



Pro Bono Conference



Sponsored by

**Baker
McKenzie.**



12th July 2024



9am - 5pm



Baker McKenzie
280 Bishopsgate, London.
EC2M 4AG

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Guide to attending the Conference

Please arrive on time

Registration will open at 09:00, offering time for attendees to register and network before the conference starts at 09:30

Stay to socialise

We are delighted to be able to host our second LawWorks Pro Bono Conference. We welcome you to stay after the closing remarks for a drinks reception and networking.

Check our list of 'organisations attending' at the end of the brochure to find out who will be in attendance.

Welcome



We are delighted to welcome you to this year's LawWorks pro bono Conference.

This one-day conference is a highlight of our year, providing us with the opportunity to bring together pro bono clinic and law firm coordinators, volunteers and stakeholders from the wider advice sector. We hope that everyone here in person, and online, feels that the conference provides them with an opportunity to explore, discuss and celebrate the positive impact pro bono has on communities.

Coming so quickly off the back of a General Election, this conference provides us with the opportunity to reflect on trends and developments in the sector, which will inevitably impact on wider access to justice policy. This year we have chosen to focus on AI and refugee work in the legal space; developing work begun at last year's conference and carried out throughout the past 12 months.

Following a welcome by Richard Atkinson, Vice-President of The Law Society, we are delighted to have Pauline Campbell, deliver the keynote address, where she will be exploring her experiences as a pioneering lawyer and advocate for the families and communities affected by the Windrush scandal. We are also pleased to be joined by a wide range of speakers from across the access to justice sector, sharing their knowledge and expertise.

Throughout this conference, we encourage open dialogue, knowledge sharing, and collaboration.

Thank you for joining us. We hope you have an interesting and inspiring conference.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R. Wilkinson".

Rebecca Wilkinson

Chief Executive

Conference Programme



09:00 **Registration & networking**

09:30 **Conference opening**

Rebecca Wilkinson, CEO, LawWorks

Ed Poulton, London Managing Partner, Baker McKenzie

09:45 **Welcome**

Richard Atkinson, Vice President The Law Society

10:00 **Keynote**

Pauline Campbell, Prosecutor by Day, Pro Bono Lawyer by Night (and week days and weekends)

10:30 **Panel 1: AI and Pro Bono**

- Sophia Adams - Bhatti, formerly Wavelength
- Lizzie Harker-Noor, Linklaters
- Ellen Lefley, Justice
- Raj Panesar, LawFairy

11:20 **Coffee & networking**

11:45 **Breakout Sessions**

Option A: Mapping Pro Bono & Creating Collaborations

This session will explore existing mapping projects, barriers and opportunities

- Toby Brown, NPBW
- Rohini Jana, LAPG
- Susan Field, CRS
- James Sandbach, London CA
- Lindsey Poole, Advice Services Alliance

Option B: Examples of AI in pro bono practice - lessons learnt

This session will look at practical examples of AI being used in pro bono settings

- Rebecca Wilkinson, LawWorks
- Katy Peters, Surrey University
- Lizzie Harker-Noor, Linklaters
- Raj Panasar, LawFairy

**Option C: The practicalities of refugee support projects - OISC
registration and alternative projects**

This session will explore the practicalities of running sanctuary seeker support projects, including the specifics of OISC regulation, and examples of alternative project models.

- Suzy McGarrity, LawWorks
- Susan Reardon-Smith, University of London Refugee Law Clinic
- Richard Owen, Swansea University
- Edmond Birigwa, OISC
- Salah Baba Rasool, WRC



12:45 **Lunch**

13:30 **Breakout Sessions**

Option A: How best to partner with universities, in delivering collaborative pro bono (new and expanding projects)

This session will explore collaborations between law schools and law firms delivering joint pro bono.

- Rebecca Wilkinson, LawWorks
- Sally Gill, City University of London
- Laura Richards, BPP
- Charlotte Chaston, MacFarlanes

Option B: Volunteers- retention and recruitment

This session will look at volunteer management within pro bono

- Rebecca Howells, LawWorks
- Muireann Montague, NCVO
- Polly Morgan, University of East Anglia
- Sarah Clack, NCLS

Option C: Pro Bono Tips and Tricks with pro bono managers

In this session, pro bono managers share helpful advice on setting up, managing and evaluating pro bono practices

- Hayley Nock, LawWorks
- Emma Rehal -Wilde, Baker McKenzie
- Jane Cotton, Evershed Sutherland
- Georgina Houghton, Gowlings WLG
- Veronica Barresi, BPP

