



FACULTY OF ADVOCATES

2 March 2017

Ref: L01-7/WGJ/AT

Neil Stevenson, CEO
Scottish Legal Complaints Office
The Stamp Office
10-14 Waterloo Place
Edinburgh, EH1 3EG

Operating Plan and Budget for 2017/18

I am pleased to offer a response on behalf of the Faculty to the SLCC's operating plan and budget.

I do not have anything to say which has not been said before, and which is not said each year, namely that given the extremely low level of complaints made against Advocates, which has remained at that level for some years, it is very difficult indeed to see why Advocates are being asked to pay an increased levy this year.

The reason for the increase appears to a 12% rise in complaints. That rise in complaints does not appear to be something to which this part of the profession has contributed to and so it is difficult to see why the parts of the profession who are not generating increased numbers of complaints are being required to contribute financially.

Having reminded myself of what we have said on this matter in previous years I see that we have often used the word disproportionate. It seems that word remains just as relevant as it has in other years and I would again urge a reconsideration of the financial imposition on members of the Faculty of Advocates.

Gordon Jackson QC

THE DEAN OF FACULTY

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