

An Garda Síochána

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CMR_55-209002/18

CONFIDENTIAL

Ms. Natasha Lee
Executive Assistant
Section 6 Consultation
Legal Services Regulatory Authority
PO Box 12906
Dublin 2

Re: Public Consultation on Section 6 Review of the LSR Act, 2015

Dear Ms. Lee

I am directed by the Acting Commissioner to refer to your correspondence dated 8 June 2018 in the above.

It is noted that The Legal Services Regulation Act, 2015 places an obligation upon the Legal Services Regulatory Authority to *keep under review, and make recommendations to the Minister for Justice & Equality on issues, including:*

"the availability and quality of the education and training (including on-going training) for the solicitors' and barristers' professions"

It is submitted, and in keeping with the practice that has been adopted by the Office of the DPP, staff who are qualified Barristers should be required to complete the same (mandatory) CPD requirements of qualified Solicitors as set out by the Law Society. As there is no mandatory CPO training for Barristers, by ensuring all relevantly qualified staff attend CPD training, this will provide certification that there is ongoing training parity among Barristers and Solicitors.

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In addition to the above, it is also suggested that consideration could be given to training for Solicitors/Barristers who wish to practise in the area of criminal law in theory and practical training on Garda criminal investigation interviews.

Consideration should be given to compulsory training on the whole area of vulnerable victim in the Criminal Justice system.

Yours sincerely

Seán O'Reardon

**SEÁN O'REARDON
INSPECTOR
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE**

18 June 2018