

BY EMAIL (under section 203 of Legal Services Act 2007)

Sundeep Takwani
Director of Regulation
Association of Chartered Certified Accountants



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Dear Sundeep,

Extension notice issued under Part 3 of Schedule 4 to the Legal Services Act 2007

This letter is an extension notice issued under paragraph 21(5)(b) of Schedule 4 to the Legal Services Act 2007 (the "Act"). The words used in this extension notice have the meanings given to them in the Act.

On 22 October 2021, ACCA submitted an application under section 45(3) of the Act, for the LSB to make a recommendation to the Lord Chancellor that an order be made cancelling ACCA's designation as an approved regulator ("AR") in relation to its only reserved legal activity, probate activities. As part of that application, ACCA's has proposed alterations to its regulatory arrangements. ACCA's intention is for the alterations to give effect to its withdrawal from probate regulation and close any potential regulatory gaps.

The ACCA seeks to have these alterations come into effect on the expiry of the period which it has given its authorised persons to transfer to another approved regulator or cease to carry out probate activities, prior to any recommendation to the Lord Chancellor. The alterations therefore fall to be considered for approval by the LSB under Part 3 of Schedule 4 to the Act. Paragraph 21(4) of Schedule 4 to the Act sets out an initial decision period of 28 days within which the Legal Services Board may decide on the application for approval to alter regulatory arrangements. Paragraph 21(5) allows for this period to be extended.

The proposed changes to ACCA's regulatory arrangements are significant and will have an impact on the regulatory landscape and consumer protection. On this basis, the LSB has concluded that it needs to extend the initial decision period to allow time to facilitate proper scrutiny and consideration of the application, including seeking further information from ACCA as required.

Therefore, in accordance with paragraphs 21(5), (6) and (7) of Schedule 4 to the Act, the Board hereby extends the initial decision period to 90 days from when the application was submitted. The end of the decision period will therefore be 19 January 2022, although the LSB can make a decision before that date.

If you have any questions in relation to this notice, please contact Sally Al-Saleem (Sally.Al-Saleem@legalservicesboard.org.uk). A copy of this extension notice will be published on the LSB's website within the next two business days.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Hill', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matthew Hill

Chief Executive

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