



Statement

16 August 2011

Police Station duty scheme update - Solicitor Contact Line

The Scottish Legal Aid Board's Solicitor Contact Line continues to operate to ensure that suspects who request advice under S15A of the Criminal Procedure (Legal Assistance, Detention and Appeals) (Scotland) Act 2010 receive it timeously. Demand for the services provided by the Contact Line remains at levels higher than our expectations.

Notification of requests for advice

Week	Number of calls	Daily Average
4 th July - 11 th July	458	65
11 th July - 18 th July	358	51
18 th July - 25 nd July	454	65
25 th July - 1 st August	466	67
1 st August - 8 th August	445	64
8 th August - 14 August	519	74

Breakdown of advice provided

Week	Telephone advice provided by:	
	Contact Line	Referred to Named Solicitor
4 th July - 11 th July	213	245
11 th July - 18 th July	163	195
18 th July - 25 nd July	188	266
25 th July - 1 st August	192	274
1 st August - 8 th August	197	248
8 th August - 14 th August	169	350

Suspects requiring a personal attendance:

Week	Number of clients	Advice provided by :			
		Board employed solicitor	PDSO Solicitor	Duty Solicitor	Named Solicitor *
4 th July - 11 th July	32	6	11	9	6
11 th July - 18 th July	26	12	7	7	0
18 th July - 25 nd July	25	8	7	8	2
25 th July - 1 st August	23	6	12	4	1
1 st August - 8 th August	51	7	7	23	14
8 th August - 14 th August	32	2	8	18	4

*These are attendances by named solicitors that we are aware of. Named solicitors may have made more personal attendances, once the details of the calls were passed on to them, but we will have this information in due course from ACPOS.

As at Tuesday 16th August there are participating in the operation of the Police Station Duty Scheme:

*161 solicitors (including PDSO and Board employed solicitors) and 65 firms (PDSO is included as one firm). (**figure changed on 18/8/11 from 160 which was originally stated as a result of an arithmetical error*).

Of the 49 duty plan areas:

- 5 are covered solely by private solicitors
- 18 are covered by a mix of private solicitors and PDSO
- 26 are covered by Board employed solicitors and PDSO only.

Ends

Journalists please contact:

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