



JUSTICE Newsletter

December 2017

Dear friend,

As we near the end of our 60th year, JUSTICE's work to make the UK's justice system fairer and more accessible is still very much needed. We would like to thank everyone who has supported us in our work in 2017.

We are pleased to announce that JUSTICE will host the successor body to the Administrative Justice Forum, renamed the **Administrative Justice Council** (Council). The Council will continue to act as a critical interface between users of the administrative justice system, and government and the judiciary; coming up with practical recommendations to strengthen the system. The Council will be chaired by Sir Ernest Ryder, Senior President of Tribunals. We are advertising for a [Secretary to the Council](#) who will be based at the JUSTICE office in London.

We have had a busy few months at JUSTICE. In November we published ***Mental Health and Fair Trial***, the conclusion of our latest Working Party. The report made a series of practical recommendations to ensure suspects and defendants with mental ill health or learning disabilities are better identified and supported within England's criminal justice system.

In October **Max Hill QC**, Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation, delivered the 2018 [Tom Sargant Memorial Lecture](#) and we held our annual [Human Rights Law Conference](#) in London.

Runners from across the legal profession took part in the **Royal Parks Foundation Half Marathon**, in aid of JUSTICE. Nearly £10,000 has been raised and there is still time to donate towards 'What is a trial?' – a new JUSTICE Working Party set up to help improve the participation of court users in their own proceedings, making trials more accessible to everyone involved – as well as our other work. Donate [here at the TeamJUSTICE page](#).

We also have an exciting event in January: Baroness **Shami Chakrabarti CBE In Conversation**. This event is only open to JUSTICE members so if you haven't already joined, [sign up here at our website](#) from as little as £15 per year.

We are now taking bookings for the **JUSTICE Student Conference** in

February which will focus on court modernisation and digital exclusion. The event is open to everyone but is just £6 for JUSTICE members and it will provide a chance to learn from the experts and network with a new generation of young lawyers.

We are looking forward to the year ahead with the finalisation of several JUSTICE [working parties](#) in 2018.

You can find more information on the following topics below:

- JUSTICE Student Conference 2018: Court Modernisation and Digital Exclusion
- *Mental Health and Fair Trial*: a JUSTICE Working Party report
- Baroness Shami Chakrabarti CBE In Conversation
- The launch of the Administrative Justice Council (AJC)
- Job at JUSTICE: Communications Coordinator

Best wishes,

Amy
JUSTICE Communications Coordinator

Hall

JUSTICE Student Conference 2018

We are now taking bookings for the JUSTICE Student Network Student Conference on Saturday 3 February 2018, kindly hosted by The International Dispute Resolution Centre in London.

This one day conference provides a unique opportunity for the next generation of lawyers to come together and explore the opportunities and challenges presented by the digital revolution in our courts and tribunals. You will also have the opportunity to hear from the experts and get invaluable career advice about the journey into legal practice. Guest speakers include Sir Robin Knowles, Judge of the High Court of England and Wales and Alexandra Marks CBE, Commissioner at the Judicial Appointments Commission and the Criminal Cases Review Commission.

JUSTICE members can attend the conference for just £6.00. See the full programme and book your place [here at our website](#).

People with mental illness and learning disabilities let down by criminal justice system

Our latest Working Party report was launched by Lord Burnett of Maldon, the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales on 27 November 2017. *Mental Health and Fair Trial*, argues that from first contact with the police through to sentencing, there remains

fundamental problems with the English justice system's response to mental health. Left unaddressed the fair trial rights of many defendants may be undermined. *Mental Health and Fair Trial* makes 52 practical recommendations to address this.

The Mental Health and Fair Trial Working Party was chaired by Sir David Latham, with the assistance of Linklaters' pro bono team and 12 JUSTICE members: John Briant, Inspector Michael Brown OBE, Anthony Burton CBE; Professor Nigel Eastman; HHJ Sean Enright; Jan Jones, Registered Intermediary; Julia Krish; Natasha Lloyd-Owen; Dr Kulvinder Manik; Jennifer McDermott; Carolyn Taylor; Kris Venkatasami, Deputy Chief Crown Prosecutor; and Dr Eileen Vizard CBE. JUSTICE staff Jodie Blackstock and Zoë Chapman supported the Working Party.

Our thanks to Linklaters LLP for hosting the launch and for its generous support of the Working Party throughout.

Find out more and read the report [here at the JUSTICE website](#).

Baroness Shami Chakrabarti CBE *In Conversation*

JUSTICE members are invited to an evening of conversation with Shami Chakrabarti on Wednesday 17 January 2018 at 6.00pm in London.

The discussion event will focus around her new book, *Of Women*, which makes the case for radical positive action in every sphere of life to promote the vindication of the rights of women, worldwide.

As Labour's Shadow Attorney General and a member of the House of Lords, Shami Chakrabarti is an Honorary Professor of Law at the University of Bristol and the University of Manchester, an Honorary Fellow at Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge and Mansfield College Oxford and a Master of the Bench of Middle Temple.

Shami was the Director of Liberty, the National Council for Civil Liberties from 2003 to 2016 and the Chancellor of the University of Essex from 2014 to 2017.

Our thanks go to our corporate partners, Morrison & Foerster LLP for kindly hosting this event. Book your place and find out about JUSTICE membership [here at our website](#).

JUSTICE hosts Administrative Justice Council

JUSTICE is delighted to announce the launch of the Administrative Justice Council. JUSTICE will be providing the Secretariat functions to the Council which will be chaired by The Right Honourable Sir Ernest Ryder, Senior President of Tribunals. The Council will be the

successor body to the Administrative Justice Forum which was abolished in April of this year.

The Council will be the only body with oversight of the whole of the administrative justice system in the UK, advising government, including the devolved governments, and the judiciary. Administrative Justice is a huge area, covering not just the administrative courts but all tribunals and ombudsmen in the UK. It spans areas as diverse as immigration and asylum, social security, housing, education, health care, planning, tax, employment and public law.

Many of the decisions taken by government departments are reported to be of poor quality: in 2016, appeals before the relevant tribunals were successful in 43 per cent of immigration and asylum cases, 61 per cent of social security and child support cases and 88 per cent of special educational needs and disability cases. Such decisions affect some of the most vulnerable in society: asylum seekers, immigrants, those in social housing and/or claiming benefits, people with disabilities or special educational needs, prisoners, pensioners and victims of police misconduct.

We are therefore very pleased to be supporting the Council to deliver improvements to the Administrative Justice system. For further information, please contact Jean-Benoit Louveaux at ajc@justice.org.uk.

We are advertising for a [Secretary to the Administrative Justice Council](#) who will be based at the JUSTICE office in London. The deadline for applications is Friday 19 January 2018.

JUSTICE is recruiting a Communications Coordinator

JUSTICE is looking to appoint a temporary part-time Communications Coordinator to join our Development team. The role focuses on raising the profile of JUSTICE across its key audiences and stakeholders. The successful candidate will work to achieve this by providing marketing & communications support at JUSTICE, with a particular focus on increasing awareness of the charity's vision, work and membership across existing and new audiences.

You will be responsible for producing high quality written content for a wide range of audiences and developing strong relationships with the media and partners. This role will include the day-to-day running of our website and social media channels, plus the delivery of integrated communications campaigns. The role requires excellent copywriting and proofreading skills,

creativity, focus and some previous experience in media relations and managing social media channels. The successful candidate will be appointed to a part-time post on a temporary basis, based at our London office.

The deadline for applications is midday on Monday 8 January 2018. Find out more about the role and how to apply [here at the JUSTICE website](#).

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