# **CILEx Regulation**

Webinar, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025











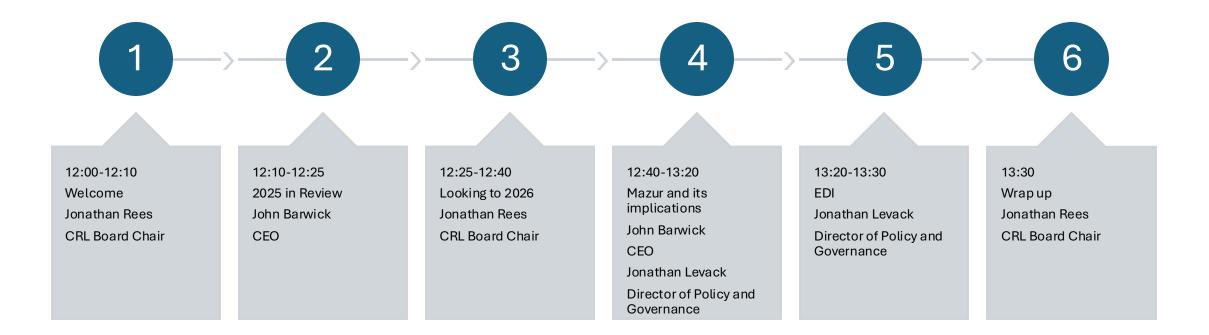


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### Agenda



#### Notes

- 1. We have the facility to answer questions during the event. Please post your question in the Q&A. We anticipate receiving a significant number and will only publish a small proportion of these. We will prioritise commonly asked questions that have broad relevance.
- 2. We will be recording this session. If you wish to ask a question and remain anonymous, there is the option to do so when submitting your question.













## Welcome

Jonathan Rees, Chair of the CRL Board













### Aims of today and ground rules

- This webinar is part of our aim to be more engaged
- We had planned the webinar before Mazur – the agenda reflects this
- Mazur has underlined the need to engage with you
- As a Board and organisation, we recognise the impact it has had

- We have a packed agenda, with a dedicated section to discuss Mazur
- We will take questions in the Q&A and will try to answer as many as we can
- We are prioritising general questions rather than individual circumstance













### About us

- Our mission is to be a high performing and responsive regulator that protects and promotes consumers' interests through strong evidence-based regulation.
- Our purpose is to ensure high standards of professional conduct and competence, protecting and promoting the public and consumer interests, enhancing respect and understanding for CRL qualifications and maintaining the integrity and trust of the legal profession.
- We achieve this through a corporate strategy and annual corporate plan.
- We launched a new strategy for 2025-27, which we have made strong progress against.





- Our relationship with CILEX is governed by the LSB's Internal Governance Rules, which ensure that are regulatory functions are carried out independently and effectively.
- We are working closely with CILEX in addressing the implications of Mazur













### 2025 in Review

John Barwick, CEO













### 2025 Strategic Objectives

Standards and public trust

Access to justice and consumer empowerment

Independence and sustainability

Be an authoritative, inclusive and capable organisation













Standards and public trust

Published and launched research into unregulated legal services

Responded to the LSB consultation on professional ethics and rule of law

Learning from LSB reports on SRA's handling of the collapse of Axiom Ince and SSB













Access to justice and consumer empowerment

Developed, consulted on and applied to the LSB to introduce new first tier complaint handling rules

Implemented new transparency rules

Supported the Regulatory Information Service to public beta phase

Completed research into digital exclusion with the BSB, CLC and ICAEW

Conducted a self-assessment of our consumerfocused regulation against the LSCP's criteria













Independence and sustainability

Worked with CILEX on critical issues, including Mazur, with a view to finding a solution to the redelegation impasse

Strengthened our capacity and capability in policy, AML supervision, finance, enforcement and PAS

Prepared for a substantial increase in litigation practice rights applications by recruiting additional resource into the team













