Report No: **SLAB/2019/07**

Agenda Item: **FOR INFO**

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| **Report to:** | The Board |
| **Meeting Date:** | 11 February 2019 |
| **Report Title** | Meetings with Outside Bodies |
| **Report Category** | For Information |
| **Issue status:** | Business as usual |

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| **Written by:** | Executive Assistance |
| **Director responsible:** | Chief Executive |
| **Presented by:** | N/A |
| **Contact details:** |  |

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| **Publication of the Paper** |
| This paper does not contain information of a sensitive nature and should be published. |

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| **Report** |

**SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT - JUSTICE**

*Scottish Government – Legal Aid Review* – On 17 December Colin Lancaster, Anne Dickson and John Osborne attended a meeting with Scottish Government officials to discuss matters relating to the Legal Aid Review.

*Justice Systems Planning Group* – On 19 December Marie-Louise Fox attended a meeting of the Justice Systems Planning Group.

**SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT - GENERAL**

*Scottish Government and Scottish Public Pensions Agency* – On 11 December Graeme Hill, Linda Laughland, Vince Simmons and Audrey Crawford attended a pensions inception meeting with representatives from the Scottish Government and Scottish Public Pensions Agency.

*Scottish Government* – On 22 January Graeme Hill, Vince Simmons and Audrey Crawford attended a meeting with SG officials on sponsorship and accountability.

**LAWYERS AND REPRESENTATIVE BODIES**

*Children's Quality Assurance Committee* – On 11 December Marie-Louise chaired a meeting of the Children’s Quality Assurance Committee.

*Faculty of Advocates* – On 12 December Marie-Louise Fox, Steven Carrie and Catriona Whyte met with representatives of the Faculty of Advocates Family Law Practitioners to discuss issues relating to legal aid.

*Faculty of Advocates* - On 18 December Colin Lancaster met with Gordon Jackson QC, Dean of the Faculty of Advocates to discuss matters of mutual interest.

*Law Society of Scotland* - On 8 January Ray Macfarlane and Colin Lancaster met with Alison Atack (President) and Lorna Jack (Chief Executive) of the Law Society of Scotland to discuss matters of mutual interest.

*Civil Quality Assurance Committee* – On 17 January Graeme Hill, Marie-Louise Fox and Jennifer Laughland attended a meeting of the Law Society of Scotland’s Civil Quality Assurance Committee.

*Criminal Quality Assurance Committee* - On 25 January Colin Lancaster chaired a meeting of the Criminal Quality Assurance Committee.

*Law Society of Scotland* – On 4 February Anne Dickson, John Osborne and Catriona Whyte met with representatives of the Law Society to discuss matters relating to the Single Aid Type and other matters relating to civil legal aid.

*Isle of Man Government* – On 6 February Colin Lancaster, Anne Dickson and Matthew Auchincloss met with HM Attorney General, John Quinn QC to discuss matters relating to the Island’s current review of criminal legal aid provision.

*Glasgow Bar Association* – On 7 February Board officials met with representatives of the Glasgow Bar Association.

**JUSTICE SECTOR BODIES**

*Scottish Courts & Tribunal Service* – On 11 December Colin Lancaster met with Eric McQueen, Chief Executive of the Scottish Courts & Tribunal Service to discuss matters of mutual interest.

*Crown Agent* – On 14 January Colin Lancaster met with David Harvie, Crown Agent to discuss matters of mutual interest.

*Scottish Civil Justice Council* – On 21 January Colin Lancaster attended a meeting of the Scottish Civil Justice Council. Agenda items included the Committee’s work programme; Justice System Reform – Courts Reform; Proposals for Rules – Policy Development and Implementation of Legislation.

*CHIP - Advocacy Reference Group* – On 23 January Marie-Louise Fox attended a meeting of the Children’s Hearings Improvement Partnership Advocacy Reference Group.

*Justice Board* – On 24 January Colin Lancaster attended a meeting of the Justice Board. Agenda items included Organisational and Board Priorities for 2019; Digital Evidence Sharing Capability Project and Criminal Justice Transformation update; Brexit Planning update; and Draft Budget 2019/20.

*Criminal Justice Review Programme Board* – On 31 January Marie-Louise Fox attended a meeting of the Criminal Justice Review Programme Board.

*COPFS and Police Scotland* - On 5 February Marie-Louise Fox, Cindy Morrice, Douglas Laughland and Ian Dickson met representatives from COPFS and Police Scotland to discuss SLAB investigation referrals to COPFS.

**PUBLIC BODIES**

*Scottish Futures Trust, Children’s Hearings Scotland and Mental Welfare Commission Steering Group* – On 18 December and 16 January Graeme Hill and Colin McKinnell met with representatives of Scottish Futures Trust, Children’s Hearings Scotland and the Mental Welfare Commission on their proposals to share accommodation on the third floor of Thistle House.

**OTHER MEETINGS**

*Joint Consultative Committee with Union* – On 13 December Colin Lancaster, Graeme Hill, Linda Laughland and Moira Williamson attended a meeting with the Union.

Colin Lancaster and Graeme Hill also met with the Union on 16 January to discuss the Resolution Framework and Interim Grievance Procedure.

*Audit Scotland* – On 7 January Graeme Hill, Vince Simmons and Audrey Crawford held a planning meeting with Morven Fraser and Elaine Barrowman of Audit Scotland.