

# **Statement of policy section 15(4) of the Legal Services 2007 Act**

**A response by  
The Chartered Institute of Legal Executives**

**18<sup>th</sup> November 2015**

## **For further details**

Should you require any  
further information,  
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November 2015

## Introduction

1. The Chartered Institute of Legal Executives (CILEx) is the professional association and governing body for Chartered Legal Executive lawyers, other legal practitioners and paralegals. CILEx represents around 20,000 members, which includes approximately 7,500 fully qualified Chartered Legal Executive lawyers.
2. We welcome the opportunity to respond to the LSB's draft statement of policy under section 49 of the Legal Services Act 2007 (the 2007 Act) in respect of the rules relating to in-house lawyers.
3. As per our response to the discussion paper<sup>1</sup>, CILEx has embraced risk based regulation which means that we act compatibly with the regulatory objectives and assess risk in terms of their probability and the impact of any harm they cause to desired outcomes, before action is taken. This helps to prioritise the regulatory activities and resources to areas of high risk.
4. We believe in-house lawyers are low risk. They are often subject to oversight by their employers, and may work in teams of other lawyers
5. Given the above, our current approach to regulating in-house practice works well and is supported by our members. Any change to this arrangement would be detrimental to the progress of CILEx members and would impact negatively on growth, competition and innovation in the legal sector. We have identified no risks through our disciplinary or monitoring processes which indicate there is no need for specific regulatory intervention.
6. In view of the foregoing, we have no objections to the draft statement of policy in respect of section 15 (4) of the 2007 Act.

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<sup>1</sup> LSB Discussion paper: Are regulatory restrictions in practising rules for in-house lawyers justified.