



Training Programme Brochure

2025-2026



Contents

03	Introduction
03	Cost
03	How to Book
04	SRA approach to contributing to continuing competence
04	Cancellation Policy
05	All Courses at a Glance
08	All Series at a Glance
09	Training Programme

Introduction

The EM Lawshare consortium began in 2006 and since its inception it's most valued and popular added benefit has been the free training programme delivered by its various partner firms.

We have steadily increased the number and range of courses and the feedback received demonstrates that the quality of the courses continues to meet and exceed delegates' expectations.

Our training programme is almost exclusively delivered through a series of webinars. The benefits of delivering training in this way means more of our members can access the training, irrespective of where they are located, and we have developed a library of recordings on our website accessible at any time and at the convenience of individual members.

We have listened to delegate feedback and this year we have organised some popular topics as a series of courses to build on learning.

We believe that our course programme stands out not just for the breadth and quality that we offer but because we ensure that courses include delegate interaction, and that we tailor the programme and delivery to meet the requirements of the SRA and provide every delegate who attends an EM Lawshare course with an annual personalised Development Record.

This year's programme has been put together, and will be delivered by, our panel of ten partner firms, Anthony Collins, Bevan Brittan, Browne Jacobson, Capsticks, DWF, Freeths, Geldards, Sharpe Pritchard Trowers & Hamlins and Weightmans. In deciding what subjects to include we have had special regard to the suggestions made by delegates in feedback to last year's courses.

1. Cost

Courses are free to attend for EM Lawshare members.

2. How to book

If you would like to book a place on any of the courses please either:

Visit the website emlawshare.co.uk or

Contact us using the information below:

Julie Scheller

Tel: 0345 272 5701

Email: julie.scheller@freeths.co.uk

To obtain information for all forthcoming courses, please visit
<http://www.emlawshare.co.uk/types/events/>

Please feel free to pass this information to colleagues (both legal and client departments) who may wish to attend the courses.

3. SRA approach to continuing competence

From November 2016 the SRA removed the requirement for solicitors to undertake 16 hours per year of CPD and has replaced this with a requirement for individuals to make an annual declaration confirming they have reflected on their practice and addressed any identified learning and development needs.

In October each year we will create a personalised Development Record for everyone who attends an EM Lawshare Training Course. Any reflections that you note on your feedback forms will be added to help you demonstrate compliance with the SRA regulations.

4. Cancellations policy

Booking confirmation

You will receive a confirmation message within 48 hours of completing your booking for any of these courses. Further instructions will be sent approximately 3 days before you are due to attend the course.

Cancellations and non-attendance

If you cannot attend a course you are booked onto, you should cancel by emailing julie.scheller@freeths.co.uk or phone 0345 272 5701. Your email should state clearly the title and date of the course and should be sent at least 48 hours before the course is due to start.

Unforeseen circumstances

We reserve the right to cancel courses, change venues and substitute course presenters at our discretion.

Further help and support

If you require further assistance please contact Julie Scheller on 0345 272 5701 or email julie.scheller@freeths.co.uk

5. All Courses at a Glance

Adult Social Services

Age Assessments for UASC (prepared by LA) – Challenges of JR and/or Challenge by Home Office	29 April 2025
Transparency in care proceedings	21 May 2025
Kinship Care – a new route to Vicarious Liability	25 June 2025
Care Service Reform and Judicial Review	10 September 2025
Childcare : Case Law Update for Local Authorities	11 November 2025
DOLS/ children	26 February 2026

Civil Litigation

An introduction to mediation	8 July 2025
Public Inquiries – the need for Candour and Public Accountability	10 July 2025
Judicial Review – introduction to JR practice and procedure with practical tips	18 September 2025
Judicial Review Update	3 February 2026
Costs and litigation funding update	11 February 2026
Civil claims against local authorities update	12 February 2026

Criminal Litigation

Introduction to RIPA	11 September 2025
Review of the Attorney General Guidelines on Prosecutions and Disclosure	9 October 2025

Planning Highways and Environmental

Highways and Public Rights of Way	30 April 2025
Biodiversity Net Gain and the provision of Land Banks	17 September 2025
Overview of the Heat Networks Regulations – legal issues for landlords and developers	23 October 2025
Overage – an overview	13 November 2025
Planning Law Update	4 December 2025
Introduction to S106	9 December 2025
Development constraints, development structures, joint ventures and collaborations	14 January 2026
Making and Promoting Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs)	22 January 2026
The National Planning Policy Framework	25 February 2026
Delivery of Regeneration Projects	3 March 2026
Property update	4 March 2026

Conveyancing and Property

Empty Home Strategies	22 April 2025
Easements and Restrictive Covenants	1 May 2025
Core Property – The key terms of a lease and conditional contracts	3 June 2025
Anatomy of a Commercial Lease High Street Rental Auctions	30 September 2025

Green leases	11 December 2025
Introduction to the Leasehold and Freehold Reform Act 2024	20 January 2026
Introduction into the Telecoms Code	5 February 2026
Landlord and Tenant Update - Commercial Property	11 March 2026

Construction

Insolvency in the construction supply chain; what must you do when a member of the construction supply chain has or is about to become insolvent?	11 June 2025
Construction, Regeneration and Maintenance: JCT 24 suite review	21 January 2026
Construction disputes	10 March 2026

Contract, Commercial and Procurement

Procurement Act 2023	28 April 2025
Introduction to Grant Agreements	8 May 2025
Local Authority estate rationalisation and land disposals	5 June 2025
Reviewing your updated contract procedure rules/standing orders to reflect the Procurement Act - how are they looking now?	18 June 2025
Public Procurement: Prepare for Act 2023	19 June 2025
How procurement challenges work and how to manage them	1 July 2025
Subsidy Control	25 September 2025
Preparing for PFI Expiry	14 October 2025
Navigating the Interface Between Subsidy Control Law and the Public Procurement Rules	16 October 2025
Procurement Law Update	6 November 2025
The (Dirty) Secrets of Waste Contracts	10 December 2025
Public health procurement under the Provider Selection Regime	17 December 2025
Procurement Fraud	18 March 2026

