



## BAR COUNCIL NEWS UPDATE – WEDNESDAY 1 MAY 2019

### PAJE

[Lawyer Monthly](#), [Public Law Today](#) - Further reports appear that lawyers from underrepresented groups will be better supported to become judges following the launch of a new online education programme, the Pre-Application Judicial Education programme (PAJE).

Developed using government funding, the programme is the first joint initiative from the Judicial Diversity Forum (JDF), which aims to encourage diversity within the judiciary.

JDF is made up of the Judiciary, Ministry of Justice, Judicial Appointments Commission, The Bar Council, The Law Society and the Chartered Institute of Legal Executives.

**Chair of the Bar, Richard Atkins QC**, said: "PAJE is an important initiative for the judiciary and is based on a concept which the Bar Council and its Equality & Diversity and Social Mobility Committee has been keen to progress. It forms part of a [wider offering](#) from the Bar aimed specifically at supporting barristers seeking a career as a judge. To see PAJE come to fruition in conjunction with the judiciary and other branches of the legal profession is a positive step towards a more diverse judiciary which reflects the society it serves.

### Immigration

[Times Online](#) – Times Online reports on the Bar Council's consultation submission to the Law Commission on immigration rules.

The Times reports: "Britain could face another Windrush scandal unless immigration rules are urgently reformed, the Bar Council of England and Wales has warned the Law Commission. The laws are badly drafted and confusing, barristers told the body that advises the government on legal reforms. They said that overly

complicated rules were a factor in the Windrush case that increased the risk of people with the right to remain in Britain being incorrectly detained or removed.”

The Times says that the Bar Council described the current rules as “impenetrable”.

## CPS

[The Guardian](#), [The Times](#), [Law Society Gazette](#) – The national media report that the [Crown Prosecution Service](#) needs an urgent injection of cash to pay for the “explosion” in its digital disclosure workload, the union representing its lawyers has said.

A “Manifesto for Justice” has been launched by the FDA, formerly the First Division Association, in the wake of a row over how police and the CPS handle rape and sexual assault complaints.

The document also calls for improved resources for the CPS, a ban on further cuts to legal aid and “competitive” pay to recruit and retain prosecutors.

The four key demands are supported by the legal profession’s main membership bodies – the Bar Council and the Law Society.

Richard Atkins QC, Chair of the Bar, is quoted. He said: “The failure to increase rates of pay for publicly-funded lawyers, both prosecution and defence, is nothing short of a scandal.”

## Bar Mock Trials

[Board Schools’ Association News](#), [NE Connected](#) – Education websites report that a team of students Ripon Grammar School took part in the Bar Mock Trials final in Edinburgh.

More than 2,000 students from around 200 schools all over the UK entered the 28th annual Bar Mock Trial Competition, organised by the Young Citizens charity as a way of offering insight into the justice system. The media report that the Bar Council sponsors the competition.

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Bar Council's [#IamTheBar](#) [#socialmobility](#) campaign and guide on mini-pupillages & internships referenced by [@Telegraph](#) [@GabriellaSwerl](#) in article on social mobility and unpaid internships in the barristers' profession

**The Telegraph** ✓ @Telegraph

'This sort of thing may carry with it social mobility implications as it may be the case that only candidates with means can afford to do things like this for such an extended period with no pay,' Paras Gorasia, a barrister at Doughty Street Chambers said

1:29 PM - 29 Apr 2019

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Following



"Onwards and upwards" - Richard Atkins QC, Chair of @thebarcouncil, on how we must "keep pressing" the message of the Manifesto for Justice. #ManifestoForJustice



10:26 AM - 1 May 2019

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