

13th December 2016

To all Duty Solicitors on Rotherham and Sheffield Police Station Duty Schemes
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Dear Duty Solicitor

Consultation response on Police Station Duty Solicitor Schemes following move of Rotherham police station work to Sheffield

Further to the Agency's letter dated 11th November 2016 this is the Legal Aid Agency's response regarding the move of Rotherham police station work to Shepcote Lane police station, Sheffield in April 2016.

From April 2016 work previously dealt with at Rotherham police station has been directed to Shepcote Lane police station, Sheffield. As a result no police station duty solicitor work is available in the Rotherham duty area. All Sheffield and Rotherham duty solicitor work is being carried out within the Sheffield duty area.

The options set out in the consultation were:

Option 1 – Amend the scheme boundaries for the Sheffield Police Station Duty scheme from 1st January 2017 allowing Duty Solicitors who are currently members of the Rotherham Police Station Duty scheme to become members of the Sheffield Police Station Duty scheme. This will allow access to all work. The Sheffield Court and Police Station Duty Rota would then be renamed the Sheffield & Rotherham Court & Police Station Duty Rota and the separate Rotherham Rota will cease to exist from 1st January 2017.

Option 2 – Make no change to the scheme boundaries in place at present, ie Police Station Duty at Rotherham will cease to exist from 1st January 2017 and providers currently eligible for membership of the Sheffield Police Station Duty Scheme will continue to access duty slots on the Sheffield Police Station rota.

Summary of Responses Received

Two responses were received, both of which expressed a preference for Option 1.

Consultation Outcome

As detailed above, the consultation responses received expressed a preference for Option 1. We will therefore take the necessary steps to implement this option.

Impact on affected Duty Solicitor Schemes

Members of the Rotherham Police Station Duty Scheme will be automatically eligible to undertake duty work at Sheffield police station from 1st January 2017.

Rota Publication

The Sheffield police station rota operational from 1st October 2016 will be issued to reflect this change. The Sheffield Court and Police Station Duty Rota will then be renamed the Sheffield & Rotherham Court & Police Station Duty Rota and the separate Rotherham Rota will cease to exist from 1st January 2017.

Further enquiries

Should you have any queries or need to discuss this consultation response further you should contact your local Contract Manager at the Leeds Regional Office.

Many thanks.