

The Legal Director  
Legal Services Commission  
85 Gray's Inn Road  
London WC1X 8TX

Your Ref  
RW/TLS/UC  
Our Ref  
PTJ/Y052757  
Date  
20 April 2007

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## **BY HAND**

Dear Sirs

### **The Law Society –v- The Legal Services Commission (interested parties: Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Constitutional Affairs)**

We enclose a copy of an Application for Urgent Consideration (Form N463) together with draft Claim Form and Statement of Facts and Grounds referred to therein. This relates to a claim for judicial review by our clients, the Law Society, in respect of the decision of the Legal Services Commission to replace the general Civil Contract (which expired on March 31<sup>st</sup> 2007) with the new Unified Contract. The sealed Claim Form and accompanying documents will be served upon you shortly.

You will note from the Application for Urgent Consideration that the urgency for this claim to be determined flows from your stated intention to effect amendments to the Unified Contract in October 2007. We therefore ask you to confirm, so that the Court is able to determine the Application for Urgent Consideration on the correct basis, that it is your present intention to effect amendments to the Unified Contract in October 2007 and not before. We reserve the right to amend our Application for Urgent Consideration if your intention is, or becomes, otherwise.

Further, once you have considered the Claim Form and accompanying documents, we invite you to agree that it is appropriate for permission to be granted in this matter. We suggest that the claim is plainly arguable. It will assist all parties in achieving a final determination of the claim before the end of the Summer term (which is plainly in the interests of the parties and in the public interest) if the Court can be informed at an early stage that permission is not

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resisted, so that an agreed timetable leading up to a hearing of the claim can be ordered.

Yours faithfully

  
**Bircham Dyson Bell LLP**

cc Lord Chancellor & Secretary of State for Constitutional Affairs: Selborne House, 54  
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