

**Westminster Legal Policy Forum conference:
Next steps for technology and innovation in legal services**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 20th October 2026

*****Taking place online*****



**WESTMINSTER
LEGAL POLICY
FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Lord Grabiner KC
- 9.05 **Latest developments and implications of emerging technology on legal service delivery**
Dr Sarah Stephens, Associate Professor, Legal Innovation, University of Sussex; and Co-Deputy Director, Sussex Centre for Law and Technology
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.25 **Supporting consumer outcomes in an evolving legal services landscape**
Senior speaker confirmed from the Legal Services Consumer Panel
- 9.35 **Practical considerations for deployment of technology in legal services - testing, procurement, and rollout**
Sector Plan implementation, alongside the LawtechUK programme / role of regional clusters and scaling firms in legal services sector growth / learning from the SRA's technology adoption and innovation workstreams / tackling barriers relating to cost, investment risk and procurement / futureproofing technology investment / support for uptake amongst SME firms and sole practitioners / selection, testing and integration of AI and legal technology tools into existing systems and workflows / developing safe testing environments and regulatory sandboxes, / the AI Growth Lab / governance, oversight, liability and professional accountability for technology-assisted legal work / risks of AI-generated errors and fabricated legal authorities / data protection, confidentiality and cybersecurity, and the Data (Use and Access) Act 2025
Raj Panasar, Founder, LawFairy
Clare Streets, Innovation Lead, SuperTech WM
Brett Dixon, Vice-President, The Law Society
Ben Gibbins, Managing Principal, Financial Services, Insurance and Law, Orange Cyberdefense
Axel Koelsch, Chief Operating Officer, Lawfront
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 **Supporting the next phase of LawTech growth - investment, adoption and market development**
Christina Blacklaws, Chair, Lawtech UK
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 **Chair's closing remarks**
Lord Grabiner KC
- 10.50 Break
- 11.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Lord Brennan KC
- 11.05 **Assessing implications of technological change at the Bar - advocacy, professional judgement and client service**
Kirsty Brimelow KC, Barrister, Doughty Street Chambers; and Chair, The Bar Council
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.30 **Examining the wider impact of legal technology - workforce, accessibility and consumer outcomes**
meeting unmet demand for legal services from consumers and SMEs / contribution of legal technology to improving access to legal services and access to justice / role of technology-enabled services in supporting affordability, convenience and early intervention / consumer trust, transparency and confidence in AI-assisted legal services / accessible, inclusive and responsive legal technology product design / oversight and safeguards for increased access and consumer benefits against risks associated with inaccurate, misleading or inappropriate legal advice / implications of changing patterns of legal work for professional roles and career pathways / future skills requirements, workforce capability and access to specialist expertise / response of legal education, training and continuing professional development to technological change
Dr Corsino San Miguel, Member, Public Sector AI Task Force, Scottish Government Legal Directorate
Sarah Attwood, Principal Associate, Mills & Reeve
Stephen Allen, Director, Legal AI and Technology, Clyde & Co
Martha de la Roche, Insights & Engagement Director, The Access to Justice Foundation
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.20 **Priorities for regulation of legal technology**
Dr Henry Fingerhut, Policy Manager, Technology and Innovation, Bar Standards Board
Naomi Nicholson, Interim Director, Regulatory and Innovation Policy, Solicitors Regulation Authority
Jelena Lentzos, Director, Policy and Regulation, Legal Services Board
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Legal Policy Forum closing remarks**
Lord Brennan KC
Thomas Howard, Westminster Legal Policy Forum