

The Scottish Legal Aid Board

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Statement

30th January 2012

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 - 2 nd January	1603	57
2 nd January - 9 th January	401	57
9 th January - 16 th January	472	67
16 th January - 23 rd January	432	62
23 rd January - 30 th January	423	60

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 - 2 nd January	524	1079
2 nd January - 9 th January	126	275
9 th January - 16 th January	150	322
16 th January - 23 rd January	124	308
23 rd January - 30 th January	137	286

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 - 2 nd January	180	18	16	103	43
2 nd January - 9 th January	36	3	1	21	11
9 th January - 16 th January	60	5	7	29	19
16 th January - 23 rd January	52	1	10	27	14
23 rd January - 30 th January	73	4	5	44	20

*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 30th January 2012, there [following](#) were participating in the Police Station Duty Scheme:

- [645 solicitors \(including 23 PDSO and 10 Board Employed solicitors\) and](#)
- [281 firms \(PDSO and the Board's Solicitor Contact Line are included as one firm each\).](#)

This is an increase of 9 individual private solicitors and 6 firms from the figures shown on the previous week's statement dated [Monday](#) 23rd January 2012.

Of the 49 duty plan areas:

- 11 are covered solely by private solicitors (last week 11)
- 33 are covered by a mix of private solicitors, board employed solicitors and PDSO (last week 36)
- 2 are covered by Board employed solicitors and PDSO only (last week 2).

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