July - 11 th July	213	245
11 th July - 18 th July	163	195
18 th July - 25 nd July	188	266
25 th July - 1 st August	192	274
1 st August - 8 th August	197	248
8 th August - 15 th August	169	350
15 th August - 22 nd August	144	291
22 nd August - 29 th August	154	305

Suspects requiring a personal attendance:

Week	Number of clients	Advice provided by :			
		Board employed solicitor	PDSO Solicitor	Duty Solicitor	Named Solicitor *
4 th July - 11 th July	32	6	11	9	6
11 th July - 18 th July	26	12	7	7	0
18 th July - 25 nd July	25	8	7	8	2
25 th July - 1 st August	23	6	12	4	1
1 st August - 8 th August	51	7	7	23	14
8 th August - 15 th August	32	2	8	18	4
15 th August - 22 nd August	30	8	8	11	3
22 nd August - 29 th August	43	4	10	26	3

*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 will have this information in due course from ACPOS.

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 Tuesday 30 August, there were participating in the Police Station Duty Scheme:

269 Solicitors (including 23 PDSO and 10 Board Employed solicitors) and 117 firms (PDSO and the Board's Solicitor Contact Line are included as one firm each).

This is an increase of 50 individual private solicitors and 25 firms from the figures shown on the previous week's statement dated 24 August 2011. We are also aware of further applications which are likely to be made in the near future.

Of the 49 duty plan areas:

- 9 are covered solely by private solicitors (last week 8)
- 25 are covered by a mix of private solicitors, board employed solicitors and PDSO (last week 21)
- 15 are covered by Board employed solicitors and PDSO only (last week 20).