



Statement

8 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

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

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	59	7	7	23	22

*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 Friday 5th August there were participating in the Police Station Duty Scheme:

143 Solicitors (including PDSO and Board Employed solicitors) and 68 firms (PDSO and the Board's Solicitor Contact Line are included as one firm each).

Of the 49 duty plan areas:

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