

Direction 170 issued under Part 3 of Schedule 4 to the Legal Services Act 2007 to the Solicitors regulation Authority (SRA)

1. This is a direction issued pursuant to paragraph 19(3) of Schedule 4 to the Legal Services Act 2007 (the Act).
2. Unless stated otherwise, words in this direction are used as they are defined in the Act.
3. In accordance with paragraph 19(3) of Schedule 4 to the Act, the Board has directed that the following alterations by the SRA to its regulatory arrangements be treated as exempt alterations for the purposes of paragraph 19(2)(c) of Schedule 4:

SRA Regulatory and Disciplinary Procedure (Amendment) Rules [2021]

Proposed changes

4. Alterations to the SRA Regulatory and Disciplinary Procedure Rules to make reference to the following two pieces of primary legislation:
 - (a) The Civil Liability Act 2018: which introduces a ban on regulated people from offering or agreeing to settle road traffic accident-related whiplash (personal injury) claims without a medical report, and
 - (b) The Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015: which bans inducements in personal injury.
5. The alterations amend rule 1 and 2 of the SRA Regulatory and Disciplinary Procedure Rules as follows:
 - (a) Rule 1 - after "Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012" delete "or" and insert: "section 58 of the Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015, section 6 of the Civil Liability Act 2018,"
 - (b) Rule 2 - These rules come into force on the date on which section 6 of the Civil Liability Act 2018 comes into force or the date on which they are approved by the Legal Services Board, whichever is the later.

Reason for exemption direction

6. The amendments to the SRA Regulatory and Disciplinary Procedure Rules do not represent a change in regulatory policy or approach but serve to add transparency for solicitors about existing prohibitions set out in primary legislation.
7. A copy of the alteration was submitted to the Board on 21 May 2021.
8. This direction is to be deemed made on and to be effective from 27 May 2021.

**For and on behalf of the Legal Services Board
27 May 2021**