



YOUR MONTHLY E-BULLETIN

Issue 57; November 2017

LATEST CONSORTIUM NEWS

An opportunity to help each other?

As you may have read in earlier E-Bulletins your Management Board are looking to introduce a tool through the website to support member organisations in assisting each other when they either don't have the current capacity or specialist skills to undertake a piece of or a particular area of work or they want to offer to provide help to other member organisations.

It works both ways!

If this is of interest to you/your organisation please let us know.

How was it for you? Consortium Annual Training Event 2017

We have had really positive feedback from this year's event held in St Helens.

Our delegates, speakers and exhibitors alike spoke highly of the programme, the event itself and in particular the interest and enthusiasm from all the delegates.

A big thank you to those who presented or exhibited at the event and to you and your colleagues for contributing to another successful event.

If you want to see the presentations from our speakers they are available in the Documents area of the website – you will need to be logged in to access them of course.

And not only that but we managed to raise almost £300 for our nominated charity too – North West Air Ambulance and they are delighted!

Good News

Your Consortium has been shortlisted for awards by the LLG and LGC in recent weeks.

We are keeping our fingers crossed for success when the winners are announced – for now, we are delighted to have been recognised in this way.

Your FREE Consortium Training Programme

The Consortium Annual Training Programme is now published to the website for the training year.

This new programme has been developed by our partner firms based upon delegate requests from the feedback from previous training sessions or from the Annual Training Survey undertaken earlier in the year.

Coming up before Christmas we have:

22 November Construction Contracts from DACBeachcroft, and

7 December Income Generation from Geldards, Warrington

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.



You can book yourselves colleagues or clients on to the courses available through the website.
And finally a request....

Booked on to a training course but now find that you can't make it?

If this happens to you.....and it might and it does, please try to let us know as soon as you can.

There is a facility to manage your bookings on the website – if you can cancel your place please do so with as much notice as possible.

Or call or email Beryl or Brian to let us know not to expect you. It really does help us to manage the training better and shows respect for the trainers and other colleagues.

Many thanks.

New Joiners

The Consortium welcomes a new member organisation this month.

Its Transport for Greater Manchester, they are very welcome!

Also a new Chambers has joined the Portal - 36 Bedford Row. See their details in the website commissioning area or view their information in the Featured Chambers area very soon.

Reminders

A new Consortium offer from Cellmark - the UK's most experienced DNA testing company

Cellmark pioneered the commercial introduction of DNA analysis for relationship testing over 30 years ago. Today their services have an enviable reputation for quality and speed amongst Local Authorities, Family Law Solicitors, members of the public, and the medical profession.

In addition to relationship testing, Cellmark offers a forensic quality hair drug testing service and wider forensic services which are accessed by around 85% of UK police forces and numerous Government Agencies. Their services are accredited and certified to a range of ISO global quality standards including, ISO9001, ISO14001, ISO17025, and ISO27001.

As a local employer in the North West Legal Services region, Cellmark employs over 100 staff in Lancashire at its Chorley forensic laboratories.

In order to assist Local Authorities with their busy caseloads, they offer the following;

- Rapid results - **a next working day DNA Relationship Testing service as standard** across our range of tests including paternity testing and sibling cases. If the samples reach us by 10am we normally make the test report available by the end of the next working day.
- Clear and simple pricing structures for **forensic hair toxicology testing**
- Hair testing results in 3 – 5 working days from receipt in our UK based laboratories
 - Sampling appointments arranged on your behalf if required
- Competitive pricing which meets Legal Aid requirements
- Secure email and the confidence of knowing that all staff are Security Cleared



As a bespoke service to the North West Legal Consortium Cellmark can provide;

- Dedicated, regular collection services made available at your premises such as a contact centre
- Discounted pricing structure for breakpoint volumes (please contact us for details)
- Training in how to collect DNA samples yourselves to reduce collection fee charges

If you would like to discuss how your Authority can save budget and with a local partner, please get in touch with Elaine Higgins at Cellmark ehiggins@cellmark.co.uk

Cheshire Constabulary had this to say:

“Janice, Sam and I would like to thank you and all your colleagues, scientists, support staff and couriers, for all the support you have provided during the past years. You have always been extremely helpful and provided an excellent service. Along the way we have developed good working relations and have felt that we have had a good customer/provider relationship with all at Cellmark. I would go so far to say that we have developed friendships and close working relationships that have definitely benefited both parties whilst working together for a common goal.”

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 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 to add more authorised users for your organisation

Website Log In 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 briangibson2@msn.com or Beryl Heath at bh_nwlconsortium@btinternet.com and we'll do all we can to assist you.

New Roles up for grabs?

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

Current roles on offer include:

Senior Legal Exec/Assistant Solicitor – West Lancashire

In House Advocate – Child Care with Stockport council and

Property Lawyer with Chester West and Cheshire Council.

Interested? Find out all the details on the website jobs page.



