

14<sup>th</sup> November 2017

**To all Duty Solicitors on the  
Trafford, Stockport and  
Manchester  
Police Station Duty Schemes**

Dear Duty Solicitor

**Consultation response on Police Station Duty Solicitor Schemes following move of  
Trafford police station work to Cheadle Heath and North Manchester Custody Sites**

Further to the Consultation on the Trafford Police Station Duty Solicitor Scheme, this is the Legal Aid Agency's response regarding the concerns as to the efficacy of the present working arrangements of the Trafford Police station Duty rota.

From the summer of 2016 work previously dealt with at Pendleton Police Station for the Trafford Duty Solicitor Scheme has been split between Longsight and Cheadle Heath Police Stations.

Following consultation it was decided on the basis of responses to retain a separate Trafford Police Station Scheme and for members of the Trafford Scheme to be called to Longsight or Cheadle Heath Police Stations to deal with Trafford arrests.

As a result of concerns expressed by some Scheme members about not receiving calls, we consulted on whether to change the arrangements by merging the Trafford Scheme with either the Manchester or Stockport Scheme, or whether to leave the arrangements as they were.

We stated in the consultation that if the number of responses received revealed no decisive preference in favour of change, the existing arrangements would continue and there would be no change to the affected Schemes.

**Summary of Responses Received**

We received a total of 4 responses.

Of those 4 responses, 2 providers preferred option 2 (merge with Stockport), 1 provider preferred option 1 (merge with Manchester) and the other provider did not think that any of the LAA options were satisfactory.

**Consultation Outcome**

Clearly there is no option which is favoured by a majority of providers who responded. In addition, a very small number of responses were received from Scheme members.

Therefore we do not feel justified in changing the Trafford Police Station Duty Solicitor scheme rota at this time.

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

The Trafford, Manchester and Stockport Schemes will remain as they are.

However, we will revisit this if there is sufficient cause in future to do so.