

Direction 111 issued under Part 3 of Schedule 4 to the Legal Services Act 2007 to the Bar Standards Board



1. This is a direction issued pursuant to paragraph 19(3) of Schedule 4 to the Legal Services Act 2007 (the Act).
2. Unless stated otherwise, words in this direction are used as they are defined in the Act.
3. In accordance with paragraph 19(3) of Schedule 4 to the Act, the Board has directed that the following alterations to regulatory arrangements be treated as exempt alterations for the purposes of paragraph 19(2)(c) of Schedule 4:

BSB Handbook: Removal of references to “Qualifications Committee” and the “Pupillage Funding Committee”; and updated reference to European Communities (Recognition of Professional Qualifications) Regulations

Proposed changes

Qualifications Committee and Pupillage Funding Committee

4. Most of the decisions currently taken by the BSB's Qualifications Committee are referred to in the BSB Handbook as being taken by “the BSB”. The BSB propose to transfer the decision-making powers from the Qualifications Committee to the executive and to review panels through its own standing orders and scheme of delegations, without needing to make any amendment to the BSB Handbook. However, some of the powers are explicitly stated to belong to “the Qualifications Committee” and there are references to “the Pupillage Funding Committee” (a former sub-committee of the Qualifications Committee), which needs to be changed. Therefore the alterations remove references to the “Qualifications Committee” and the “Pupillage Funding Committee”.

Update Handbook reference to European Communities Regulations

5. On 18 January 2016, the European Communities (Recognition of Professional Qualifications) Regulations were updated in order to implement Directive 2013/55/EU. The BSB Handbook still refers to the 2007 version of the European Communities (Recognition of Professional Qualifications) Regulations and so needs to be updated.

Reason for exemption direction

6. The amendments to the BSB Handbook are minor and do not represent a change in regulatory policy. They are simply drafting adjustments to reflect the new internal arrangements in relation to decision making powers concerning recognition of qualifications; and to update reference to the current relevant European Communities Directive.
7. A copy of the alteration was submitted to the Board on 13 March 2017.
8. This direction is to be deemed made on and to be effective from 22 March 2017.

**For and on behalf of the Legal Services Board
22 March 2017**