

To:	Legal Services Board	
Date of Meeting:	29 September 2014	Item: Paper (14) 48

Title:	Board member contacts with approved regulators
Workstream(s):	
Author / Introduced by:	Adewale Kadiri, Corporate Governance Manager adewale.kadiri@legalservicesboard.org.uk / 020 7271 0070
Status:	

Summary:
<p>On 19 June 2014, the Chairman wrote to the Chairs of the eight regulatory bodies inviting them to consider the establishment of informal links between selected members of their boards and LSB members. All bar one of the regulators responded to this invitation, and of these, six agreed with the proposal.</p> <p>This paper confirms the agreed links.</p>

Recommendation(s):
The Board is invited to note the paper.

Risks and mitigations
Financial:
Legal:
Reputational:
Resource:

Consultation	Yes	No	Who / why?
Board Members:			
Consumer Panel:			
Others:			

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (Fol)		
Para ref	Fol exemption and summary	Expires
Annex A	Section 36(2)(b) – information likely to inhibit the free and frank provision of advice	

LEGAL SERVICES BOARD

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1. On 19 June 2014, the Chairman wrote to Chairs of all the then authorised regulatory bodies as part of his introduction to the sector. He spoke of the need to develop good informal relationships at Board level to supplement formal Executive relationships and communications, and that LSB Board members are keen to be involved in this process. The Chairman put forward the idea that one Board member from each of the bodies could link up with a counterpart from the LSB as a means of ensuring better informed conversations in and between the respective Boards.
2. Responses to these letters were received from all the bodies, with only one exception. Of these, all bar the Council of Licensed Conveyancers (CLC), agreed, at least in principle, with the proposal to establish an informal link between Board members, and indeed the Board Standards Board (BSB) and ILEX Professional Services (IPS) have already named their nominated liaison members.
3. On 13 August, the Corporate Governance Manager sent to Board members a list setting out the regulators to which they were each being linked. This list is attached at **Annex A**. Short briefings on each of the regulators are being prepared and will be circulated to relevant Board members. These include whatever biographical information is available on their counterparts, where they have been identified, as well as dates of upcoming Board meetings where these are known, although most of the bodies hold their meetings in private. Contact is being made with those regulators who are yet to confirm the identity of their link members, and this information will be passed on to the relevant LSB member upon receipt.
4. With regard to the CLC, although they have stated that the proposed link member arrangement would not work for them, they indicated their willingness to consider a Board to Board session, or for one or more LSB members to attend a breakfast or dinner event hosted by them. The Executive will consider the feasibility of these proposals and revert to the Board at a later date.

10.09.14