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Legal Aid News & Events

APPG on Legal Aid webinar asks 'CLAIR - Where do we go from here?'

Following the publication of <u>Sir Christopher</u> <u>Bellamy's Criminal Legal Aid Independent Review</u> <u>report</u> on 29 November 2021, the government has committed to responding by the end of March 2022. The report and recommendations have generated a great deal of debate across the sector about what might happen next for criminal legal aid. Sir Christopher made 19 recommendations, which included restructuring fee schemes and



The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Legal Aid

increasing fees to provide an additional £130m of funding to the profession. He described this investment as the minimum required from government to ensure the short-term survival of the firms and organisations carrying out this vital work.

The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Legal Aid will be hosting an online meeting on 9 February 2022 to consider the CLAIR report. The Minister with responsibility for criminal legal aid, James Cartlidge MP, will be speaking along with representatives from a range of practitioner groups.

CLAIR - where do we go from here?

Online via Zoom

Date and Time: Tuesday 9th Feb - 16:00 - 17:30

Confirmed speakers:

- Minister James Cartlidge MP
- I.Stephanie Boyce , President of The Law Society
- Daniel Bonich, Chair of the Criminal Law Solicitors Association
- Jo Sidhu QC, Chair of the Criminal Bar Association
- Hesham Puri, President of the London Criminal Courts Solicitors' Association
- Katie McFadden, Young Legal Aid Lawyers

The meeting will be chaired by James Daly MP, vice-chair of the APPG on Legal Aid.

Register to view this webinar here.

Please direct any queries to LAPG's Head of Parliamentary Affairs, Rohini Teather.

For those, like me, with a civil legal aid background, this webinar offers a fascinating insight into government policy development. The CLAR process, and in particular the Independent Review, provide a potential roadmap for securing the investment and attention sorely needed to repair civil legal aid so please do attend even if you are not a crime specialist.

Law Society webinars

A reminder also that The Law Society is running two webinars to help practitioners better understand the independent report and the likely government response:

What CLAIR Means For You

Wed 9 Feb 2022 (10-11am)

Mon 22 Feb 2022 (2-3pm)

The Criminal Legal Aid Review has concluded and Sir Christopher Bellamy has published his report which includes 19 recommendations for changes to the criminal legal aid system. This webinar will discuss the recommendations; the possible ways in which they might be implemented, and potential impacts on legal aid providers.

LAPG Training & Support

We're now taking bookings for the LAPG Certificate in Practice Management



Focussed primarily on the needs of managers and supervisors in private practice, the LAPG CPM covers key strategic and management issues over 5 full-day online workshops:

- 28 April 2022 Session 1: Time Management & Strategic Planning
- 19 May 2022 Session 2: Financial Management
- 16 June 2022 Session 3: People Management
- 14 July 2022 Session 4: Policies and Compliance
- 8 September 2022 Session 5: Communications (a.m.) & Legal Aid Contracting (p.m.)

More information about this course is <u>available on</u> our website here.

We have now opened the booking process for the full certificate course. At just £499 for LAPG Members (£649 for non-members) this course is incredible value for legal aid practitioners. We are able to heavily discount this course thanks to the generous support of The Legal Education Foundation and the Community Justice Fund. In the coming weeks we will also start taking bookings for individual sessions, which can either be attended as discrete courses or for those who

wish to work towards the full Certificate over a number of years.

A recent graduate of the 2021 CPM course said:

"I would highly recommend the LAPG Certificate in Practice Management course for all partners and managers in legal aid firms. It is the only law management course I know of aimed exclusively at helping legal aid firms to manage their businesses – good management is so essential for delivering access to justice to all. The course is full of practical tips and over 5 sessions gives you get a very good overview of all the key aspects of running a legal aid practice."

Managing Partner of a large legal aid firm

If you would like to know more about this course, or to reserve your place, contact **Anna Neira Quesada**.

Supervision Courses and Introduction to Legal Aid online training module



Supervision

Our next online Supervision Courses take place in March (10 & 25) and June (10 & 17) 2022. Designed for new LAA Supervisors or those wishing to refresh their supervisory skills. Our course helps you meet a key component in securing and then effectively operating your legal aid contract and meeting the LAA's supervisor standards.