14:30 **Break**

14:40 **Updates from the pro bono sector**

- Marion Edge, Dechert
- Fatima Bhula, LawWorks
- Charlotte Duthie, Access to Justice Foundation

15:00 **Panel 2: Pro Bono in the immigration/ refugee space**

- Rebecca Wilkinson, LawWorks
- Jasmine Simperingham, PILnet
- Susan Reardon-Smith, Refugee Law Clinic
- Lidya Tewelde Habtay, The University of Oxford
- Faud Mahamed, Ashley Community & Housing
- Jonathan Crompton, RPC

16:00 **Conference Close**

16:15 **Drinks & Networking**

Connecting with Delegates

The conference on social media



If you are attending the conference, we'd love to hear your feedback and thoughts about the discussions, please do tweet about it in advance and on the day, using [#WeDoProBono](#) [#LawWorksConference](#)

Don't forget to tag [@Law_Works](#)

If you need assistance during the conference

If you encounter any access issues or technical hurdles before or during the conference, please contact a LawWorks member of staff:

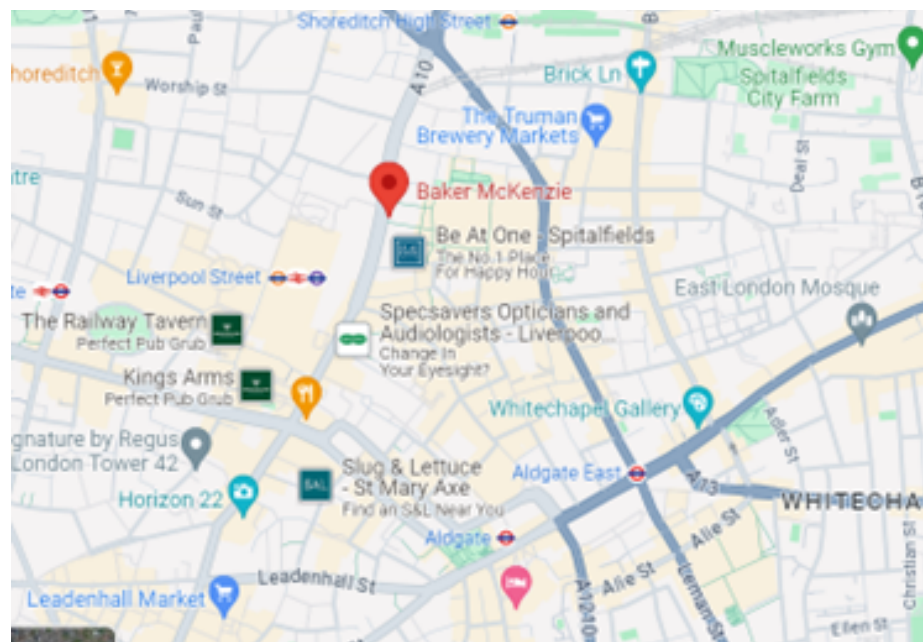
- Email: sarah.mweene@lawworks.org.uk
- Mob: 07388 338493

Guidance & Housekeeping - In Person

We look forward to welcoming you in person at the offices of Baker McKenzie in London. The nearest train and tube station is London Liverpool Street.

Address

Baker McKenzie
280 Bishopsgate
London
EC2M 4RB



The conference will start at 9:30am sharp. **Please arrive via the dedicated 280 Bishopsgate entrance so you can pass through the security desk.** You will then be directed to the Flex space at the back of reception. Please ensure you arrive with sufficient time to navigate through to registration.

The conference will be accessible via Zoom, a platform for video and audio conferencing. Zoom's [quick start guides and video tutorials](#) may be helpful if you are not familiar with the platform.

If you have not used Zoom before, there is a useful video on how to join a meeting. You will need to download and run the application, which should be actioned automatically when you click the link for the session you would like to attend. We recommend opening the link 5 minutes prior to the start of the conference, as this will allow for sufficient time to download the application.

Accessing the conference

The welcome, panel sessions, keynote and close will be streamed via Zoom Webinar. We encourage delegates to join the conference using a computer with video and audio facility for the breakout session.

The breakout sessions will take place via Zoom Meeting. We encourage delegates to turn on their video and get involved in the discussion at the end of the sessions.

