

**From:** Ian Lithman  
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**To:** [Consultations]  
**Subject:** Re: Legal Services Board: Regulatory Independence Consultation

**Lithman & Co.** *Regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority*

*Ian H Lithman* **Solicitors & Commissioners for Oaths**

**72, Wimpole Street, London, England W1G 9RP**

**Telephone 0207 935 2212 (00 44 207 935 2212)**

**Fax 0207 487 4657 (00 44 207 487 4657)**

**Web Site [www.lithman.freeserve.co.uk](http://www.lithman.freeserve.co.uk)**

The following contains my response to the further consultation made by way of short comment in relation to the regulation of Solicitors:-

1. Law Society must be free to issue guidance if the SRA incorrectly interpret the regulatory provisions of the Act and the Rules made thereunder.
2. I do not agree that LSB should require a lay majority on regulatory boards, particularly given the proposed restrictive definition of lay persons nor should there be a lay majority on appointment panels who should all be appointed by the Law Society. The Chair of the board must be a solicitor appointed by the Law Society but not connected to the representative body.
3. It is nonsense to suggest that remuneration for the regulatory board should be determine by that board.
4. It makes no sense for there to be restrictions on the appointment to regulatory boards of people who have carried out representative work in the past.
5. To give the regulatory board the power to do anything calculated to be incidental to their remit is too wide.
6. The arrangements which the Law Society has, ensures that the views of the SRA are taken into account in setting the budget but the Law Society can not expect the profession to have an open purse policy for the benefit of the SRA.

7. The necessity for the adoption and implementation by the SRA of access to justice is law reform and a statutory regulatory objective.

Ian Lithman

0207 935 2212 **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.** Lithman & Co Solicitors & Commissioners for Oaths of 72 Wimpole Street  
London W1G 9RP

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