

**From:** John Penley

**Sent:** 26 June 2009 09:55

**To:** ContactUs

**Subject:** Regulatory Independence: Consultation on proposed rules to be made under sections 30 and 51 of the Legal Services Act 2007 (c.29)

1.IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT MEMBERS OF THE SOLICITORS PROFESSION CONTINUE TO PLAY A FULL ROLE IN REGULATION

2.THE PROFESSION MUST REMAIN ,AND BE SEEN TO REMAIN INDEPENDENT FROM government BOTH FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC AND TO PRESERVE THE STATUS OF THE PROFESSION INTERNATIONALLY

3.THE PROPOSAL THAT A MAJORITY OF MEMBERS OF THE REGULATORY ARM SHOULD BE NON-SOLICITORS IS WRONG. ALSO THERE IS NO REASON WHY A MAJORITY OF MEMBERS OF APPOINTMENT PANELS SHOULD BE NON SOLICITORS. THIS SLANDERS SOLICITORS WITH THE STIGMA THAT THEY CANNOT ACT INDEPENDENTLY AND WILL ONLY EVER BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THEIR PROFESSION

4. IT WILL BE WRONG IF THE REGULATORY ARMS HAVE A UNILATERAL RIGHT TO OPT OUT. THE FINANCIAL COSTS FOR THE PROFESSION WILL BE OPPRESSIVE. IT IS UNIVERSALLY ACCEPTED THAT THE WHOLE ECONOMY IS MOVING INTO AN ERA OF SEVERE FINANCIAL RESTRAINT. IT IS WHOLLY WRONG THAT REGULATORY ARMS SHOULD BE ABLE TO FLY IN THE FACE OF THIS AND TAKE ACTIONS WHICH WILL INCREASE COSTS; THEY SHOULD BE LOOKING AT WAYS TO REDUCE THEM..

5. THE LAW SOCIETY SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR APPOINTMENTS TO THE SRA BOARD ACTING ON GUIDELINES LAID DOWN BY THE LSB

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