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Dear Chris

Ongoing Competence [Call for Evidence](#)

IPReg's own scheduled review of its regulatory arrangements will include ongoing competence meaning the opportunity to inform the LSB's Review regarding Ongoing Competence is very welcome. IPReg does not intend to make a detailed submission to the Call for Evidence, this letter comprises the extent of its response.

Successful entry on to the patent attorney or trade mark attorney registers include both experience and qualification requirements. The [Competency Frameworks](#) set out the skills set, breadth and depth of knowledge, which are expected at admission on to the register. Whilst these are not binding requirements, they were created with the intention of being useful tools for both trainees and their supervisors in tracking progress towards qualification.

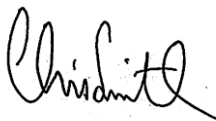
IPReg understands it is not just important that individuals at admission to legal regulatory registers have the necessary skills, knowledge and attributes to provide good quality services, but that these are kept up to date and relevant over time in their post-qualification practice.

IPReg places [Continuing Professional Development \(CPD\) requirements](#) on its attorneys. Attorneys are only able to renew their practising certificate for the next practising year upon having submitted a compliant CPD Declaration for the previous practice year, or having applied for and been granted a CPD waiver (an attorney can make waiver applications through their online IPReg account).

As you are likely aware, IPReg had been scheduled to commence its own Call for Evidence, the starting point for a detailed regulatory arrangements review. This CfE has necessarily been deferred due to the current Covid-19 pandemic and will go ahead as soon as practicably able to. When undertaking the review we will be very interested in the findings of the LSB's valuable piece of work in this area.

Kind regards

Lord Smith of Finsbury



Chair, Intellectual Property Regulation Board

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