



**LEGAL SERVICES  
BOARD**

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To: Chair Colleagues

9 October 2014

Dear Chair colleagues,

### **Follow-up to 2 October regulator chairs' meeting**

Many thanks for attending the meeting of regulator chairs last Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. I was grateful for the constructive and business-like tone of the discussions. I believe we have made encouraging first steps towards more proactive collaboration between us, in communicating our deregulatory work to Ministers and more broadly, in seeking further deregulation and in exploring options for legislative change, both within the current framework of the Legal Services Act and beyond.

I enclose a note of our meeting. As set out in that note, the key actions arising from our meeting are:

- LSB to lead on production of a briefing document, with contributions from the regulators, which maps existing work by the regulators to reduce unnecessary regulatory burdens while maintaining appropriate consumer protection.
- LSB to convene a meeting of the regulators with a view to collaboration on identifying effective business models to avoid the holding of client money.
- SRA to consider how best to share amongst the regulators collective knowledge and learning from work on reviewing restrictions on in-house practice, facilitating entry of MDPs, reforming ABS ownership tests and reviewing business ownership restrictions.
- LSB to include in its strategic plan a review in 2015-16 of its statutory decision-making processes.
- LSB to convene a group of executive representatives from the regulators to prioritise 5 – 10 “clausal changes” which could be made to the LSA, for subsequent consideration by the Chair-level forum<sup>1</sup>.
- Regulator executives to work on developing legislative options beyond the LSA collaboratively, to bring back to Chair-level forum. The LSB has offered to take the

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<sup>1</sup> The LSB will also invite the OLC to participate in this meeting to ensure that changes to their parts of the legislation are also evaluated.

initiative on proposing the process for this work, which may include further facilitation by Professor Stephen Mayson.

I also enclose for information a press release that we are intending to publish shortly, to keep the wider world informed about our meeting and the next steps we are planning. It would of course be helpful if you were able to endorse in public the points made in this letter and in our press release.

I am looking forward to further collaboration between us. We will aim to arrange the next meeting of regulator Chairs towards the end of January 2015. I hope we can continue to build on the positive progress we made last week.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Pitt". The signature is stylized and includes a long horizontal stroke at the end.

**Sir Michael Pitt**  
Chairman