Administrative and Corporate Governance

Monitoring Officer Update -Session 1	25 April 2025
Data Subject Access Request (DSAR) training	12 May 2025
Local Authority decision making	14 May 2025
The evolution and next steps for devolution	4 June 2025
Member conduct update	3 July 2025
Company governance for local authorities	9 July 2025
The Code of Practice for the Golden triangle (HoPS, CFO & MO)	16 September 2025
Monitoring Officer Update - Session 2	22 October 2025
Governance update	5 November 2025
Cybersecurity and data protection	27 January 2026
Local Authorities as Charity Trustees: managing the conflicts of interest	4 February 2026
Anti-money laundering: Key issues for Local Government	5 March 2026

Employment

The Employment Rights Bill - What employers need to know	6 May 2025
Equal Pay Update	17 July 2025

TUPE Refresher
8 September 2025
Holiday Pay Update
24 September 2025
The Duty on employers to prevent sexual harassment
7 October 2025
Whistleblowing and Culture
4 November 2025
Introduction to the Local Government Pension Scheme
2 December 2025
Religion and Belief: managing conflicts in the workplace
28 January 2026
Housing
Disrepair
8 October 2025
Homelessness challenges and judicial reviews
19 March 2026
Education
What should the local authority consider before naming a school in Section 1
15 July 2025
Schools' PFI Agreements Expiry
25 November 2025
Miscellaneous
Licensing Update
12 March 2026
Skills Courses
Negotiation Skills
22 May 2025
Email attraction
15 October 2025
AI in Local Government - Part 1
12 November 2025
AI in Local Government - Part 2
19 November 2025
Leadership, Management and supervision
20 November 2025
Microsoft Word training for lawyers
3 December 2025
Being Menopause Inclusive
15 January 2026

6. All Series at a Glance:

Administrative and Corporate Governance

Monitoring Officer Update -Session 1	25 April 2025
Monitoring Officer Update - Session 2	22 October 2025

Skills Courses

AI in Local Government - Part 1	12 November 2025
AI in Local Government - Part 2	19 November 2025

Empty Home Strategies

Getting to grips with Enforced Sales

Level of course: Introductory/Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

22 April 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Bevan Brittan

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This training will give an overview of the enforced sale process to recover debts by selling property. This session will look at the key statutes including Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949, Building Act 1984 and Environmental Protection Act 1990. The course then looks at charge creation, pre-sale steps, the legal process and practical considerations.

Suitable audience:

Local Authorities
In-house legal

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above

Interactive elements

To be confirmed

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Lyndon Campbell is a commercial property lawyer with 20 years' experience. Lyndon's practice involves leading the Leeds commercial property team on various aspects of commercial property work including

landlord and tenant work, acquisitions and disposals, property finance, property development, investment property portfolios and high value and complex residential transactions.

Monitoring Officer Update – Part 1

Level of course: Advanced

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

25 April 2025
12 noon – 1pm

Presented by Anthony Collins

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

Vires / Public Law Decision Making.

Suitable audience:

MO/ DMO and governance lawyers

Overview and topics to be covered include:

This webinar will provide an update on current issues in the sector that affect governance.

It may cover new case law, legislation, ombudsman or public interest reports and guidance that focuses on good governance at your Council.

Interactive elements

Discussion forum

Competencies

This course will cover:

- B Technical legal practice
- C Working with other people
- D Managing themselves and their own work

Presenter profiles:

Claire Ward is a local government lawyer who after 20 years working for Herefordshire Council and Cumbria County Council moved to Anthony Collins.

She started her career in local government as an assistant solicitor. She has had many roles since then, moving into legal management and finishing her career as acting deputy chief executive.

She has extensive local government expertise as monitoring officer working with committees, cabinet and full council.

She now acts as a sounding board for local authorities and their companies nationwide, on local government law, constitution, decision making, standards and member/officer relationships.

The Procurement Act 2023

An end-to-end 'walk through' of the competitive flexible procedure

Level of course: Intermediate / Advanced

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA TEAMS

28 April 2025
12 noon - 1.30pm

Presented by Sharpe Pritchard

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

An end-to-end 'walk through' of the competitive flexible procedure, including:

- Stages of a competitive flexible procedure
- Detailed understanding of the notices required under the procedure
- Applying conditions of participation, exclusions and debarment
- Award criteria and contract award

Suitable audience:

Procurement or legal officers with assumed basic knowledge of Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and key features of Procurement Act 2023.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above.

Interactive elements

We will aim to run a 'slido' poll to generate audience feedback on key stages of a CFP.

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice
B2 Legal research
B4 Draft documents

Presenter profiles:

Juli Lau is a public procurement and contracts specialist with particular expertise in infrastructure projects, covering the fields of waste, energy and utilities. She has acted for public authorities on a number of PPP/PFI projects and is well-versed in public procurement law under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and Procurement Act 2023. Her articles on public procurement feature on LexisNexis.

Natasha Barlow is in Sharpe Pritchard's infrastructure team and specialises in procurement, contracts and waste. She is experienced in advising on both PCR 2015 and PA 2023 regimes across local and central government.

Age Assessments for UASC (prepared by LA) – Challenges of JR and/or Challenge by Home Office

Judicial Review threats arising from Age Assessments

Level of course: Advanced

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

29 April 2025
12 noon – 1pm

Presented by Weightmans

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

A whistlestop overview concerning the law relating to Age Assessments and Judicial Review Threats/Home Office challenge arising from Age Assessments

Suitable audience:

Lawyers involved advising Children's Services

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Age Assessments and the Law
- Judicial Review challenges arising from Age Assessments
- Home Office Challenges to Age Assessments

Interactive elements

Q&A

Competencies

This course will cover:

- A Ethics professionalism and judgement
- B Technical legal practice
- B2 Legal research
- C Working with other people
- C1 Communicate clearly and effectively

Presenter profiles:

Marion Robinson joined Weightmans in March 2021 and leads the Regulatory, Social Care & Governance Team

Marion has over 25 years' experience specialising in Public Law children matters including Age Assessment advice and Judicial Review challenges arising from Age Assessments

Marion worked as a Senior Solicitor working in-house for Local Authority Legal Teams, managing the Safeguarding Legal team, providing Panel advice and continuing to manage a case load with an emphasis on childcare matters.

