



Asiantaeth Cymorth  
Cyfreithiol

Legal Aid  
Agency

## **Introduction and Background**

### **Mold & Hawarden and Wrexham Duty Solicitor Schemes**

This consultation is in response to a request from HMCTS concerning the North East Wales Local Justice Area.

## **This Consultation**

This consultation paper comprises two sections:

Section 1 outlines the Duty Solicitor Schemes affected by the request to merge the court rotas.

Section 2 outlines the options identified to change the Duty Solicitor Schemes affected within your local region.

We are consulting on these proposals for 3 weeks, from 09/6/17 to 30/6/17.

Responses should be sent by email to [lisa.gill@legalaid.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.gill@legalaid.gsi.gov.uk), titled 'Mold & Hawarden and Wrexham Consultation'.

**Section 1 – Duty Solicitor Schemes affected.**

- We have received a request from HMCTS to merge the court rotas in Mold and Wrexham in order to facilitate the efficient running of the court service in the North East Wales Local Justice Area.

As a result of this, we would need to revise the following schemes:

- Mold & Hawarden Duty Scheme
- Wrexham Duty Scheme

All postcode sectors are mapped into at least one Duty Scheme. The changes proposed here will not affect this.

### **Determining Eligibility for revised Schemes**

To assist providers in determining which Scheme(s) they are eligible to join, the postcode sectors providing access to work within each scheme, which can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/duty-solicitors-rotas-information-and-guidance> , will be updated in accordance with the outcome of this consultation.

## **Section 2 – Proposed revisions to schemes in Mold & Hawarden and Wrexham**

### **Proposed Changes**

As a result of this request, it is proposed to replace the current Mold & Hawarden and Wrexham schemes with one merged court scheme.

#### **Option 1**

To support this listing pattern, we propose that the Mold & Hawarden and Wrexham court duty rotas are merged so that duty slots for the court are shared across all providers that qualify for the two schemes.

As part of this option, the police station rotas of Mold Police station and Wrexham Police Station will continue to remain separate, meaning police station duty qualification remains as currently set.

#### **Option 2**

To support this listing pattern, we propose that the Mold & Hawarden and Wrexham duty schemes are merged both for court duty work and police station matters.

#### **Option 3**

No change to the existing arrangements and duty scheme eligibility remains as currently set with separate schemes in Mold & Hawarden and Wrexham.

Respondents are invited to express a preference in line with the options above. Changes will be made in accordance with the majority preference. A non-response will be deemed an acceptance of no change to the existing schemes.