



BAR COUNCIL NEWS UPDATE – WEDNESDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2018

Flexible Operating Hours

[Scottish Legal News](#) – Further reports appear that the UK government dropped its proposals for early starts and late finishes in the criminal courts after the Bar of England and Wales warned it would threaten recruitment, retention and the well-being of criminal barristers.

However, pilots will still go ahead in two civil courts (Manchester and Brentford) and one family court (Manchester), where the courts will be open from 8am until 7pm in a bid to accommodate more court users. Participation in the pilots will be voluntary and nobody will be required to work outside normal court hours.

However, **Andrew Walker QC, Chair of the Bar**, said he was still concerned about “the wider implications if the pilots lead to more permanent arrangements, even if these are limited and restricted to only a few courts”.

He added: “For these reasons, we shall be pursuing our concerns about the types of case that are suitable, even for the pilots, and will be monitoring the pilots very carefully indeed.”

Frances Judd, QC, chair of the Family Law Bar Association, said: “We intend to work closely with the Bar Council and to monitor the [schemes] carefully, in particular as to the effects upon family barristers who are already working to capacity, and often have to travel considerable distances to court.”

Brexit

[The Times](#) - A no-deal Brexit will trigger problems for criminal, family and personal injury law specialists as well as lawyers practising in competition and other EU law fields, the Bar leadership warned yesterday.

Officials at the Bar Council released guidance pointing out that barristers specialising in “traditional EU or international practice areas”, such as competition, state aid, public procurement, migration, intellectual property, and insolvency should be aware of how they will be affected by the UK leaving the EU without an exit deal.

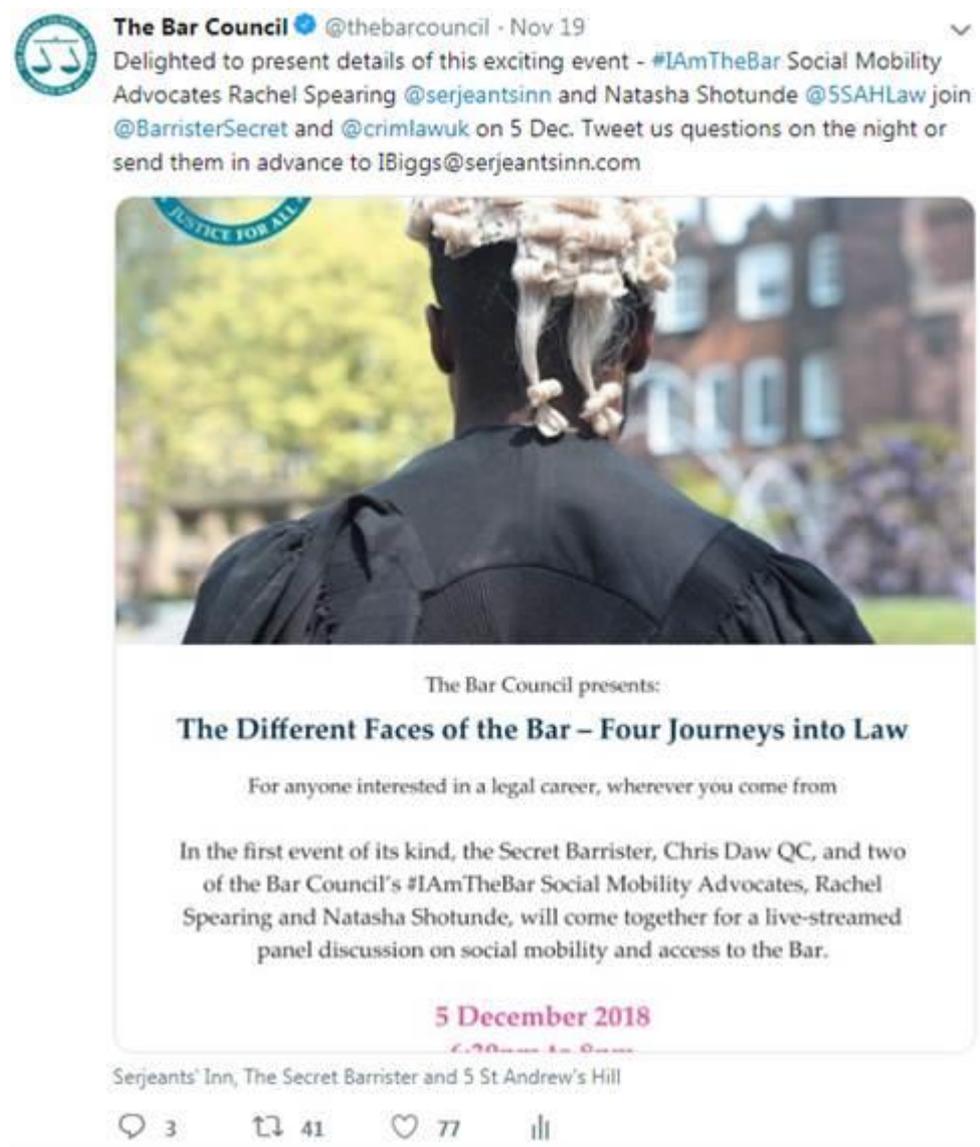
But the council added that a no-deal Brexit could also have a significant impact on barristers working in family, personal injury, and criminal cases, where victims and witnesses are in an EU state.