During the panel sessions and Q&A

- The speakers will be spotlighted for you.
- All delegates will be muted during the sessions in order to avoid any disruptions.
- If you would like to comment or raise a question, these will be taken at the end of speakers' discussions. Please type your question in the dedicated Q&A box, which will be monitored by LawWorks staff and the session Chair who will address your question to the panel.

Conference session access codes



The joining information to access each of the sessions is provided below. To join a session, either click 'Join this session', or copy and paste the meeting ID and password into your Zoom client.

You can click on the link at any time during the session to join when you are available. You will be asked to wait in the waiting room briefly before being accepted into the session.

Morning plenary access code

09:30 Conference opening

09:45 Welcome: Richard Atkinson, Vice President of The Law Society of England & Wales

10:00 Keynote: Pauline Campbell, Principal Lawyer, Social Justice author and Windrush Advocate

10:30 Panel 1: AI and Pro Bono

Zoom meeting: ID 843 4343 7028

Password: LWConf24

[Join this session](#)

Morning breakout sessions access codes

11:45

Option A: Mapping pro bono and creating collaborations

Zoom meeting ID 963 9053 3924

Password: LWConf24

[Join this session](#)

Option B: Examples of AI in pro bono practice – lessons learnt

Zoom meeting ID 861 7140 6513

Password: LWConf24

[Join this session](#)

Option C: The practicalities of refugee support projects

Zoom meeting ID 857 0556 2038

Password: LWConf24

[Join this session](#)



13:30

Option A: Partnering with universities to deliver collaborative pro bono

Zoom meeting ID 834 9948 6665

Password: LWConf24

[Join this session](#)

Option B: Volunteers – retention and recruitment

Zoom meeting ID 981 5646 6473

Password: LWConf24

[Join this session](#)

Option C: Pro bono tips and tricks with pro bono managers

Zoom meeting ID 854 7514 4267

Password: LWConf24

[Join this session](#)

14:40 Updates from the pro bono sector

15:00 Panel 2: Pro bono in the immigration and refugee space

16:00 Conference close

Zoom meeting ID 854 7514 4267

Password: LWConf24

[Join this session](#)

Speaker Biographies



Keynote Speaker



Pauline Campbell, Waltham Forest Council

Pauline is a Black British Principal lawyer at Waltham Forest Council, a published author, a legal writer, and a social justice advocate.

Her journey is one of resilience and perseverance. At 15, a teacher informed her that she was not 'A' level material. 19 years later, Pauline rejected this limiting belief to pursue a full-time law degree while working a 25-hour-a-week job. At 41, she became a qualified Solicitor.

Since then, Pauline has continuously fought for equal rights, an end to racism, and more diversity in the legal profession, namely through her pro bono work.

Through her role as Supervisor at the Windrush Justice Clinic in 2021 and as the sole pro bono Legal Adviser to the Windrush Reach project, she has helped over 100 Windrush scandal victims. She is now the pro-bono lawyer of the Justice4Windrush campaign.

Richard Atkinson, Vice President, The Law Society of England and Wales

Richard will become President of the Law Society of England & Wales on 9 October 2024, he is a past Chair of the Law Society's Criminal Law Committee.

Richard attended university in Wales where he received a degree in Economics from the University of Wales before attending the College of Law in London.

He is the Managing Partner of the Kent branch of Tuckers LLP, a specialist criminal law practice and has specialised in criminal law for over 30 years. He is a Higher Court Advocate and has appeared in the Court of Appeal, although now his principal focus is now on litigation conducting the most serious cases.

He was a duty solicitor for over 30 years. Richard is a member of the PACE Review Board and the Crown Court improvement Group. Richard was a member of the board of Lord Justice Leveson's Review of Efficiency in Criminal Proceedings and was on the Expert Panel for Lord Bellamy's Independent Review of Criminal Legal Aid.





Sala Baba Rasool, Welsh Refugee Council | Cyngor Ffoaduriaid Cymru

Fleeing conflict and civil war in Kurdistan, Salah was granted asylum in the UK in 2002. Fluent in Kurdish Sorani and Kurdish Kurmanji, Farsi, Arabic, and Turkish, Salah started volunteering at the Welsh Refugee Council in Swansea to help others in the Kurdish and refugee communities.

His desire to learn about immigration law, welfare and housing combined with his passion to help and empower those in need saw his progression from receptionist to case worker, from service manager to his current role of Head of Sanctuary and Refugee Services. Here he champions service improvement and development – particularly around employment and community cohesion, advocating for systematic change, and partnership development. He has been a chair of the Welsh Refugee Coalition for the last two years.

