



LEGAL SERVICES
BOARD

Legal Services Board
The Rookery
2 Dyott Street
London WC1A 1DE

www.legalservicesboard.org.uk

Fol request ref: 20191003-01

Thank you for your email on 31 October requesting information, and your follow-up email dated 17 November.

Our response to your request, which is being treated as a request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), is as follows:

Please would you provide the name of the external firm of auditors appointed to the LSB Audit and Risk committee (31 October)

The LSB's internal auditors are Crowe LLP.

Please provide the correct details of both your internal and external audit firms (17 November)

The LSB's internal auditors are Crowe LLP and our external auditors are the National Audit Office.

Please would you also provide any internal or external guidance that explains the discretion around the use of the LSB of its supplementary powers in the legal services act, specifically, that which says:

"do anything calculated to facilitate, or incidental or conducive to, the carrying out of any of its functions".

Is the use of these powers risk-based? (31 October)

We have conducted a search of our records and advise that the LSB does not hold the information requested.

Have these powers also been delegated to the SRA and BSB? (31 October)

How does the LSB tolerate delegating its duties to the SRA and BSB? (17 November)

When is the public going to be given the opportunity to challenge the delegation by the LSB to the SRA? (17 November)

There has been no delegation of the LSB's powers under the Legal Services Act 2007 to the SRA and BSB.

If so, is there a fail-safe mechanism to ensure that discretion is not so widely applied by the SRA and BSB that it prevents a proper level of scrutiny and investigation when a complaint is made, especially against a large law firm or a senior barrister? (31 October)

See above response.

Will the LSB commission an independent inquiry into whether or not the SRA handbook, guidance and rules and principles mislead the public as to the protection the SRA really affords them? (17 November)

The LSB has no plans to commission an independent inquiry into the SRA handbook, guidance and rules at this time.

Please provide the contact details for the chair of the LSB risk committee? (17 November)

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Chair of ARAC
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You have queried the 20-working day timeframe for a substantive response to a request under FOIA. We endeavour to respond promptly to requests, and no later than 20-working days, which is the statutory timeframe for a response under FOIA.

If you are dissatisfied with this response to your request for information, you have the right to ask for an internal review / to submit a complaint (see [LSB's Freedom of information – Complaints procedure](#)).

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your complaint, you may refer the matter to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Please be aware that the Commissioner will be unlikely to make a decision until you have been through our internal complaints procedure first. You can write to the Commissioner at:

FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF