

Dear Chris (and Michael)

I am responding to your consultation. Adopting the formula in Annex B:

Q1 – IPReg does not support the “do nothing approach”

Q2 – IPReg believes that there should be a minimum contribution towards the costs of the LSB for all approved regulators who have approved regulatory arrangements whether or not they have any authorised persons (which is in the control of the approved regulator). We do not accept the argument that the LSB has “very little direct interaction” as a ground for not requiring a contribution to the levy. The LSB still all its statutory duties and retains an oversight responsibility in relation to all the organisations falling within this category. In relation to a possible fee for “new” bodies authorised in the relevant year we have no view either way.

Q3 – IPReg supports the proposal to averaging the number of complaints over a 3 year rolling period in order to determine the leviable expenditure of the OLC.

Q4 – IPReg does **not** support the proposal that there should be a minimum contribution of £5,000 towards the cost of the Legal Ombudsman. We support the view that “the polluter pays” and , in any event, the minimum contribution is de minimis in relation to the overall budget.

Regards

Ann Wright  
Chief Executive