

2 April 2019

Chris Nichols
Director of Policy and Regulation
Legal Services Board
1 Kemble Street
London
WC2B 4AN

Dear Chris

I am writing on behalf of the ACL council in relation to the application made by the CLSB on 26 January 2019 for the approval of new regulatory arrangements in respect of the proposed introduction of a Costs Lawyers Competency Assessment. The ACL Council believes, pursuant to paragraph 26(2) of Schedule 4 to the Legal Services Act 2007, if the CLSB is not given notice of its decision within the decision period that the application is deemed to have been granted on the 25 April 2019. Please can you confirm that our understanding is correct?

We would also like for you to be aware that page 8 of the CLSB's application document contains an inaccuracy; it refers to part of ACL's consultation response and states that 'the standards statement the ACL refers to was not written by the CLSB but by ACL Training'. The standards statement the ACL referred to within their consultation response (pages 2 and 3) was the threshold statement agreed between the CLSB and ACL Training.

That standard was the result of collaboration between the CLSB Education Auditor, the CEO of the CLSB and ACL Training's Head of Education. The work done on the statement was done following the recommendation of the CLSB Education Audit in 2014. The Education Audit in 2015 reported that the standard had been articulated.

I look forward to your reply

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Diane Pattenden', with a horizontal line underneath.

Diane Pattenden
Head of Operations