

**START OF YEAR NEWSLETTER**

**An apology**

In the past few weeks, technical issues have been affecting the operation of the Register. A number of registrants have not been able to upload their quarterly information returns for the October-December period, or pay their annual registration fees (either the correct amount, or at all). Additionally, the search engine has not been working.

It has taken some time to track down the reasons for the problems, and resolve them.

I am assured that the technical problems have now been fixed, and the Office is working hard to get back to business as usual. However, I empathise with the frustration that you may have experienced, and you have my personal apologies for this.

The Office will be undertaking some technical diagnosis to reassure me (and you!) that these problems will not recur. In the light of the position, I feel it is only appropriate and fair, to extend the deadlines for both submission of quarterly returns (originally due 14 January) and now due *at the latest please by close of play on Monday 22 January*, and for payment of the £1000 annual renewal fee (originally due 19 January) and now due *at the latest please by close of play on Wednesday 31 January*.

Once again, my apologies.

Alison J. White  
**Registrar of Consultant Lobbyists**