



BAR COUNCIL NEWS UPDATE – MONDAY 29 APRIL 2019

Social mobility

[The Daily Telegraph](#) – National media reports on the Bar Council’s social mobility campaign ‘I am the Bar’, after a London chambers was criticised by barristers for advertising for an “unpaid” internship.

Barristers say this would further deter aspiring barristers from opting for a career at the Bar. In Summer 2018, the Bar Council launched its social mobility campaign, ‘I am the Bar’, to profile the experiences of those who have succeeded at the Bar from non-traditional backgrounds and encourage others to join.

The Telegraph understands that the Bar Council, which represents barristers in England and Wales, will be reminding the profession and chambers of their guidance on pupillages and internships next week.

A spokesman for the Bar Council, which represents barristers in England and Wales, said: “The Bar Council is a signatory of the High Quality Internship Code and believes that it is essential that all internships are offered on an open and transparent basis in order to achieve effective social mobility and access to the profession.”

Wellbeing

[Legal Cheek](#) - Many lawyers appear to be ‘surviving but not thriving’, says Newcastle University’s Professor Richard Collier, ahead of his appearance at *Legal Cheek’s* [Future of Legal Education and Training Conference 2019](#).

Collier writes “Recent years have witnessed a growing concern internationally in wellbeing and mental health in the legal community.”

“Not so very long ago, wellbeing and mental health in the law was a topic all too often silenced from the formal spaces of discussion. The profession has moved on in many positive ways, as the growth of training as a mental health first aider (MHFA), use of role models and ‘wellbeing champions’, the expanded provision of advice and

support via ‘wellbeing portals’ and the wellbeing work of the JLD, LawCare, **Bar Council**, SRA, the Taskforce and many others bodies and initiatives illustrate.”

Judicial diversity

[Wired-gov.net](#) – Further reports appear that lawyers from underrepresented groups will be better supported to become judges following the launch of a new online education programme.

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.

The Pre-Application Judicial Education (PAJE) programme will help lawyers develop their understanding of the role and skills required of a judge, before they apply. The programme will provide advice to applicants on how to prepare for the next step in their career as well covering a range of topics necessary to being a judge including judgecraft, ethics and resilience.

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.

Indefinite detention

The Friend (print) – Refugee Tales writes in *The Friend* about people held in immigration detention:

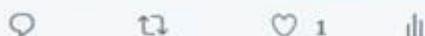
“The Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group (GDWG) and Refugee Tales call for a twenty-eight-day limit for immigration detention. Our voice is joined by numerous other organisations concerned with human rights and justice: Liberty, Detention Forum, **The Bar Council**, and the British Medical Association. It has cross-party political support. This is long overdue.”

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"Tiredness and water jugs": new blog from Victoria Wilson @BarristerWilson for #WellbeingAtTheBar on how blood tests, proactive diary management and more can help barristers beat fatigue.

Read it here: wellbeingatthebar.org.uk/2019/04/25/tir...

