

**BAR
STANDARDS
BOARD**

REGULATING BARRISTERS

By email to: Matthew.Hill@legalservicesboard.org.uk

Matthew Hill
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Legal Services Board
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2 Dyott Street
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2 February 2024

Dear Matthew

REGULATORY REFORM

I am writing to provide assurance on our progress in delivering the reforms to which we committed last April. The latest update is attached as annex A. The Board reviewed this update at its meeting on 25 January. This letter reflects that discussion.

As you will see from the update, we remain largely on track to deliver the principal reforms, although the intervening Christmas/New Year holiday means that there are few changes since the last report in December.

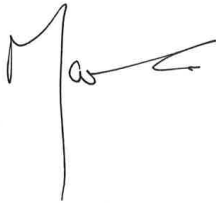
Nevertheless, we have maintained momentum. Significant developments include:

- Fieldfisher has now delivered its preliminary report of the review of enforcement. The report, which has been considered by both the BSB Senior Leadership Team and the Bar Tribunal and Adjudication Service Strategic Advisory Board, was endorsed by the Board at its meeting last week. Fieldfisher will now finalise the report and, in parallel, the Senior Leadership Team will develop proposals to implement the main findings.
- A consultation was launched on 8 January aimed at simplifying and updating the current definition of academic legal training as the threshold which prospective students must meet before being admitted to vocational Bar training. The consultation will run until early April and be complemented by workshops with stakeholders.

- A Solution Owner for the Customer Relationship Management (CRM) and Case Management (CMS) systems joined the Bar Standards Board/Bar Council in December. The postholder will work closely with the BSB Head of Change and joint PMO on scoping the changes to these systems needed to implement the recommendations of the Deloitte Review and of the Fieldfisher review of Enforcement. The aim will be to ensure that the systems support the efficient delivery of the revised end-to-end enforcement process.
- Revised guidance on Continuing Professional Development was published in January to coincide with the new CPD year. We plan to ask a number of questions of all barristers about CPD experience and priorities.

We are, of course, at your disposal to discuss.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Neale', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mark Neale
Director General