

LAPG 2025 Annual Conference



Hosted and supported by:

A&O SHEARMAN

Monday 20th October 2025

A&O Shearman LLP
One Bishops Square
London, E1 6AO



Early Bird Offer until 29th September
Booking Details [here](#)

We would like to thank our sponsors:



JOHN
COSTS LAWYERS





LAPG 2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

20.10.2025 | 9:15AM-6PM

This is a provisional programme and is subject to change.

9:15 AM

Registration, Coffee/Tea and Sponsors' Exhibitions

Throughout the day John M Hayes costs lawyers will be available to delegates to discuss costs issues.

10:00 AM

Plenary Session: Welcome and Keynote Speech

Welcome: Nicola Mackintosh KC (Hon), Director and Founder of Mackintosh Law, Co-Chair LAPG

Keynote: Gina Miller, Transparency and Social Justice Campaigner who initiated both the Article 50 Brexit legal challenge and the Prorogation of Parliament legal challenge

Minister Sackman invited to address conference on current and future legal aid policy.

11:05 AM

Workshop Session 1

1a - Supporting your team – Managing Neurodivergent

Employees: Jenny Beck KC (Hon), Director of Beck Fitzgerald, founding member of FLANC (Family Law Advice for the Neurodivergent Community) will discuss both the practical and procedural aspects of creating a supportive and inclusive environment for neurodivergent employees.

#LAPGCONF25



LAPG 2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

20.10.2025 | 9:15AM-6PM

This is a provisional programme and is subject to change.

11:05 AM

Workshop Session 1

1b - Current Issues in Immigration & Asylum Legal Aid: "Smash the gangs, slash the boats, one in one out and computer says "no"- is the policy working or is reform the answer?" Speakers: Jawaid Luqmani, Founding Partner, Luqmani Thompson; Madeleine Kelleher, Immigration Solicitor, Southwark Law Centre

1c - Current issues in Criminal Legal Aid: Casey Jenkins, President of LCCSA and Rakesh Bhasin, LAPG Advisory Committee Member will address topical issues for criminal defence practitioners.

11:45 AM

Coffee/Tea Break and Sponsors' Exhibitions

12:00 AM

Plenary Session: AI in the Legal Aid World: To Use or Not to Use, that is The Question.

Panel discussion/debate: Matthew Howgate, Consultant; Giles Peaker, Partner, Anthony Gold and Founder and Editor of the Nearly Legal Blog; Dr. Francine Ryan, Senior Lecturer in Law & Director of the Open Justice Centre; Speakers invited from the Ada Lovelace Institute Chair: Ro Jana, Director of Parliamentary Affairs, LAPG

1:10 PM

Lunch and Sponsors' Exhibitions

1:30 PM

AGM For LAPG Members

#LAPGCONF25



LAPG 2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

20.10.2025 | 9:15AM-6PM

This is a provisional programme and is subject to change.

2:10 PM

Workshop Session 2

2a - Supporting Your Team – Managing Through a Crisis:

Experienced sector consultants Matthew Howgate and Vicky Ling will discuss business continuity planning and disaster recovery. This session will focus on the LAA contingency processes and wider impact of and recovery from the LAA data breach.

2b - Current issues in Family Legal Aid: Jenny Beck KC (Hon) , Director Beck Fitzgerald and Lucy Verity, Director, Philcox Gray will discuss topical issues for both private and public family legal aid practitioners. Chair: Beverley Watkins, Partner, Watkins Solicitors

2c - Current issues in Housing & Debt Legal Aid: Rosaleen Kilbane, Partner, Community Law Partnership and Kate Pasfield, Director of Legal Aid Policy, LAPG will discuss current issues for Housing & Debt legal aid providers, such as Awaab's Law, planned increases to housing legal aid fees, and the development of online possession processes.

2:55 pm

Coffee/Tea Break and Sponsors' Exhibitions

#LAPGCONF25



LAPG 2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

20.10.2025 | 9:15AM-6PM

This is a provisional programme and is subject to change.

3:10 pm

Workshop Session 3

3a - A career in legal aid: Members of Young Legal Aid Lawyers will discuss how to develop your career in legal aid. This session is aimed at students who are considering a career in legal aid and at junior legal aid practitioners.

3b - Supporting your team: Dr. Laura Janes (KC Hon), and Kate Muir, women's health expert, documentary maker and author, will discuss LAPG's PAMELA support network and how to support both colleagues and clients who are (peri)menopausal.

3c - Cost Maximisation: Costs experts from John M Hayes Ltd will discuss how to avoid errors and cashflow issues, minimise costs reductions and get paid quickly. The session will also provide practical hints and tips on costs maximisation.

#LAPGCONF25



LAPG 2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

20.10.2025 | 9:15AM-6PM

This is a provisional programme and is subject to change.

4:00 pm

Plenary Session and Closing Address

The cyber attack on the LAA's IT systems has had profound impact on both legal aid providers and clients trying to access help and support. Over recent months, the LAA has introduced a range of contingency measures after deciding to take all of its digital systems offline to prevent further attacks and improve system security. Panel members will discuss the state of play by the time of the conference, looking at issues such as ongoing contingency measures, the recoupment of the contingency payments made to providers, and compensating providers for the additional costs they incurred as a result of the data breach.

Note: if LAA systems are restored and legal aid processes have returned to business as usual, this panel will consider wider legal aid policy and campaigning issues.

5:00 pm

Drinks Reception

#LAPGCONF25



Booking for the 2025 Annual Conference

To attend, please book your tickets via **Eventbrite** [here](#).

We have a limited number of concessions for legal aid practitioners based outside of London. If you would like to inquire about receiving one of these tickets, please email Andrea (andrea.shumaker@lapg.co.uk).

Terms and Conditions

A full refund will be given if a place is cancelled up to 7 days before the conference and no refunds in the last 7 days before the conference. A substitute delegate from your or another organisation will be accepted at any time before the event.

Please note that we reserve the right to change the running order and we may need to make changes to the final programme. All details can be found on our [website](#).

	Early Bird (Until 29 th September)	Standard Rate
LAPG Members	£150 +VAT	£200 +VAT
Non-LAPG Members	£225 +VAT	£275 +VAT
YLAL, JFFs, SWSQFs	£20 +VAT	£30 +VAT

#LAPGCONF25