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20 November 2013

Dear Stephen,

Informal resolution of the LSB investigation of the Bar Council

Thank you for your letter of 30 October 2013 seeking informal resolution of the investigation into the Bar Council's behaviour in the development and submission of a Bar Standards Board application to the LSB for approval of a rule change in October 2011.

Our investigation had concluded, amongst other things, that the Bar Council had failed to comply with requirements imposed upon it by the Internal Governance Rules and that its actions had had an adverse impact on the public interest by undermining the principle of independent regulation.

The Board has now considered your letter. The Board concluded that on the basis of the Bar Council's (and Bar Standards Board's) acceptance of the investigation's findings and the outcomes required to remedy them, and the undertakings given by the Bar Council (and Bar Standards Board) to make this acceptance of the investigation's findings clear to third parties and to implement those outcomes, it is prepared to resolve the investigation informally.

This decision is in keeping with our Statement of Policy on Compliance and Enforcement at:

http://www.legalservicesboard.org.uk/what we do/consultations/closed/pdf/statement of policy compliance and enforcement v2 november10.pdf.

The decision will now be communicated through publication of both this and your letter, and also the investigation report, on the LSB website on 25 November (Investigations section at:

http://www.legalservicesboard.org.uk/Projects/independent regulation/investigations.htm and also in Latest news). Previously redacted Board papers and minutes relating to the investigation will also be published on the website by 10 December at the latest.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Kenny Chief Executive

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