Highways and public rights of way

A practical overview of creating, extinguishing, and diverting public rights of way.

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

30 April 2025
12 noon - 1.45pm

Presented by Freeths

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

The course will cover the fundamentals of highways and public rights of way serving as a refresher or an introduction to the area of law before looking in more detail at the practical aspects of creating, extinguishing and diverting public rights of way.

Suitable audience:

Lawyers, Rights of Way Officers and any other disciplines involved in making Public Rights of Way Orders.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Part 1 of the course:
 - Highways (roads) - dedication as highway, statutory / historical background underlying highways that can be used with motor vehicles.
 - S31 Highways Act 1980 - statements, plan and permissive highways.
 - Extent of the highway and presumptions.
 - Highways agreements - s38 / s278 and title issues.
- Part 2 other public rights of way:
 - Classification of public rights of way - footpaths, bridleways, cycle paths, restricted byways and BOATS - s53 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and other powers.
 - The definitive map and statement.
 - Methods of creating, extinguishing, or diverting public rights of way:
 - Ss26, 116, 118 and 119 Highways Act 1980
 - S257 Town and Country Planning Act 1990

- Other powers and restrictions / changes to use of a way - traffic regulation orders, crime prevention powers etc.
- Process for making an order / application and the different jurisdictions - evidence, inquiries and confirming orders.
- Appeals and judicial review.
- Confirming an order and amending the definitive map.
- Other public access to land (Countryside and Rights of Way Act, Commons Act etc).

Interactive elements

Q&A

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice
 B2 Legal research
 B5 Advocacy
 B6 Negotiation
 C1 Communicate clearly and effectively

Presenter profiles:

David Shakesby is a property litigator who specialises in advice and disputes relating to energy networks and renewables, development land and complex real property issues. David regularly advises utilities, landowners and developers on issues relating to energy networks, land rights and issues relating to the exercise of statutory powers, compulsory purchase and the way in which these rights impact on access, other rights and the development of land. David also regularly advises developers and landowners on issues relating to the development of land, both for commercial and residential development, from the land acquisition stage through to post development. David specialises in complex contractual disputes, particularly relating to conditional contracts, options and overage agreements. David also advises on a full range of real property disputes and issues relating to easements, restrictive covenants, registered and unregistered title, highways and other public rights of way, public and other access rights (including common land and town and village greens), agricultural tenancies, and rights of light and other neighbourly matters. As well as acting at all levels of the Court and Tribunal systems, David also regularly advises clients involved in arbitration and other forms of ADR and in relation to mediation.

Aiden Wiffen is a Senior Associate in the Property Disputes team. Aiden has a broad range of Property Disputes experience, including the following: Commercial Landlord and Tenant, Residential Landlord and Tenant, Property Finance, Property Insolvency, Charity Property, Agricultural Property, Telecoms and Utilities, Rights of Way, Possession Claims, Professional Negligence, Developer, Compulsory Purchase and Overage Disputes. Aiden is also a member of the Property Litigation Association, the Junior Lawyers Division and the Law Society.

Nathan Greaves is a property litigator who specialises in advice and disputes relating to commercial property, healthcare properties, development land and complex real property issues.

Nathan regularly advises property portfolio managers on a full spectrum of property asset management issues, from lease renewals and service charge disputes, to breaches of covenant, nuisance claims, adverse possession and trespasser removal. Nathan has particular specialisms in healthcare property litigious issues, from hospital premises through to GP practices. Nathan also is part of our Life Sciences and Technology specialist sub-practice, providing advice to medical, design and engineering professionals and firms (at all stages of the life cycle from start up through to established entities) on their property issues and holdings.

He also forms part of the Utilities, Clean-Energy/Renewables and Telecommunications practice areas, advising landowners, site providers and companies on issues within these areas.

In addition, Nathan also advises on a full range of real property disputes and issues relating to easements, restrictive covenants, registered and unregistered title, dilapidations, highways and other public rights of way, public and other access rights (including common land and town and village greens), agricultural tenancies, and rights of light and other neighbourly matters.

Easements and Restrictive Covenants

Understanding the benefits and burdens

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

1 May 2025
12 noon - 2pm

Presented by Freeths

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

An introduction to easements and restrictive covenants, including creation, operation in practice, challenges, and discharge.

It will cover the practical issues which arise in relation to the discovery, interpretation and enforcement of restrictive covenants and easements, when and how they will lapse or be extinguished, and how covenants can be modified or discharged by an application to the Lands Tribunal.

- What are easements and restrictive covenants
- Creation - Formalities, Parties and Building schemes; express and prescription
- The burden of restrictive covenants
- The benefit of restrictive covenants - annexation/classification/assignment
- Interpretation of easements and covenants
- Discharge and modification of restrictive covenants by the Lands Tribunal
- Remedies - Damages/Injunctions/Declarations

Suitable audience:

Anyone who works in the property sector

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Reviewing titles and deeds
- Establishing nature of interest

- Understanding options

Interactive elements

The course will be informal and participation and questions will be encouraged. There will also be a case study with some examples to consider.

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice
B2 Legal research
C1 Communicate clearly and effectively

Presenter profiles:

Jill Carey provides strategic property and litigation advice to a large number of local government clients across the country.

