

Sent by email

Ed Nally
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**LEGAL SERVICES
BOARD**

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30 October 2019

Dear Ed

SDT Budget 2020

Following the discussion at our Board meeting on 22 October 2019, I am writing formally to confirm approval of the SDT's budget for 2020.

There were three issues that we agreed you would consider going forward and as you work towards the budget application for 2021:

- Developing a strategy on equality, diversity and inclusion across all aspects of the SDT's work, internally and externally, and visibly holding yourselves to account for delivery. I should mention in this context that we consider it important for the SDT to work closely with partners to understand outcomes at various stages of the disciplinary process for individuals possessing protected characteristics.
- Conducting a first principles review of your key performance metrics, which should include quality of decision-making
- Working towards parity of remuneration of lay and professional members

We also discussed our mutual wish to improve the accuracy of forecasting expected case volumes for the year ahead, recognising that the SDT largely relies on the SRA for this information. The Board wishes to see the SDT and SRA working together on this issue, and we would be happy to help facilitate where that is considered to be helpful.

I am especially grateful to Geraldine for making the time to attend the Board in person, particularly given that we were meeting outside of London. However, I am conscious that there are likely to be alternatives that may both improve the level of constructive challenge and the use of time by all parties. I have asked the team to consider options and will wish to discuss these with you in due course.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helen Phillips". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Helen" and the last name "Phillips" clearly distinguishable.

Dr Helen Phillips
Chair

cc: Geraldine Newbold, Clerk and Chief Executive Officer of the SDT