



Legal Aid
Agency

Brighton Regional Office
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3rd March 2017

To all Guildford, Redhill and Staines Court Duty Solicitor Scheme Members

Dear Duty Solicitor

Response to the Consultation with Staines, Guildford and Redhill scheme members following HMCTS decision to close Redhill Magistrates' Court.

On Friday 10th February, the Legal Aid Agency issued a consultation under paragraph 6.5 of the 2010 Standard Crime Contract Specification. The consultation was regarding eligibility of schemes due to the imminent closure of Redhill Magistrates' Court.

The deadline for responses was Friday 24th February 2017 and this letter is intended as formal notification of the outcome of the consultation. Thank you to all those that responded and we have taken all of your views into consideration.

Arrangements for 1st April Court Duty Rotas:

The LAA will combine the court membership lists of Guildford and Redhill and the duty solicitor will be rota'd slots for work to be undertaken at Guildford and Staines Magistrates' Courts.

Following representations the call-in slot which was proposed for Monday is amended to attendance. Therefore just to clarify all the rota slots are classed as attendance. There were also representations to add additional duty solicitors to the Guildford rota for certain days. The decision has been taken to only rota 1 duty solicitor but we commit to reviewing this with the Courts after 3 weeks and will make any additional changes if required.

The rotas for both Guildford and Staines will be drawn up as per the template outlined in the consultation paper.

Kind regards

South East Contract Management Team