Her expertise encompasses a very broad range of commercial and residential real estate litigation and dispute resolution work. This includes all types of landlord and tenant matters, rent reviews, breaches of covenants, opposed and non-opposed lease renewals and 1954 Act strategies, dilapidations claims, forfeiture and termination of tenancies, insolvency, possession actions, claims under development agreements, vacant possession strategies, overage and other land contracts, disputes relating to easements such as rights of way, boundary disputes, nuisance, and trespass claims. She uses her experience in litigation to give smart property management advice, and wherever possible will assist clients in identifying and resolving potential disputes before they become an issue.

The Employment Rights Bill – What employers need to know

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

6 May 2025
12 noon – 1pm

Presented by Capsticks

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This session will provide a high-level update on the Employment Rights Bill (The Bill) which is due to come into force this year, and the “once in a generation” legal changes it will bring. We will focus on practical implications for employers.

Suitable audience:

Anyone working in HR or Legal with Employment/HR responsibilities

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Reminder – 20+ individual employment law changes are set out in The Bill
- What are the key “need to know” points?
- When are the changes likely to come into force?
- What are the practical implications of The Bill?
- Top tips on how employers should prepare for forthcoming changes (and what will the biggest challenges be?)

Interactive elements

We will cover steps to plan for change; with examples of what clients are doing; recommendations on what to focus on (short and longer term); and a discussion and Q&A.

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Sean Hick is a Principal Associate in Capsticks' national employment and pensions team. Sean has specialised in employment law within the healthcare sector since qualifying in 2016 and has six years' prior experience in advising on employment issues for public, private and third sector clients.

Sean is known for handling complex Employment Tribunal proceedings involving whistle-blowing and / or discrimination. He has worked on sensitive Executive Board removal matters and appeal to the Employment Appeals Tribunal against a re-engagement order. He also has a particular expertise in giving practical advice to NHS Trusts on problematic employees with long term absence giving rise to potential discrimination claims.

Claire Gilbert is a Principal Associate in the employment and pensions team at Capsticks and a qualified barrister. She has a wide range of expertise with employers across a range of sectors, including local authorities and the third sector, as well as with private and public sector clients.

Introduction to Grant Agreements

An introductory session on drafting grant agreements and the underlying statutory and governance considerations that Councils need to think about when putting them in place

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

8 May 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Trowers & Hamlin

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

- Vires to make grants
- Common grant terms, monitoring and payment
- Subsidy Control compliance
- Ensuring a grant agreement is not a contract caught by the procurement regime
- Issues when on-granting central government funds

Suitable audience:

- Economic development officers
- S151 Officers / Monitoring Officers
- In-house lawyers

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Vires
- Drafting skills
- Procurement
- Subsidy control

Interactive elements

Polls.

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice
B2 Legal research
B4 Draft documents

Comments: This course will equip officers with a further understanding of how the grants operate and develop their governance, subsidy and procurement "antennae".

Presenter profiles:

Paul McDermott - Partner has decades of experience working with local authorities and central government agencies on formerly EU state aid and now UK Subsidy Control. Paul previously worked in local government and also was interim monitoring officer for a London borough.

Louis Sebastian - Partner is a procurement and contracts specialist who also has in-depth knowledge of public sector governance processes and vires smatters. Having worked in-house as deputy monitoring officer at a local authority, he has first-hand experience of council constitutions, establishing and restructuring council committees and ensuring proper decision making processes are implemented and followed. He has also advised on defending procurement and other public law challenges.

Data Subject Access Request (DSAR) training

Practical hints and tips to help reduce the burden

Level of course: Intermediate/advanced (an understanding of what a DSAR is and what the obligations are will be assumed)

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

12 May 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Bevan Brittan

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

The course will focus on clarification of requests, searches, provision of information, and other tips which can assist when dealing with DSARs from individuals. The purpose will be to provide some practical solutions to common issues that arise when dealing with DSARs, which are permitted under the UK GDPR.

Suitable audience:

Anyone in the organisation who has responsibility for dealing with DSARs

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Data Subject Access Request (DSAR) training - practical hints and tips to help reduce the burden

Interactive elements

We can provide a case study to reinforce the suggestions given in the course.

Competencies

This course will cover:

- B Technical legal practice
- C1 Communicate clearly and effectively
- D Managing themselves and their own work

Presenter profiles:

Vicki Bowles is a Partner and barrister, specialising in information and privacy law. Vicki has been providing pragmatic, clear and strategic advice on data protection, privacy, confidentiality and access to information since 2005, when working as in house legal advisor within the government legal service.

Local Authority decision making

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

14 May 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Geldards

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

An introduction to the fundamental legal and practical issues that need to be addressed to ensure that a local authority's decision making is lawful and effective.

Suitable audience:

Local authority legal officers and other officers who advise on decision making and governance.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Responsibility for decisions
- Reasonable exercise of power
- Consultation
- Bias and predetermination

Interactive elements

The issues will be considered in the context of a practical scenario.

Competencies

This course will cover:

A Ethics professionalism and judgement

Presenter profiles:

Clare Hardy advises local authorities on a range of public law matters, including governance, decision making, constitutional matters and member conduct.

Matthew Holtam advises local authorities and other public bodies on a range of public law matters, including governance and decision making.

Transparency in Care proceedings

An overview of developments governing transparency in the family Court

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ON24

21 May 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Browne Jacobson

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

An introduction to the law and applications to the Court concerning Transparency Orders, and how things have developed since the pilot in 2023.

Suitable audience:

Those working in children's services, practitioners in the Family Court dealing with transparency orders and those supporting witnesses called to give evidence before the Family Court in family proceedings.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

An introduction to the law and applications to the Court concerning Transparency Orders, and how things have developed since the pilot in 2023.

Interactive elements

Discussions / Q+A

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Luke Berry leads the Exeter barristers team, and his work primarily focuses on providing robust advocacy and pragmatic advice on all things health related: from personal injury and clinical negligence,

to mental health, inquests and family disputes involving medical evidence. He acts for some of the firm's biggest clients on procedural hearings through to substantive, multi-day trials and inquests, and is seen as a 'go-to' in the South West for practical legal advice delivered with emotional intelligence.

