Sir Andrew’s blog: We are going on the road!

Next month we are formally launching our consultation on Future Bar Training to gather views on the proposed options for how barristers should qualify; please take this opportunity to help us make our decision in 2017. Those interested in sharing their opinions can submit their response to us through a formal consultation paper or attend one of our events hosted across the country. See the ‘Have your say… on the future of training for the Bar’ section to find out more. We will also be represented at the Annual Bar and Young Bar Conference (15 October), the Bar Council’s National Pupillage Fair (22 October) and TARGETjobs Law National Pupillage Fair (5 November). Read more.

Come to a CPD workshop

On 1 September, we published a revised version of our 2016/17 Academic Stage Handbook. The Handbook offers clear advice and guidance about requirements for the academic stage. For more information about the academic stage visit our website.

We have published our latest Annual Report which summarises our achievements during the 2015-16 business
Our new Continuing Professional Development (CPD) regime for barristers on the Established Practitioner Programme launches in 16 weeks’ time on 1 January 2017.

We are holding a series of workshops around the country over the next few months to help you prepare for the new CPD regime. The workshops are designed to give you a head start with regard to your CPD planning for 2017 and will be an excellent opportunity to find out more about the new regime and to ask us any questions that you may have about the new arrangements. The workshops are located as follows: Read more.

Join our market study of the provision of legal services

This month we launched an online survey into how legal services are being delivered by barristers so that we can understand the current legal services market better. The survey provides an opportunity for participants to let us know how future regulation can promote improved business practices, service delivery and client experience. Responses will be treated confidentially and provided to us anonymously. To participate, please click the button below.

Take part in our workshops to define youth advocacy competencies

This month we are holding workshops with barristers as well as other key organisations working within the youth justice sector to define the competencies that should be expected of an advocate (barrister) working within youth justice. Our aim is to develop a
A competency framework which clearly sets out what is expected of advocates who undertake youth proceedings and build upon and encourage good practice across the professions. In addition to this, the workshops will enable us to shape our guidance and advice as to how these competencies can be satisfied.

The workshops will be held on:

- **Tuesday 20 September 2016, 5.00pm - 7.30pm** (Just for Kids Law - 180 North Gower St, London, NW1 2NB)
- **Thursday 22 September 2016, 5.00pm - 7.30pm** (Garden Court North Chambers - 3rd Floor, Blackfriars House, Parsonage, Manchester, M3 2JA)
- **Tuesday 27 September 2016, 5.00pm - 7.30pm** (Just for Kids Law - 180 North Gower St, London, NW1 2NB)

Read more.

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**Have your say… on the future of training for the Bar**

From October until December we will be hosting a series of consultation events seeking your views on proposed reforms to the Bar training market. The proposed reform will change how the education and training sector for the Bar is regulated to improve access to the profession.

The consultation, which includes us hosting events around the country, will explore what possible new routes to qualification for barristers may emerge in response to new regulation. We have already released an overview of these options and hosted a lively debate exploring each one. For further information about the options please see our press release.

The proposed changes are part of our Future Bar Training programme (FBT) which focuses on improving future education and training for the Bar. The changes are being developed to: Read more.

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**Alternative Business Structures and opportunities for the Bar and the wider legal profession**

A new Legal Services Board (LSB) consultation has been issued. The proposals would give the Bar Council new powers (delegated to the BSB) which would enable us to exercise our regulatory functions more effectively and efficiently. These powers would be obtained via a statutory order under section 69 of the Legal Services Act 2007. Read more.

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Prosecutor Panel Recruitment

Our Professional Conduct Committee maintains a panel of prosecuting barristers to represent us at Disciplinary Tribunals and other related hearings, including appeals before the High Court and it is currently looking to replenish its panel. Read more.

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Have you heard about the Witness Service?

Are you practising at the criminal Bar? Are you aware that you are able to refer any witnesses in your trials to the Citizens Advice Witness Service?
Have we got correct details of your primary practice address?

Please ensure that you have informed us of your correct primary practice address in accordance with rS69 of our Handbook. If your practice address changes, you must inform our Records Department within 28 days.

Give us your feedback

If you have any thoughts about how we can improve the Regulatory Update or what content you would like to read, please email contactus@barstandardsboard.org.uk.

The Witness Service provides free, independent and confidential support for witnesses in every crown and magistrates court in England and Wales. Their trained volunteers provide practical information about the court process, as well as emotional support to help witnesses feel more confident and able to give their best evidence.

There are a range of ways in which the Witness Service can help reduce the stress of going to court, like giving witnesses the opportunity to visit the court building and familiarise themselves with the courtroom or explaining court processes before the trial.

You can refer witnesses to the Witness Service using the form on their website.