

## We need your feedback

Although AGFS is the biggest issue the CBA is currently dealing with, work goes on behind the scenes on a number of other issues and initiatives. One of these is, after a short hiatus, a CBA presence on the pithily named Better Case Management National Implementation Team. This group brings together those involved in the Criminal Justice system at all levels including senior judiciary, the CBA working closely with the Bar Council, members of the Law Society, the police, senior management from the CPS, representatives of from the Probation Service and others. Meetings occur several times a year with the focus being on improving 'efficiency' throughout the system. Needless to say the discussions are robust, with different parties holding different views as to what equates to efficient working practices.

The CBA needs your help though. For the next meeting we are seeking your views on:

- Examples of problems experienced, or sensible policies being implemented, when visiting prisons for conferences.
- Feedback on how the conference video links to HMP Durham and HMP Wandsworth are working, or not working.
  - Do you have long enough for a meaningful conference?
  - Are you able to take instructions on exhibits?
  - What is the impact, if any, of not being able to take signed endorsements?
- Feedback on the 'fast track' pilots that took place in Aylesbury, Carlisle, Leicester and Nottingham.
  - How did they impact on diary management?
  - Did they allow sufficient time for disclosure and preparation?
  - What positives were there for the prosecution or the defence?

The next meeting is scheduled for February 2019 but the earlier we hear about problems, or positives, the earlier we can start to look at solutions and spreading best practice. The Bar Council are being very supportive in this and are happy to help us raise urgent issues outside the main BCM NIT meetings.

Please send any feedback on the above questions, or any other issues regarding Transforming Summary Justice/Better Case Management to Helen Easterbrook at [bettercasemanagement@criminalbar.com](mailto:bettercasemanagement@criminalbar.com).