Naomi De Silva specialises in claims against Children's Services providers and claims under the HRA and DPA. Naomi has extensive family court proceedings experience having practiced in public law proceedings for over a decade. She represents public bodies, medical clinicians, charities, family care/assessments centres and educational institutions that have been called to give evidence or intervene in Public Law Family Court proceedings.

Negotiation Skills for Lawyers

Developing negotiating and communication skills

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA TEAMS

22 May 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Sharpe Pritchard

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This webinar will serve as an overview as to what is negotiation, what are the essential skills, how to ensure a successful outcome and what are the golden rules.

Suitable audience:

Commercial lawyers with less than 5 years PQE.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above.

Interactive elements

Quiz

Competencies

This course will cover:

B6 Negotiation
C Working with other people
C1 Communicate clearly and effectively

Presenter profiles:

Tim Farr is managing partner of Sharpe Pritchard and a commercial lawyer. Having worked on commercial contracts while working in-house as the Solicitor to the Council of Cambridgeshire County Council and subsequently at Sharpe Pritchard, Tim has a wide range of commercial negotiation experience to draw on and share.

Justin Mendelle is senior partner of Sharpe Pritchard. Having started his career as a construction lawyer and expanded his practice into wider procurement, Justin has great experience of negotiating both in terms of commercial positions and dispute resolution which he will bring to this presentation.

Core Property – The key terms of a lease and conditional contracts

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

3 June 2025
12 noon – 1pm

Presented by Capsticks

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This session will provide a practical guide for those dealing with leases and conditional property contracts

Suitable audience:

In-house property lawyers, property and estates team members

Overview and topics to be covered include:

A focus on key terms of a lease and issues to be aware of when dealing with conditional property contracts.

Interactive elements

Q&A

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice
B4 Draft documents
B6 Negotiation

Presenter profiles:

Vicki Moore specialises in leading on major capital projects and property transactions for local authorities nationally. Vicki is currently dealing with a number of major high profile capital development projects. She is also working with a number of Local Authority clients across the country, dealing with disposals, acquisitions and commercial leasing transactions.

Vicky O'Sullivan is an experienced Legal Director in the Real Estate division and deals with all aspects of real estate transactions for public sector clients including options, development agreements, acquisitions, disposals, lettings and general due diligence.

The evolution and next steps for devolution

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

4 June 2025
12 noon - 12.40pm

Presented by Trowers & Hamlins

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

Exploring the evolution of devolution in the UK from its roots to the latest developments, and discussing the new government's plans for empowering local regions and enhancing regional autonomy.

Suitable audience:

- Chief Executives
- Monitoring Officers
- In-house legal

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Brief history of Local Government Reorganisation and Devolution
- Current devolved bodies
- Legislative underpinnings
- The Government's White Paper on English Devolution
- Practical realities of LGR and Devolution
- What's coming next?

Interactive elements

Q&A

Competencies

This course will cover:

A Ethics professionalism and judgement
B Technical legal practice
B2 Legal research

Presenter profiles:

Louis Sebastian - Partner - Public Sector Commercial and Governance is a procurement and contracts specialist who also has in-depth knowledge of public sector governance processes and vires matters. Having worked in-house as deputy monitoring officer at a local authority, he has first-hand experience of council constitutions, establishing and restructuring council committees and ensuring proper decision making processes are implemented and followed. He has also advised on defending procurement and other public law challenges.

Amardeep Gill - Partner - Public Sector Commercial and Governance advises local and central government on transformation or business critical projects and is nationally ranked as an expert in this field (Chambers UK). Amardeep has extensive experience across a range of sectors including digital technology, leisure, transport, education, outsourcing, leisure and waste. He advises on joint ventures, public/private partnerships, complex supply chain arrangements, regulatory matters and large-scale procurement exercises.

Local Authority estate rationalisation and land disposals

Legal issues to consider when disposing of surplus real estate assets

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

5 June 2025
12 noon - 1.15pm

Presented by Geldards

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

Given ever increasing pressures on local authorities, many have embarked on an estate rationalisation strategy to raise capital receipts and to reduce property holding costs. This often leads to the disposal of surplus or underperforming assets including land and buildings.

Land disposals can often involve a number of procedural matters which must be observed pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972 together with a range of 'public law' issues such as procurement, subsidy control and vires. These matters are not always apparent on the face of a transaction and can often be invertedly overlooked leading to problems in the future. In this course we will highlight a number of the important legal issues to consider to ensure that a local authority land disposal is lawful and safe from challenge.

Suitable audience:

Local authority lawyers, surveyors and other officers who advise on land disposals.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Preparing for a disposal
- Best consideration and subsidy control
- Other public law issues
- Open space land
- Allotment land
- School playing fields

Interactive elements

Forum

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Neil Walker advises local authorities on a range of land disposal projects particularly involving regeneration and development. Neil also provides advice to local authorities in connection with local authority estate rationalisation, 'public law' matters and wider commercial property/real estate work.

Matthew Holtam advises local authorities on a range of real estate transactions, particularly involving acquisitions, disposals and landlord and tenant matters. Matthew also advises on public law matters including subsidy control, procurement and vires which are incidental to local authority land disposal transactions

Kelly Lawton and Sumandeep Nahl advise local authorities on a range of commercial property matters including acquisitions, disposals and landlord and tenant matters.

What should the local authority consider before naming a school in Section I

TM and SM v Liverpool City Council (Special educational needs – special educational provision – naming school) [2024]

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

15 July 2025
12 noon – 1pm

Presented by Weightmans

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

The local authority's statutory duties, powers and additional considerations when deciding which setting to name in Section I of an EHC plan.