Outside of work, he is equally active – running the Kurdish All Wales Association (KAWA), a Kurdish school, sports, and social activities. He is a member of the Clore Social Leaders Cymru steering group - to develop futures courses and community leaders in Wales. He is also a Member of the Independent Advisory Group (IAG) for South Wales Police.

Veronica Barresi, BPP

Veronica Barresi is Clinic Manager (and Supervising Solicitor) at the Enterprise Clinic, BPP University Law School. She previously worked at King's Legal Clinic, King's College London where she founded the Intellectual Property Law Clinic and taught on the Student Law Clinic Module. Veronica has many years of experience in teaching and practicing Intellectual Property Law.





Sophia Adams Bhatti

Sophia Adams Bhatti is a public policy and regulation expert with over 25 years' experience across a number of sectors including the law, financial services, competition, consumer affairs, healthcare, immigration and asylum.

Most recently she was the Global Head of Purpose and Impact at Simmons & Simmons LLP. Previously, she was the Director of Policy at the Law Society of England and Wales, where she led, amongst other things, the Commission on the use of AI in the Criminal Justice sector.

Sophia is a non-executive Director at Amnesty International UK and a Board member of Lawtech UK. Sophia is currently chairing a project FOR justice the Human Rights charity on the use of AI in justice. She is an ethics expert who regularly advises and speaks on associated issues.

Fatima Bhula, LawWorks

Fatima joined LawWorks 4 years ago and runs the Pro Bono Connect project, enabling collaboration between pro bono solicitors and barristers on pro bono litigation cases. She is also the co-chair of LawWorks' Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Steering Group, working with the organisation and key stakeholders to ensure that EDI is at the centre of our work, and prevalent in our approach to ensuring access to justice.



A qualified solicitor, she was a civil litigator for many years, as well as a lecturer for both BPP Law School and the University of Law. She also has more general experience in the not-for-profit sector working with a number of organisations to provide training within the NHS, universities, and community groups.



Edmond Birigwa, OISC

Edmond Birigwa is the OISC Regulatory Policy Officer a position he has held since May 2021.

Edmond has extensive experience in regulation and immigration law and practice, having held previous positions over the last 20 years as a caseworker within the OISC and working within the Home Office Asylum Team in a variety of roles.

Most recently Edmond has led the work to design the new principle based OISC Code of Standards and is responsible for the production of all guidance and practice notes that accompany the Codes.

Edmond provides internal and external support on all aspects of regulatory policy and process, including issues around OISC jurisdiction, the Guidance on Competence and various OISC Levels of operation and questions of fitness and ethics.

Toby Brown, National Pro Bono Week

Toby Brown is a barrister at South Square where he is recognised as Tier 1 junior by Legal 500. He has been pleased to be Chair of the UK Pro Bono Week organising committee and more recently was appointed Chair of the steering group of the Attorney General's Pro Bono Committee of England & Wales.

Particularly relevant to the conference session, Toby edits the Guide to Pro Bono and Other Free Advice in England & Wales, with regional supplements being prepared by regional pro bono committees, many of which Toby helped establish, for whom mapping is a key objective.



Sarah Clack, Norfolk Community Law Service



Sarah Clack is the Director of Operations and Development at Norfolk Community Law Service (NCLS). She has over 20 years' experience working in the not-for-profit sector, and oversees the running of the advice services and volunteering at NCLS.

The organisation's work is heavily supported by its volunteers, including University of East Anglia Law Students, pro-bono solicitors and community.

Outside of NCLS Sarah is a volunteer herself with Nelson's Journey, a Norfolk based Child Bereavement Charity.

Charlotte Chaston, Macfarlanes

Charlotte is part of the Inclusion and Corporate Social Responsibility team at Macfarlanes, helping deliver the firm's pro bono initiatives, such as managing St Hilda's East Legal Advice Clinic, as well as other CSR projects like charity partnerships and school outreach programmes.

Before joining the firm last year, Charlotte worked in the non-profit sector which is where her passion for Inclusion and CSR stems from.





Jane Cotton, Evershed Sutherland

Jane Cotton is Director of Pro Bono at Eversheds Sutherland. Based in Manchester, she is responsible for Eversheds' pro bono practice across the UK and EMEA.

Jane practised as an employment lawyer for over 20 years at DLA Piper and then Eversheds Sutherland, before making the transition to a full time pro bono role in September 2021.

Outside work, she loves playing tennis, cycling, travel, reading and spending time with her family.

