



*Representing Community Lawyers*

**Legal Aid Practitioners Group**  
**Annual Conference**  
**Friday 6th October 2017**

**Legal Band-Aid: fixing  
access to justice?**

Herbert Smith Freehills  
Exchange House, Primrose Street  
London EC2A 2EG

Early Bird Offer until 15 September 2017

Reduced price for LAPG Members

Reductions for LAPG Members if sending two or more delegates

Eventbrite booking reference: <http://tinyurl.com/ybgve3wk>

**Equivalent to 5.5 CPD hours**

Twitter #lapgconf17

**LAPG Annual Dinner (open to all) Sponsored by Accesspoint**

Thursday 5th October 2017 at Chiswell Street

Dining Rooms. Details on back page.

**SPONSORS**



Conference Sponsor



Conference Sponsor



Where people make the difference

Dinner and  
Conference Sponsor



Conference Sponsor

# Conference Schedule 2017

## 09.00 Registration/coffee/exhibition

### 09.50 Plenary

**Welcome:** Nicola Mackintosh QC (Hon), Mackintosh Law, Co-Chair of LAPG

**Panel:** What does the future hold?

Christina Blacklaws, Vice President, The Law Society

Andrew Walker QC, Chair Elect of The Bar Council

Richard Collins, Executive Director, Solicitors Regulation Authority

Simon Garrod, Director of Policy & Governance, Chartered Institute of Legal Executives

### 10.45 Workshops: Session (1)

**1a.** Family law update: Private and public law – Beverley Watkins, Watkins Solicitors; Lucy Verity, Hornby and Levy; Paul Summerbell, Warrens Law and Advocacy

**1b.** Civil non-family costs: David Smith, John M Hayes; Jane Pritchard, TV Edwards Solicitors LLP

**1c.** Management session: People management – Matt Howgate, Matt Howgate Consulting; Chris Minnoch, LAPG

**1d.** Discrimination and human rights: session organised by Young Legal Aid Lawyers

### 11.30 Coffee & Exhibition

**12.00 Plenary:** Q + A with Shaun McNally, Chief Executive, Legal Aid Agency

**12.30 Plenary:** Access to Justice through IT: Richard Miller, The Law Society (12.55 CrowdJustice speaker)

### 13.00 Lunch & Exhibition

### 13.45 AGM for LAPG members only

### 14.00 Plenary

**Panel:** How we plan to survive

Chair: Jenny Beck, Beck Fitzgerald, Co-Chair of LAPG

Adam Makepeace, Tuckers Solicitors LLP

Elsbeth Thomson, David Gray Solicitors LLP

Jawaid Luqmani, Luqmani Thompson & Partners

Ruth Hayes, Islington Law Centre

### 14.45 Workshops: Session (2)

**2a.** Family costs: David Smith, John M Hayes; Jane Pritchard, TV Edwards Solicitors LLP

**2b.** Management session: Data Security, Cyber Essentials and GDPR Compliance - the why, when and how: David Gilmore and Simon Ghent DG Legal

**2c.** Public law: Alison Pickup, Public Law Project Legal Director

**2d.** A career in legal aid: session organised by Young Legal Aid Lawyers

### 15.30 Tea/Coffee

### 16.00 Workshops: Session (3)

**3a.** Management session: Audits – Steve Keeling, DG Legal and Jon Cable LAA

**3b.** Better Advocacy and representation for vulnerable people: Andrew Sperling, SL5 Legal; Laura Janes, Howard League for Penal Reform; Polly Sweeney, Irwin Mitchell Solicitors

**3c.** Crime panel: Helen Johnson, Emery Johnson Astills; Justin Rivett, Warrens Law and Advocacy and Rakesh Bhasin, Steel & Shamash  
LAPG Committee members will discuss current issues in crime

### 16.45 Plenary

Mystery guest: Introduced by Carol Storer, Director of LAPG

### 17.00 Finish and drinks

# Details of Workshop Sessions



12 Baylis Road,  
London SE1 7AA

Email: [office@lapg.co.uk](mailto:office@lapg.co.uk)  
Website: <http://lapg.co.uk/>

## 10.45 Workshops: Session (1)

- 1a.** Family law update: Private and public law – Beverley Watkins, Watkins Solicitors; Lucy Verity, Hornby and Levy; Paul Summerbell, Warrens Law and Advocacy  
LAPG committee members will cover latest developments in private and public law.
- 1b.** Civil non-family costs: David Smith, John M Hayes; Jane Pritchard, TV Edwards  
David and Jane return again to deliver a workshop which has been hugely appreciated by delegates over the last few years.
- 1c.** Management session: People management – Matt Howgate, Matt Howgate Consulting and Chris Minnoch, Operations Director LAPG. Managing performance – taken from the LAPG Certificate in Practice Management ([www.lapg.co.uk/courses/](http://www.lapg.co.uk/courses/)), Matt and Chris will cover tricky personnel issues.
- 1d.** Discrimination and human rights: session organised by Young Legal Aid Lawyers. This session is open to all practitioners, although junior and aspiring lawyers are particularly welcome. We will be looking at the key principles underpinning discrimination law and recent cases where these have been deployed successfully (and unsuccessfully) in the pursuit of social justice.

