



# YOUR MONTHLY E-BULLETIN

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**Issue 51; February 2017**

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## **LATEST CONSORTIUM NEWS**

### **Consortium Survey**

Your PR and Web Group have reviewed the responses to the Consortium survey and a number of issues arising from the survey are now being followed up.

In next month's bulletin see a special feature on the things the survey has told us and how these messages are influencing the work of the Consortium going forward.

And its good news for the lucky winner of our prize draw from contributors to our survey - Trish Ashcroft, Governance Officer at Preston City Council wins a £25 Marks and Spencer's voucher

Well done Trish!

One of the major things coming out of the survey was the apparent lack of awareness amongst member organisations of the added value offer from our 4 Partner Firms.

### **Are you getting the most from your Consortium Added Value Offers?**

#### **What are added value offers?**

Added Value offers are provided to all Consortium member organisations by the partner firms appointed to the Solicitors Framework irrespective of whether or not your organisation is currently or has been a client of that firm.

The offer is in addition to the support that the partner firms provide to the Consortium training programme, the Annual Training Event, the PR and Website and Practice Management Groups and running and organisation of the Consortium generally.

#### **What sort of things are offered by the partner firms by way of added value?**

The four partner firms, DACBeachcroft, Geldards, Hill Dickinson and Weightmans all provide specific offers to Consortium members by way of added value.

However their offers generally cover or include:

- use of the firms office facilities
- free helpline service
- use of library, research facilities and precedent bank
- assistance with secondments, work shadowing or placements, coaching and mentoring

#### **Where can I find full details of what is on offer from each of the partner firms?**

You can access the details of all the offers from the partner firms under each of the firm's name in the secure area of the website- left hand menu.

You will need to be logged into the website of course.

### **NWLC Practice Managers Group**

On 9th February we have Performance Measurement and Benchmarking as our topic for the day.

If you or a colleague wishes to join the Group that's absolutely fine – we'd welcome further input from Practice Management /Business Development colleagues as well as legal practitioners.



## REMINDERS

### Course Materials

If you or your colleagues have missed out on one or more of our Consortium training sessions you might find it helpful to see the slides/presentation from the session.

These are all available in the documents area of the website at  
<http://www.nwlegalconsortium.com>

### Website Authorised Users - Are all your colleagues signed up to use the Consortium website?

There is no limit on the number of users that each member organisation can register.

Some organisations have registered all their legal staff, others have been selective.

If on reflection and so that all staff can appreciate the benefits of using the Consortium website you want to add new users we will need the approval of the Head of Service but from there we will sort it out for you!

Please either complete the form on the home page of the website or contact Beryl Heath on [bh\\_nwlconsortium@btinternet.com](mailto:bh_nwlconsortium@btinternet.com) to add more authorised users for your organisation

### Website Log Ins

If you are an authorised user and you do not think you have received your new website log in details then do get in touch with either Brian Gibson on <mailto:briangibson2@msn.com> or Beryl Heath at [mailto:bh\\_nwlconsortium@btinternet.com](mailto:bh_nwlconsortium@btinternet.com) and we'll do all we can to assist you.

### Legal Apprentices

We are grateful to Noel Inge of CILEx Law School, College House, Manor Drive, Kempston, Bedford MK42 7AB for the following article:

Noel can be contacted on 01234 844325, 07966 247 283 to discuss introducing legal apprenticeships to your authority. <http://www.cilexlawschool.ac.uk>  
[noel.inge@cilexlawschool.ac.uk](mailto:noel.inge@cilexlawschool.ac.uk)

## NEW APPRENTICESHIP LEVY AHEAD

**Most local authorities will be gearing up for the introduction of the apprenticeship levy, which councils will start paying on 6 April this year.**

The levy is exclusively for training apprentices, and amounts to 0.5% of the authority's paybill. That's a lot of money, so it is important that as a local government lawyer you are aware that...

- the levy can pay for training someone who is already part qualified, through a Chartered Legal Executive Apprenticeship. This is ideal for a member of staff who is a law graduate, or perhaps has completed five or more CILEx Level 3 units
- you can hire a new apprentice and put them on a Paralegal Apprenticeship, the training being paid from your levy. On completion- which takes two years - you will have a very competent technician-level team member who should be able to deal with standard case files effectively. Apprentices are credited by CILEx with five units, and new recruits would have gathered two years' valuable work experience
- if you need administrative help, there's a Legal Administration Apprenticeship that takes 12-18 months
- rather than taking on LPC graduates, the Solicitor Apprenticeship allows you to train up your next generation of solicitors.

[http://www.cilexlawschool.ac.uk/Employers/Legal\\_apprenticeships/Introduction](http://www.cilexlawschool.ac.uk/Employers/Legal_apprenticeships/Introduction)



### FREE Consortium Training

The Consortium Annual Training Programme is available and loaded to the website – courses page.

You can book yourselves colleagues or clients on to the courses available through the website.

