

9<sup>th</sup> February 2017

To all Duty Solicitors on Haringey and Enfield Police Station Duty Schemes
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Dear Duty Solicitor,

**Consultation response on Police Station Duty Solicitor Schemes following closure of Edmonton police station custody suite**

Further to the Agency's letter of 6th January 2017 this is the Legal Aid Agency's response regarding the closure of Edmonton police station custody suite and for all Edmonton duty slots to be dealt with at Wood Green police station custody suite in Wood Green, Haringey.

From 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016 work previously dealt with at Edmonton police station has been directed to Wood Green police station, Haringey. As a result no police station duty solicitor work is available at Edmonton police station.

The options set out in the consultation were:

Option 1 - It is proposed that the LAA take steps to merge the Enfield Scheme with the Haringey Scheme, and the new Scheme Boundary becomes that of both areas. Members of both current Schemes will become a member of the newly created Scheme and will be included on the appropriate Police Station and Court rotas within this Scheme which will be a single Police Station rota based at Wood Green Police Station and Court Duty rotas based at Tottenham Magistrates Court. Merging of the Enfield Scheme with the Haringey Scheme would require amendments to Regulations and a consultation on the fees.

Option 2 – The second option is that the current arrangements continue. Those providers based in the Enfield and Haringey areas will continue to be members of the Court Scheme based at Tottenham Magistrates Court and the Police schemes based at Wood Green and Enfield Police Stations. As the Police at Wood Green Police Station have agreed to ask for the relevant duty solicitor on the point of talking to the DSCC, members of the Enfield duty Scheme would still be awarded their Enfield duties although as the 4 boroughs eligible for Enfield are also eligible for Haringey, members of both schemes will still be called through their membership of the Haringey scheme. The 2 fees would remain the same and a rota would remain for Enfield.

**Summary of Responses Received**

Eight responses were received, all of which expressed a preference for Option 2.

## **Consultation Outcome**

As detailed above, the consultation responses received expressed a preference for Option 2. We will therefore take the necessary steps to implement this option.

## **Impact on affected Duty Solicitor Schemes**

There will be no impact. Wood Green police station have been instructed to ask for the relevant duty solicitor on the point of talking to the DSCC, members of the Enfield duty Scheme would still be awarded their Enfield duties.

## **Rota Publication**

No change will arise as a result of this.

## **Further enquiries**

Should you have any queries or need to discuss this consultation response further you should contact your Contract Manager.

Yours faithfully