Jonathan Crompton, RPC

Jonathan Crompton is a partner in the Dispute Resolution team in RPC's Hong Kong office, and RPC's Head of Cyber Response for Asia.

He helps companies and individuals navigate complex cross-border disputes and investigations involving their Asian businesses.

He is also RPC's global Co-Lead for Pro Bono, helping to drive the firm's pro bono initiatives as well as being actively involved in pro bono and CSR himself.



Jonathan is a Board member and longtime supporter of Justice Without Borders (JWB), a non-profit organisation helping to bring cross-border access to justice to migrant workers that suffer labour exploitation and abuse.

Jonathan has consistently been recognised in the Law Society of Hong Kong's Pro Bono and Community Work Recognition Programme, and in 2023 was one of two individuals awarded the Law Society of Hong Kong's Distinguished Community Service Individual Award.

Charlotte Duthie, Access to Justice Foundation



Charlotte Duthie is a Development Officer at the Access to Justice Foundation and is responsible for building donor pipelines and managing engagement and awareness campaigns for Pro Bono Costs Orders.

As the prescribed recipient charity of Pro Bono Costs Orders, the Access to Justice Foundation uses these funds to support the provision of free legal help to those in need.

Charlotte uses her legal background and fundraising experience to raise awareness of the importance of utilising Pro Bono Costs in litigation, and the immense positive impact that these orders can have to the most marginalised communities across the UK.

Marion Edge, Dechert

Marion Edge is Pro Bono Counsel at Dechert LLP, responsible for managing their pro bono programme across nine offices in Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

The programme provides legal advice and representation to individuals, not-for-profit organisations and social enterprises that could not otherwise afford it and the focus is on developing high-impact initiatives that align with the skills and interests of the firm's lawyers.

Her personal case and policy work currently focuses on the Windrush Compensation Scheme.



Susan Field, Charles Russell Speechlys



Susan Field is Senior Pro Bono Associate at Charles Russell Speechlys LLP. She manages the Firm's Pro Bono practice, which provides access to free legal advice for vulnerable individuals and free legal support to help strengthen small charities and social enterprises.

Susan is a solicitor advocate with a background in international arbitration, litigation and enforcement proceedings, and has advocacy experience in a range of fora.

She has spent time on multiple client secondments, most recently to the Danish Refugee Council assisting them to map opportunities to collaborate with pro bono lawyers. Susan is also a trustee of South-West London Law Centres.

Sally Gill, City, University of London

Sally is an experienced, multi award winning, principal lecturer, supervising solicitor and director of law clinics, leading on clinical legal education and law employability projects. She set up the employment rights advice service at the College of Law (now ULaw) in 2006; founded an award winning social welfare & small business clinic at Greenwich University in 2013; and is the director/founder of the City Community Legal Advice Centre and the LawIRL concept based at The City Law School.



Under Sally's leadership, the advice centre has won numerous awards, most notably 'best new student pro bono activity' in the 2023 Attorney General and LawWorks Pro Bono Awards.

Lizzie Harker-Noor, Linklaters



Lizzie Harker-Noor is an Associate in Linklaters' Pro Bono team. Lizzie joined Linklaters in September 2023 and shares responsibility for coordinating the firm's global pro bono practice across 31 offices.

Prior to her current role, Lizzie was practising as an Associate in Baker McKenzie's Pensions team. Lizzie has been leading the Linklaters Pro Bono team's recent work integrating AI into pro bono projects to explore its potential to expand the efficiency, scope and social impact of volunteer work on such projects.

Georgina Houghton, Gowling WLG

Georgina has been with Gowling WLG for over 20 years. She started at the firm as a Trainee in 2001 and then practiced Employment Law for many years.

After a stint in the Leadership Team – working with the firm's International Board - she made the move to Responsible Business and now manages the firms' pro bono and social mobility programmes.

Having seen pro bono from both sides, Georgina has a good perspective on the blockers and enablers when it comes to growing a pro bono practice and programme.



Rebecca Howells, LawWorks



Rebecca joined LawWorks at the beginning of July as the Head of Clinics Programme responsible for overseeing the LawWorks Clinics Network in conjunction with the wider LawWorks Clinic Team.

Rebecca has good knowledge of how university law clinics operate having previously been the Legal Clinic Coordinator at University of Hertfordshire and more recently the Legal Clinic Manager at King's College London.

Rohini Jana, Legal Aid Practitioners Group

Rohini Jana is Director of Parliamentary Affairs for Legal Aid Practitioners Group.