MARCH 2022 COURSE - BOOK YOUR PLACE HERE

JUNE 2022 COURSE - BOOK YOUR PLACE HERE

Online Introduction to Civil Legal Aid Course

The Civil Legal Aid scheme is incredibly complex and the consequences of getting something wrong can be damaging to a client's case or financially damaging to the organisation doing the work – sometimes both. We have therefore developed the first module in a series which provides a general introduction to the civil legal aid scheme aimed at trainees, paralegals, junior lawyers and

those that wish to refresh their knowledge having worked in the sector for some time.

To subscribe for just £99 please email <u>Anna Neira</u> <u>Quesada</u>.

The Management & Leadership Programme

A note also that we are now taking bookings for the LAPG MLP.

This exceptional course focusses on the training needs of those in management positions in the Not-for-Profit advice sector and is being delivered under the auspices of our recently launched Management & Leadership Hub. We have redesigned this course and the 2022 version will commence with a launch event in April.

This year, through the support of the Legal Education Foundation and the AB Charitable Trust, we can offer 24 **free** places on this prestigious programme, which covers:

- Strategic & Operational Planning
- Financial Management
- Leadership, team dynamics and people management
- Quality standards, risk management and policies & procedures
- Diversity, equality & inclusion
- Data management and use, charity governance & regulatory compliance
- Communications & Fundraising

The course is delivered online, with seminars on 8 days between April and December 2022.

For more information about this course and to register your interest see here



2022 LAPG Membership renewals

A huge thank you to all of the organisations that have renewed membership for 2022. Your support ensures that we can maintain a strong and independent voice to advocate for legal aid practitioners and access to justice at the highest levels of political influencing and push for operational improvements to the legal aid scheme with the LAA.

LAPG Membership runs from January to December so now is the time to refresh your LAPG Member status. This year, given the unprecedented pressures facing you all, we have once again frozen fees, after reducing them by 10% last year. If you renew before 28 February 2022 you will also benefit from the Early Bird discount.

Number of fee earners	Early Bird Fee (runs to 28.02.22)	Standard Fee (from 01.03.22)
1 – 5 fee earners	£150.00	£175.00
6 - 10 fee earners	£225.00	£265.00
11 - 20 fee earners	£325.00	£380.00
21 - 30 fee earners	£425.00	£520.00
31 – 50 fee earners	£530.00	£605.00
51+ fee earners	£620.00	£700.00
Non-contract holding rate	£250.00	£315.00

To download the membership renewal form or for more information on the renewal process please <u>visit the Membership page of our website</u>.

If you have any queries about LAPG membership or the renewal process, please contact our ever-helpful Operations Officer, <u>Anna Neira Quesada</u>.

Sector News & Events

Justice First Fellowship scheme opens applications for 2023 host organisations

A reminder about last week's exciting announcement from our good friends at The Legal Education Foundation:

Applications are now open to organisations interested in hosting a Justice First Fellow in 2023.

Next year will see the 9th cohort of trainee solicitors take up coveted places in social justice organisations across the UK. The Legal Education Foundation are looking for 15-20 organisations to support these Fellows. Applications will be accepted for both training contract and SQE routes to qualification. Charitable organisations who wouldn't be eligible to host a solicitor trainee are also encouraged to get in touch with us and discuss their suitability to host in partnership with a legal advice provider who can provide the required legal supervision. This is an



approach that is working well in the current cohorts of Fellows.

The JFF programme has elements which work to benefit both the host organisation and the Fellow. It consists of a grant covering training and supervision costs for the two years of a Fellow's training contract; bespoke training for Fellows and hosts including fundraising, project management and self-care; and access to an ever-growing network of JFF alumni and legal advice providers.

BBC Children in Need continue their support this year and so applications from potential hosts with a focus on child law are especially encouraged.

Applications remain open until 5pm on 30th March. Read more about the programme here. We would encourage potential hosts to get in touch to talk about the programme and their suitability before submitting an application.

Please share with your network or <u>contact us here</u>.

As the Fellowship and alumni network continues to grow we are pleased to open recruitment for a JFF Manager. This new role will be central to the continued success of the programme. Please share amongst your networks. Applications for this post will close on 31st January. Read more here.

Please do just us tomorrow afternoon for the APPG webinar on the future of criminal legal aid. And, as noted in the last Update, if you have any news, events or information to share with colleagues in the sector please do get in touch.

Take care,

Chris Minnoch, CEO @ChrisLAPG

Follow LAPG on Twitter @WeAreLAPG #WeAreLegalAid 08/02/22









Subscribe to our courses

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!





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