



Bristol Regional Office
Legal Aid Agency
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House, The Square, Temple Quay,
Bristol,
BS1 6DG
DX 7852 Bristol

Date: 12 February 2021

To: All Firms with Duty
Solicitors on the Torbay &
Teignbridge Schemes

Dear Sir / Madam

**Response to Consultation with Torbay & Teignbridge scheme members
regarding Legal Aid Agency's (LAA) proposal to amalgamate the two schemes**

On 8th January 2021, the LAA issued a consultation regarding possible changes to the Torbay & Teignbridge Duty Solicitor schemes which would be affected by the LAA proposal to amalgamate the two schemes together.

The deadline for responses to the consultation was 29th January 2021 and the timetable for the consultation exercise indicated that following consideration of any responses, all affected parties would be notified of the outcome of the consultation. Therefore, this letter is intended as formal notification of the outcome of the consultation.

Summary of Responses

A total of 3 responses to the consultation on proposed changes to the Torbay & Teignbridge Duty Solicitor Schemes were received.

Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to provide feedback on the proposals.

The 3 responses include members of both schemes.

Decision

After careful consideration of the responses received, the Legal Aid Agency have decided to proceed with **Option 2 "Combine the two schemes into one scheme, with providers with post codes in either the current Torbay or Teignbridge**

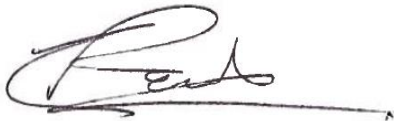
schemes becoming eligible for the resulting combined Torbay & Teignbridge scheme."

No objections to this proposal were received and the LAA believes it represents a transition to a more sustainable scheme, which will be easier for all parties to administer and work within.

Next steps

- Option 2 proposed in the consultation document will take effect on 1st April 2021.
- New rotas will be issued to cover the period 1st April 2021 to 30th September 2021

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Louise Parcell', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Louise Parcell
Area Contract Manager