

**Westminster Legal Policy Forum Keynote Seminar:  
Implementing the Legal Education and Training Review**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> November 2014

Venue: Royal Society, 6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG



**WESTMINSTER  
LEGAL POLICY  
FORUM**

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Yasmin Qureshi MP, Member, Justice Committee
- 9.05 - 9.25 **Legal Education and Training - the context for reform**  
Professor Avrom Sherr, Professor Emeritus, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, University of London and Member, Review Research Team, Legal Education and Training Review  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.25 - 10.15 **Frontline regulatory perspectives on the LETR's key recommendations**  
Julie Brannan, Director of Education and Training, Solicitors Regulation Authority  
Simon Thornton-Wood, Director of Education & Training, Bar Standards Board  
Ian Watson, Chief Executive, ILEX Professional Standards (IPS)  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.15 - 11.10 **Education and academic training - alternative pathways, access, skills and employability**  
*Stakeholder views on the response of regulators to the Legal Education and Training Review's (LETR) key recommendations in relation to academic study and training - including proposals to address skills gaps. What challenges lie ahead for developing a more accessible and competitive framework? In what ways can the content of current legal courses and qualifications be improved on, particularly those identified by the LETR as lacking in the development of legal research, writing and critical thinking skills - such as the Qualifying Law Degree and Graduate Diploma in Law? What more can Law Schools do to respond to concerns raised about the employability of graduates, and what are the next steps for improving the commercial awareness of entry-level practitioners? What prospects are there for developing alternative pathways into the legal services sector such as apprenticeships, different models of vocational training and work-based learning?*  
Andrew Chadwick, Deputy Dean and Chief Executive Officer, BPP Law School  
Josie Beal, former President and Member, European Law Students' Association UK  
Rebecca Huxley-Binns, Chair, Association of Law Teachers and Professor of Legal Education, Nottingham Law School, Nottingham Trent University  
Dr Solomon Osagie, Chief Legal Counsel, TSYS International  
Patrick McCann, Head of Learning and Development, Herbert Smith Freehills  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.10 - 11.15 **Chair's closing remarks**  
Yasmin Qureshi MP, Member, Justice Committee
- 11.15 - 11.40 Coffee
- 11.40 - 11.45 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Yasmin Qureshi MP, Member, Justice Committee
- 11.45 - 12.35 **Developing a diverse legal profession and next steps for continued professional development**  
*How can regulators provide more opportunities for the different areas of the legal profession to collaborate when developing training programmes, and what benefits can shared training bring about? What challenges do firms, chambers and legal businesses face in developing diversity across the profession, and what examples are there of best practice - particularly in relation to improving gender balance and BME recruitment? Was the LETR right to stop short of proposing a periodic revalidation scheme for legal professionals? How effectively have the frontline regulators addressed concerns relating to the use of continuing professional development (CPD) - particularly in relation to ensuring the development of relevant skills? How might a revised LETR framework address the continued expansion of paralegal roles, and how might the single voluntary system of certification for paralegal staff support career progression and mobility?*  
Professor Hilary Sommerlad, Director of Research, Centre for Professional Legal Education and Research, Birmingham Law School, University of Birmingham  
Mark Solon, Managing Director, Legal Division, Wilmington Group  
Amanda Hamilton, Chief Executive, National Association of Licensed Paralegals and Director, AH Paralegal Training  
Robert Marrs, Senior Policy Advisor, Law Society of Scotland  
Philip D Kim, Attorney, Reed Smith and Council Member (Ethnic Minorities), The Law Society of England and Wales  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.35 - 12.55 **Priorities ahead for legal education and training**  
Caroline Wallace, Strategy Director, Legal Services Board  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Legal Policy Forum closing remarks**  
Yasmin Qureshi MP, Member, Justice Committee  
Marc Gammon, Senior Producer, Westminster Legal Policy Forum