A former (or reformed Derivatives lawyer), she trained and qualified with magic circle firm Linklaters and later Vodafone Group PLC before leaving to join the legal aid sector eight years ago. As part of her role she runs the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Access to Justice.



Ellen Lefley, JUSTICE



Ellen is the Senior Lawyer at JUSTICE, a human rights and law reform charity, before which Ellen practised as a barrister with a mixed criminal, family and civil practice.

At JUSTICE, Ellen has maintained a range of work, including digital exclusion, family court reform, school exclusions, deprivation of citizenship appeals, and retained EU law. Ellen is currently leading JUSTICE's new workstream launched in 2024: AI, human rights and the law.

Suzy McGarrity, LawWorks

Suzy McGarrity is the Engagement and Training Officer for LawWorks Cymru.

She has a background in advice and social justice, having worked in money advice, immigration, and homelessness services.

She also currently coordinates an immigration clinic in partnership with Cardiff University and Asylum Justice.



Fuad Mahamed, ACH

Fuad Mahamed founded ACH 15 years ago to support the resettlement and integration needs of refugees and migrants.



Throughout the following decade, he has built the organisation into one of the leading providers of integration support, training and housing for excluded and marginalised people.

Today, ACH spans across 5 cities, employs over 115 people and works with over 2500 individuals a year.

Fuad first came to the UK as a refugee from Somalia with no knowledge of English and went on to obtain a first-class degree in Engineering from Bath University followed by an MSc in Management from Lancaster Business School.

Fuad has since graduated from executive programmes at the Cranfield School of Management, Aston Business School, SAID Business School of Oxford University, was a 2016 Clore Social Fellow for Refugee and Migrant communities and is currently a 2018 Churchill Fellow.

Sparked by his personal journey and together with his colleagues at ACH, Fuad is campaigning for a different approach to refugee and migrant housing, support and training based on individual development rather than humanitarianism.

Fuad and ACH are campaigning for systemic change, where refugee, BAME & migrant communities can access meaningful employment and skills, where diversity becomes normalised, and institutions are founded on inclusive policies.



Muireann Montague, NCVO

Muireann is NCVO's campaigns manager, leading campaigns to support and champion the sector, including Volunteers' Week, Small Charity Week, and NCVO's Fuelling Positive Change divestment campaign.

She joined NCVO in 2020 and is now coordinating our campaign activities to support and champion the sector, including its 17,000 members.

Over the last decade Muireann has gained experience through her involvement in a variety of grassroots, local and national campaigns both in Ireland and the UK



Polly Morgan, University of East Anglia



Polly Morgan is Director of the multi award-winning Law Clinic at University of East Anglia (UEA). An associate professor at UEA Law School (and Professor from 1 August 2024) Polly is also a family law solicitor and law firm co-founder, although she now practises pro bono exclusively.

Polly is a trustee of the Transparency Project, Case Editor of the Financial Remedies Journal, and the sole author of Morgan's Family Law (2nd edition, Oxford University Press 2024).

She is slowly being edged out of her office by a large monstera.

Hayley Nock, LawWorks

Hayley Nock joined LawWorks in 2022 and is the Head of the Not-for-Profits Programme.

She has a passion for supporting organisations that are dedicated to social causes, with a focus on maximising the impact that LawWorks can make in the non-profit sector and empowering not-for-profit organisations to identify and tackle legal issues.

In addition to her work on the Not for-Profits Programme, Hayley has been actively involved with LawWorks' wider policy initiatives, including the APPG on Pro Bono and Public Legal Education and the Mind the Gap project. Prior to joining LawWorks, Hayley was an in-house commercial media lawyer for over 10 years.





Richard Owen, Swansea University

Richard Owen is a Professor of Law and Director of Swansea Law Clinic, a pro bono OISC-accredited clinic, at the Hillary Rodham Clinton School of Law at Swansea University.

He was Chair of the Association of Law Teachers and was a Visiting Professor at Fudan University in the People's Republic of China.

He is currently the Chair of the Law Society's Access to Justice Committee and has been appointed by the Welsh Government as the Independent Chair of the Swansea Neath Port Talbot Regional Advice Network.

Raj Panasar, LawFairy

Raj Panasar is the innovative founder of LawFairy®, a platform dedicated to enhancing pro bono access to justice and law firm efficiency.

With over two decades of experience, Panasar held prominent roles as Partner at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP and Hogan Lovells, specialising in international financing and financial regulation.

