



## BAR COUNCIL NEWS UPDATE – MONDAY 19 FEBRUARY 2018

### Regulation

[Legal Futures](#) – Coverage of the SRA’s calls for greater independence from the Law Society also references the Bar Council’s position, which is that the current arrangements work well and do not require change. Legal Futures writes:

The Bar Council stood alone in calling for no changes to the rules, saying the LSB had not provided “the evidence or any analysis” of their failings.

“Our position, informed by our experience operating under the IGRs, is that the existing arrangements work well.

“The structural set-up and working relationship between the Bar Council and BSB currently serve effectively to secure regulatory independence, and we are concerned that revising the rules wholesale or adding greater prescription or formality would undo all this and reverse years of good practice.”

### Bar Training

[Legal Futures](#) - The role of the Inns of Court in the education and training of aspiring barristers has been strongly defended by the Bar Council after it was revealed that joining an inn could be no longer compulsory under Bar Standards Board (BSB) plans to overhaul the training of barristers.

The Bar Council believes that compulsory membership of an inn of court helps to create a level playing field for those at the early stages of entry to the barristers’ profession. It argues that through Inn dining sessions, workshops and other events where prospective pupils meet and form professional relationships with senior members of the profession, everyone has equal opportunities to get ahead. As *Legal Futures* reports, the barristers’ body warns that reducing the role of Inns in education and training would “disadvantage those with the least social capital” (ie, those lacking family connections or connections established by being part of a network of people who attended the same elite private schools).

“We do not believe that the benefits provided by Inn membership could be effectively replicated by any other institution, because there are no other institutions that can currently

offer repeated contact both with practising members of the profession of a range of seniority, and with judges.”

### Indefinite detention

[The Church Times](#) – Chancellor of St Paul’s Cathedral, Mark Oakley argues that it is time for the Church to add its voice to calls for an end to indefinite detention.

He writes: “We are the only country in Europe which locks people up with no time limit, meaning that they enter detention with no idea when they will be freed. Many are held for months; some for years. As at 30 June 2017, the longest length of time a person has been detained was 1514 days.

“The Bar Council has emphasised that people are held for too long, with inadequate access to the courts and legal help.”

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

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Did you miss? Read Valerie Charbit's piece in the new blog for Wellbeing at the Bar - @thebarcouncil

To view the blog, please head to: [bit.ly/2svk5G5](https://bit.ly/2svk5G5)

For more info on Valerie please visit: [bit.ly/2r5WwXa](https://bit.ly/2r5WwXa)



4 retweets, 8 likes

**The Bar Council** @thebarcouncil · Feb 15  
Just 2 weeks to go before our #careers day - How to become a barrister. Over 20 barristers from a range of practice areas have signed up to speak and mentor students on the day. [eventbrite.co.uk/e/how-to-becom...](https://eventbrite.co.uk/e/how-to-becom...)



The Council of the Inns of Court



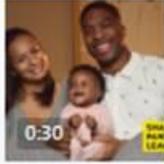
*The Bar Council*  
Supported by the Council of the Inns of Court

28 retweets, 31 likes



**The Bar Council** @thebarcouncil · Feb 14

A good campaign, but what about those #parents who are self-employed? Most UK barristers are self-employed. Here's what we are doing to support them on parental leave [barcouncil.org.uk/media-centre/n...](http://barcouncil.org.uk/media-centre/n...) #SharedParentalLeave #sharetheleave



**Dept for BEIS** @beisgovuk

Our #SharedParentalLeave campaign launches today to show parents they can both share the joy of childcare in their baby's first year & maintain their careers #ShareTheLeave [goo.gl/awYkVy](https://goo.gl/awYkVy)

