

BY EMAIL (under section 203 of Legal Services Act 2007)

Fran Gillon
Chief Executive
The Intellectual Property Regulation Board
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**LEGAL SERVICES
BOARD**

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18 December 2019

Dear Fran,

Extension notice issued under Part 3 of Schedule 4 to the Legal Services Act 2007

This letter is an extension notice issued under paragraph 21(5) (b) of Schedule 4 to the Legal Services Act 2007 (the "Act"). The words used in this extension notice have the meanings given to them in the Act.

On 4 December 2019 we received IPReg's application for the approval of changes to its regulatory arrangements to introduce an explicit requirement for run-off cover. Paragraph 21(4) of Schedule 4 to the Act sets out an initial decision period of 28 days within which the Legal Services Board may make a decision on the application; paragraph 21(5) allows for this period to be extended.

The proposed changes introduce a requirement for firms/attorneys to obtain professional indemnity insurance ("PII") run-off cover and to provide information to clients and IPReg about their PII arrangements, within an agreed timeframe. IPReg needs to further explain why run-off cover for a period of at least six years is suitable for Intellectual property (IP) and trademark attorneys/firms and needs to be clearer about the scale of the impact on them.

Due to the significance of the proposed changes and the fact that we expect to have a number of lines of enquiry to pursue in the course of considering the application, the LSB has concluded that we need to extend the initial decision period to allow time to for proper scrutiny of the proposals.

Therefore, and in accordance with paragraphs 21(5), (6) and (7) of Schedule 4 to the Act, the Board hereby extends the initial decision period to 90 days from when the application was submitted. The end of the decision period will therefore be 2 March 2020, although the LSB can make a decision before that date.

If you have any questions in relation to this notice, please contact Agapi Kasimati on agapi.kasimati@legalservicesboard.org.uk.

A copy of this extension notice will be published on the LSB's website within the next two business days.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'M' followed by a horizontal line.

Matthew Hill
Chief Executive

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