

<b>Date</b>	<b>27 September 2023</b>
<b>Item</b>	<b>10.0</b>
<b>Title</b>	<b>Director of Governance Report</b>
<b>Author</b>	<b>Simon Blandy, Director of Governance</b>
<b>Purpose</b>	This paper provides an update on the work undertaken in the governance, policy and legal unit since the last Board meeting. It now also includes an Education Update.
<b>Recommendation</b>	To <b>NOTE</b> the update and actions identified.
<b>Timing</b>	N/A
<b>Impact assessment</b>	While there are no decisions requiring an assessment, work being undertaken demonstrates that CRL is well-led, consumer-focused and uses learning to improve performance.
<b>Impact on Regulatory Objectives</b>	The assurance provided by this report has a positive impact on the following regulatory objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public interest</li> <li>- Consumer interest</li> <li>- Independent, strong, diverse profession</li> </ul>
<b>Implications for resources</b>	No additional resource implications.
<b>Impact on consumer empowerment</b>	The consumer facing projects carried out and supported by CRL reported in this paper (specifically compliance with the Transparency requirements and the Legal Choices project) protect and promote the interests of consumers.
<b>Impact on ongoing competence</b>	The paper provides an update on CRL work to comply with the LSB Policy Statement on Ongoing Competence
<b>Publication status</b>	For publication
<b>Appendices</b>	

## Education

### Apprenticeships

1. The following Apprenticeships are live and open for applications:
  - Chartered Legal Executive Level 6 (ST0244)
  - Chartered Legal Executive Litigator and Advocate Level 7 (ST1368)

CRL is working with CILEX to rationalise the administration requirements for apprentices.

2. A new specification for Advocacy programmes with defined assessment criteria is being developed with CRL's two subject experts. Training will be delivered by the Training Providers supporting the Apprentice and Employer. CILEX will carry out the assessment and CRL will externally quality assure the assessment decisions made by CILEX.

3. The consultation on changes to the Practice Authorisation Rules will be published in late October 2023. A Rules Change Application is due to be submitted to the LSB in mid-December 2023.

#### Higher Rights of Audience

4. The second consultation closed on 11 September 2023. There were 95 responses (of which one from another legal regulator).
5. The majority of responses were supportive of the proposals, though queries were raised over why the Higher Rights of Audience route was not being made available to Chartered Legal Executive Advocates (i.e. those who do not hold litigation rights). This issue is currently being considered.
6. A Rules Change Application is due to be submitted to the LSB in advance of the Board meeting.

#### Ongoing Competence

7. Current status:
  - Q3 2023 objectives are on track.
  - Review of 2.5% sample of CPD submissions is scheduled to start in December 2023.
  - A 6-week consultation on changes to the Probate Education Standards will be published in early October 2023.
8. CRL is on schedule to confirm compliance with the LSB Statement of Policy on Ongoing Competence in December 2023.

#### Training Provider

10. 90% of latest cohort achieved a 'pass' in the assessment with 45% exceeding 70%.

#### Training Provider approval and renewal

11. [Training provider] has been allowed an extension to September/October 2023 for submission of its annual report (to align with its other reporting requirements).

### **Policy**

#### Equality Diversity and Inclusion

12. The Board is referred to the EDI Strategy paper also included in the agenda papers.

#### Consumer

13. Following the LSB's July Board meeting, the LSB Chair wrote to the Chairs of all the legal regulators asking them 'to send your teams to the table with a view to resolving issues' outstanding on implementation of the Regulatory Information Service (single digital register) – see also the [PA Consulting options paper](#).
14. The BSB is continuing the preparatory work for commissioning the Digital Exclusion Research.

### Legal Technology

15. The quarterly meeting of the RRU took place on 11 September 2023 discussing terms of reference, now that [new provider] is leading the LawTech UK project.
16. The LSB is currently [consulting](#) on draft statutory guidance on promoting technology and innovation to improve access to legal services (closing on 2 October 2023).

### Rule of Law and Professional Ethics

17. The LSB's work has focused on the use of NDAs with a range of views about the ethics of NDAs, the role of legal regulators and the necessity for primary legislation.
18. The LSB is due to report on the outcome of its [consultation](#) on NDAs which closed in July 2023.

### LSB's Regulatory Performance Assessment 2023

19. The LSB's draft assessment of CRL is expected shortly with the LSB's Annual Performance Assessment due to be published in November 2023.

### Communications

20. The Board is referred to Communications Strategy paper also included in the agenda papers.

### Recommendation

21. The Board is asked to **NOTE** the update and actions identified.