



Trainee Solicitor

£25,672 pa inc. London Weighting + excellent benefits

Fixed term contract until 31 December 2021

London, EC1

Closing date: 16 September 2019 at 11.30pm

Are you an adaptable and enthusiastic individual who has completed their LPC and is keen to learn and progress? Then join Shelter as a **Trainee Solicitor** and you could soon be providing a specialist casework service in Housing and Public law and related areas, including vital advice and litigation work.

A home is a fundamental human need, as essential as education or healthcare. Yet millions of people across Britain struggle on a daily basis with homelessness, bad housing conditions, soaring rents, discrimination and the threat of eviction. So, we are striving for change, with individuals, in communities, across society, and leading the way to a safe home. We need ambitious, best-in-class individuals who are passionate about our cause to join us at this exciting time. This is your chance to play a part in the fundamental change we are striving to achieve.

Our Strategic Legal Team (SLT) is a small team within Shelter Legal Services. Although based in London, it's linked with Shelter's advice centres and lawyers from all areas of England, and this network gives a good insight into housing issues across the country. The team engages in strategic litigation on a national level concerning homelessness and bad housing and we're also a resource for Shelter solicitors across the country to help them to engage the law strategically on a local level. This particular role is a Justice First Fellowship post, funded by the Legal Education Foundation.

About the role

A rare chance to join the Strategic Legal team, you'll work under the housing and public law legal aid contracts and have the opportunity to support a variety of Shelter's test cases and interventions. As well as carrying a caseload of strategically focused cases, you'll work to promote strategic litigation within the Shelter Legal team and regional offices. We'll also rely on you to provide support on legislation and policy development to Shelter's Communications, Policy and Campaigns (CPC) teams and proactively seek out housing and welfare test cases that will influence change as part of our campaigning strategy. And, when it comes to exploring different ways of funding our strategic litigation work, including legal aid, crowdfunding, grant applications and pro bono, again, we'll count on you.

About you

Keen to succeed, and with a good intellectual aptitude and the ability to reason critically, you must not be disqualified by way of criminal record or otherwise from becoming a solicitor. Previous experience of the provision of housing advice or litigation and legal aid would be useful, although this is not essential. What is for certain is that you're commercially aware and customer-focused, with excellent listening and communication skills and a willingness to challenge the status quo and introduce new ideas when appropriate. Good IT skills, including proficiency using Microsoft Office Word and Excel, are also required.

Benefits

We offer a wide range of benefits, including 30 days of annual leave, enhanced family friendly policies, pension and interest free travel loans. Our employees also have access to a tenancy deposit loan, cycle to work scheme and an employee assistance programme.

Shelter helps millions of people every year struggling with bad housing or homelessness through our advice, support and legal services. And we campaign to make sure that, one day, no one will have to turn to us for help. We're here so no one has to fight bad housing or homelessness on their own.

Safeguarding is everyone's business. Shelter is committed to protecting the health, wellbeing and human rights of those we support, and enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect. All our staff will be expected to observe professional standards of behaviour and conduct their work in line with our Safeguarding Policies.

At Shelter, we welcome and encourage applications from everyone regardless of age, disability, gender, ethnicity, religion and sexual orientation. We are facing diverse problems, so need diverse people to tackle them.

Shelter does not accept unsolicited CVs from external recruitment agencies nor accept the fees associated with them.

How to apply

To apply for this role, please use this link: <https://jff.thelegaleducationfoundation.org/how-to-apply/application-form/>

More information about the role can be found here: <https://jff.thelegaleducationfoundation.org/host/shelter-2019/>

