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LAPG Member Update

Issue 12 of 2025

We're now just a few working days away from the close of nominations for this year's LALY awards.

Nominations close at 23:59 on Tuesday, 22nd of April.



Don't panic! You still have time to [put forward that lawyer or support person](#) who really does go the extra mile for their clients and for access to justice. Or nominate the organisation which exemplifies the resilience, expertise and commitment that typifies legal aid providers.

This year, the 23rd outing of these non-profit-making awards, there are 10 categories spanning all aspects of legal aid work:

- 1) **Outstanding Achievement*** (sponsored by Matrix Chambers)
- 2) **Legal Aid Newcomer** (sponsored by Friends of LALY25)
- 3) **Criminal Defence** (sponsored by Communicourt)
- 4) **Public Law** (sponsored by One Pump Court)
- 5) **Immigration and Asylum** (sponsored by Garden Court Chambers)
- 6) **Legal Aid Support Staffer/Support Team** (sponsored by Accesspoint)
- 7) **Family Legal Aid Including Children's Rights** (sponsored by Resolution)
- 8) **Legal Aid Barrister** (sponsored by The Bar Council)
- 9) **Legal Aid Firm/Not-for-Profit Agency** (supported by The Law Society)

** We do not accept nominations for this award*

So what makes a compelling nomination? There is no set formula and the nominations we receive come in all shapes and sizes. Supporting information is limited to 10 sides of A4, uploaded to [our online nomination form](#), as set out in the [LALY guidance](#). The form asks you to describe the legal



aid work that the nominee carries out and how the nominee has shown exceptional commitment to publicly-funded work. Compelling nominations will also include testimonials from those who can speak to the exceptional commitment of the nominee, for example clients, opponents, colleagues, experts and judges.



Some nominees will stand out for a particularly important case from the last year, while others will be recognised because they're at the coalface, day-in and day-out, ensuring access to justice despite the many challenges being thrown at them by the legal aid system. This applies equally to individuals and organisations.

Whatever you choose to focus on in your nomination, given the quality of legal aid work being carried out across England and Wales, and the difference it makes to clients, their families and local communities, you still have time to submit something that will catch the judges' eyes before next week's deadline.

Winners in the 10 prestigious award categories will be announced to an audience of around 500 guests at a **ceremony in central London on 4 July 2025**.

As noted above, the LALY awards is non-profit making and is only possible due to the incredible support we receive from the category sponsored set out above, and by our other generous sponsors and supporters:

- 39 Essex Chambers
- DG Legal
- Legal Action Group (media partner)
- Leigh Day
- Miles and Partners
- The Legal Education Foundation

So please join the LALY community by making or supporting a nomination. We would love to show everyone committed to legal aid how much they mean to us by rewarding them in some way. But we need your help to nominate the lawyers and support staff for these special awards so they receive the public recognition

they so richly deserve.

Become an official Friend of LALY25

As noted above, we are [crowdfunding for sponsorship of our Legal Aid Newcomer award](#),

which celebrates the solicitors, barristers, paralegals, legal executives and caseworkers who are the future of this profession. Donations are from £10, and all money will go towards keeping ticket prices affordable. The names of donors will be included as Friends of LALY25 in our ceremony programme and on social media in the run up to the July event.



If you have any questions about this year's awards, [please visit our dedicated LALY pages](#), or get in touch with me (chris.minnoch@lapg.co.uk) or LALY co-founder and co-organiser Fiona Bawdon (fiona.bawdon@gmail.com). Please follow @LALYawards on X and @lalyawards.bsky.social on Bluesky for news and look out for and use the #LALY25 hashtag.

We know there are many practitioners and professionals out there making an incredible difference through publicly-funded work. Don't miss your opportunity to nominate your legal aid hero!

Take care one and all,

Chris Minnoch, CEO [@ChrisLAPG](#)

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Thank you for being brave enough to be part of the LAPG community!



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