

LSB Digital Register Options Assessment Report

Purpose: For noting

Author: Director of Strategy and External Relations

Approver: Chief Executive

Summary

This paper updates Council on progress towards a single digital register for all regulated lawyers in England and Wales, a project that is being led by the LSB. A report by PA consulting is attached and the project will be discussed at a meeting of the Market Transparency Co-ordination and Oversight Group (MTCOG) on 26th July, so there will be an oral update at the Council meeting on 27th July.

Recommendations

The Council is asked to note the contents of this report.

Relevant Regulatory Objectives

- RO1 - protect and promote the public interest
- RO2 - support the constitutional principle of the rule of law
- RO3 - improve access to justice
- RO4 - protect and promote the interests of consumers
- RO5 - promote competition in the provision of legal services
- RO7 - increase public understanding of the citizen's legal rights and duties
- RO8 - promote and maintain adherence to the professional principles

Financial impact

It is likely that, whichever approach is settled on, the development of the new register will entail some costs to front line regulators whether those are direct costs from developments needed to our own systems to meet the requirements of the new single register or LSB costs that the front line regulators will need to fund.

Diversity and inclusion impact

At this stage, it does not seem that there will be any impact on diversity and inclusion. The detailed plan for implementation will need to be considered in due course.

Communications requirements

Communications will be needed with the regulated community and other CLC stakeholders, which will include the Consumer Reference Group and Professional Reference Group if there is any consultation on a potential model for the register and of course when a final version is settled.