Suitable audience:

Local authority Lawyers, SEND Managers, EHCP co-ordinators/ caseworkers, Tribunal officers.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above

Interactive elements

None

Competencies

This course will cover:

- B Technical legal practice
- B2 Legal research
- C Working with other people

C1 Communicate clearly and effectively
D Managing themselves and their own work

Presenter profiles:

Victoria Cassidy joined Weightmans in February 2021. Formerly, the SEND manager of a large local authority. Victoria Cassidy has enjoyed a long career in local government working both in-house and in private practice, and specialising in child and adult protection, and education law.

Insolvency in the construction supply chain

Insolvency in construction projects is increasing in our experience and its really important that the commissioning party understands what to look out for in advance of insolvency and what to do; in this webinar we will consider what to look out for and how to protect yourself in advance. Also, some of the realities where a contractor becomes insolvent part way through the build

Level of course: All levels

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

11 June 2025
12 noon - 1.30pm

Presented by Bevan Brittan

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

What happens when a contractor becomes insolvent during or after completion of a project and does that impact on the commissioning party financially and in terms of build quality?
What mechanisms can the commissioning party put in place to protect it?
And how well will those mechanisms protect?
Finally, what are the practical implications of an insolvency; what do you do when you know a contractor is insolvent and how to anticipate this to better protect the commissioning party.

Suitable audience:

Construction professionals; procurement, in house legal, management where construction work is a part of your remit.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Insolvency in the construction supply chain; what must you do when a member of the construction supply chain has or is about to become insolvent?
Plus; as above.

Interactive elements

There will some light hearted multiple choice questions (on an anonymous basis).

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice
B6 Negotiation

Presenter profiles:

Sarah Wilson specialises in construction and engineering, advising a wide range of clients within the construction sectors, including contractors, specialist subcontractors, engineers and architects, local authorities and developers.

Andrew Tobin is a construction and engineering lawyer and I head the firm's Construction team. Andrew particular focuses areas within his sector include education, health, commercial and regeneration projects.

In education, Andrew leads the firm's team focusing on the building and refurbishment of schools, academies and colleges, an area of work where Bevan Brittan is a market leader.

Reviewing your updated contract procedure rules/standing orders to reflect the Procurement Act

How are they looking now?

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

18 June 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Anthony Collins

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

After the Procurement Act 2023 came into force on 24 February 2025, most local authorities updated their Contract Procedure Rules to align with the requirements.

of the new legislation, the subsidiary regulations and where appropriate the Cabinet Office guidance that supports the interpretation of the new rules. This session will highlight opportunities to reflect on how fit for purpose councils are finding their CPRs and to share learning about how they might be improved to reflect the lessons being learnt 4 months in from implementation of the Act.

Suitable audience:

Anyone who engages with procurement

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Contract, commercial and procurement
- Administrative and corporate governance

Interactive elements

Discussion forum

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice
B4 Draft documents
C1 Communicate clearly and effectively

Presenter profiles:

Mark Cook has 34 years of experience as a public sector commercial lawyer and Chanel Quigley is a newly qualified solicitor who is equally passionate about public procurement being deployed to benefit communities and deliver better public services.

Chanel Quigley is an integral part of the projects team, specialising in public procurement law and confidently handling all aspects of the procurement lifecycle. Working closely with our key sectors, Chanel's work has seen her support clients across central and local government and the housing sector.

Public Procurement

Prepare for the Procurement Act 2023

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA GOTOWEBINAR

19 June 2025

12 noon - 1pm

Presented by DWF

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This session will cover the key changes between the previous procurement regulations and the Procurement Act 2023. It will provide practical advice on the main impacts that will affect both Contracting Authorities and economic operators. Including:

- the benefits that the 2023 Act will offer (the new objectives, new procedures, consolidating the regulations into a single Act, and statutory guidance)
- what actions you will need to take to prepare for the implementation of the 2023 Act (training, updating Contract Standing Orders/ procurement templates/ procurement documents etc), and
- What further resources and training are available to support your organisation to drive cultural and behavioural change to exploit the flexibilities of the 2023 Act.

Suitable audience:

All those working in the public sector particularly those involved in procurements

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above

Interactive elements

Possible use of polls

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Colin Murray regularly advises Central and Local Government, and other public sector bodies when looking to deliver major service and regeneration projects across the UK. Colin also advises some of the UK's biggest Strategic Suppliers looking to provide services to the public or challenging procurement procedures.

Colin has over 15 years' experience of advising on the successful delivery of major projects across the UK including some of the biggest outsourcings of services to third parties, in-sourcing services back to public sector control, and the delivery of major regeneration and leisure projects.

Colin specialises in public law, governance and safeguarding decision making, procurement, consultation, and preparing and negotiating commercial terms and conditions (based on Model Service Contracts and bespoke drafting). Colin has previously worked for Central Government as a civil servant and has also been awarded the Post Graduate Diploma in Local Government Law.

Michelle Maher advises on a wide range of commercial and contractual disputes and helps clients reach their goals in a pragmatic and commercial manner.

Michelle acts on a broad range of commercial and contractual disputes for companies, public bodies and individuals. Michelle's experience involves professional negligence claims, shareholder disputes, injunctive relief claims including freezing orders and enforcement of restrictive covenants, director disqualification proceedings, data protection and privacy issues and public procurement claims.

Michelle acts for both claimants and defendants and provides advice at all stages of a dispute, assisting clients reach their goals whether that be avoiding a dispute pre-action, Court proceedings or alternative dispute resolution. Michelle also has experience of disputes involving different jurisdictions both within the European Union and Asia.

Simon Harris is a Senior Associate in DWF's Commercial & Public team. Simon trained at an international law firm, where he specialised in advising major public sector projects, and he joined DWF in January 2024. He is part of DWF Law LLP's Procurement Centre of Excellence, which has been set up to add value for and service the requirements of our Public Sector clients.

Simon advises clients in both the public and private sector. He provides advice to support contracting authority's decision-making processes, and has worked extensively with central government and wider public sector bodies. He supports procurements from the outset, from the development of procurement strategies, contract advertisement, through to contract award.

