

6 KING'S BENCH WALK

TEMPLE

LONDON EC4Y 7DR

E-mail: [nicholas.hilliard@6kbw.com](mailto:nicholas.hilliard@6kbw.com)

Dear Member of the Circuit,

I am sending you the Circuit's draft response to the Green Paper on the reform of Legal Aid. It has been prepared by a team under the leadership of Sarah Forshaw QC. They deserve all our thanks. If, as I hope, it meets with your approval, please email Inge Bonner to say so. Numbers will add weight to our response when we submit it on February 14<sup>th</sup>. If you have any additional comments on the draft, please also send them to Inge.

A proposed new scheme for CPS grading of Counsel will not now come into operation in the timescale originally envisaged. Thus, there is no application form to complete at present. I will keep you informed but I suspect that the application process is more likely to begin at the end of March. When the time comes, I hope to put some guidance about completing the form on the Circuit website.

Best wishes,

*Nicholas Hilliard*

From Nicholas Hilliard QC  
Leader of the South Eastern Circuit