



YOUR MONTHLY E-BULLETIN

Issue 58; January 2018

LATEST CONSORTIUM NEWS

LLG and NWLC Consortium Offer – Commercialisation Conference

At the start of some closer working between LLG and your Consortium, staff from NWLC member organisations are being offered a generous discount on attendance at the LLG Commercialisation Conference which takes place on 6 February in Leeds.

Find out all about this topical conference by following the link below.

<http://www.llglegaltraining.org.uk/events/2018-02-06>

The rate for NWLC organisation's staff is £125 +VAT discounted from the advertised rate of £215 +VAT.

To take advantage of this offer please quote NWC2018 at the time of booking.

Consortium Annual Training Event 2017 Your Feedback

As reported in our last issue we have had really positive feedback from last year's event.

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.

The Management Board and Steering Group have looked at the feedback that delegates provided.

In particular it was great to hear from delegates that

- over 75% rated 'venue and administration' as excellent
- over 90% rated 'relevance and content' as good or excellent
- over 90% rated speakers as good or excellent

When asked what was most useful about the event delegates commented that

- a very successful day with a good mix of speakers/sessions
- well organised – good attendance by exhibitors

On the less positive side we also had some comments about lack of printed slides being available and that tea and coffee could have been hotter. We have picked up these comments and will ensure these issues are dealt with for next year's event.

We also had a few comments about the fact that no workshops were on offer covering child and adult social care. The Management Board are committed to providing as wide ranging and interesting conference content as possible so that the event's appeal is as wide as possible. In a previous year we did offer a child care workshop in response to similar comments. However sadly only a very low number of delegates attended the workshop which was very disappointing for the speakers and those that did attend as the quality of the session was somewhat limited.

In response to this feedback, the Management Board would very much like to hear from Child Care and Adult Care legal staff across the NWLC membership as to how best we can serve your



needs generally into the future. Would you like us to arrange training from Barristers Chambers on a regular basis? Or are your training needs met elsewhere? Are there any gaps in otherwise available training that we could try to fill for you?

If you could contact Beryl Heath on bh_nwlconsortium@btinternet.com she will take your feedback and comments to the Management Board meeting in late February for further consideration.

Thank you

Good News

Your Consortium was shortlisted for the LLG awards. We did not win but to be shortlisted was exciting and it was good to be listed alongside some brilliant organisations who are doing really good work in the sector.

We are also shortlisted in the Efficiency category by and LGC. 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 available on the website for the training year.

As you know the 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 in the next few weeks -

17 January in Liverpool Weightmans are doing [Information Governance](#)

31 January in Liverpool Hill Dickinson are covering [Directors Duties](#)

14 February in Warrington Geldards are providing [Decisionmaking](#)

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

In addition on **18 January**, Bury Council in association with Exchange Chambers are offering places on training '[Business Rates – Current Issues in Collection and Enforcement](#)'. Full details of course content and to book are also available on the NWLC website.

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. More details of what will be covered in each session are available on the website Courses page.

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 – just click on 'Manage your Bookings'. 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.

Reminders

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.

Course Materials

If you or your colleagues have missed out on one or more of our Consortium training sessions or the sessions at the Annual Training Event 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:

A Practice Manager for Oldham Council and

A Senior Legal Executive/Assistant Solicitor for West Lancashire Borough Council

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



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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 January 2018

Happy New Year to everyone at the North West Legal Consortium and thank you for your support. We hope you had a lovely Christmas and New Year and are ready for the year ahead!

Take on a challenge for 2018!

Looking for challenge in the New year, then look no further. Not only do we have charity places in the Great Manchester run and Half Marathon available but also have places available in our exhilarating skydive challenge this April.

21st April - Take to the Skies Challenge, Black Knights Parachute Centre

We promise to get the adrenaline pumping with a freefall tandem skydive!

Take to the Skies with North West Air Ambulance Charity for an exhilarating tandem skydive on and help to keep our helicopters flying and saving lives.



This is a great opportunity to experience an adrenaline rush like no other whilst being supported by qualified instructors from the Black Knights Parachute Centre. Please read the important medical requirements, and terms and conditions about weight restrictions, on the [Black Knights Parachute Centre](#) before booking your place.

Charity place: With just a £50 deposit to secure a place, and a pledge to raise £350 in sponsorship, you can enter our Spring Take to the Skies event. Booking is open at www.nwaa.net/event/skydive and closes on 31st March. There is also the option to self-fund your jump, you would pay £205 and then set your own sponsorship target to raise as much as possible.

Own place: If you can't make this date you can book and self-fund your own place to skydive, at a venue and date convenient to you, and raise as much sponsorship as you can. We will support you with a sponsorship pack and fundraising advice to help you smash your targets.

Prefer to keep your feet on the ground.....here is a snapshot of NWAA's flagship events for 2018...



20th May - Great Manchester Run 10k, Manchester City Centre

Europe's biggest 10k running event will return to the heart of the city and is an event not to be missed!

Charity place: You can pledge to raise £150 in sponsorship and apply for one of our limited free charity places at www.nwaa.net/greatmanchesterrun.

Own place: if you have already secured your own place at www.greatrun.org/great-manchester-run you can complete a registration form at www.nwaa.net/our-story and we will be happy to support you.