Be an authoritative, inclusive and capable organisation

Developed a new approach to communications and engagement

Launched stakeholder perceptions work – please look out for this

Developed our 2025-28 EDI strategy

Prepared biennial diversity data report

Implemented a new approach to measuring professional progression













### Our core regulatory activity

#### Enforcement

- Prior conduct cases processed in line with KPIs
- Increasing capacity to manage increase in new misconduct cases in 2025
- 3 panel hearings
- Panel training day

# Practitioner Authorisation and Supervision

- To September all applications processed in line with KPIs
- Capacity increased and processes and forms streamlined to maintain and improve turnaround times

#### **Entities**

- Significant impact of new transparency requirements on CRL firms and CILEX ACCA entity renewals
- Increased interest to apply for authorisation
- CRL continuing responsibility for AML supervision, pending transfer to FCA













# Looking to 2026

Jonathan Rees, Chair of the CRL Board













### Our plans for 2026

#### Our strategic priorities

- Mazur response
- Engaging in debate about the future of regulation
- Enforcement review
- EDI
- Stakeholder engagement

#### Our core regulatory activity

- Clear focus on authorization
- Improving the user experience of our processes
- CPD sampling
- Compensation fund review













# Questions

Please submit these in the Q&A













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# Mazur and its implications

John Barwick, CEO

Jonathan Levack, Director of Policy and Governance













### The impact of Mazur

#### Initial assessment

- Understand the judgment and its implications
- Work with CILEX to scale the impact on members
- Move quickly to address the challenges

#### **Ensuring lessons are learnt**

- The LSB have initiated a review of advice and guidance provided to the profession on the conduct of litigation – expected to report in spring
- CRL will be fully cooperating with this to ensure lessons will be learnt





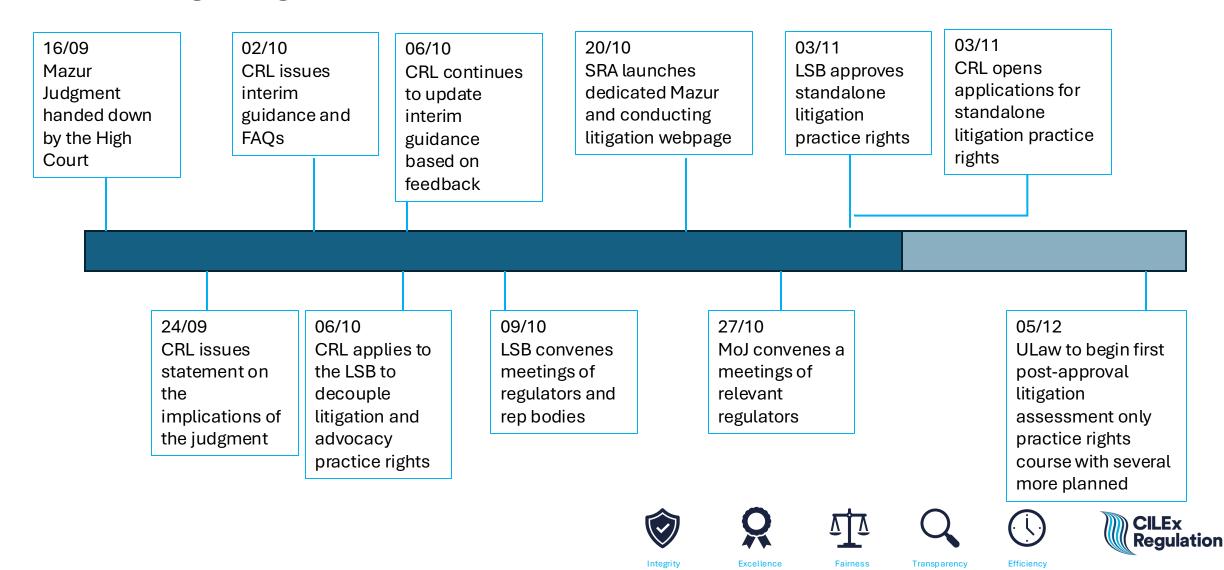








### Timeline



### Our focus to date

#### What we have done

- Provided clarity where we can through:
  - Interim guidance
  - Answering as many questions as we can
- Received LSB approval to allow for standalone litigation practice rights
- Worked with stakeholders, including CILEX, MoJ and other regulators