Kinship Care – a New Route to Vicarious Liability

Understanding the increased risk following the Court of Appeal decision in DJ -v Barnsley

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ON24

25 June 2025
12 noon – 1.30pm

Presented by Browne Jacobson

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

Brief overview of relevant caselaw in this area including an Appeal Court decision in late 2024.

Suitable audience:

Lawyers and Senior Social Workers involved in assessing Kinship placements and in designing and implementing Kinship Local Offer in accordance with the Government Guidance of October 2024. Risk and Insurance Teams should also attend.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Vicarious liability
- Limitation
- Quantum
- Recoveries
- Witness evidence

Interactive elements

There will be a case study on hypothetical kinship issues that arise from real life cases we have worked on that will have interactive elements, for attendees to address key questions and risks arising and consider how best to ameliorate or plan for them

Competencies

This course will cover:

- A Ethics professionalism and judgement
- B Technical legal practice
- C Working with other people
- C1 Communicate clearly and effectively
- D Managing themselves and their own work

Presenter profiles:

Sarah Erwin-Jones is our most experienced Partner focusing on children's services and safeguarding matters. She leads on the firm's children's social care publications and popular forums. She has led a number of high-profile group actions and is highly regarded for her fairness and expertise in handling claims against Children's Services providers including claims arising out of FII.

She has experience in taking a number of cases to the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court and has a particular focus on costs. Sarah sits as a fee paid Costs Master in the SCCO. Sarah is our firm lead for the Personal Injury Working Group on historical child abuse claims. she is described in the Legal 500 as "stand out" and is reported to remain "sensible and pragmatic when it comes to resolving cases".

How procurement challenges work and how to manage them

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

1 July 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Capsticks

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

Mary Mundy and Dylan Young will run through what happens in a procurement challenge, the key issues to be aware of and what steps in house lawyers at Local Authorities should consider.

Suitable audience:

Anyone with an interest in Procurement

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Procurement challenges under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and Procurement Act 2023

Interactive elements

We will include slido and some quiz questions.

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Mary Mundy is a Partner at Capsticks and is an expert on public procurement law, advising clients on day to day procurement issues through to strategic and complex procurement processes. Mary has also advised both contracting authorities, utilities and bidders in procurement challenges.

Dylan Young is a Litigation Partner at Capsticks and advises on public procurement challenges, advising contracting authorities across the public sector and bidders. In the last few years, he has acted on a number of complex and high profile public procurement challenges in the High Court.

Member Conduct Update

Level of course: Advanced

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

3 July 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Weightmans

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

A review of the latest developments in the law of member conduct.

Suitable audience:

Monitoring Officers, Deputy Monitoring Officers, Lawyers involved in advising on member conduct issues.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above

Interactive elements

The use of polls

Competencies

This course will cover:

- A Ethics professionalism and judgement
- B Technical legal practice
- B2 Legal research
- C Working with other people
- C1 Communicate clearly and effectively

Presenter profiles:

Simon Goacher joined Weightmans in February 2013 to head up the Local Government team. Formerly head of legal and democratic services at Cheshire West and Cheshire Council, Simon Goacher has enjoyed a long and distinguished career in local government law spanning almost two decades.

He is a leading practitioner on member conduct and has carried out a number of significant investigations on behalf of local authorities into the behaviour of elected members.

Company governance for local authorities

Level of course: Introductory / Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

9 July 2025 (this webinar was previously advertised as 4 July)
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Bevan Brittan

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

An introduction to company governance for local authorities

This is a short run through of:

- A look at the code of corporate governance for council interests in companies, what lies behind it and its purpose
- The key legal infrastructure for local authorities establishing and maintaining interests in companies
- The key requirements for running a local authority running company, including business planning and conflicts of interest, appointments of directors and officers, their protections and indemnities and the all-important director's duties.

Suitable audience:

Local Authorities
In-house legal
Directors

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Key legal infrastructure
- Conflicts of interest, business planning
- Code of conduct

Interactive elements

TBC

Competencies

This course will cover:

- A Ethics professionalism and judgement
- B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Andrew Spicer is a corporate lawyer and acts for a wide range of clients including SMEs, PLCs, housing associations, local government, NHS trusts, and education bodies.

Andrew advises on a range of commercial agreements and in respect of joint ventures, and on the sale and purchase of shares and assets in a variety of sectors including energy and housing. This involves advising on appropriate funding options including lending and the methods for securing such lending.

Andrew works regularly as part of larger cross-disciplinary teams for infrastructure and regeneration projects and has experience of both domestic and cross-border transactions.

Phil McCourt specialises in local authorities' corporate law and decision making. Phil joined his first local authority in 1988 as a trainee Chartered Secretary and then Solicitor. He was first made an authority's Monitoring Officer and a member of the senior management team in 2000. Since then Phil has acted on governance, standards and monitoring officer issues for a wide range of local authorities, combined authorities and central government through both consultancy and direct employment.

An introduction to mediation

Mediation and dispute resolution

Level of course: Introductory / Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA TEAMS

8 July 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Sharpe Pritchard

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

An introduction to mediation - mediation and dispute resolution.

Suitable audience:

in-house lawyers and managers

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Background on mediation - exploring the differences compared to litigation and other forms of dispute resolution
- Changes to courts approach to mediation - CPR changes
- The process of mediation
- Practical tips for a successful outcome - i.e. position statement, timings of mediation, appointing mediator, virtual vs in-person etc.

Interactive elements

Use of Slido for an interactive quiz element

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice
B6 Negotiation
C Working with other people
C1 Communicate clearly and effectively

Presenter profiles:

Rachel Murray-Smith provides solutions-focused legal advice, with an emphasis on proactive engagement with her clients and management of legal and commercial risks.

The projects that Rachel advises on invariably involve multiple stakeholders, numerous commercial risks and considerations, and tight deadlines.

