

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Friday 14 December 2012

## **LSB welcomes announcement on QASA**

The LSB today welcomes the announcement from the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA), Bar Standards Board (BSB), and ILEX Professional Standards (IPS) via the Joint Advocacy Group (JAG) that following detailed consultation there is agreement on a way forward for the joint scheme to assure the quality of criminal advocacy.

**Chairman of the Legal Services Board, David Edmonds,** said:

*“We welcome the continued commitment of the SRA, BSB and IPS to progressing the QASA scheme. We look forward to seeing the final details of the scheme when they are issued early in the new year.”*

ENDS

For further information, please contact our Communications Manager, [Vincent McGovern](#), on 020 7271 0068.

**Notes for editors:**

1. The Legal Services Act (“The Act”) created the Legal Services Board as a new regulator with responsibility for overseeing the regulation of legal services in England and Wales. The new regulatory regime became active on 1 January 2010.
2. The LSB oversees eight approved regulators, which in turn regulate individual lawyers. The approved regulators, designated under Part 1 of Schedule 4 of the 2007 Act, are the Law Society, the Bar Council, the Master of the Faculties, the Institute of Legal Executives, the Council for Licensed Conveyancers, the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys, the Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys and the Association of Costs Lawyers.
3. In addition, the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Scotland and the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants are listed as approved regulators in relation only to reserved probate activities.
4. The legal profession currently consists of 15,309 barristers, 119,641 solicitors and 12,145 individuals operating in other aspects of the legal profession such as conveyancing. The sector is currently valued at £25.49 billion per annum (total turnover in 2010).