



Freedom of Information request
LSB reference: 20140217

Could you please tell me how you are funded? In particular how your salaries are fixed and funded and whether any money comes from the Bar Standards Board or Bar Council or is otherwise directly or indirectly funded by barristers' subscriptions.

On another topic I would like to know whether you consulted the Criminal Bar Association before "welcoming" the recent High Court decision re QASA.

Finally I note that your recently appointed "director of strategy" is not legally qualified. Could you tell me how many members of staff work for the LSB in total and how many of them are legally qualified?

From: [Adewale Kadiri](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Request for information about the LSB
Date: 28 February 2014 12:26:00

Dear [REDACTED]

I write further to my email of 18 February, in response to your request for information, sent on 17 February, about how the Legal Services Board (LSB) is funded, staff pay, consultation with the Criminal Bar Association and the qualifications of our staff.

As you may know, the LSB was established by the Legal Services Act 2007. Section 173 of the Act requires the approved regulators (BSB, SRA, CILEx etc) to pay a levy towards the costs of both the LSB and the Office for Legal Complaints, which runs the Legal Ombudsman scheme. The LSB's share of the levy is calculated based on the total number of authorised persons per approved regulator. For 2013/14 this equates to a rate of approximately £25.36 per authorised person for all of the LSB's costs. In answer to your question, therefore the Bar Council, as approved regulator, contributes a portion of the money it receives from barristers to the LSB as its share of the levy.

In terms of how staff salaries are fixed, you will be aware that the LSB is a small organisation with a total staff complement of 31. Salaries paid are based on an assessment of pay for similar across the public sector. Although LSB staff are not civil servants, salaries have been subject to the public sector pay freeze for the first two years of operation and then limited to a maximum increase of 1% of pay bill.

The answer to your question as to whether we consulted with the Criminal Bar Association (CBA) on the High Court judgement is that we did not. As you know, the CBA had sought judicial review of the LSB's decision to approve the rule change application which brought QASA into effect. In the circumstances, it would not have been inappropriate for the LSB to consult with the CBA on any statements relating to the litigation.

On the number of colleagues who are legally qualified, there are two specifically legal roles at the LSB – that of a Legal Director and a Legal Advisor. These are the only colleagues within the LSB whose roles require them to be legally qualified.

I hope that this has been of assistance, but if you are dissatisfied with this response to your request for information, you have the right to ask for an internal review or to submit a complaint (see LSB's Freedom of information – Complaints procedure:
http://www.legalservicesboard.org.uk/can_we_help/lbs_policies_procedures/freedom_of_information/index.htm
)

Yours sincerely

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