

To:	Board
Date of Meeting:	22 February 2010
Item:	Paper (10) 14

Title:	Research strategy and Research plan 2010/11
Workstream(s):	Workstreams 2A-2G
Presented by:	Crispin Passmore, Strategy Director crispin.passmore@legalservicesboard.org.uk / 020 7271 0086
Author:	Alex.Roy, Research Manager alex.roy@legalservicesboard.org.uk / 020 7271 0060
Status:	Unclassified

Summary:
The LSB agreed to publish a Research strategy and Research plan. This Paper contains a draft Research strategy and Research plan for 2010/11 (Annex A and B). The Research plan was signed-off in principle by the Board in December.

Risks and mitigations	
Financial:	N/A.
FoIA:	N/A.
Legal:	N/A.
Reputational:	Credible research will be central to our policy agenda. We are appointing a Research Strategy Group with independent representation.
Resource:	Research will require significant input from LSB staff and finance for external projects. The Research Strategy Group, together with the SMT and Board, will oversee ongoing research management and ensure value for money.

Consultation	Yes	No	Who / why?
Board Members:	✓		Initial ideas came to the Board in December.
Consumer Panel:	✓		Initial ideas discussed with the Consumer Panel Manager and shared with the Panel representative on the Research Strategy Group.
Others:			We held three seminars and engaged widely with academics and the main Approved Regulators. Key findings from the seminars were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the need to build on existing research evidence; • the importance of tracking the impact of reforms; and • a desire from academics for greater data transparency.

Recommendation(s):
The Board is invited to consider and to agree the Research strategy and Research plan 2010/11, for publication in March.