

By email only

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23 October 2026

Dear Sheila,

Notice under rule 11(b) of the LSB Practising Fee Rules 2021

This letter is an extension notice issued under Rule 11 (b) of the LSB Practising Fee Rules 2021.

Thank you for the CLC's application of 21 September 2026 seeking approval for the proposed practising fees for 2026/27 under s.51(5) of the Legal Services Act 2007.

When we acknowledged receipt of the application we explained that the 35 day period for determining the application would expire by 25 October 2026 and that we would notify you in advance if an extension was necessary. The Guidance to section D (procedure) of the Practising Fee Rules provides for an extension of the decision period in exceptional circumstances. We consider that arises here.

As you know, we raised several issues with the CLC about its proposals, in particular its financial resilience, whether the CLC is resourced to effectively deliver regulatory activities, OLC costs and the CLC's approach to assessing benefits delivered for practising fee spend. These issues are material to our assessment of whether the application satisfies the relevant criteria under the Practising Fee Rules. Given the extent of those issues, it is not reasonably practicable to complete our determination within 35 days. In these circumstances, additional time is necessary to complete our assessment and reach a decision. We are therefore extending the decision period from 25 October to 29 October; however if we are able to complete our assessment sooner, we will notify you of our decision before that date. A copy of this extension notice will be published on the LSB's website within the next two business days.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Orpin', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Richard Orpin
Chief Executive
E: Richard.orpin@legalservicesboard.org.uk