

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE HULL POLICE STATION DUTY SCHEME

Introduction and Background

Duty Schemes

This consultation is a result of concerns raised by Hull Police Station Duty Solicitor scheme members and stakeholders, regarding the sustainability of maintaining a 12 Hour police station rota with one Duty Solicitor. This is due to the increased volume in arrests in the area.

Currently, the Police Station rota consists of two daily rotas, operating between 0900-2100 and 2100-0900, with one duty solicitor allocated to the rota. The number of scheme members is twenty-four from seven providers.

Scheme members have suggested that following the increase in arrests, which has meant an increase in demand, the scheme is busier and with other demands on their capacity, including the Magistrates Court Duty rota and own client work this is no longer tenable. DSCC and Humberside Police data has been obtained and reviewed by the LAA and this would indicate there is a need to increase the number of Duty Solicitors to meet demand and alleviate the pressure on Duty Solicitors. During January-December 2023 an average of 10.7 DSCC matters were dealt with during any 12-hour rota period.

This consultation seeks to determine the favoured approach amongst scheme members, with a view to reissuing the rota with effect from 3rd April 2024.

The Magistrate Court Duty arrangements for this scheme are not subject to consultation and are intended to remain unchanged.

This Consultation

This consultation paper comprises two sections:

Section 1 outlines the **Duty Scheme membership concerns** and the Duty Scheme affected.

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

We are consulting on these proposals for 2 weeks, from Thursday 15th February 2024 to Thursday 29th **February 2024**.

Please ensure your final response is sent to: gemma.crossley1@justice.gov.uk with the heading marked "Hull Police Station Consultation Response" to be received no later than 5.00pm on 29th February 2024. We will aim to confirm the outcome of the consultation week commencing 4th March 2024.

Section 1 - Proposed revisions to schemes in the Hull Police Station scheme.

Hull Police Station rota to be amended to retain the two 12-hour periods but increase the number of Duty Solicitors.

Section 2 Proposed Changes Hull Police Station

Option 1 – Make no changes and continue with the rota in its current format.

Option 2 – The current Hull Police Station rota would remain as two rota periods 09:00- 21:00 and 21:00 – 09:00. To increase the rota allocation to two duty solicitors across each 12-hour period.

The current scheme has 24 members.

Our preferred option is Option 2 which would address Provider and Stakeholder concerns.

If you have any other suggested options that you feel we should consider, we would be grateful for your views. Please note, subject to the outcome of this consultation, it is our intention to increase the number of Duty Solicitors allocated per slot with effect from 3rd April 2024.