



# Summary criminal legal assistance reform: the changes and forms

*Implementation date: 30 June 2008*

TO: All criminal legal assistance solicitors

Mailing 3: 11 June 2008

*Your practitioner number*

*Your firm and branch code*

## REFORM OF SUMMARY CRIMINAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE: DRAFT GUIDELINES AND FORMS

This mailing includes a copy of the draft guidelines and application forms for the reforms to summary criminal legal assistance, which will be implemented on 30 June 2008.

### Draft guidelines

These guidelines are also being distributed at the current seminars we are currently holding on the forthcoming reforms. They explain in detail the changes to the duty scheme, criminal advice and assistance, criminal ABWOR, and summary criminal legal aid. Also included is information on financial eligibility for both advice and assistance/ABWOR and summary criminal legal aid, as well as explanatory notes on using all the new application forms.

These guidelines will be updated as a result of issues raised at the current seminars, with a final copy issued in late June.

### New forms

Drafts of the following new forms are also included in the second enclosed document:

#### *Application forms*

- AA/APP/CRIM - Application for criminal advice and assistance / ABWOR
- AA/INC/CRIM - Application for a grant of criminal ABWOR or increase in authorised expenditure for criminal advice and assistance/ABWOR

- CRIM/SUMMARY- Application for criminal legal aid in summary proceedings
- CRIM/SANCTION - Criminal application for sanction
- CRIM/TRANSFER - Criminal request for transfer of agency
- CRIM/CEASE - Criminal notification of solicitor ceasing to act
- CRIM/EXCEPTIONAL - Summary criminal exceptional payments application

#### *Accounts*

- CRIM/ACCTS - Criminal legal assistance account synopsis
- CRIM/ACCTS/AB - Criminal legal assistance account synopsis - for ABWOR chargeable on a detailed basis

#### *For Legal Aid Online users*

- Criminal advice and assistance/ABWOR - Legal Aid Online Client Mandate form. The final version will be available online later in June.

Again, these drafts of the new forms are also being distributed at the current seminars.

Mailing 2, issued on 9 June 2008, gave you details of the starter packs of the new forms we will be issuing you with so that they can be used from 30 June onwards.