Regarding criminal cases, the paper says that barristers should take note if a defendant, victim, witnesses, potential or existing evidence are in an EU country.

Awards

[The Voice](#) reports that Chair of the Bar, Andrew Walker QC, will be speaking at the 9th annual UK Diversity Legal Awards on 21 November.

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



The Bar Council @thebarcouncil · Nov 19

Delighted to present details of this exciting event - #IAMTheBar Social Mobility Advocates Rachel Spearing @serjeantsinn and Natasha Shotunde @5SAHLaw join @BarristerSecret and @crimlawuk on 5 Dec. Tweet us questions on the night or send them in advance to IBiggs@serjeantsinn.com

JUSTICE FOR ALL

The Bar Council presents:

The Different Faces of the Bar – Four Journeys into Law

For anyone interested in a legal career, wherever you come from

In the first event of its kind, the Secret Barrister, Chris Daw QC, and two of the Bar Council's #IAMTheBar Social Mobility Advocates, Rachel Spearing and Natasha Shotunde, will come together for a live-streamed panel discussion on social mobility and access to the Bar.

5 December 2018

7.30pm to 9pm

Serjeants' Inn, The Secret Barrister and 5 St Andrew's Hill

3 41 77



The Bar Council @thebarcouncil · Nov 20

Judicial independence under threat - 26 November at Inner Temple. The Bar Council's 12th International Rule of Law Lecture. Free to attend, but registration needed eventbrite.co.uk/e/12th-annual-...



You Retweeted



6KBW College Hill @6KBW · Oct 25

@6KBW's David Perry QC speaking at the Annual and Young Bar Conference 2018 on 'Footsteps in Fraud Law' for junior practitioners #barconf #yfla barcouncil.org.uk/supporting-the...



You Retweeted



1kbw Chambers @1kbwChambers · Nov 13

1KBW's Anthony Kirk QC will be speaking at the Annual Bar and Young Bar Conference on Saturday 24 November 2018. You can find the full programme of the day here – lnkd.in/g_iKrg3 #BarConf @thebarcouncil



You Retweeted



VWV @VWVLawFirm · Nov 13

We are looking forward to attending the upcoming Bar Conference - Sarah Martin and Caitlin Anniss from @NarrowQuayHR will be there to tell you more about their upcoming #LegalSurgery #BarConf



You Retweeted



BHRC @BarHumanRights · Nov 20

DEADLINE EXTENDED: Nominations for BHRC Chair are extended to Monday 26 November at 16:00. Learn more and submit your nominations@ --- >> barhumanrights.org.uk/nominations-fo...

