



BAR COUNCIL NEWS UPDATE – FRIDAY 19 OCTOBER 2018

AGFS

[Scottish Legal News](#) – Responding to the Ministry of Justice’s (MoJ) consultation on injecting £15m into the advocates’ graduated fee scheme (AGFS) the Bar Council said ‘we are now at a pivotal point’.

“Many advocates now seriously question whether there is a financially viable future career at the criminal Bar,” the council said in its response to a Ministry of Justice consultation on a proposed reformed pay scheme for work in the crown courts.

“We believe that the MoJ has started to recognise this danger and the review is a step in the right direction.” However, ministers “must go much further”.

EU Law

Shropshire Star x 3 – Local press continues to report that Richard Gibbs of No5 Barristers’ Chambers in Birmingham has been asked to join the EU Law Committee of the Bar Council.

The Bar Council’s EU Law committee monitors and addresses legal issues emanating from the EU including policy and legislative proposals from the various EU institutions, and then co-ordinates responses to policy issues which arise.

Immigration

Cambrian News – Cambrian News reports that councillors in Gwynedd are to write to the government in protest over the indefinite detention of migrants. The article reports that the Bar Council and other organisations have called for a time limit on detention.

Pupillage

The Times (Student Law supplement) – The Times’ law student supplement looks at pupillage in a series of articles.

One article looks at pupillages in law firms. The Times says that whilst some law firms offer pupillages, it is limited. It is reported that: “According to research by the Bar Council Pupillage Gateway, just 13 firms in England and Wales are offering pupillages – none of them at large City commercial firms.”

The Times also looks at scholarships for pursuing a career at the Bar. The Times reports that: “Training to become a barrister in London costs an eye-watering £127,000, according to Chantal-Aimée Doerries, QC, a former chairwoman of the Bar Council. The figure is based on an undergraduate who did a non-law degree, followed by the graduate diploma in law (GDL) conversion course and the Bar professional training course (BPTC).

“However, help is at hand. Between them, the four Inns of Court, one of which all wannabe barristers must join, offer hundreds of scholarships, grants and prizes – totalling more than £6 million a year – to cover the BPTC, GDL, pupillage and other incidentals.”

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The Bar Council ✓

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A great day at [@LivUni](#) Business, Finance & Law Fair yesterday with [@HonSocGraysInn](#) - huge thanks to our volunteer barristers!



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