## 14.45 Workshops: Session (2)

- 2a.** Family costs: David Smith, John M Hayes; Jane Pritchard, TV Edwards  
David and Jane will now turn their attention to costs in family cases and provide tips on how to maximize income.
- 2b.** Management session: Data Security, Cyber Essentials and GDPR Compliance - the why, when and how. David Gilmore and Simon Ghent, DG Legal. Data privacy and security is increasingly at the top of organisations' agenda as risk continues to rise and compliance becomes obligatory. This information packed workshop will discuss why professional service providers need to act, new legislation and understanding, the deadlines they have and the 10 steps required to become Cyber Essentials and GDPR compliant.
- 2c.** Public law: Alison Pickup, Legal Director, Public Law Project  
Alison will provide an update on legal aid litigation and other recent case law and legislation developments in public law.
- 2d.** A career in legal aid: session organised by Young Legal Aid Lawyers. Unsure which area of law would suit you? Need some tips on getting that elusive training contract or pupillage? Bring your questions to Young Legal Aid Lawyers' advice session on building a career in legal aid.

## 16.00 Workshops: Session (3)

- 3a.** Management session: Audits – Steve Keeling, DG Legal and Jon Cable, Legal Aid Agency. Practitioners face increasing difficulty working out what audits might take place and what will be involved if they are notified of a forthcoming audit. This workshop will help you be prepared and understand more about the reasons for the audits.
- 3b.** Advocacy and representation for vulnerable people: Andrew Sperling, SL5 Legal; Laura Janes, Howard League for Penal Reform; Polly Sweeney, Irwin Mitchell Solicitors. This session is aimed at increasing awareness and skills amongst advocates and lawyers of good practice in representing vulnerable clients and achieving best evidence from vulnerable witnesses (including those who are vulnerable due to their age, experiences or mental health) and promoting the effective participation in proceedings of clients who lack capacity. The session will look at available resources and guidance such as the advocate's gateway and regulatory guidance.
- 3c.** Crime panel: Helen Johnson, Emery Johnson Astills; Justin Rivett, Warrens Law and Advocacy and Rakesh Bhasin, Steel & Shamash  
LAPG Committee members will discuss current issues in crime

**We may need to make changes to the final programme.**

**Check on [www.lapg.co.uk](http://www.lapg.co.uk)**

# Booking Form: LAPG Annual Conference 2017

To attend the LAPG Annual Conference, please book online using Eventbrite: <http://tinyurl.com/ybgve3wk>  
If you cannot book by Eventbrite please email [office@lapg.co.uk](mailto:office@lapg.co.uk)

## Fees

LAPG members (after 15/9/17): £150 (plus VAT) Early bird (up to 15/9/17): £125 (plus VAT)  
Non members (after 15/9/17): £200 (plus VAT) Early bird (up to 15/9/17): £175 (plus VAT)

**LAPG members only:** *for every extra delegate:* £90 (plus VAT)

**YLAL members** – see rate on Eventbrite

**Students** – Please contact [office@lapg.co.uk](mailto:office@lapg.co.uk) for more information

**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/>**

## Terms and Conditions:

A full refund will be given if a place is cancelled up to 21 days before the conference;  
50% refund 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 will be on [www.lapg.co.uk](http://www.lapg.co.uk)

## LAPG Annual Dinner Thursday 5th October 2017

Our pre conference dinner is open to all. Even if you are not attending the conference, come along and enjoy LAPG's annual dinner. This is a fantastic occasion to meet colleagues from all over the country.

The cost of the three course meal is £35 + VAT. This is exclusive of alcohol during the meal as we wish to run an event which is financially accessible to as many people as possible. Drinks can be purchased at the bar on the evening.

There is a drinks reception at 6.30pm thanks to the sponsor Accesspoint.  
Dinner is at 7.15pm

The venue is Chiswell Street Dining Rooms, 56 Chiswell Street, London EC1Y 4SA  
[www.chiswellstreetdining.com](http://www.chiswellstreetdining.com)

To book places please go to <http://tinyurl.com/ybavxlh5>