



## BAR COUNCIL NEWS UPDATE –

MONDAY 17 JULY 2017

### Repeal Bill

[New Law Journal](#) - Andrew Langdon QC, Chairman of the Bar Council, said the Bill ‘throws up some important constitutional questions, such as the extent to which government ministers should be able to re-shape the law without scrutiny by Parliament.’ The Bill gives government ministers power to amend Bills using secondary legislation in some circumstances, for example, where EU laws and Directives relate to the powers of EU agencies which will no longer have authority in the UK.

Langdon said: ‘Where ministers are given the power to make secondary legislation, this should be limited to technical amendments and should not be used to make substantive changes in policy, which should be made only by primary legislation, subject to full parliamentary scrutiny.’ However, he added: ‘The government appears to have taken on board the concerns raised by the Bar Council and others.’

### Remuneration

[Legal Cheek](#) – Reporting on the [Daily Mail’s piece](#) on Sean Jones QC and Dominic Regan’s [wine review in Counsel Magazine](#), Legal Cheek corrected the impression given by the headline by quoting Bar Council figures, and reported that despite quoting a figure £300,000 a year figure, the Daily Mail did make some attempt to present a fuller, more balanced picture about earnings.

#### The Cheek wrote:

To the newspaper’s credit, the ‘all barristers are balling’ message is tempered with some much-needed wisdom further down the piece.

“While it is undeniable some top barristers earn into the hundreds of thousands, [the bar’s fat cat stereotype needs](#) to be rethought. [Bar Council data shows](#) that while 16% of barristers (approximately 2,500) do, indeed, earn over £240,000, 13% of the profession (roughly 2,000) make do with £30,000 or less.

These earnings estimates do not factor in that key overheads need to be deducted, such as travel, insurance and office space, which the Bar Council estimates “together account for about half of a barrister’s turnover.” Taking this all into account, very few barristers will be on £300,000 a year (a figure restated in the tabloid piece’s first paragraph).

### Court hours

[The Gazette](#) - Amy Clowrey writes about how plans to extend court sitting hours will ‘pile more pressure on stressed junior lawyers’. She writes:

There has been significant press coverage about the MOJ’s plans to extend the court opening times in recent months and the concerns that these proposals raise.

The Bar Council has spoken [openly](#) about how extended court hours will affect those with childcare issues and their concerns that with childcare often falling on women there will be an adverse impact on diversity.

### TOP BAR COUNCIL TWEETS @ <https://twitter.com/thebarcouncil>





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Bar Council celebrating the success of the Bar China Training Scheme at the farewell reception for the 27th cohort



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