

Summary Review of 2017

The Legal Section

The Legal Section comprises a part time Legal Liaison Officer who provides legal advice and guidance on legal enquiries raised by colleagues and parishes.

Approximately 80% of enquiries in 2017 were related to property matters including investigating and reporting on title to land, providing evidence of title, advice on restrictive covenants, easements, trusts, business leases, Assured Shorthold Tenancies, Licences, nuisance claims and encroachment.

Other legal matters included debt recovery, charity law, Wills and trusts (other than those related to land) partnership issues, identity fraud and highway matters. The role is very interesting and varied.

Approximately 90% of enquiries are dealt with by the Legal Liaison Officer 'in house'. In the remaining 10% of matters advice is sought from outside firms of lawyers specialising in specific areas of law. The Board's also instructs outside firms of lawyers to deal with property transactions or those matters where time constraints prevent a matter from being dealt with in house.

The objectives for next year are to continue providing legal advice and guidance so that parishes are freed up to focus on their main role of ministry and mission

Melanie Rees

Legal Liaison Officer

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