His expertise has earned him accolades from Chambers Global, IFLR 1000, and The Legal 500 UK. In 2021, Panasar transitioned from his partnership at Hogan Lovells to focus on LawFairy®, aiming to revolutionise the legal industry through ethical technology.

His career reflects a commitment to innovation, ethical practice, and improving access to legal services.



Dr Katy Peters, University of Surrey



Dr Katy Peters is a Senior Lecturer, Director of Employability and Programme Lead for the University of Surrey's LLM in Professional Legal Practice (SQE Pathway).

She is a member of the Surrey Law and Technology Hub, and an Affiliate of Surrey's Institute for People-Centred AI. Her work includes projects relating to clinical legal education, widening participation in law, digital exclusion, digital capacity and effective access to the legal profession.

Katy is a UK-qualified Solicitor and former member of the Civil Procedure Rule Committee, with a practice specialism in medical, health and community care law. She has worked in private practice and the not-for-profit sector. She has also been involved with a wide range of pro bono initiatives and organisations, including law centres, advice clinics, research ethics committees and charities such as Lawyers Against Poverty and ILBF.

Lindsey Poole, Advice Services Alliance

Lindsey Poole has been the Director of the Advice Services Alliance for over 10 years and is currently on sabbatical at the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies at University of Oxford, examining the relationship between social welfare advice and pro bono support.

She first worked in the advice sector in the 1980's, moving into criminal justice services as a researcher including several years as a Government Social Researcher, before returning to not-for-profits via a number of interim roles for pro bono charities



Ed Poulton, Baker McKenzie

Ed Poulton is the Managing Partner of Baker McKenzie's London office.

A key name in the arbitration community, Ed's practice focuses on international arbitration and investment treaty arbitration.

He sits as an arbitrator in ICC and LCIA arbitrations, and is the consulting editor of a seminal text on the arbitration of M&A disputes.

He also has extensive experience managing cross-border litigation.



Susan Reardon-Smith, Refugee Law Clinic, University of London

Susie Reardon-Smith is the Manager and Academic Outreach Facilitator for the University of London Refugee Law Clinic.

She oversees the day to day management of the clinic, manages the partnerships, facilitates a number of additional clinic projects and does direct casework.

She is qualified at OISC Level 2 in Asylum & Protection, and at Level 1 in Immigration. Susie previously worked as an Academic Support Officer at the Refugee Law Initiative (RLI), based at the School of Advanced Study, University of London.

She holds an MSc in Migration, Mobility and Development from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, and a Bachelor of Social Science/Arts from the University of Queensland.

She also has over three years' experience as a caseworker for refugees and asylum seekers both in the UK and Australia.





Emma Rehal-Wilde, Baker McKenzie

Emma has been a trustee of LawWorks since 2019. Four days a week, she is the Senior Pro Bono Associate at Baker McKenzie, having joined the firm in February 2023. On the other day Emma is a senior lecturer in law at London South Bank University. She has worked in pro bono since 2006 at various firms, both in teams and alone, and has helped set up two student-led legal clinics.

Laura Richards, BPP

Laura Richards is a qualified employment solicitor and senior pro bono manager at BPP University. Laura is responsible for the running and supervision of several flagship pro bono projects including an employment law telephone advice line service and law firm shadowing clinics. She is passionate about driving positive change through leading teams of volunteers to support, educate and empower individuals and their communities.



James Sandbach, London Citizens Advice



James Sandbach is Development Manager for the London Citizens Advice network, where he leads a Pan-London partnership of agencies, and is also Trustee of the Advice Services Alliance.

Previously, he was LawWorks Director of Policy and External Affairs, and has also been policy manager at the Legal Action Group (supporting the Low Commission on the future of social welfare advice), and legal affairs policy officer for Citizens Advice.

He has held other policy roles in the voluntary sector including at Mind and Action on Hearing Loss (formerly RNID), has been called to the Bar and holds a doctorate in conflict resolution.

Jasmine Simperingham, PILnet

Jasmine Simperingham is the Program Director: Forced Displacement at PILnet. Jasmine leads the organization's work engaging the global legal community to put the power of the law to work with and for refugees, stateless and other displaced people.

Jasmine advocates for a refugee-centered ecosystem approach to legal work, with the legal community working in an integrated way and the legal skills, rights and needs of refugees being centred.