#### What we are doing

- Preparing for high volumes of practice rights applications by:
  - Working with ULaw to ensure they have capacity to offer more courses and reduce the time they take
  - Ensuring we are operational ready to process a large number of portfolio applications
  - Working directly with firms that have large numbers of affected CILEX fellows
- Cooperating with the LSB's review to ensure lessons are learnt













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### Routes to litigation practice rights

#### PORTFOLIO ROUTE

#### WHO IS IT FOR?

- Applicants with:
- 5 years experience working in the legal sector of which
- 2 years experience in specialist area

#### HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

- legal qualification relevant to the area of practice
- portfolios and evidence from applicant's caseload.

#### HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

- time to compile portfolios and evidence.
- submission to external assessor (may take more than one round of assessment).

#### HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

- £450 +
- approx.£40 for Standard DBS check

#### ASSESSMENT ONLY

#### WHO IS IT FOR?

Chartered Legal Executives with:
-5 years experience working in
the legal sector of which

- 2 years experience in specialist area.

#### HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

Assessed by University of Law:

- a multiple-choice question assessment; and
- a two-part skills assessment.

#### HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

- Short preparation period before Assessment. Assessment will take 3 hours and 30 minutes,

#### HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

- -£650 +
- approx.£40 for Standard DBS check

### TRAINING & ASSESSMENT ROUTE

#### WHO IS IT FOR?

Chartered Legal Executives with

 5 years experience working in the legal sector

#### HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

#### TRAINING

24-week online course

#### ASSESSMENT

Assessed by University of Law:
- a multiple-choice question
assessment; and

- A two-part skills assessment.

#### HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

- 24 weeks for the training
- 3 hours 30 minutes for the assessments.

#### HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

-£2, 350 for training and assessment

- approx.£40 for Standard DBS check

# There are currently three routes to litigation practice rights

 Our aim is to significantly increase operational capacity without risking standards







Fairness







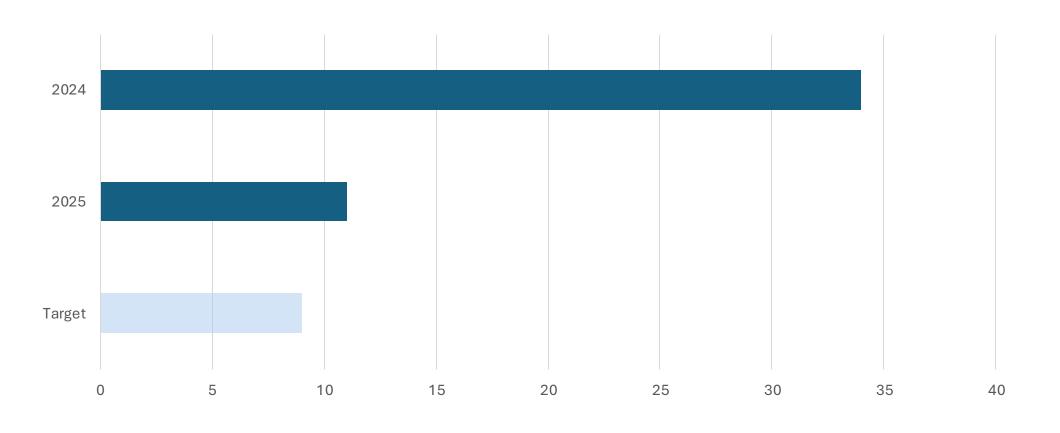




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# We have reduced the amount of time it takes to gain practice rights under the portfolio route







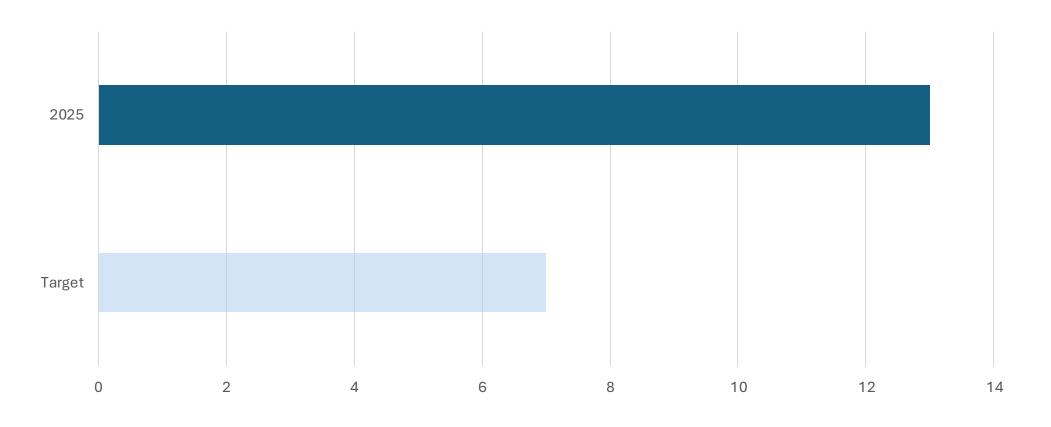








We are working with ULaw to reduce the time it takes to complete the assessment only route, increase capacity and introduce a criminal litigation option















### Which route should you choose?

#### Portfolio

- Intended for experienced professionals who can demonstrate a range of experiences and competencies, including pre-Mazur
- Success and time to gain rights will depend on how comprehensive any evidence provided is

#### **ULaw assessment**

- Intended for experienced professionals
- May suit those that have narrower or more specialised experience
- Capacity dependent on ULaw

### ULaw assessment and training

- Intended for less experienced professionals
- Will take 6 months to complete













### We have more information online



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Forward-thinking specialist legal regulation

- Standalone Litigation Practice Rights applications open
- News update: CILEx Regulation receive LSB approval for Standalone Practice Rights

Who we are and what we do

We are the independent regulatory body of the Chartered Institute of Legal Executives. We authorise and regulate individual legal professionals and law firms.













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### Your questions

- 1. Can the LSA be amended or judgment be challenged?
- 2. Does CRL plan to grant grandfathering litigation rights to longstanding chartered legal executives?
- 3. What plans are there for exemptions to the need to gain practice rights, particularly if a chartered legal executive holds another accreditation?
- 4. Have we been misled?
- 5. Will CRL enforce against fellows who have been conducting litigation?













# Questions

Please submit these in the Q&A













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# Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Jonathan Levack Director of Policy and Governance













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### 2022-24 Strategy

Improve the ability of aspiring lawyers to enter and progress in the profession

Use data effectively to better understand outcomes for consumers and the regulated

Identify barriers faced by consumers from diverse backgrounds









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### 2025-28 Strategy

Improve access to the legal profession

Help the regulated community realise their potential

Serve all consumers fairly

Be a more inclusive CRL













### 2025 Diversity Data

15%



- Of CILEX members were educated at fee paying school, compared to 21% of solicitors and 31% of barristers
- Of CILEX members are from working class backgrounds, compared to 39% of the UK population and 18% of solicitors
  - Of CILEX members have degrees, compared to 42% of the UK population
    - Of CILEX members are Black, Asian or from another ethnic minority. This is slightly below the UK average.













# Questions

Please submit these in the Q&A













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## Reflections and next steps

Jonathan Rees, Chair of the CRL Board













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