



19/05/22

## LAPG Member Update

Issue 13 of 2021



## Finalists announced for the 2022 Legal Aid Lawyer of the Year awards!

We are delighted to announce the exceptional shortlist for this year's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the LALY awards.

The LALYs is our opportunity each year to thank you all for your continued commitment to legal aid and access to justice. It is also a chance to shine a spotlight on the incredible, life-changing work of legal aid lawyers, and the power of legal aid to bring about positive change. The work is complex and difficult, remuneration is inadequate, the scheme is unnecessarily bureaucratic, and the political environment is often hostile. Yet legal aid lawyers across England and Wales work tirelessly each day to get the best possible results for their clients. We couldn't be more proud to represent you or more honoured to have the opportunity to thank you for your efforts by delivering the awards.

We are absolutely delighted that after two years of virtual awards we are back to an in-person event on Tuesday, 12 July 2022 in central London. 500+ finalists, friends and colleagues will join us for a true celebration of legal aid and of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of these very special awards. [Join us by registering for your place here](#). Tickets are very affordable for an in-person event and cover a drinks reception and food, with discounts available to YLAL members and Justice First Fellows.

Follow @LALYawards for updates on this year's LALYs and if you want to support us on social media please use #LALY22.

[Read our official LALY finalists press release here](#).

And a special thanks to our sponsors (set out below) and to our media partner Legal Action Group, who have been steadfast in their support for the LALYs during these difficult times. There is no LALY awards without them.

**Here is the full list of finalists in our 12 award categories:**

## **1. Legal Aid Newcomer**

### **Sponsored by Friends of LALY22**

Ciara Bartlam  
Marie Paris  
Rabah Kherbane  
Samuel O'Flaherty

Garden Court North Chambers  
Doughty Street Chambers  
Doughty Street Chambers  
Osbornes Law

## **2. Legal Aid Support Staffer**

### **Sponsored by Accesspoint**

David Neale  
Jenny Malone  
Lesley Kennedy-Neal  
Simone McGlynn

Garden Court Chambers  
Community Law Partnership  
Wilson Solicitors LLP  
Hammersmith & Fulham Law Centre

## **3. Disability Rights**

### **Sponsored by Bidwell Henderson**

Liz Davis  
Anna Moore  
Sarah Griffiths-Jones

Irwin Mitchell LLP  
Leigh Day  
Reeds Solicitors LLP

## **4. Family Law**

### **Sponsored by Resolution**

Alison Leivesley  
Deborah Piccos  
Grace Bradley

Bindmans LLP  
TV Edwards LLP  
The Family Law Company

## **5. Criminal Defence**

### **Sponsored by Doughty Street Chambers**

Adeela Khan  
Laura O'Brien  
Seema Dosaj

Edward Fail, Bradshaw & Waterson  
Hodge Jones & Allen  
Berris Law

## **6. Legal Aid Barrister**

### **Sponsored by The Bar Council**

Amean Elgadhry  
Gráinne Mellon  
Oliver Lewis

One Pump Court Chambers  
Garden Court Chambers  
Doughty Street Chambers

## **7. Legal Aid Firm/Not for Profit Agency**

### **Sponsored by The Law Society**

MTC Solicitors  
UCL Integrated Legal Advice Clinic (UCL iLAC)  
Mary Ward Legal Centre

## **8. Regional Legal Aid Firm/Not-for-Profit Agency**

### **Sponsored by The Legal Education Foundation**

Ashwood Solicitors Limited  
Johnson Astills Solicitors  
David Gray Solicitors LLP

## **9. Housing Law**

### **Sponsored by Garden Court Chambers**

Hannah Khalifah  
Lisa Haythorne  
Rajea Sultana

Mary Ward Legal Centre  
Derbyshire Law Centre  
Miles & Partners LLP

## 10. Social Welfare Law

### Sponsored by DG Legal

Andrew Bowmer  
Chris McKendry  
Clare Jennings

Miles & Partners LLP  
Wilson Solicitors LLP  
Gold Jennings

## 11. Public Law

### Sponsored by One Pump Court

Qaisar Sheikh  
Jamie Bell  
Rebecca Ives

Coram Children's Legal Centre  
Duncan Lewis Solicitors  
Wilson Solicitors LLP

## 12. Outstanding Achievement

### Sponsored by Matrix Chambers

As you know we do not have a shortlist for this category

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So there we have it - 6 organisations and 29 individual practitioners - a truly inspiring shortlist.

The judging panel had an incredibly difficult task this year given the high standard of nominations across the board. And we know that some very fine organisations and individuals didn't make the shortlist as a result. This is, in itself, a testament to the quality, commitment, expertise and perseverance of legal aid practitioners.

Thank you to everyone who submitted or supported a nomination this year. We do appreciate it given all the competing demands on your time. This really is the most supportive of sectors.

With all best wishes,

Chris Minnoch, CEO [@ChrisLAPG](#)

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[#WeAreLegalAid](#)

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Would you like to contribute to our Member Updates and share news and information with other members? If so, just email us and we can discuss how you can best contribute.

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



Legal Aid Practitioners Group

# 2022

# LEGAL AID LAWYER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

20th year



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