



Bar Council response to the Bar Standards Board's (BSB) consultation paper on Barristers Supervising Immigration Advisers Rule Change

1. This is the response of the General Council of the Bar of England and Wales (the Bar Council) to the BSB consultation paper on Barristers Supervising Immigration Advisers Rule Change.¹

2. The Bar Council represents over 16,000 barristers in England and Wales. It promotes the Bar's high-quality specialist advocacy and advisory services; fair access to justice for all; the highest standards of ethics, equality and diversity across the profession; and the development of business opportunities for barristers at home and abroad.

3. A strong and independent Bar exists to serve the public and is crucial to the administration of justice. As specialist, independent advocates, barristers enable people to uphold their legal rights and duties, often acting on behalf of the most vulnerable members of society. The Bar makes a vital contribution to the efficient operation of criminal and civil courts. It provides a pool of talented men and women from increasingly diverse backgrounds from which a significant proportion of the judiciary is drawn, on whose independence the Rule of Law and our democratic way of life depend. The Bar Council is the Approved Regulator for the Bar of England and Wales. It discharges its regulatory functions through the independent BSB.

Question 1 – Do you agree that we should prohibit barristers from supervising immigration advisers in the circumstances described above and with our proposed wording of the prohibition?

4. We agree with the proposed rule change and the wording of it.

Question 2 – Do you have examples of good supervision arrangements which could be used to inform our guidance and case studies?

5. No, but we agree that examples of good practice would be helpful to those supervising immigration advisers.

¹ [BSB consultation paper on Barristers Supervising Immigration Advisers Rule Change](#)

Bar Council
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