

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

BAR  
STANDARDS  
BOARD

REGULATING BARRISTERS

# Regulatory Update

Monthly update from the Bar Standards Board

May 2017

## In this edition....

[Blog: Monthly message from our Chair Sir Andrew Burns KCMG](#)

[Review of the role of the Inns of Court in the qualification of new barristers](#)

[How do you rate our website?](#)

[How are you getting on with your 2017 CPD?](#)

[Understanding the new Handbook](#)

**Review of the role of the Inns of Court in the qualification of new barristers**

**Blog: Monthly message from our Chair Sir Andrew Burns KCMG**

As part of the BSB's ongoing review of Bar training we are now beginning a review of the role of the Inns of Court. The Legal Services Act defines a barrister as someone who has been called to the Bar by an Inn and has not been disbarred by order of an Inn. The BSB supports that position.

The process by which the Inns call individuals to the Bar is part of the regulatory arrangements of the General Council of the Bar as defined by the



Earlier this month, we launched a new consultation about the standard of proof used in professional misconduct proceedings.

Currently we use the criminal standard. But we are seeking views as to whether the time has come to change our regulatory arrangements to apply the civil standard.

Switching to the civil standard would reflect the evolution of thinking in legal circles and bring the Bar's disciplinary arrangements in line with those of most other professions. [Read more on our website.](#)

---

## How are you getting on with your 2017 CPD?

If you are an Established Practitioner, please do not forget that a new scheme for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) came into force on 1 January 2017.

Amongst other changes, the new scheme requires you to prepare a written CPD Plan setting out your learning objectives and the activities you propose to undertake during the year. You should have written your Plan by now and be well on your way to undertaking and recording your CPD activities.

Compared with the previous scheme, the current CPD scheme means that...[read more on our website.](#)

Act. So too are a number of other functions of the Inns including: [read more on our website.](#)

### How do you rate our website?

We have [launched a survey](#) to find out about your experiences of using our website. We want to understand our website visitors better – how are you using the website, and how would you rate it?

If you have ever wanted to provide feedback about our website's navigation and layout, or our digital content, this is your chance. Please take some time to let us know your views so that we can ensure that our website is engaging and provides the best service possible to meet your information needs.

### Understanding the new Handbook



The third edition of the BSB Handbook was published on 3 April 2017. The new edition contains a number of changes to our regulatory arrangements and can be downloaded from [our website](#) in pdf.

The biggest change to the Handbook relates to the licensing and regulation of Alternative Business Structures (ABSs). We are now authorised to license ABSs. These are bodies that are owned and managed jointly by authorised and non-authorised individuals – that is, by lawyers and non-lawyers. [Read more on our website.](#)

## Advocacy in immigration and asylum event

**A message from the Office of Immigration Service Commissioner**



We would like to thank all those who attended our immigration and asylum consumer guidance roundtable last month. The roundtable will inform our guidance for prospective clients in immigration and asylum cases. The guidance will cover how to access a barrister's

The Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC) has asked us to alert you to enquiries they are making in connection with criminal offences alleged to have been committed by an individual. The alleged offences concern the provision of unqualified immigration advice and or services, contrary to section 91 Immigration

services, and what to expect throughout their case. Barristers, solicitors and representatives from advice centres attended the event and highlighted the vulnerability of many clients in the sector. The event explored the most critical information that clients require when seeking a barrister's services and how best to provide that information to clients. [Read more on our website.](#)

---

## Upcoming events



We are participating in a number of events over the next couple of months.

Following on from our work to make consistent the standards of advocacy in the Youth Courts, we are supporting the inaugural Youth Justice Summit 2017, to be held on Friday 12 May. Topics to be covered at this event include:...[read more on our website.](#)

---



## Barristers' Register

Please ensure that you have informed us of your correct primary practice address in accordance with rS69 of our Handbook. If your practice address changes, you must inform our Records Department within 28 days.

### Feedback

If you have any thoughts about how we can improve the Regulatory Update or what content you would like to read, please email [contactus@barstandardsboard.org.uk](mailto:contactus@barstandardsboard.org.uk).

and Asylum Act 1999 and section 2 Fraud Act 2006. OISC wants you to be aware that this individual has approached a number of barristers' chambers claiming to represent some legitimate solicitors' firms. (These firms are not suspected of any criminal behaviour, nor are they in any way complicit.) [Read more on our website.](#)



**Bar Standards Board**  
289-293 High Holborn, London WC1V 7HZ  
Phone: 020 7611 1444

---

*Copyright © 2017 The Bar Standards Board, All rights reserved.*  
You work for The General Council of the Bar.

**Our mailing address is:**

The Bar Standards Board  
289-293  
High Holborn  
London, Lnd wc1v 7hz  
United Kingdom

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)