20th May – Great Manchester Run Half Marathon, Manchester City Centre

On the same day as the 10k is the fantastic 13.1 mile route taking in the Etihad Stadium, Old Trafford & the Mancunian Way.

Charity place: You can pledge to raise £250 in sponsorship and apply for one of our limited free charity places at www.nwaa.net/greatmanchesterrun.

Own place: Or, you can enter at www.greatrun.org/great-manchester-run and if you are lucky enough to secure your own place you can complete a registration form at www.nwaa.net/our-story and we will be happy to support you.

9th September - Great North Run, Newcastle

Starting in Newcastle upon Tyne this half marathon course is lined with supporters all the way from the iconic Tyne Bridge, right out towards the coast in South Shields.

Charity place: We have a limited number of places available in this sell-out event, you would need to pledge to raise £350 in sponsorship and apply for a free place at www.nwaa.net/greatnorthrun. Applications will open in February and close by the end of May.

Own place: The ballot will open in the New Year and successful applicants will be informed by February. If you are lucky enough secure your own place you can complete a registration form at www.nwaa.net/our-story so we can support you.

14th October - Take to the Skies Challenge, Black Knights Parachute Centre

We promise to get the adrenaline pumping with a freefall tandem skydive!

Charity place: With just a £50 deposit to secure a place, and a pledge to raise £350 in sponsorship, you can enter our Autumn Take to the Skies event. Booking is open at www.nwaa.net/event/skydive and closes on 23rd September. There is also the option for you to self-fund your jump, you would pay £205, and then set your own sponsorship target to raise as much as possible.

Own place: If you can't make this date you can book and self-fund your own place to skydive, at a venue and date convenient for you, and raise as much sponsorship as you can. We will support you with a sponsorship pack and fundraising advice to help you smash your targets.



Doing your own thing?

If the above events are not of interest to you but you would still like to be part of 'Team NWAA' by taking part in a local event, or maybe a bucket list overseas challenge, you can complete a registration form at www.nwaa.net/our-story and we will provide you with a challenge event pack which includes sponsor forms, hints and tips to help you smash your fundraising target, tattoos and a free t-shirt to wear with pride at the event!

Take a look at www.nwaa.net/challenge-events/ for more details on all the events listed above, or contact Liz Greenwood on 07718 190 366 or at liz.greenwood@nwaa.net with any questions.

How your support matters - Graham Calder's story

Last October, I was travelling home from Preston after visiting my daughter, Grace, and her family for the weekend. I was still on the motorway when I got an awful phone call – my grandson Luca had suffered a nasty scald in an accident with boiling water, and the emergency services were on the way. I immediately turned the car around and headed back to be with them.

It was heartbreaking to hear what had happened. The only relief I felt was hearing how quickly Luca was in safe hands with the North West Air Ambulance paramedics, who were with him within minutes of the accident. Grace travelled with Luca in the helicopter to Alder Hey Children's Hospital, where the paramedics handed him over to the wonderful care of the hospital's nurses and doctors.

Thanks in part to the speedy arrival to Alder Hey and the care Luca received en route, he didn't sustain any serious injuries. He was in hospital for a few days, and is now making a fantastic recovery. From start to finish, the care and professionalism of everyone who was there for Luca was outstanding, and I'm so grateful to the air ambulance pilot and paramedics who helped him that day.

So, next year I'm going to be taking on one of the biggest physical challenges of my life in support of the North West Air Ambulance's fantastic service, by running the Great Manchester Run's Half Marathon. I want to give back to the charity and crew who were there for my 17-month old grandson when he needed them most.

Getting ready to run...

It wasn't until Luca was airlifted that I realised the North West Air Ambulance relied completely on donations. Knowing how crucial the service was to my grandson that day motivated me to do something – anything – to say thank you. I'd taken up running a few months before to improve my health, so when I saw that I could raise money for the charity by taking on the Great Manchester Run's Half Marathon, it made perfect sense to get involved.

I'd been a good athlete in my teens, but work and life eventually got in the way! Since taking up training for the Half Marathon, there's been a massive improvement in my fitness – I've actually lost 5st so far. I'm already comfortably running 10K, and as we edge closer to the big day, I'm ready to keep pushing past the milestones to reach the finish line.

As part of my training, I've been running every Monday with my local Park Run group. I'd really recommend group runs to people who want to take up the sport. The tips on the Great Run website have also been invaluable in making sure my training is on schedule.



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For anyone who's thought about taking on a physical challenge for the charity, or who might be on the fence about taking the plunge, I say just go for it. The charity offers so much support once you've signed up, and joining Team NWAA means I've been given a lot of good advice and resources for fundraising ahead of the big day. I'd love for you to join me out there – it's just one way you can make a real difference to an amazing charity. It's literally a case of signing up [here](#), pulling on your trainers and getting out there .

Although it sounds a bit cliché, you honestly never know when you or a loved one will need the North West Air Ambulance Charity's service. Running a Half Marathon is my way to say thank you for all the charity has done for Luca. Wish me luck for 20th May – and I hope I'll see you at the starting line!

Find out more about how you can get active with Team NWAA [here](#).



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.