

PUBLIC CONSULTATION – ON A SIMPLIFIED TABLE OF FEES

Purpose

1. For awareness.

Background

2. At their meeting on 26 May 2025 the Costs and Funding Committee approved the online publication of a [consultation paper, BRIA and EQIA](#) for a proposal to simplify the regulated fees set for sheriff officers and messengers at arms.
3. The proposal made is to mirror the drafting methodology used for the ‘Taxation of Judicial Expenses Rules 2019’ which had adopted “unit based charging” as a pragmatic way to improve transparency and to speed up the process of maintaining those rules. As that change has successfully achieved its policy objectives for regulating the fees set for the recovery of judicial expenses it would also be appropriate for regulating these fees.
4. That consultation was opened on 28 May 2026 for a 12 week duration with the above documents uploaded to the website and a [news release](#) issued.

Recommendation

5. Council members may wish to note that this consultation is running and consider any initial views they may have on:
 - Making this change in drafting methodology (*to define baseline “units of work” for the services provided*); or
 - Any of the regulated fees currently set for the services provided by sheriff officers and messengers at arms

Secretariat to the Scottish Civil Justice Council
June 2025