



BAR COUNCIL NEWS UPDATE – WEDNESDAY 24 MAY 2017

General Election

The Lawyer, [Lawyer2b](#), [The Brief \(yesterday\)](#) – The Lawyer publishes a Q&A with Harini Iyengar, a barrister at 11KWB and member of the Bar Council’s Equality & Diversity Committee Retention Panel on why she is standing for election as a Women’s Equality Party Candidate.

Yesterday’s [The Brief](#) runs an article from John Cooper, QC, of 25 Bedford Row, who is an advisor to the Access to Justice Commission, which is chaired by Lord Bach, Labour’s former shadow attorney-general.

In his column on Labour’s manifesto, he writes: “In a section that could be taken directly from the Bar Council’s Manifesto for Justice, Labour pledges to review the judicial appointments process to ensure a judiciary that is more representative of society and will extend the use of technology in the court services where it embraces justice.

Flexible Operating Hours

[Law Society Gazette](#) - Francis FitzGibbon QC, Chair of the Criminal Bar Association, has said the plight of practitioners already working 'flexible' hours could be exacerbated by a government pilot to keep courts open until late.

In his weekly update, Francis FitzGibbon QC said many advocates are already plagued by the 'ungoverned' practice of 'flexible operating hours'.

He added: “At a meeting of the Bar Council on Saturday, people spoke of: a magistrates’ court that sat till 9pm before giving a decision; a Crown court that repeatedly listed a case at 7.15am; the tendency of judges to sit beyond 1pm but restart before 2pm, while video link conferences are arranged during the lunch break; listings at 9.15pm and not before 3.45pm.

Employed Bar

Cambridge News – Yet more coverage appears of one of the shortlisted candidates for the Bar Council Employed Bar Awards.

Matthew Gowan of Birketts law firm is in the running for the employed barrister of the year award.

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



The Bar Council

@thebarcouncil



We don't usually plug TV programmes but [@thetrial](#) shows real barristers including [@MaxHillQC](#) in action in court [#thetrial](#)

RETWEETS 10 LIKES 16



8:13 AM - 24 May 2017

Reply 1 Retweet 10 Like 16

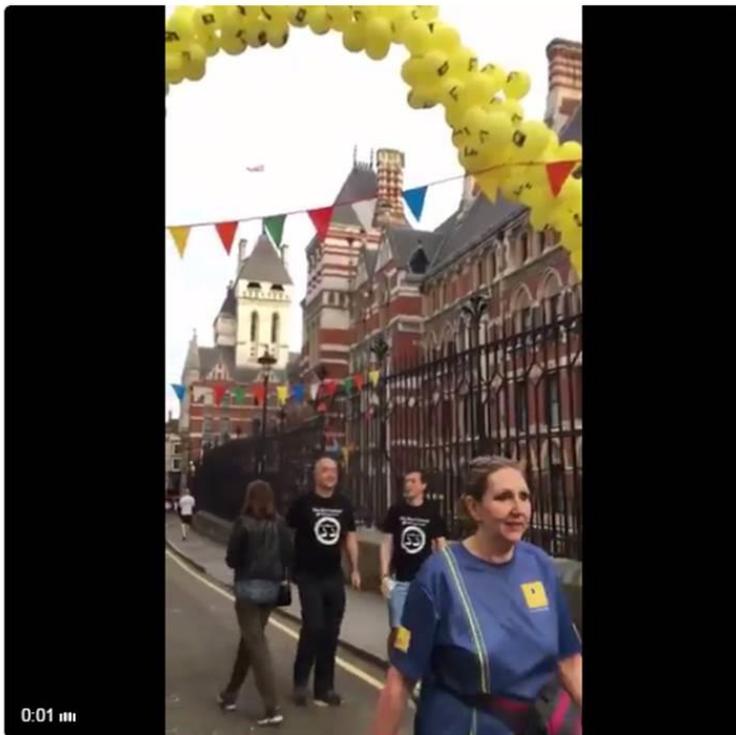


The Bar Council

@thebarcouncil



Chair of the Bar Andrew Langdon QC & Chair of [@YoungBarristers](#) Duncan McCombe complete [#LondonLegalWalk](#)



RETWEETS 4 LIKES 26

