



**THE CHAIRMAN
TIMOTHY DUTTON QC**

Circuit Leaders
Heads of Chambers
SBA Chairs

2 December 2008

Dear All,

Re: BSB consultation on the Legal Services Act 2007 – Implications for the regulation of the Bar of England and Wales

Many of you will be aware the Bar Standards Board (BSB) has recently released their second consultation paper in relation to the Legal Services Act (LSA), a full copy of which is available at www.BarStandardsBoard.org.uk. The content of the consultation paper, and the implications on the way in which legal services are provided in England and Wales, are of obvious consequence to us all.

As with the first consultation paper, the Bar Council has established a high profile working group to review the paper and draft a response by the 1 March 2009 deadline. Before we begin to draft the response it is important that we gauge accurately the feeling within the profession.

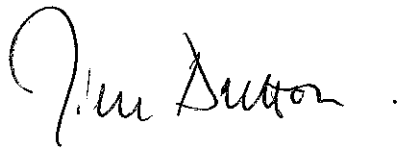
The purpose of this letter is to ask that you read the BSB's paper and provide us with your thoughts on the specific questions posed, and any other general comments you may have. In particular, we are interested to know whether or not you would consider moving away from the existing chambers model and practising under any one of the alternative business models. Please note that providing comments to us in no way restricts you from responding directly to the BSB.

Any responses received will be collected and incorporated into the final Bar Council response. Because of the time frames we are operating under, could I ask that you please provide my Executive Assistant with your **comments no later than Friday 16 January**. Responses can be sent to AHill@BarCouncil.org.uk.

THE BAR COUNCIL

www.barcouncil.org.uk

Best regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Dutton" followed by a period. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tim Dutton QC

Chairman of the Bar Council