File Examination and Peer Review

Prior to the fieldwork phase the legal inspectors will read [**120] [150]** files, selected using standard criteria ensuring a balance of successful and unsuccessful cases, magistrates and Crown Court cases and particular case types. Where possible, the team will seek to examine all files digitally but it is expected that there will be some Crown Court cases which require access to the physical file. Please endorse on the attached spreadsheet at Annex G any Crown Court files which are in part hard copy. I would be grateful if any required physical files are with the inspectorate by **[insert date]**.

During the fieldwork stage we will examine some live files as part of our process checks. This will involve both magistrates’ and Crown Court cases and again we will examine the files digitally where this is practicable. However, there may be instances where we will need to access physical evidential material e.g. CCTV. We are mindful of the possible limitations due to the proximity of the court date and will endeavour to minimise any disruption to the Area’s work.