



Representing Community Lawyers



Principal Sponsor

# Legal Aid Practitioners Group Annual Conference

Friday 9th October 2015

Priory Rooms

40 Bull Street

Birmingham, B4 6AF

## LEGAL AID: THE FUTURE



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Dinner and  
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LAPG members: £150 + VAT Non Members: £200 + VAT

Special offer for LAPG members only: for every extra delegate, the fee is £100 + VAT

**5.5 CPD Hours**

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See inside for details of dinner on Thursday 8th October sponsored by Accesspoint

# Conference Schedule 2015

- 09.00 Registration, coffee, networking, exhibition and CCMS drop-in desk**
- 09.45 Workshops (1):**
- 1a.** Family Law Update: Elspeth Thomson, David Gray Solicitors LLP
  - 1b.** Civil (non family) costs: Jane Pritchard, TV Edwards LLP and David Smith, John M Hayes
  - 1c.** Management Matters: Vicky Ling PQS and Matt Howgate, DG Legal (repeated at 14.40)
  - 1d.** CCMS for beginners: LAA session. Limited to 12 people
  - 1e.** Using the law to protect access to justice and human rights, Martha Spurrier & Laura Janes - Joint LAPG/Young Legal Aid Lawyers Session
- 10.40 Welcome from LAPG Director Carol Storer**
- 10.45 Facing the Future Part 1:  
The view from the major players** (Plenary Session)  
Hugh Barrett, Director of Legal Aid Commissioning and Strategy, Legal Aid Agency  
Richard Miller, The Law Society  
Chris Handford, Solicitors Regulation Authority  
Caroline Crowther, Ministry of Justice, Jennifer Egginton, CILEx
- 11.40 Lord Bach on Labour Review of Legal Aid**
- 11.45 Coffee, networking, exhibition and CCMS drop-in desk**
- 12.15 Facing the Future Part 2:  
Access to Justice and IT** (Plenary Session)  
Chair: Julie Bishop, Director Law Centres Network  
Professor Roger Smith OBE  
Jen Hyatt, CEO Big White Wall
- 13.00 Lunch, networking, exhibition and CCMS drop-in desk**
- 13.00 AGM for LAPG members only** (ten minutes)
- 14.00 Facing the Future Part 3:  
What Next for Human Rights and Legal Aid?** (Plenary Session)  
Chair: LAPG Co-Chair Nicola Mackintosh QC (Hon)  
Phillippa Kaufmann QC, Matrix Chambers  
Alison Pickup, Doughty Street Chambers
- 14.40 Workshops (2):**
- 2a.** Family costs: David Smith, John M Hayes and Jane Pritchard, TV Edwards LLP
  - 2b.** Panel discussion of crime contracts: Richard Miller, David Gilmore, Helen Johnson
  - 2c.** Management Matters: Vicky Ling PQS and Matt Howgate, DG Legal (repeated from 09.45)
  - 2d.** CCMS advanced: LAA session. Limited to 12 people
  - 2e.** Young Legal Aid Lawyers Session: A Career in Legal Aid
- 15.30 Tea**
- 16.00 Facing the Future Part 4:  
Planning for Survival** (Plenary Session)  
Chair: LAPG Co-Chair Jenny Beck  
What does good look like? (according to clients) David Gilmore, DG Legal  
Is there a future for social welfare law? Steve Hynes, Director LAG  
Is this the end for small practices? Is big beautiful? Panel discussion including Jawaid Luqmani, Luqmani Thompson & Partners, Jenny Beck, Nicola Mackintosh and delegates
- 16.50 Round-up from LAPG co-chairs Jenny Beck and Nicola Mackintosh QC (Hon)**
- 17.00 Drinks reception**
- 18.00 Close**

# Pre Conference Dinner – open to all.

There will be a dinner at 7.30pm on Thursday 8th October at a cost of £36 per head inclusive of VAT. The dinner is open to all, including those who cannot make the conference date. Thank you to sponsors Accesspoint for their support.

This is a fantastic occasion to meet colleagues and network. There will be a raffle to raise funds for LAPG.

