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**Consultation on the regulation of barristers in chambers**

October 2023

1. **Your Name**

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1. **Your Organisation’s name (if applicable)**

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1. **Which of these groups best reflects you:**
2. **Barrister**
3. **Law student**
4. **Education and Training provider**
5. **Legal services consumer / member of the public**
6. **Other legal professional**
7. **Legal services representative body**
8. **Other (please specify)**

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1. **Are you responding as:**
2. **an individual**
3. **a representative of your organisation**

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**We will normally publish responses to consultations.**

1. **If you would prefer to remain anonymous, please tell us.**

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**Consultation Questions**

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**Question 1:**

**Do you agree with our proposed approach of parallel websites to set out regulatory expectations and supporting guidance and good practice? Do you agree with the proposed coverage of the Bar Standards Board website? Do you have suggestions about how the proposed websites could be made as accessible and useful to chambers as possible?**

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**Question 2:**

**Do you agree that regulations bearing on chambers should largely be expressed in terms of outcomes, but with an indication of where we would expect to see policies or other measures in place to support delivery of those outcomes? Do you agree that chambers would be aided by parallel Bar Council and other professional websites providing guidance and examples of good practice in meeting those outcomes?**

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**Question 3:**

**Do you agree that small and medium chambers are best supported through informal networks of support such as those outlined above? Do you have any suggestions about how these networks can be encouraged and promoted?**

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**Question 4:**

**Do you agree that the Bar Standards Board should not seek to revive a kitemarking scheme for chambers, but should instead develop a graduated supervision strategy on the lines outlined above? Do you believe that, as part of this strategy, the Bar Standards Board should make public its assessment of individual chambers? Do you support ending comprehensive quinquennial Regulatory Returns in favour of targeted surveys of risk and compliance?**

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**Question 5:**

**Do you agree with the approach to re-defining chambers outlined in paragraph 38 in** [**the consultation document**](https://www.barstandardsboard.org.uk/uploads/assets/5f14604a-4677-49c6-908d531817199350/9e502317-9d83-4622-a7a6881206de8ac4/20231016-Chambers-consultation-paper.pdf)**? Do you agree that the Bar Standards Board should not prescribe governance arrangements for chambers meeting this definition, but expect chambers themselves to establish appropriate leadership and governance arrangements?**

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**Equality Monitoring Information**

If you are responding to this consultation as an individual, please complete the following questions:

1. **What is your age?**

* Under 25
* 25-34
* 35-44
* 45-54
* 55-64
* Over 65
* Prefer not to say

1. **What is your sex?**

* Male
* Female
* Prefer not to say

1. **Is your gender identity the same as the sex with which you were assigned at birth?**

* Yes
* No
* Prefer not to say

1. **What best describes your gender?**

* Female
* Male
* Prefer not to say
* I describe myself as:

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1. **Do you consider yourself to have a disability?**

* Yes
* No
* Prefer not to say

1. **Is your ability to perform day-to-day activities limited because of a physical or mental disability, condition or illness, which has lasted or is expected to last for at least 12 months?**

* Yes, a lot
* Yes, a little
* Not at all
* Prefer not to say

1. **What is your ethnic group?**

* White – ﻿English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/﻿British
* White – Irish
* White – Gypsy or Irish Traveller
* White – Roma
* White – I use a different term to describe my White ethnic background
* Asian/Asian British – Bangladeshi
* Asian/Asian British – Chinese
* Asian/Asian British – Indian
* Asian/Asian British – I use a different term to describe my Asian ethnic background
* Black/Black British – African
* Black/Black British – Caribbean
* Black/Black British – I use a different term to describe my Black ethnic background
* Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Background – White and Asian
* Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Background – White and Black African
* Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Background – White and Black Caribbean
* Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Background – White and Chinese
* Multiple Ethnic Background - I use a different term to describe my Mixed/Multiple ethnic background
* Arab
* I use a different term to describe my ethnicity, which does not fall under “White”, “Asian”, “Black” or “Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Background”
* Prefer not to say

1. **What is your religion or belief?**

* No religion
* Buddhist
* Christian
* Hindu
* Jewish
* Muslim
* Sikh
* Prefer not to say
* I have a different religion or belief

1. **Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?**

* Heterosexual
* Gay or Lesbian
* Bisexual
* Prefer not to say
* I use a different term

1. **Did you mainly attend a state or fee-paying school between the ages of 11 – 18?**

* UK State school
* UK fee-paying school
* School outside UK
* Prefer not to say

1. **If you finished school after 1980, were you eligible for Free School Meals at any point during your school years?**

* Yes
* No
* Not applicable
* Don’t know

1. **If you went to university (to study a BA, BSc or higher), had either (or both) of your parents or carers attended university by the time you were 18?**

* Yes
* No
* Don’t know
* I didn’t attend university
* Prefer not to say

1. **Are you a primary carer for a child or children under 18?**

* Yes
* No
* Prefer not to say

1. **Do you look after, or give any help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of either: long-term physical or mental ill-health/disability or problems relating to old age? (Do not count anything you do as part of paid employment).**

* No
* Yes, 1-19 hours a week
* Yes, 20-49 hours a week
* Yes, 50 or more hours a week
* Prefer not to say