

Programme

Wednesday 18 November

17:15 – 17:30

Welcome from the Chairs of the Bar and Bar Council's Young Barristers' Committee

Amanda Pinto QC, *Chair of the Bar Council of England & Wales*

Katherine Duncan, *Chair of the Bar Council's Young Barristers' Committee*

17:30 – 18:00

Address from the Lord Chief Justice – Delivering Justice in 2021

The Lord Chief Justice will speak about his priorities for 2021, including how the court modernisation programme will ensure the effective delivery of justice.

18:00 – 19:00

Taking action: Race and the Bar

This panel will discuss how, individually and collectively, we can address the causes of systemic discrimination through positive steps to improve diversity within the profession. Our speakers will stimulate conversation by sharing examples of what can be done to ensure equality of opportunity in the recruitment, retention and progression of Black and other minority ethnic barristers.

Chair

Simon Regis, *Employed Barrister of the Year, Race Working Group Co-Chair*

Speakers

Jo Sidhu QC, *25 Bedford Row, Criminal Bar Association Vice-Chair*

Natasha Shotunde, *Garden Court Chambers, Black Barristers' Network*

Chair

Baroness Ruth Hunt, *Deeds and Words – Bar Council Leadership Programme*

Martin Forde QC, *1 Crown Office Row*

Programme

Thursday 19 November

16:30 – 17:00

Quantifying legal demand growth and the impact of Covid-19 with LexisNexis



How can you measure the impact of Covid-19 on the Bar and demand for legal services? LexisNexis will share the Q2 2020 findings from our LexisNexis GLP Index. The index tracks demand in the legal market, showing the impact of Covid-19 on the Bar and practice areas.

17:30 – 18:30

Leading the charge – our international position

As the UK leaves the EU and seeks new trade agreements with other nations, the opportunities for international growth in and outside Europe are plentiful. Join our panel of leading international practitioners, including the Chancellor of the High Court (and the next Master of the Rolls), to discuss our future role in the international legal market. Hear how barristers can expand their international practice in the UK and overseas and how the UK can remain a leading global centre for dispute resolution.

Chair

Steven Thompson QC, *XXIV Old Buildings, Bar Council International Committee Chair*

Speakers

The Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Vos, *Chancellor of the High Court*

Mehvish Chaudhry, *Harcourt Chambers*

Rachel Barnes, *3 Raymond Buildings*

Programme

Friday 20 November

13:00 – 14:00

Adapting chambers for the future

Covid-19 has significantly affected sets of all shapes and sizes across the country and they have made rapid management and operational changes in response. Our panel will discuss how the chambers model can be adapted to ensure long-term success and sustainability, explore examples of flexible working and give advice on the effectiveness of virtual marketing and business development techniques.

Chair

Tony McDaid, *Chief Executive and Director of Clerking, No5 Chambers, Institute of Barristers' Clerks Management Committee*

Speakers

Neil Hawes QC, *Head of Crucible Law, Chair of the Bar Council Remuneration Committee*

Catherine Calder, *Joint Chief Executive, Serjeants' Inn, Legal Practice Management Association Co-Chair*

Julia King, *Head of Chambers, Castle Gate Chambers*

Lisa Watts, *Marketing Consultant, 3PB Barristers*

17:30 – 18:30

Ethics and advocacy: identifying and resolving dilemmas

Join our 'Ethics and Advocacy' panel in identifying whether challenges relate to practical advocacy or ethical dilemmas. The panel will deal with problems including remote hearings and Covid-related issues. Delegates will consider scenarios in both employed and self-employed practice and have an opportunity to discuss their own views. Our panellists' practices range across all jurisdictions.

Please review our ethical scenarios in advance of this session.

Chair

Susan Grocott QC, *Deans Court Chambers*

Speakers

Charlotte Pope Williams, *Pinsent Masons LLP, Bar Council Employed/Young Barristers' Committee*

Cathryn McGahey QC, *Temple Garden Chambers, Bar Council Ethics Committee Vice-Chair*

Sa'ad Hossain QC, *One Essex Court, Bar Council Equality, Diversity and Social Mobility Committee Co-Chair*

Kannan Siva, *Albion Chambers*

Programme

Saturday 21 November

10:00 – 11:30 November meeting of the Bar Council

Watch a live stream of the November meeting. This meeting is open to practising barristers at the Bar. To confirm your attendance, [email us](#) by 19 November. You must be a practising barrister to attend.

