



CROWN OFFICE  
& PROCURATOR  
FISCAL SERVICE

SCOTLAND'S PROSECUTION SERVICE

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20 March 2020

By e-mail: [consult@scottishlegalcomplaints.org.uk](mailto:consult@scottishlegalcomplaints.org.uk)

Dear Neil

**SCOTTISH LEGAL COMPLAINTS COMMISSION  
CONSULTATION ON DRAFT OPERATING PLAN AND BUDGET 2020-21 AND  
STRATEGY FOR 2020-24**

Thank you for the opportunity to respond, on behalf of the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS), to the SLCC's consultation on its draft operating plan and budget for the period 2020-21 and the strategy for 2020-24.

In terms of the strategy and the points on which you have sought comment, we welcome the strategic aims, priorities and values which appear to be detailed, comprehensive and sensible. We welcome the commitment to prevention as a strategic aim and would be very happy to work with the SLCC over the life the plan to support this aim in the context of criminal prosecution which, by its adversarial nature, exposes professional prosecutors to a significant risk of challenge and complaint.

We note the proposed increase to the discounted levy for in-house solicitors and are disappointed that the freeze which was implemented in 2019-20 will not continue. We would invite the Commission to continue the freeze for in-house solicitors working in the public sector during this time of continued uncertainty in public sector finances, accepting that this part of the profession is unable to offset the increase through earned income.

We look forward with interest to the outcome of the consultation exercise in due course. Meantime, we look forward to continuing to work closely with the SLCC  
Yours sincerely

JOHN T LOGUE  
Deputy Crown Agent Operational Support



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