Ministry of Justice

Kirsty Brimelow KC
Criminal Bar Association
[redacted]

12 October 2022

Dear Kirsty,

CRIMINAL LEGAL AID ADVISORY BOARD

I am writing to formally invite you to the first meeting of the Criminal Legal Aid Advisory Board. The draft Terms of Reference for the Advisory Board are attached at Annex A.

The meeting will be held on **Friday 28 October between 8:30am and 10:00am at 102 Petty France, London, SW1H 9AJ.** You may attend either in person or virtually. Due to our desire to hold the first meeting soon, I will chair the first meeting. The process to select a long-term chair of the Board will be discussed at the first meeting.

As you know, the Criminal Legal Aid Independent Review recommended that an Advisory Board be established to take a wider view and encourage a more joined-up approach to criminal legal aid within the criminal justice system. The Board's purpose is to provide independent advice to the Lord Chancellor on the operation and structure of the existing and future criminal legal aid schemes and to assess how these schemes should change and adapt as the criminal justice system changes and develops. Its overall objective is to ensure that the criminal legal aid schemes comprise the right structure and incentives to support a high performing criminal justice system and wider objectives of the legal profession.

The topics that will be covered by the first meeting include:

- Consideration of the Board's Terms of Reference and wider membership, including the Chair
- Reforms to the Advocates' Graduated Fee Scheme (AGFS) (written work, wasted and special preparation) as recommended by CLAIR
- Section 28 reforms
- Approach to the Litigators' Graduated Fee Scheme reforms

The first Criminal Legal Aid Advisory Board will be attended by representatives from the Law Society, the Bar Council, the Criminal Bar Association, the Criminal Law Solicitors' Association, the London Criminal Courts Association, and CILEX. We believe that including the main bodies who represent the criminal legal aid profession within the membership of the Board will enable us to get a full picture of the issues facing the sector.

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E https://contact-moj.service.justice.gov.uk/
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102 Petty France
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The agenda and minutes of the meeting will be published on the Government's website, in accordance with the Board's Terms of Reference.

Email invitations will be sent out shortly. If you are unable to attend, please nominate an alternate to attend on your behalf. Should you have any queries in the meantime, please email [redacted]



Daniel Flury