

REPORT TO: CILEx REGULATION BOARD

FOR: DISCUSSION

DATE: 17 July 2019

REPORT TITLE: Education Standards Update

SUBMITTED BY: Vicky Purtil, Director of Authorisation and Supervision

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

1. This report provides an update to the Board on the Education Standards developments at CRL.

BACKGROUND:

2. The consultant identified to draft the required rule changes is scheduled to complete the rules in early July, too late for these papers. It is intended that the draft rules and consultation document will be available for Board review and sign off in early August, for submission to the LSB in September.
3. The consultation on the proposal to create a route to practice rights qualification for established Fellows, is live and closes on 23 August 2019.
4. CRL has received draft documentation from the Institute for Apprenticeships (IfA) which set out the requirements for acting as the External Quality Assurer to the Chartered Legal Executive Apprenticeship.
5. Following the Board discussion in May in relation to the receipt from CILEx of the Annual Report, clarifications have been sought on the issues raised and appear below.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION:

Institute for Apprenticeships (IfA)

6. The policies and procedures which govern the IfA requirements for CRL as External Quality Assurer of the Chartered Legal Executive Apprenticeship are in the process of being drafted and will be presented to the September Board for approval. In the interim, CRL has formally notified CILEx of its intention to complete both a desk-based review on 3 July 2019 and a visit on

10 July 2019 to ensure that their processes are able to meet the End Point Assessment requirements stipulated in the apprenticeship standard, plan and other IfA requirements. An oral update will be provided to the Board.

CILEx Education Annual Report

7. The following questions/clarifications were asked of the Head of Quality and Standards at CILEx:

- Are statistics in relation to remarks etc. benchmarked against other Awarding Organisations, as well as year on year for consistency?
- The Board discussed how any revised committee structure would enable the Board to be assured about the quality of qualifications delivery.
- The Board noted the narrow interpretation on the content of the report, including the lack of reference to the fine imposed by Ofqual (which whilst not directly related to the professional qualification had an impact on reputation) and the lack of reference to the proposed changes to the qualifications via Phoenix. They asked that more detail be included in future reports.

8. The following responses were received:

‘we do look at statistics from other organisations and use the learning to challenge and refine our approach.’ CILEx stated that it is open to being more transparent in sharing the wider work they do on this area after the summer examination session.

There was no comment in relation to the revised committee structure, although it has been identified that a further meeting of the Qualifications Committee is planned shortly. CILEx has been asked for the date, time and papers for the meeting to enable Harvey Sandercock to attend.

‘We follow the current protocols strictly when putting the annual report together, accounting for both the structure and the content. In order to make any changes, we would need clarity around any amendments to the protocols, which I understand are being reviewed at the moment. We will be aware of any new requirements through the work of the group looking at the detail of the protocols. Depending on the timescales of the protocol review, I believe there is scope to use the new JET operational working group in the interim to take forward any pressing matters.’

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- The Board is asked to consider the responses from CILEx in relation to the clarifications from the CILEx Education Annual Report and confirm whether it is content.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

Public/Consumer	
Consumer	Ensuring the right standards within qualifications is essential to developing and maintaining public and consumer confidence in the delivery of legal services.
Public interest	
Environment	N/A
Regulated Community	
Cost of Regulation	The requirements from the IfA have the potential to increase the workload within the A&S teams, this will be kept under review.
Equality and Diversity	N/A.
Us	
Reputation/Brand	It is important to ensure that the end point assessment for Chartered Legal Executives is introduced effectively by CILEx.
Resources:	The additional requirements from the IfA are likely to increase workload, this will be kept under review.
Operations:	N/A
Risk:	There is a reputational risk if CILEx does not treat the Annual Report sufficiently seriously so that CRL is unable to identify risks to the qualifications.
Finance:	N/A.
Legal:	N/A
IT:	N/A