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Dr Vanessa Davies
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25 January 2018

Dear Malcolm and Vanessa

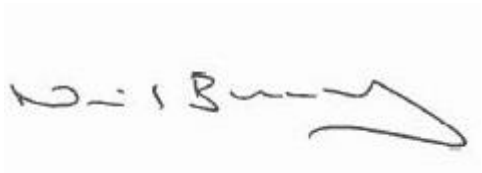
Approval of 2018 Practising Certificate Fee (PCF) application made by The Bar Council to the Legal Services Board (LSB) under section 51 of the Legal Services Act 2007

I confirm that the levels of the 2018 practising certificates fees as set out in the application of 20 December 2017 have been approved by LSB. We are content that the information provided met the criteria of LSB's Practising Fee Rules 2016. This decision has been made under the authority delegated to me as the Chief Executive.

I was pleased to see that the fee remains at the same level as the previous year and the Bar Council is aiming to keep it static for the next two/three years. We also note the progress that has been made to address the deficit in the defined benefit pension scheme and that the Bar Council now has a plan and timescale to ensure that, once the pension deficit has been discharged, the £1.3m deficit will be removed from the PCF calculation.

Finally, we were grateful for the additional information provided to address our questions regarding the allocation of PCF to permitted purposes. While we were content with the responses in terms of this assessment and our approval of this year's fee, we may want to return, outside of the PCF process, to how the Bar Council allocates PCF to permitted purposes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Neil Buckley", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Neil Buckley
Chief Executive

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