

## Sixteen Facts about QASA

- 1) Doctors, teachers and policemen are formally quality assessed – advocates should be too.
- 2) Delaying QASA won't delay or stop Gov's competitive tendering plans. It has no link to public funding.
- 3) All advocates barristers, solicitors, legal execs will need accreditation at a level between 1 and 4 to undertake criminal advocacy.
- 4) To undertake criminal advocacy without registering for QASA would be a breach of the code.
- 5) The Scheme has the support of the Lord Chief Justice and other members of the senior judiciary.
- 6) In order to undertake trials in the Crown Court, advocates will need to be assessed through judicial evaluation in real trials.
- 7) Non-trial work levels 2/3 will be available to those who can prove competence against full trial standards at assessment centre.
- 8) JAG will accredit a single assessment centre to provide QASA assessments for non-trial advocates and will monitor its performance
- 9) Advocates who can't demonstrate competence against level 2 trial standards will not be able to appear in the Crown Court in any hearing
- 10) All criminal advocates will be required to confirm their competence every five years. This will include silks.
- 11) Silks appointed in 2010 or later will be able to apply to be passported into the scheme.
- 12) The level of case will be decided by advocate and instructing party. Judges will report abuses and disciplinary action may result.
- 13) There will be a review of QASA after 2 years to assess whether changes are required to improve its impact.
- 14) Evidence will be gathered during the operation of the Scheme and will be used to inform the Scheme review.
- 15) Over 10,000 solicitors have notified the SRA of their intention to register under QASA when it comes into force.

16) All criminal advocates will be subject to judicial monitoring whenever they appear in court.

17) Find out more about QASA here <http://bit.ly/10OQr7I>