

LawWorks Clinics Network Conference: Inspiring, learning and building partnerships

6th June 2019, Conference Aston, Aston University, Birmingham

10:00 Welcome

Linden Thomas, President, Birmingham Law Society

10:15 Workshops

(choose one):

1. **SQE – its impact on pro bono clinics – an update** (Room 135/137)

Alan East, Coventry University

An introduction to, and update about, the SQE – considering the issues arising regarding the proposed changes to routes to becoming a solicitor, qualifying work experience and impact on social welfare areas of law in the context of pro bono clinics.

2. **Managing and Supporting Volunteers** (Room 139)

Nathan Fitzpatrick, Bristol Law Centre

Alison Lamb, RCJ Advice and Islington Citizens Advice

This session will share resources and training tips to help clinic coordinators support their many different volunteers, from recruitment to induction and ongoing support.

3. **Giving Advice via remote systems** (Room 144)

Angela Cahill, BPP Law School

Francine Ryan, Open University

The session will discuss how to overcome the challenges of providing advice through Skype and Intralinks, and Adobe Connect and Clio, and how to train volunteers to manage clients using non face-to-face platforms.

11:00 Refreshments and networking

11:20 Keynote

Corey Stoughton, Advocacy and Acting Director, Liberty

11:40 Plenary - 'Data Lab'

Milla Gregor, Impact and Evaluation Consultant

James Sandbach, LawWorks

This plenary will share key highlights from Clinics Network data and how it is used.

12:00 Plenary - Free Legal Answers

Martin Barnes, Chief Executive, LawWorks

LawWorks, with the support of Deloitte UK, has been developing a new pro bono resource called Free Legal Answers. Free Legal Answers is an online platform where people on low incomes can describe a legal problem or ask a legal question and receive pro bono legal advice.

12:10 Plenary - FLOWS - CourtNav

Alison Lamb, RCJ Advice and Islington Citizens Advice

The RCJ Advice family team delivers FLOWS – Finding Legal Options for Women Survivors together with Rights of Women. FLOWS involves accredited legal aid firms across the country who work with RCJ Advice on CourtNav. CourtNav is an award winning online application that ensures the content of court forms can be remotely verified by solicitors before submission.

12:15 Lunch

13:15 Workshops

(choose one):

1. **SRA – Regulatory developments** (Room 135/137)

Patrick Reeve, Solicitors Regulation Authority
Richard Pitkethly, LawWorks

An update and discussion about the new SRA Handbook and the implications for running clinics and managing volunteers, including regulatory requirements for supervision, in-house practice, and non-profit entities.

2. **Mapping unmet legal need in the community**(Room 139)

Richard Owen, Swansea University
Lindsey Poole, Advice Services Alliance

This workshop will consider how clinics can be better at embedding into their local communities by considering aspects of physical and human geography when considering injustice, and how to work in collaboration with local advice sector and community organisations.

3. **Comparing models of clinics** (Room 144)

Andrew Barton, Herbert Smith Freehills
Alan Russell, London South Bank University

Sharing learning from running drop-in and appointment clinics, including discussing the client journey and demonstrating different template documents, forms and resources for each model.

14:15 Workshops

(choose one):

1. **Policy voice: using clinics data to achieve change** (Room 135/137)

Milla Gregor, Impact and Evaluation Consultant
James Sandbach, LawWorks

A policy and research workshop with a specific focus on the value of demonstrating client outcomes.

2. **Developing casework and representation clinics** (Room 139)

Nathan Fitzpatrick, Bristol Law Centre
Elizabeth Hodgetts, St Philips Chambers/ELIPS

Taking your clinic to the next level – learn from current clinics that are operating casework and representation services, and how they can support you to expand your clinic service.

3. **Tech tools for running clinics** (Room 144)

Nicola Antoniou, University of East London
Liz Hardie, Open University
Eleanor Scarlett, University of East London

Learn from two different clinics about the affordable/free software they use to help them run their services efficiently – providing an opportunity to share learning about different tech tools.

15:00 Refreshments and networking

15:20 Plenary - Building successful partnerships: with students, the legal profession, and community organisations

Chair:

Carol Storer, Legal Action Group

Panellists:

Judi Lincoln, Norfolk Community Law Service

Sarah Calder, Anglia Ruskin University

Helen Rogers, Allen & Overy

Chilli Reid, Advice UK

The panel will share their experiences of running and supporting pro bono clinics, recruiting volunteers and working in collaboration with partner organisations. Followed by a question and answer session.

16:20 Thank you and next steps

16:30 Conference close, networking and drinks