Jasmine has over 20 years of international experience in the humanitarian, human rights and justice sectors, including 8 years experience with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and roles with government authorities in New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

Jasmine holds a Master of Laws (Hons), a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Laws. Jasmine is admitted as a Barrister and Solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand.



Lidya Tewelde Habtay, The University of Oxford

Lidya Tewelde Habtay is finishing an MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies at the University of Oxford.

Holding an LLB from Eritrea, she has served as an Assistant Execution Officer and Assistant Judge in Eritrea.

Drawing from her experience as a refugee in Ethiopia, Lidya worked as a country consultant on research evaluating Refugee-Led Organizations in Africa and the Middle East.

She supported PILnet's Refugee Rights Pro Bono initiatives as a legal fellow, focusing on research on RLOs.

Additionally, she contributes to global policy discussions on refugees as a member of CFC at Chatham House.



Rebecca Wilkinson, LawWorks

As Chief Executive of LawWorks, Rebecca leads the team which supports and facilitates pro bono work by Solicitors across England & Wales. In her role, Rebecca works closely with member firms and third sector organisations, to drive forward LawWorks' pro bono programmes, helping to address unmet legal need within England & Wales.



Rebecca previously managed the Law Society's pro bono and public legal education programmes as their Pro Bono and Public Legal Education Policy Adviser (2014-2018). On behalf of the Law Society she acted as the organiser for National Pro Bono Week, sat on the Attorney General's Domestic & International pro bono committees, and coordinated the Society's relationships with key stakeholders. Rebecca was called to the Bar in 2013. Prior to her involvement with the legal profession, Rebecca spent many years working for Community Service Volunteers, a large volunteering charity, where she ran national projects and training events. She gained extensive experience in managing and inspiring people to give up their time on a voluntary basis to help others.

LawWorks Programme Teams



Digital Projects brings together a number of online platforms that will increase accessibility and efficiency in delivering pro bono advice. Projects include Free Legal Answers that enables individuals to ask, and volunteers to answer initial one-off legal questions; and the Pro Bono Portal UK, a single platform to refer pro bono opportunities to firms and share information easily and quickly.

Not-for-Profits Programme facilitates the provision of free legal advice for smaller not-for-profit organisations, by volunteer solicitors from among LawWorks members. We also provide free online training videos for charities, covering many of the common legal issues they face.

Clinics Team supports and develops free legal advice clinics in England and Wales. Through a network of around 300 clinics, the programme helps foster sustainable partnerships between law firms, law schools and advice agencies to help address unmet legal need in the community

Pro Bono Connect links barristers and solicitors to jointly litigate civil cases on a pro bono basis.

Secondary Specialisation supports in-depth pro bono in three areas of law affected by reductions in legal aid: welfare benefits, employment, and community care. Volunteers work under the expert supervision of LawWorks' in-house solicitors. For the first two, volunteers provide tribunal representation and advocacy; for the latter, LawWorks partners with hospices and care providers across England and Wales, volunteers provide legal advice and case-work for the parents and carers of children with life-limiting conditions.

IP Pro Bono provides intellectual property advice and legal support for claimants and defendants in intellectual property disputes.

Organisations / people attending



A&O Shearman
A2JF
A4id
Access Social Care
ACH
Sophia Adams Bhatti
Amazon
Baker McKenzie
BPP
Charles Russell Speechlys
City, University of London
Clyde & Co
Dechert
Dentons
Evershed Sutherland
GC Employment
Gowlings WLG
HF Law
Jasper Vincent
JUSTICE
LAPG
LawFairy
LawWorks
Leicester University
Linklaters
London CA
MacFarlanes
Muckle LLP
National Pro Bono Week
NCLS
NCVO
Norton Rose Fulbright

OISC
Pallas Partners
PILNet
Pinsent Masons
Pride Beats Prejudice
Proskauer Rose
Queen Mary University
RPC
Slaughter & May
Stephenson Harwood LLP
Surrey University
Swansea University
Swansea University Law Clinic
Taylor Wessing
The FRU
The Law Society
The National Pro Bono Centre
The University of Law
The University of Oxford
Thomson Reuters
Trowers & Hamlins
UCL
UEA/NCLS
University of Derby
University of Essex
University of Hertfordshire
University of Huddersfield
University of London
University of London Refugee Law Clinic
University of Sussex
Westway Trust
WFC
WRC



LawWorks is a charity working in England and Wales to connect volunteer lawyers with people in need of legal advice, who are not eligible for legal aid and cannot afford to pay, and with the not-for-profit organisations that support them

www.lawworks.org.uk



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