



BAR COUNCIL NEWS UPDATE – FRIDAY 9 JUNE 2017

Investment in justice

Press Association, [AOL.com](#), [Cumberland News](#), [Guernsey Press](#), [News & Star](#) – Press Association and other media outlets report that **Andrew Langdon QC, Chair of the Bar**, has called on new government ministers to "champion investment in justice".

Reporting on Andrew Langdon QC's regular column in [Counsel magazine](#), the media reports that he says judges are unhappy and vulnerable people struggle to "seek redress in law".

He writes: "The fact is that our judiciary is unhappy, and the delivery of justice feels undervalued and underfunded by government. It is also the fact that vulnerable sectors of society have been disempowered by a succession of measures that remove their ability to seek redress in law. Forever ignoring these two growing problems will ultimately undermine the robustness of our constitution."

He added: "We need political leaders in our next government who champion investment in justice."

Judicial appointments

[Law Society Gazette](#) - Chair of the Equality and Diversity Committee **Robin Allen QC** is quoted in coverage of the [Judicial Appointments Commission \(JAC\) statistical release on the equality and diversity](#) of this year's judicial appointments.

The Bar Council said the latest figures underline the need for targeted support and training.

Robin Allen QC said: "We cannot go on having no BAME applications for senior judicial roles. The rule of law requires a fully diverse judiciary."

The Bar Council is working with the JAC, Ministry of Justice and other bodies to develop a pre-application judicial education programme.

New appointments

[CDR News, Lawyer Monthly](#) – CDR reports on the appointment of the Bar Council’s new Chief Executive, Malcolm Cree, who will take over from outgoing Chief Executive, Stephen Crowne, in August .

CDR also reports that senior criminal and regulatory law silk Richard Atkins QC of St Philips’ Chambers has been elected Vice-Chair of the Bar.

Atkins is the leader of the Midland circuit and a legal chair for the Financial Reporting Council’s disciplinary tribunal, as well as sitting as a part-time judge, as a Recorder.

Maitland Chambers’ Andrew Walker QC will take over from Andrew Langdon QC as Chair in January 2018. Walker – one of the first post-2010 silks to take the chair of the representative body for barristers – is a commercial chancery barrister, with a practice focused on property, company and commercial disputes and professional negligence claims in a wide range of business sectors. With over a decade’s worth of experience, Walker has served as chair of the ethics committee and vice-chair of the law reform committee.

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Investment in justice must be championed by next govern...

New ministers must "champion investment in justice", a senior barrister says. Andrew Langdon QC says judges are unhappy and vulnerable people struggle to "seek redress in law". Mr

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