### Coming up we've got:

Don't forget that all this training is free, and is open to legal staff at member organisations as well as to client department staff

- On 9 February hosted at Weightmans in Manchester we have the next meeting of the Practice Managers Group
- On 8 March in Liverpool, Hill Dickinson are providing Adult Social Care/DOLS training
- On 15 March in Manchester, DACBeachcroft are providing a Housing/Property Update
- On 22 March in Warrington, Geldards are covering Information Governance Part 2.

There are lots in store for everyone!

All the details and for bookings its through the website please, courses page at <http://www.nwlegalconsortium.com>.

And don't forget if you have booked on to a course and can't make it after all there is a facility to **cancel your booking**. Simply go the website secure area and click on 'Manage Your Bookings' to see a button to cancel your place or places you have booked for colleagues and clients.

### New Roles up for grabs?

We publish a range of vacancies on the website jobs page at <http://www.nwlegalconsortium.com/jobs/>

Interested? Find out more on the website.

Does your authority want to advertise your vacancies on the website for free? If so contact Beryl Heath on [mailto:bh\\_nwlconsortium@btinternet.com](mailto:bh_nwlconsortium@btinternet.com)



### NWLC NOMINATED CHARITY OF THE YEAR

Please support the North West Air Ambulance Charity  
For the Charity's latest events go to: [nwaa.net](http://nwaa.net)



## 1. Start this 2017 off with a de-clutter and donate to our stores.

Following a busy Christmas period, our stores are calling for your help to restock their shelves.

We need your good quality unwanted china, glassware, books, and clothing, as they provide a vital source of income for the charity, which helps give the gift of time to patients across the region.

Just as many critically injured patients would not survive without the service that we provide, we would not be here without the support of our community of fundraisers and partners as we are reliant on public and corporate donations.

Pat Tisdale, our head of retail says: "Our retail stores need a constant flow of good quality items to continue to help raise the vital funds for our work. It's couldn't be easier to donate with the option of booking a collection by phone or online, or take goods directly to store. Also, if you're a tax payer and Gift Aid your donation, it makes it 20% more valuable to us"

To find out where our stores are, [click here](#).

## 2. Get Active this 2017 and join NWAA for the Great Manchester Run and brand Great Manchester Half Marathon on 28th May!



Join the North West Air Ambulance Charity for the Great Manchester Run in 2017 and help to keep our helicopters flying and saving lives.

Take in some of Manchester's iconic sites in the hugely popular 10k, or challenge yourself in the brand new half marathon. With bands and thousands of spectators lining the routes and creating a terrific atmosphere, this event is a must for all abilities.

### How to get involved:

You can apply for one of our limited charity places in the Great Manchester Run. All we ask is that you pledge to raise a minimum sponsorship of £150 for a place in the 10K and £250 for a place in the half marathon.

Apply here: <https://nwaa.net/greater-manchester-run/>

Alternatively, you can sign up directly with the race organisers at [www.greatrun.org](http://www.greatrun.org), don't forget to let us know once you have secured your place!

### Already got a place?

If you've already got a place in either the 10K or Half Marathon, we would love to welcome you to Team NWAA. There's no minimum fundraising target, just have fun and raise as much as you can! Get in touch with our fundraising team to request your fundraising pack by emailing [fundraising@nwaa.net](mailto:fundraising@nwaa.net).

## How we'll support you

As a member of Team NWAA, we promise to give you lots of support and encouragement along the way including:

- A fantastic fundraising pack filled with hints, tips and ideas
- A free NWAA t-shirt to wear with pride on the day
- Team NWAA temporary tattoos and message squares
- Access to on the day cheer packs including cheer sticks, supporter signs and more
- Support from our events team on all aspects of your fundraising

It's your fundraising efforts that help us to remain a North West lifeline, 365 days a year. Find out more here <https://nwaa.net/challenge-events/>

## 3. How your donations help raise us up





#### **4. Wigan teenager raises thousands after severe accident**

Callum Evans from Wigan is helping to raise money after our team airlifted him to hospital following a road accident, which left him fighting for his life.

On 14th April 2016, 19-year-old Callum Evans was riding his motorcycle to work, when he came crashing off and found himself trapped underneath a car, which began to crush him. Thankfully, a nearby man was able to help to lift the vehicle and release Callum, before calling the emergency services. As he needed urgent medical care, one of our helicopters was quickly dispatched and arrived at the scene within minutes. Our crew provided stabilising treatment and were able to rapidly transfer him to a trauma unit to receive specialist attention, where his injuries were found to include five fractured ribs, a broken femur and a ruptured spleen, which later had to be removed. Callum was in an induced coma for seven weeks before being transferred to a hospital unit where he stayed until August.

Callum has since been making a great recovery and has now returned to his work as a trainee accountant. Whilst Callum was recovering, his family and friends were hot on the fundraising trail, with £1,200 initially raised through crowdfunding. An additional £3,000 was then raised by Callum's Nan and her friends who completed a skydive! When Callum is strong enough, he is planning on completing similar events to continue their amazing efforts.

Callum said: "We really need the North West Air Ambulance Charity; it's such an important service. I wouldn't be here today if I hadn't got the treatment so quickly. I'm raising money because I want to make sure the charity is there for other people in their times of need."

If you have been inspired by Callum's story, donate [here](#).