



Legal Services Board
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Charles Plant
Chairman
Solicitors Regulation Authority
Ipsley Court
Berrington Close
Redditch
B98 0TD

19 March 2010

Dear Charles,

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

I am writing to you with regard to issuing an Extension Notice pursuant to paragraph 21(5) 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 16 February 2010, the Legal Services Board confirmed receipt of the Solicitors Regulation Authority's application: "Application for the approval of the SRA (Disciplinary Procedures) Rules [2010]", to alter its regulatory arrangements. Paragraph 21(4) requires the Board to make a decision with regard to the application within 28 days of receiving the application (the "initial decision period").

After an assessment of the application, and in accordance with paragraphs 21(5), (6) and (7) of Schedule 4 to the Act, on 11 March the Legal Services Board extended the initial decision period until the end of Monday 17 May 2010.

We issued the extension until 17 May 2010 for the following reasons:

- The Solicitors Regulation Authority has suggested in the application that it may be appropriate for the Legal Services Board to oversee discussions involving the Solicitors Regulation Authority, the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal and the Law Society about the standard of proof to be applied. This is because both the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal and the Law Society have raised concerns that the proposed rules would apply the civil standard of proof but that the Tribunal would be bound to apply the criminal standard proof when dealing with appeals from Solicitors Regulation Authority disciplinary decisions. The Legal Services Board

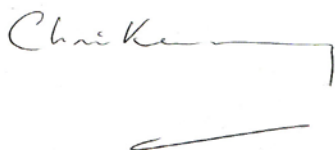
agrees that such discussions would be appropriate and it will take some time for this to be undertaken.

- The full Legal Services Board would like to consider the application and the first opportunity to do so will be at its meeting of Tuesday 27 April.

This Extension Notice was deemed made on and effective from Thursday 11 March 2010 to expire at the end of Monday 17 May 2010. However, the Act requires that an extension notice must end no later than the end of the period 90 days beginning with the date on which the application was made. The last working day before the end of that 90 day period is Friday 14 May 2010. Therefore, the end of Friday 14 May 2010 shall be the date that the Extension Notice expires and not the end of Monday 17 May 2010.

I believe that this will allow us sufficient time to consider the revised application in light of the above activity. We remain committed to determining the application as quickly as possible will do so before the 14 May if this proves possible.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Kenny", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chris Kenny

Chief Executive

E email address: chris.kenny@legalservicesboard.org.uk

CC: Robert Heslett

Antony Townsend

Jackie Corcoran