

Cabinet Secretary for Justice
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27th March 2013

Dear Matthew

Thank you for your letter of 31 January, which enclosed the Scottish Legal Complaint Commission's ("the SLCC") proposed budget and operational plan for 2013-14.

I am pleased to see that the SLCC has been looking at ways in which it can tackle operational efficiencies and welcome that it is also looking at ways to achieve standards of complaints handling. I also recognise that the SLCC has taken steps to ensure that the increase to the levy has been kept at a fairly low level and that the increase to staffing costs which comes as a result of planned restructuring will not be passed on to the profession.

As you will be aware, the pressures placed upon public spending for all organisations remain and, as a result, it is particularly important that the SLCC continues to look for ways in which to improve efficiencies. I appreciate that the SLCC is already working with Scottish Government officials, as well as professional and consumer organisations, with the aim of identifying potential areas for reform.

I understand that you will keep me informed as these discussions are progressing.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenny MacAskill".

KENNY MACASKILL