

# *Why Join EM LawShare?*

## *What We Offer*



Anthony Collins  
solicitors

Bevan Brittan 

brownedjacobson

FREETHS

Geldards  
law firm

SHARPE PRITCHARD 

Weightmans

# Contents

- 02  An Introduction
- 03  What are The Benefits?
- 05  What Areas Of Law Are Covered?
- 07  The Partner Firms
- 09  Who Runs It?
- 12  How To Join



||| *The biggest consortium  
of its kind in the country* |||

Stuart Leslie, EM Lawshare Coordinator

# *An Introduction*

## What Is It?

EMLS is a consortium of public bodies whose primary purpose is to procure legal services from specialist firms (see; "Who are the Partner Firms") at discounted rates through a framework contract. The current contact runs from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2022.

## Who Is In It?

Launched in 2006 with thirteen members, EMLS is now the largest such consortium in the country with over 150 members, as at October 2018.

Originally based in the east midlands, EMLS now has a membership that stretches from Durham in the north to Plymouth in the south, Herefordshire in the west to Suffolk in the east.

Most of its members are local authorities; county, unitary & district. However, the membership also includes fire & rescue authorities, universities, national parks, NHS trusts and town and parish councils.

## Who Can Join?

Any local authority in England & Wales can join EMLS & we will also consider applications from other public bodies (See; "How You Can Join")

## How It Works

Nottinghamshire County Council are the lead authority for the consortium and enters into a framework agreement with each of the partner firms. Each member must, on joining, sign a memorandum of understanding with Nottinghamshire.

After joining any authorised officer from a member organisation can then directly approach & instruct any of the partner firms or hold a mini competition with all or some of them. More advice on how to do so is in the "Welcome to EMLS" document which you can request from the EMLS Co-Ordinator Stuart Leslie (see page 12).



# What Are The Benefits?

There are several significant benefits to becoming a member of EM LawShare.

## Value Added

The partner firms provide extensive added value services to members, including;

- Training programme of over 50 free courses at various venues
- Conference with key note speakers at a major venue every two years
- Free telephone help lines
- Quarterly newsletter, "ConsortEM"
- Website with various information including training material and the ability to advertise posts
- 2 sponsored places on the Law Society's Local Government diploma course
- An annual Institute of Leadership & Management course for 16 people

## Main Benefits

### *Competitive Hourly Rates*

Fixed until April 2022

### *No Need To Tender*

The partner firms have been selected after a fully compliant EU procurement exercise

### *Non Exclusivity*

You remain free to use any other law firm

### *Added Value*

The seven partner firms offer significant added value to members

### *No Joining Or Annual Subscription Fee*

A background image showing two people at a conference. On the left, a woman with blonde hair is partially visible, wearing a dark jacket and a lanyard with a badge. On the right, a woman with short brown hair is smiling and looking towards a man in a blue suit who is holding a glass of wine. They are standing in front of a blurred background with large blue letters.

## The 10 Areas

- 1 Administrative & Corporate Governance
- 2 Adult Social Services
- 3 Civil Litigation
- 4 Conveyancing & Property
- 5 Contract, Commercial & Procurement
- 6 Criminal Litigation
- 7 Education
- 8 Employment
- 9 Housing
- 10 Planning, Highways & Environmental

## *What Areas Of Law Are Covered?*

There are ten categories of work covered by the framework agreement.

In practice they include every major area of law dealt with by local authorities except child care.



