



15.11.2024

Dear Mr Jeffery,

We note that the consultation over the 5th edition of the TA6 has reached its conclusion. We are grateful to the Law Society for engaging in a lengthy and substantive consultation on an issue that many conveyancers consider to be of vital importance. So much so a Special General Meeting of the Law Society was convened earlier this year. The leadership of the Law Society survived the motion proposed at the meeting. Many attendees took the view that the Law Society's announcement prior to the meeting, that it would consult on the TA6, swung the vote in the Law Society's favour.

The various rounds of the consultation have been attended by PLA members. It is clear from the feedback that our members witnessed (not only from other members but also from other participants in the consultation) that the profession does not support the 5th edition of the TA6. For example, in a session held on 23 October 2024, the question was posed "Do you intend to continue to use version 4 (if permitted by protocol/CQS?". 80% of respondents answered "yes". 14% were unsure. Only 7% answered "no". These answers mirror polls carried out informally on LinkedIn prior to the consultation.

PLA members and the wider conveyancing community have put their faith in a genuine and open consultation undertaken by the Law Society. The consultation has concluded, and the outcome is clear. We cannot, to quote the vernacular, continue 'to kick the can down the road' on this issue. Two versions of the TA6 have created uncertainty, which is detrimental to the profession's reputation.

So, we respectfully call on the Law Society to withdraw the 5th edition, in line with the wishes of its members. Alternatively, if despite the wishes of the profession, the Law Society feels unable to comply with this request, the Property Lawyers Alliance is willing to collaborate with it to agree on an acceptable alternative.

Yours sincerely,

The Property Lawyers Alliance