



To:	Board		
Date of Meeting:	30 November 2011	Item:	Paper 11(81)

Title:	ABS Implementation: Next Steps – Key Issues and Risks
Workstream(s):	Workstream 5b: Widening access to the legal market
Author / presented by:	Fran Gillon, Director of Regulatory Practice fran.gillon@legalservicesboard.org.uk / 020 7271 0087
Status:	Restricted

Summary:
The Board receives regular reports about the key issues and risks concerning the implementation of alternative business structures (ABS). The November update is attached (Annex A). 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:	The CLC is now 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 (November 2011)

Topic	Next key date(s)	Board input	[FoIA exempt – s36(2)]		Change
			Key issues/risks	Mitigation	
Maximum Financial Penalty SI	Rules have been made by the Board	N/A		[REDACTED]	█
SRA appellate body	Order has been laid. Debated and agreed in HoL on 15/11 and debate scheduled in Commons on 23/11	N/A	█	[REDACTED]	█
Section 69 Order	Agreed by Parliament	N/A		[REDACTED]	█
CLC application to become licensing authority	Designation Order laid 18 August and came into force on 12 September	None		[REDACTED]	█
SRA application to become licensing authority	Lord Chancellor agreed LSB recommendation on 15 September	None	█	[REDACTED]	█

Commencement Order	Commencement Order for ABS now in force	N/A			[REDACTED]	█
Consequential amendments Orders	Consequential amendments are included in SRA designation Order					
Rehabilitation of Offenders (Exceptions) Order	Order has been laid. Debated and agreed in HoL on 15/11 and debate scheduled in Commons on 23/11	N/A	█		[REDACTED]	█
LSB resources	Ongoing	N/A	█		[REDACTED]	█
Research market baseline analysis document	Published on 12 August 2011				[REDACTED]	█
LSA Part 5 Impact Assessment	MoJ confirmed 7 April that no IA identifying ways to publish work to complement Orders to be laid by 16 May			█	[REDACTED]	█