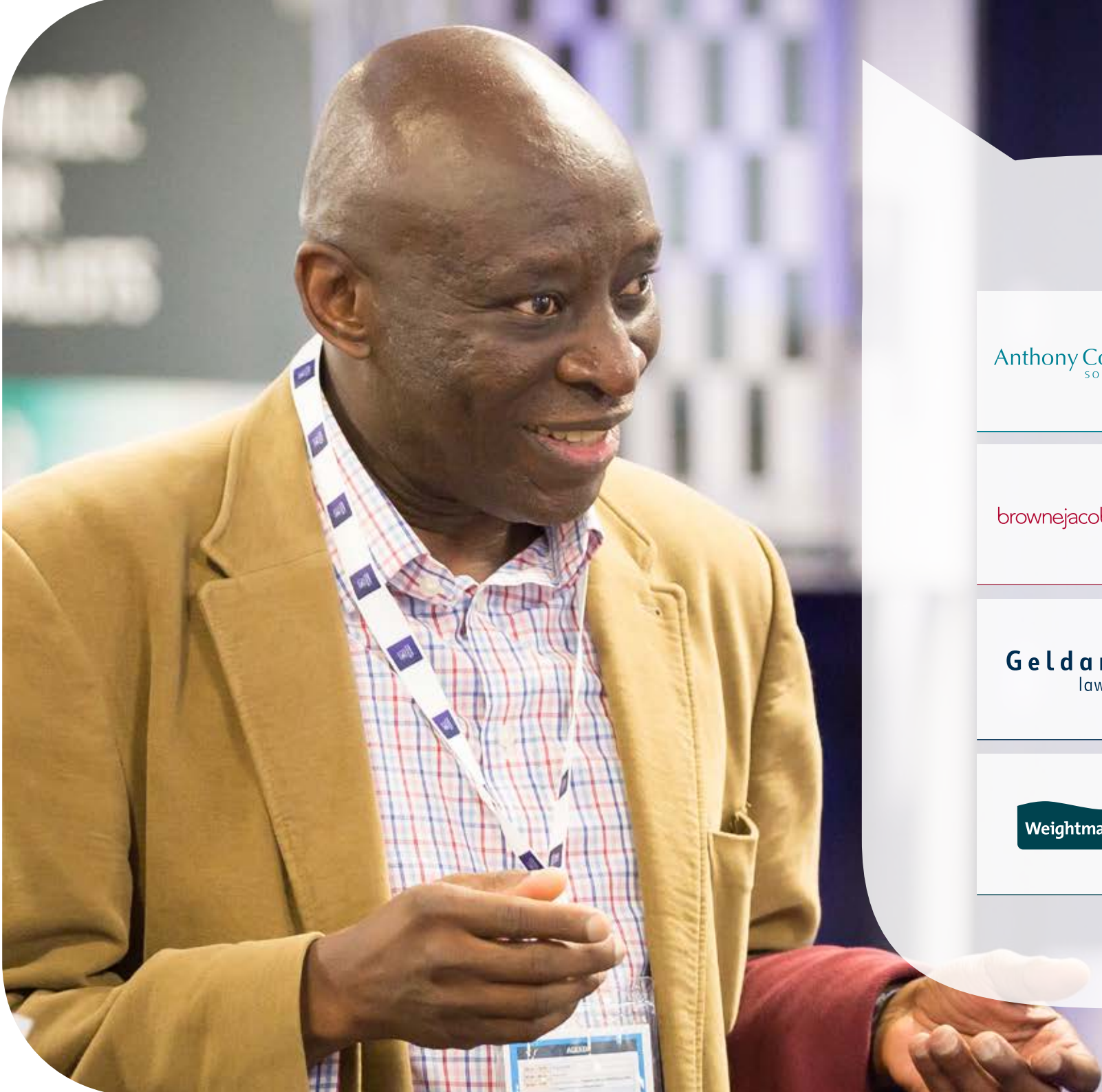
# The Partner Firms

After an extensive procurement exercise in 2017/18 EMLS appointed the seven “partner” firms opposite to the new four-year framework contract that started on 1 April 2018. All seven have extensive public sector knowledge & experience.

Details of each firm’s key contacts are on our website under each partner firm’s entry, which also includes details of each partner firm’s free phone helpline offer and their meeting rooms you can use.

## Hourly Rates

The hourly rates for each partner firm are available in a members only part of the website and are confidential. However, organisations considering joining can obtain them from the EMLS Coordinator (see “More Information”) on signing a non-disclosure undertaking.



Anthony Collins  
solicitors

Bevan Brittan 

brownejacobson

**FREETHS**

**Geldards**  
law firm

SHARPE PRITCHARD 

**Weightmans**

## Jayne Francis-Ward

EMLS Chair

jaynetrustworks@gmail.com



## Stuart Leslie

EMLS Co-ordinator

sl.emlawshare@yahoo.com



## Stuart Portman

Walsall MBC

PortmanStuart@walsall.gov.uk



## Heather Dickinson

Nottinghamshire County Council

heather.dickinson@nottscc.gov.uk



## Gerard Rogers

Chesterfield Borough Council

gerard.rogers@chesterfield.gov.uk



## Sam McGinty

Loughborough University

S.A.McGinty@lboro.ac.uk



## Barbara Hearst

Leicester City Council

Barbara.Hearst@leicester.gov.uk



## Mona Sachdeva

Nottingham City Homes

Mona.Sachdeva@nottinghamcityhomes.org.uk



## Francesca Whyley

Gedling Borough Council

francesca.whyley@gedling.gov.uk



## Elizabeth Warhurst

NW Leicestershire B. Council

Elizabeth.Warhurst@nwleicestershire.gov.uk



# Who Runs It?

All the major decisions regarding the consortium are taken by this management board who are, except for the Chair, Jayne Francis-Ward and Coordinator, Stuart Leslie, all drawn from member organisations. Board members also sit, with partner firm representatives, on several specialist groups dealing with such issues as the website, annual training programme and biennial conference.



A photograph of Stuart Leslie, EM Lawshare Co-ordinator, speaking at a conference. He is a middle-aged man with short brown hair and a beard, wearing a blue suit, white shirt, and a patterned tie. He is gesturing with his right hand while speaking. In the background, other people are visible, including a woman with blonde hair in a bun and a man in a grey suit. A woman in the foreground is seen from the back, wearing a black top and a lanyard.

||| *Members can instruct expert firms  
at significantly discounted rates* |||

Stuart Leslie, EM Lawshare Co-ordinator

**To join, or  
for more  
information:**

**Stuart Leslie**  
(EM Lawshare  
Co-ordinator)  
sl.emlawshare@yahoo.com

## *How To Join*

Joining EMLS is straightforward. There is a standard request form on our website under the title "Join Us". Alternatively, you can send an email request to the EMLS Co-ordinator, Stuart Leslie, with a request to join. This must come from the chief legal officer, or equivalent, and include the names, titles & email addresses of those officers who are authorised to give instructions to the partner firms. If and when you are notified that your request has been accepted you will be sent a memorandum of understanding with Nottinghamshire County Council to sign and return (see "How it Works")

All authorised officers will be sent details on how to register onto the website which will enable them to see, amongst other things:

- details of each partner firm including their lead contact.
- the fixed hourly rates charged by each firm
- training material

Each authorised officer will also be sent the EMLS training programme for that year.





Anthony Collins  
solicitors

Bevan Brittan 

brownejacobson<sup>llp</sup>

FREETHS

Geldards  
law firm

SHARPE PRITCHARD<sup>®</sup>

Weightmans

