



BAR COUNCIL NEWS UPDATE –

WEDNESDAY 5 APRIL 2017

ABS

[The Gazette](#), [Legal Futures](#), [Global Legal Post](#) - The Bar Standards Board expects to begin licensing alternative business structures this month, with long-awaited approval set to be granted imminently. In its business plan for 2017/18, published last week, the regulator stated: 'We expect to be able to license ABSs that are jointly owned and managed by both lawyers and non-lawyers in April 2017.'

Oliver Hanmer, BSB director of regulatory assurance, said: "Although we are cautious about the number of ABSs that may choose to be regulated by us, we believe this development encourages further innovation in the provision of legal services.

"Being a specialist in regulating advocacy-based services, our announcement today allows barristers and other lawyers to partner with other business professionals to bring new skills and fresh perspectives to this sector of the market."

Bar Training

[Legal Futures](#) - The Bar Standards Board (BSB) is to launch a consultation this summer setting out the rule changes it needs to implement its fiercely contested training reforms, and among them will be a new route to qualification similar to solicitor apprenticeships.

Speaking to *Legal Futures*, Dr Vanessa Davies, director-general of the BSB, said that the "only credible" providers of an apprenticeship scheme would be big employers such as the Government Legal Service or Crown Prosecution Service, though discussions with them were yet to begin.

"The legal departments of large multi-nationals might also be interested. What we need to do is get the message out there that this is now available.

"We need a regulatory framework which permits more than one route to becoming a barrister – that's the point."

Former Chairman: Profile

The immediate past Chairman of the Bar for England & Wales, [Chantal-Aimée Doerries QC](#), has recently been elected Head of [Atkins Chambers](#) and has been profiled in the [New Law Journal](#).

Describing her route to the profession, she said: “I was lucky and received scholarships including from Middle Temple, which helped me with the costs of the law conversion course and bar school.

“Today’s students, particularly those looking for a career at the publically funded Bar, face an even greater challenge. However, once introduced to the Bar, I was clear that this was a profession that was challenging, but also great fun. And I have never looked back or regretted this path.”

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Rachel Spearing, Bar wellbeing chief, on why barristers & future barristers need a voice youtu.be/oC6rNBoDrsA #itsabarristerthing



Rachel Spearing barrister and Chair of the Bar Council Wellbeing...
Rachel Spearing, barrister at Pump Court Chambers, Chair of the Wellbeing at the Bar Programme, explains how the Bar Representation Fee (BRF) ...
youtube.com

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Can you spot the familiar logo? We'll be @NorthernBizExpo #NBE17 in #Manchester this week to tell #businesses how barristers can help them



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Welcome to our latest exhibitors @IoDNorthWest, @FranchiseExpoUK & @SynergyCF #NBE17 will be great! Free tickets: goo.gl/xBAbN8



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SAVE THE DATE: 4 November 2017.
The 32nd Annual Bar & Young Bar Conference



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