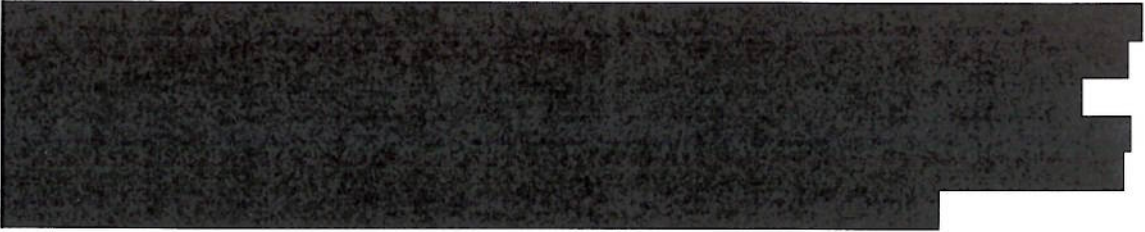




To:	Board	
Date of Meeting:	28 October 2010	Item: Paper (10) 69

Title:	ABS implementation: next steps – key issues and risks	
Workstream(s):	Alternative Business Structures (ABS)	
Author / Presented by:	Fran Gillon, Director of Regulatory Practice fran.gillon@legalservicesboard.org.uk / 020 7271 0087	
Status:	Restricted	

Summary:
<p>ABS 'go live' is now less than a year away. The attached table (Annex A) provides the Board with an outline of the key next steps, and increased visibility of some of the key risks and issues associated with them. We plan to present an updated version to each Board meeting.</p> <p>The main issues can be summarised as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •  •  •  <p>We continue to work closely with MoJ and SRA to ensure that the risks are mitigated as far as possible.</p>

Risks and mitigations	
Financial:	N/A.
FoIA:	'Main issues' in summary and Annex A – s36.
Legal:	N/A.
Reputational:	This is a key policy issue and there is therefore a serious reputational impact if ABS implementation is delayed. This is mitigated by continuing close discussions with SRA and MoJ.
Resource:	Resource overall for the ABS project is stretched.

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

Recommendation(s):
The Board is invited to note and to comment on the content and format of the paper.

ABS implementation: next steps – key issues and risks
(*FoI exempt – s36.*)

Topic	Next key date	Board input	Key issues/risks	Rating
Maximum Financial Penalty SI	8/12/10 – submission to Lord Chancellor	30/11/10 – sign SI	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Appellate bodies	12/11/10 – consultation closes	13/12/10 – consideration of responses and policy decision	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Section 69 Order	20/12/10 – consultation closes	27/1/11 – consideration of responses and policy decision	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Applications from SRA and CLC to become licensing authorities	Expected March 2011	28/4/11 – decision on recommendation	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
11 SIs/Commencement orders	From January 2011 to October 2011	Most are MoJ led	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
LSB resources	Ongoing	N/A	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]