

Dear Sir,

My view on the consultation paper relates to the referral fees in relation to criminal advocacy. In my experience there is a practice of some solicitors inserting themselves as the instructed advocate when there is no intention of conducting the trial. They then take a sizeable slice of the advocate's fee for not doing any advocacy work at all. In fact they did not have any intention at all of doing any such work.

The Bar Protocol is crucial to ensure that those solicitors do not take advantage of the substitute advocate. The Bar Protocol is not a price support mechanism. What should be stamped out is the practice that I have outlined above being carried out by solicitors.

Many thanks.

Kind regards,

Ethu Crorie

12 College Place
Fauvelle Buildings
Southampton
SO15 2FE

DX 96875 Southampton 10

www.12collegeplace.co.uk