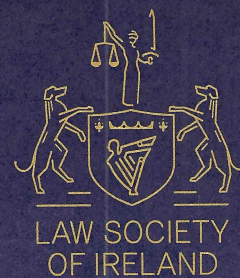


**Private and confidential**

Brian Doherty  
Legal Services Regulatory Authority  
P.O. Box 12906  
Dublin 2



29 August 2018

**Re: Review of the Legal Services Regulation Act 2015**

Dear Brian

I write in relation to a submission to the Legal Services Regulatory Authority by the Bar Council of Ireland dated 25 July 2018 in response to the Authority's public consultation notice of 8 June 2018.

The Society notes page 6 of the Bar Council's submission states as at 30 June 2017 there were 17,604 names on the Roll of Solicitors. This information may be found in the Law Society of Ireland Annual Report 2016/2017.

The submission advises that as at 30 June 2017 there were 2,146 members of the Law Library and an unknown number of practising barristers who are not members of the Law Library. The Bar Council submits that this gives a ratio of 89 solicitors to 11 Law Library barristers in Ireland.

The Society would indicate that the Roll of Solicitors is the name given to the register that records, in the case of each person entered on it, that the person has completed the requirements to be admitted as a solicitor in the State, and has successfully applied to be, and has been, admitted to the Roll.

Under the Solicitors Acts 1954 to 2015 the Society is also required to maintain the register of practising solicitors. The register of practising solicitors only lists those solicitors who have a current practising certificate and are entitled to provide legal services and hold themselves out as a solicitor entitled to practise.

The Society would like to take this opportunity to correct this by providing a more accurate figure of the register of practising solicitors as at 30 June 2017 which would be 10,122. This would give a true ratio of 79 practising solicitors to 21 Law Library barristers as at that date.

Yours sincerely

**John Elliot**  
**Registrar of Solicitors**  
**and Director of Regulation**