

To:	Board
Date of Meeting:	12 October 2011
Item:	Paper (11) 72

Title:	ABS implementation: next steps – key issues and risks
Workstream(s):	Workstream 5b: Widening access to the legal market
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Status:	Restricted

Summary:
The Board receives regular reports about the key issues and risks concerning the implementation of alternative business structures (ABS). The October update is attached (Annex A). We propose that future updates will be included in the Chief Executive's progress report (as necessary).

Risks and mitigations	
Financial:	N/A.
FoIA:	Annex A (columns 4-7) – s36(2).
Legal:	N/A.
Reputational:	By the date of the Board meeting, all relevant parts of the Legal Services Act 2007 should have been commenced and CLC will be able to license ABS. SRA's designation is on course for later in 2011. This is a key policy achievement for the LSB.
Resource:	No current issues.

Consultation	Yes	No	Who / why?
Board Members:		✓	N/A.
Consumer Panel:		✓	N/A.
Others:	N/A.		

Recommendation:
The Board is invited to note and to comment on the progress of the implementation of ABS (Annex A).

Annex A – ABS implementation: next steps – key issues and risks (October 2011)

Topic	Next key date(s)	Board input	[FoIA exempt – s36(2)]		Mitigation	Rating	Change
			Key issues/risks				
Maximum Financial Penalty SI	Rules have been made by the Board	N/A				[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
SRA appellate body	Order has been laid, no date for debate yet	N/A	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Section 69 Order	Agreed by Parliament	N/A				[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
CLC application to become licensing authority	Designation Order laid 18 August and came into force on 12 September	None				[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
SRA application to become licensing authority	Lord Chancellor agreed LSB recommendation on 15 September	None	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Commencement Order	Commencement Order for all ABS parts of LSA laid on 7 September	N/A	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Consequential amendments Orders	Consequential amendments are included in designation Orders	N/A	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Rehabilitation of Offenders (Exceptions) Order	MoJ has agreed to include those with "significant interest" in an expedited Order	N/A	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
LSB resources	Ongoing	N/A	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Research market baseline analysis document	Published on 12 August 2011		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
LSA Part 5 Impact Assessment	MoJ confirmed 7 April that no IA needed. LSB identifying ways to publish work to complement Orders to be laid by 16 May		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]