

Supplementary information submitted by The Law Society, 25 October 2007

At the Committee's meeting on 16 October, the Law Society undertook to supply the Committee with further information regarding timescales under the Speedy Resolution Scheme pilot.

The parties must agree within **1 week** of admission of liability or agreement by WHLS that the case can be settled, whether a C&P report is required.

Within **4 weeks** of admission of liability or agreement by WHLS that the case can be settled (i.e. 3 weeks after the decision to have a C&P report) the parties must agree an expert, contents of the letter of instruction and jointly instruct the expert.

Within **6 weeks** of the receipt of the letter of instruction the appointed expert shall report in writing.

Within **2 weeks** of the receipt of his report both parties must put any questions to the expert if necessary.

Within **2 weeks** of the receipt of any such questions the appointed expert shall provide his answers to the questions to all participants.

Within **4 weeks** of the receipt of confirmation from WHLS that liability is admitted and/or that the claim is one which is suitable for settlement or, if appropriate, within 4 weeks of the receipt of the expert's report on condition and prognosis and the expert's answers to questions arising from his report, the claimant's solicitor shall provide WHLS with details of the amount claimed (general damages and special damages) and, as far as possible, documentary evidence of the claimant's financial losses.

Within **2 weeks** of the receipt of details of the claimant's claim WHLS shall either accept the claimant's solicitor's valuation of the claim or make an offer of settlement.

Within **2 weeks** of the receipt of such offer of settlement the claimant shall accept or reject or counter WHLS's offer.

There is no limit on how many offers the parties can make.

In the event that the claimant and WHLS cannot reach agreement, they may within **1 week** of the rejection of the offer agree to instruct counsel to advise upon quantum.

If it is agreed that such advice is required then within **2 weeks** of the agreement to instruct Counsel both parties must agree counsel, agree contents of instructions and instruct counsel jointly.

Within **2 weeks** of the receipt of the instructions the appointed counsel shall advise in writing on quantum. The claimant's solicitor and WHLS shall then have **2 weeks** to decide whether to accept Counsel's opinion on quantum.