



**TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHICHESTER AND WORTHING POLICE STATION SCHEMES**

### **Introduction and Background**

This consultation is in response to Sussex Police's announcement that Chichester police station will close on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018. It is planned that detainees will be sent to Worthing police station.

### **This Consultation**

This consultation paper comprises two sections:

**Section 1** outlines the Duty Solicitor Schemes affected by the change of custody arrangements.

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

We are consulting on these proposals for 4 weeks, from 3/9/18 to 1/10/18.

Responses should be sent by email to **SEContractmanagers@justice.gov.uk**, titled 'Chichester Consultation'.

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

We have been informed that Chichester police station will close on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2018. The closure of Chichester Court already means that Chichester cases are heard at Worthing and Crawley Courts and we consequently propose an option for merging both the police station and court duty schemes.

As a result of these changes, we would potentially need to revise the following schemes:

- Chichester Duty Scheme
- Worthing Duty Scheme

## **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 changes to the Chichester & Worthing Schemes**

### **Option 1**

- (a) Combine the membership lists of Worthing and Chichester police station and court duty schemes. The duty solicitors from the Chichester list will be allocated slots on the Worthing rota and there will no longer be a Chichester rota. The scheme will be renamed the Worthing and Chichester Scheme.

Or;

- (b) As above but due to the potential for increased call volumes we would like to consider setting up an 'A & B' police station rota by which two duty solicitors would be rota'd for each police station slot on the combined scheme, with calls allocated on an alternate basis.

### **Option 2**

Retain the existing Chichester and Worthing schemes; dependent on the location of their arrest, clients detained at Worthing will be offered a representative from the appropriate Police Station rota. This option relies on the police and call centre to identify which duty list to employ for each client.

We would be grateful for your views on the above options along with any other suggestions that you feel should be considered.