For more information please email [conference@lapg.co.uk](mailto:conference@lapg.co.uk) or look on our website: <http://lapg.co.uk/>. The meal will be at Le Truc, Arcadian Centre, Birmingham, B5 4ST. Bookings through Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lapg-pre-conference-dinner-tickets-18325458941?aff=es2>



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Website: <http://lapg.co.uk/>

## Details of Workshop Sessions

### 09.45 Workshops (1):

- 1a.** Family Law Update: Elspeth Thomson, David Gray Solicitors LLP  
Recent developments in family legal aid you need to know about.  
Chair: Jenny Beck, Stephenson Solicitors LLP
- 1b.** Civil (non family) costs: Jane Pritchard, TV Edwards LLP and David Smith, John M Hayes
- 1c.** Management Matters: Vicky Ling PQS and Matt Howgate, DG Legal  
Vicky and Matthew present an example of the training available on the LAPG Certificate in Practice Management course. This session starts with an introduction to good strategic and business planning and leads in to a more practical discussion on how to plan if you have been awarded or refused a legal aid contract (including a crime duty contract). Chair: Chris Minnoch, Greenwich Housing Rights
- 1d.** CCMS for beginners: Limited to 12 people (presented by LAA)
- 1e.** Using the law to protect access to justice and human rights, Martha Spurrier & Laura Janes. Joint LAPG/Young Legal Aid Lawyers Session. This session will explore creative ways of using the law to protect access to justice and promote human rights. Martha Spurrier will outline recent developments in challenges to legal aid cuts, the lessons learned and some of the novel arguments that have emerged in the litigation. Laura Janes will discuss the ways in which legal aid practitioners have used the law to protect human rights both in every day work and the influence of human rights in developing the common law jurisprudence. This session will cover the content previously billed in the afternoon workshop by Martha Spurrier and is suitable for both LAPG and YLAL delegates.  
Chair: Heather Thomas, TV Edwards LLP

### 14.40 Workshops (2):

- 2a.** Family costs: David Smith, John M Hayes and Jane Pritchard, TV Edwards LLP  
Chair: Wendy Hewstone Access Law LLP
- 2b.** Panel discussion of crime contacts: Richard Miller The Law Society, David Gilmore DG Legal, Helen Johnson of Emery Johnson Astills
- 2c.** Management Matters: Vicky Ling PQS and Matt Howgate, DG Legal  
Chair: Phil Walsh Miles & Partners LLP
- 2d.** CCMS advanced: Limited to 12 people (presented by LAA)
- 2e.** Young Legal Aid Lawyers Session: A Career in Legal Aid, Alison Leivesley, TV Edwards LLP; Oliver Carter, Irwin Mitchell; Rachel Francis, One Pump Court.  
Chair: Gimhani Eriyagolla, Bhatt Murphy

# Booking Form: LAPG Annual Conference 2015

To attend the LAPG Annual Conference in Birmingham on Friday 9 October 2015, please fill in the information below and either post it to LAPG with a cheque or scan it and send to [conference@lapg.co.uk](mailto:conference@lapg.co.uk) and we will invoice you. Or book online: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/lapg-annual-conference-tickets-18096082871>

## Fees

LAPG members: £180 (including VAT)

Non members: £240 (including VAT)

**LAPG members only:** 2nd and subsequent delegates from same firm/organisation £120.00 (including VAT).

**Students** – £72 (including VAT) please see LAPG or YLAL websites.

**Why not become a member today and receive the immediate benefit of the reduced conference fees? Simply go to the LAPG website <http://lapg.co.uk/>**

If you want to stay in Birmingham, we suggest using e.g. Laterooms.com

Name of delegate(s):

Name of firm/organisation:

Address:

Postcode:

Tel:

Email:

Please set out any dietary or other special requirements:

I wish to book

Conference Place(s) at £

Total Amount  
Including VAT

£

**Please tick which workshop you would prefer to attend.**

**9.45**

**1a.**

**1b.**

**1c.**

**1d.**

**1e.**

**14.40**

**2a.**

**2b.**

**2c.**

**2d.**

**2e.**

**For queries**, you can contact us by telephone: **020 7833 7431** or email: **[conference@lapg.co.uk](mailto:conference@lapg.co.uk)**.

## Terms and Conditions:

A full refund will be given if a place is cancelled up to 21 days before the conference, 50% refunds 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. We reserve the right to change the running order.

**We may need to make changes to the final programme.  
Check on <http://lapg.co.uk/>**