NW LEGAL CONSORTIUM
Authorities Working Together

Does your authority want to advertise your vacancies on the website for free?

If so contact Beryl Heath on 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



North West Air Ambulance Charity NWLC newsletter copy November 2017

Crew meets HRH at Aintree University Hospital

On Thursday 14th September, we saw Aintree University Hospital's Urgent Care and Trauma Centre being formally opened by the Duke of Cambridge. Members of our crew were there to meet him and give him a tour of our helicopter to raise awareness of the vital role we play in the region.

The new unit includes a helipad outside its doors which ensures that our skilled crew can get patients to the best treatment quickly. The helipad is already making a lifesaving difference as we've helped give the gift of time to more than 25 patients since it opened last month.

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.



Walk this way! Thank you to everyone who took part in our second Mission Walk

Following the success of our inaugural Mission Walk in 2016, the event returned on Sunday 17th September. Over 200 walkers joined us on a sunny day to get a glimpse of how our paramedics, doctors and pilots help to make a life changing difference to patients across the region. We had a brilliant day raising awareness and vital funds, which will help our dedicated team save lives 365 days a year.

Walkers enjoyed our fun warm up, learn some simple but effective first aid tips and meet the crew whilst taking in the beautiful scenery of Wyresdale Park, meant a great day was had by all.

Thank you to everyone who supported in the 2017 Mission Walk, it was fantastic to meet you all! You can view an album from the day [here](#)



wNew store flying into Kendal

We're excited to announce the launch of our brand new retail outlet which opened in Kendal on 20th September – our 10th in the region!

The 4,500-square foot store will offer new and used furniture, household items, bric-a-brac, books and clothing at great prices, with plans to offer additional space for community groups to meet and learn new skills. The opening was attended by Tim Farron MP and thank you to everyone who has dropped by to say hello, donate their pre-loved items and browse our brilliant selection of homeware, clothing, accessories and much more.



We need your help to make it a success! We'd love you to donate quality used goods, either directly at the counter, through our handy donation station or even by arranging a free collection from home by [clicking here](#).



The store has a large parking area to remove the hassle of donating, so you can rest assured that your generosity will not only help to save lives, but also be completely stress-free! Plus, by signing up to Gift Aid, you can make your donations up to 25% more valuable – at no extra cost.

We're also appealing for local individuals with bags of enthusiasm to help man the store, even if only for a couple of hours a week. From sorting donations and working on the till to creating enticing window displays, there are lots of ways to get involved – all of which will help to raise vital funds. With flexible hours and a friendly working environment, it's a highly rewarding role and could easily fit around other commitments.

Find the new store at Queen Katherine's Avenue, Kendal, LA9 6DU

Festive update: there's just 13 more Fridays until Christmas! 🎄

But don't panic, our online Christmas shop is here to help you get your festive season off to a flying start! Visit our website to browse our range of Christmas gifts, cards, wrapping paper and decorations:

www.nwaa.net/product-category/christmas



NWLC MONTHLY LEGAL UPDATER

POWERED BY THOMSON REUTERS

01/11/17

This is a selection of legal updates for NWLC powered by Westlaw UK and Practical Law.

To read more on these topics, go to westlaw.co.uk or uk.practicallaw.com



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CASE REPORTS

FAMILY LAW. *Civil evidence; Administration of justice.*

Admissibility; Covert surveillance; Family proceedings; Guidelines; Judicial decision-making; Video recordings.

B (A Child), Re. [2017] EWCA Civ 1579. Court of Appeal (Civil Division) (CA (Civ Div)). Sir James Munby PFD; King LJ. October 18, 2017

The President of the Family Division acknowledged the need for publication of proper guidance as to how courts should approach the use of covert recordings in family proceedings. He prohibited the publication of a lower judgment in the instant case that purported to give such guidance, on the ground that it was not part of the function of a circuit judge sitting in the Family Court to unilaterally provide a "guidance judgment". He invited the Family Justice Council to consider the issue from a multi-disciplinary viewpoint.

Appeal allowed

HOUSING. *Local government.*

Homelessness; Local housing authorities' powers and duties; Outsourcing; Priority needs; Public sector equality duty; Vulnerable adults.

Panayiotou v Waltham Forest LBC. [2017] EWCA Civ 1624. Court of Appeal (Civil Division) (CA (Civ Div)). Lewison LJ; Beatson LJ; Newey LJ. October 19, 2017

The court considered the meaning of term "significantly" as referred to in Hotak v Southwark LBC [2015] UKSC 30, [2016] A.C. 811 for the purpose of determining whether a person was "vulnerable" within the meaning of the Housing Act 1996 s.189(1)(c).

Judgment accordingly



SOCIAL WELFARE.

Care costs; Care homes; Local authorities' powers and duties; Residential care.