11:50 – 12:50 An eye on the horizon: reforming the justice system

Split into two separate sessions, Chair of the Bar, Amanda Pinto QC, will be discussing the justice system and priorities for the future with the Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice and the Shadow Justice Secretary.

This session will be followed by the announcement of this year's Pro Bono Award winners for the Young Pro Bono Barrister of the Year and the Lifetime Achievement in Pro Bono, the Sydney Elland Goldsmith award.

11:50 – 12:20 In conversation with The Lord Chancellor, Rt Hon Robert Buckland QC, Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice

Chair

Amanda Pinto QC, *Chair of the Bar of England & Wales*

Speaker

The Rt Hon Robert Buckland QC, *Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice*

12:20 – 12:50 In conversation with Rt Hon David Lammy, Shadow Secretary of State for Justice

Chair

Amanda Pinto QC, *Chair of the Bar of England & Wales*

Speaker

The Rt Hon David Lammy, *Shadow Secretary of State for Justice*

12:50 – 13:30 Lunch Break

Programme

Saturday 21 November

13:00 – 13:20

Meet the BMW Group VIP Team - Drop in session



Drop in to meet the team at BMW and find out how you can benefit from exclusive discounts for Bar Conference 2020 attendees.

13:30 - 14:30

Bar Council Book Club: A spotlight on Justice

Join the Bar Council's first virtual book club with some of our most impressive barrister-authors with recently published works speaking about the justice system and their personal experiences of it. Our book club promises lively discussion on how to address problems with the administration of justice and diversifying our profession.

Chair

Amanda Pinto QC, *Chair of the Bar of England & Wales*

Speakers

Alexandra Wilson, *5 St Andrews Hill and author of 'In Black and White'*

The Secret Barrister, *author of 'The Secret Barrister' and 'Fake Law'*

Sarah Langford, *3 Paper Buildings and author of 'In Your Defence'*

Chris Daw QC, *Millennium Chambers and author of 'Justice on Trial'*

Joanne Kane, Carmelite Chambers and Vice-Chair Bar Council's Young Barristers' Committee will be the voice of the Secret Barrister

14:50 – 15:40

Building resilience from adversity

Barristers' mental wellbeing and personal resilience is under more strain than ever, to the point that the future of some parts of the Bar is at risk. Professor Andy McCann is an expert in human performance. He will provide practical techniques that we can use to help cultivate resilience and maintain a positive mindset, with a view to overcoming adversity and setting up for success.

Chair

Elaine Banton, *7BR, Bar Council Equality, Diversity and Social Mobility Committee*

Speaker

Professor Andy McCann, *Director of DNA Definitive, Visiting Professor, Manchester Metropolitan University*

Programme

Saturday 21 November

16:00 – 17:00

Making the most of your Practice Review

A practical session designed for all members of the Young Bar by the Bar Council's Young Barristers' Committee on how to set yourself up for a thriving practice by plotting the course of your career from the start, using practice reviews to get the work you want (and need) by setting your expectations and boundaries.

Chair

Katherine Duncan, *Garden Court Chambers, YBC Chair*

Speakers

Lucy Barbet, *Joint Senior Clerk, 11KBW, Institute of Barristers' Clerks Chair*

Piers Doggart, *Team Leader, Attorney General & General Private Law Litigation Team, Government Legal Department*

Fallon Alexis, *Barrister, QEB Hollis Whiteman Chambers*

Keith Grieve, *Head of Workforce Strategy, Human Resources, Government Legal Department*

The future of virtual justice

The rapid implementation of remote technology in response to Covid-19 has changed the way the justice system operates. Our panel will consider whether adopting a long-term hybrid approach will improve access to justice and what can be done to limit the disadvantages. Our panellists will share best practice across different jurisdictions and consider where the line should be drawn between in person and remote hearings and which changes should stay in the system long-term.

Chair

Jacqueline Reid, *11 South Square, Bar Council IT Panel Chair*

Speakers

Steven Snowden QC, *12 King's Bench Walk, Personal Injury Bar Association Chair*

Bibi Badejo, *4 Brick Court*

The Rt. Hon Lord Justice Lindblom, *Senior President of Tribunals*

Jaime Hamilton QC, *9 St John Street*

17:10 – 17:20

Closing Remarks by Chair of the Bar, Amanda Pinto QC