Torbay Council v Torbay Quality Care Forum Ltd. [2017] EWCA Civ 1605. Court of Appeal (Civil Division) (CA (Civ Div)). Lord Burnett LCJ; Beatson LJ; King LJ. October 19, 2017

There was nothing in the applicable guidance which precluded a local authority from taking account of certain revenue streams (private fees, top-up payments and support from the NHS) when making the evaluative judgment of what it would expect to pay for residential care for the elderly.

Appeal allowed

LEGISLATION

HOUSING.

Right to acquire; Right to buy; Wales.

Abolition of the Right to Buy and Associated Rights (Wales) Bill 2017.

An Act of the National Assembly for Wales to make provision for the abolition of the right to buy, the right to acquire and associated rights; and for connected purposes.

Website: <http://www.senedd.assembly.wales/mqIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Ild=17260> [Accessed 23 March 2017]

Introduced: 13/3/2017; Welsh Stage 1, Consideration: Equality, Local Government and Communities Committee consideration 9/3/2017, 15/3/2017, 29/3/2017, 3/5/2017, 11/5/2017, 25/5/2017, 21/6/2017 provisional. Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee consideration 3/4/2017; Stage 2: 19/7/2017

HOUSING.

Local authorities; Private registered providers; Social housing.

The Regulation of Social Housing (Influence of Local Authorities) (England) Regulations 2017. Draft

The Regulations reduce the influence local authorities have over private registered providers of social housing. They restrict the percentage level of officers a local authority may nominate as board members of a private registered provider and removes a local authority's ability to hold voting rights as a member of a private registered provider.

Website: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2017/9780111160312/pdfs/ukdsi_9780111160312_en.pdf [Accessed 28 September 2017]

Made under Housing and Planning Act 2016 s.93, s.214(6) (England and Wales (UKEW))



GOVERNMENT AND REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS

SOCIAL WELFARE.

Adult social care.

Government Response to the Communities and Local Government Select Committee Report: Adult Social Care. Issued by Department for Communities and Local Government. Cm.9501 11 October 2017 .
ISBN: 978 1 52860 066 8

A Department for Communities and Local Government Command Paper sets out the Government's response to the Communities and Local Government Committee's recommendations in "Adult Social Care: a pre-Budget Report" (HC Paper No.47, Session 2016/17) and "Adult Social Care" (HC Paper No.1103, Session 2016/17).

Website: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/650562/CM9501_web.pdf [Accessed 13 October 2017];
<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201617/cmselect/cmcomloc/47/47.pdf> [Accessed 13 October 2017];
<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201617/cmselect/cmcomloc/1103/1103.pdf> [Accessed 13 October 2017]

HOUSING. Local government.

Homelessness guidance; Local authorities.

Homelessness Code of Guidance for Local Authorities - A consultation paper. Issued by Department for Communities and Local Government. 16 October 2017

A Department for Communities and Local Government consultation seeks views on the Homelessness Code of Guidance for local authorities. Comments by 11 December 2017.

Website: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/652042/Homelessness_Code_of_Guidance_for_Local_Authorities_-_consultation.pdf [Accessed 16 October 2017]; <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/homelessness-guidance> [Accessed 16 October 2017]

MENTAL HEALTH. Social welfare.

Children; Health care; Mental health; NHS.

Briefing: Children's Mental Healthcare are in England. Issued by Children's Commissioner. 9 October 2017

In a report sent to all Members of Parliament, the Children's Commissioner sets out the "shockingly" poor support children with mental health services are receiving from the NHS, including that, overall, 50% of local areas failed to meet standards on crisis care, and that there was "significant" disparities between the treatment received by adults and the under-18s.

Website: <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Childrens-Commissioner-for-England-Mental-Health-Briefing.pdf> [Accessed 9 October 2017]



NEWS ARTICLES

LOCAL GOVERNMENT. *Environment; Road traffic.*

Air quality; Diesel; Emissions; Inner cities; Local authorities' powers and duties; Local authority air pollution control; London; Motor vehicles; Oxfordshire; Petrol.

Oxford to be first UK city to ban all polluting vehicles. *Times*, 12 October 2017, 1,2. By Ben Webster. Also Reported in Independent, 12 October 2017 (Online edition); Daily Telegraph, 12 October 2017, 11

Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council have proposed that petrol and diesel vehicles be banned from the centre of Oxford from 2020 to create the UK's first zero-emission zone. The authorities are the first to produce comprehensive plans for improving air quality to address illegal levels of pollution. The plans contrast with London, where drivers of polluting cars will still be able to enter the city centre if they pay a fee.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Council tax; Local authorities' powers and duties; London.

Westminster Council seeks to launch voluntary mansion tax. *Sunday Times*, 1 October 2017, 4. By Nicholas Hellen.

Westminster Council has announced plans to launch the UK's first voluntary "mansion tax" for the owners of properties worth more than £10 million. It is seeking powers from the Government to collect a payment of £1,376 a year from the estimated 2,000 owners of £10 million properties within band H, doubling the £1,376 they already pay in council tax from April 2018, with the aim of raising an extra £2.75 million a year.