Sectors Rachel specialises in include commercial contracts, construction and procurement. Rachel has built up extensive non-contentious construction experience and works across a range of construction contracts. She advises clients regularly on the use of JCT, NEC3 and NEC4 standard form contracts together with preparing all ancillary documentation. She provides end-to-end support commencing at the procurement strategy phase all the way through to project completion.

Rachel plays an active role in the firm's dedicated adjudication unit, SP Adjudication, and has advised in relation to issues such as interim application disputes, final payment disputes, defects liability and overpayment claims. Rachel is also a member of the mediation team in the firm's standalone mediation unit, SP Mediation.

Harnaek Rahania is an Associate at Sharpe Pritchard. He handles contentious claims and construction disputes in both the public sector and private sector.

Harnaek acts for a range of clients, which include local authorities, universities, property developers, charities, housing associations, building contractors, property management companies and professionals within the construction and property sectors.

He has experience advising on a range of contracts, which include JCT, NEC, PFI contracts and bespoke agreements; and has experience instructing and working alongside counsel and independent experts, which include mechanical and electrical experts, quantity surveyors, architects, and statisticians.

His experience includes acting in construction disputes through adjudications, mediations and claims in the Technology and Construction Court. Harnaek has acted on PFI disputes, advising on changes in the law, payment and valuation disputes, extension of time disputes, liquidated damages, and disputes regarding contractual obligations, contract interpretation and breaches of contract.

Public Inquiries

The need for Candour and Public Accountability

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA GOTOWEBINAR

10 July 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by DWF

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

It is increasingly being argued that the duty of candour is a now crucial legal requirement to promote an open and transparent culture in not just health and social care, but wider public and quasi public organisations. The Hillsborough Charter seeks to prioritize public interest over reputation and, whilst some may deem it to be comprehensive, a large part of it is voluntary. Do those organizations who have signed it really buy into it?

In this webinar our experts will discuss how The proposed Public Authority (Accountability) Bill ("the Bill") will enable victims to rely upon a statutory duty of candour on the part of public authorities and how it could create an offence if the duty is breached. As well as, how the needs for extended duty of candour are growing and it is likely that following the general election if Sir Keir Starmer has his way, a statutory duty could be incoming.

Suitable audience:

For professionals involved with public enquiries.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above

Interactive elements

Possible use of polls

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Simon Belfield, Partner is an experienced and highly recognised regulatory specialist who provides up-front investigation, compliance and procedural advice as well as crisis management support to regulatory bodies, organisations and individuals in this sector.

He specialises in maritime, health and safety and environmental regulatory investigations. He represents clients at inquests, inquiries and in all criminal forums.

Simon is a highly experienced and valued lawyer who specialises in regulatory matters acting for both investigators and corporates under investigation. He is recognised as an objective, determined and effective litigator, and for his technical nous and attention to detail when representing clients, whether they are individuals, companies or public bodies such as Maritime & Coastguard Agency.

Steffan Groch, Partner heads up DWF's national Regulatory team as well as leading the firm's 'go to market' sector expertise. He is also Chair of the UK Health and Safety Lawyers Association.

His specialist subject is crisis management, specifically dealing with the media and handling regulators following serious incidents. He works across the Construction/Infrastructure, Insurance, Road haulage, Food, Oil and Gas sectors providing expertise in health and safety regulation as well as compliance training and audits.

Steffan has been at DWF for 14 years and works on a national basis. In his role as Head of Regulatory he leads the firm's Crisis Response Service, which is designed to provide clients with a legal service incorporating media advice and employee well-being. This aims to protect clients' reputations when they are in the middle of a crisis situation.

Equal Pay Update

Equal Pay Considerations for Local Authorities

Level of course: Introductory / Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

17 July 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Geldards

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This webinar will look at the law in relation to equal pay, the different types of equal pay claims that can be brought, the key themes emerging from recent equal pay claims brought against Local Authorities and areas of vulnerability.

Suitable audience:

Legal, HR, Senior Leadership, Director/Manager Level.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Equal Pay, Job Evaluation, Contract of Employment, pay and grading, allowances.

Interactive elements

Case studies.

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Lowri Phillips, Partner and Head of Employment is an expert on equal pay having co-ordinated equal pay litigation on behalf of 17 Local Authorities and defended numerous clients in equal pay litigation. Lowri has significant experience in handling high value complex litigation and in advising public sector bodies on whistleblowing and discrimination claims.

Helen Snow, Partner with 18 years' experience and has built a reputation in public sector employment law. She consistently deals with matters on behalf of Local Authorities, and public bodies. Helen is particularly experienced in dealing with Chief Officer disciplinary and grievance processes, severance terms and special severance payments and also advises on complex contentious issues and has extensive experience in dealing with Local Authority equal pay claims.

TUPE Refresher

A session designed to refresh knowledge of TUPE and the tricky issues which can arise.

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

8 September 2025
12 noon - 1.30pm

Presented by Trowers & Hamlins

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This course will provide an overview of TUPE, who transfers and the liabilities that transfer with them. It will also cover what happens if a service is fragmented, information and consultation requirements, implementing redundancies and changing terms and conditions and the latest TUPE cases.

Suitable audience:

Individuals from People and Operations teams, in-house lawyers and those who deal with TUPE.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Business transfers and service provision changes
- Who transfers under TUPE?
- Which liabilities transfer?
- What happens if a service is fragmented?
- Information and consultation requirements
- How to implement redundancies
- Changing terms and conditions

Interactive elements

Quiz and case study

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Comments: This course will equip attendees with an understanding of how TUPE works, the pitfalls that may arise and how to deal with them.

Presenter profiles:

Rebecca McGuirk has specialised in employment law for 20 years. She is known for her down to earth and solution driven approach. Rebecca advises daily on the wide range of employment issues that arise. Rebecca acts for a wide range of clients including those in the public, private and third sector.

Rebecca loves employment law and speaks and writes regularly on a wide range of employment issues.

Laura Welchew specialises in all aspects of employment law acting for a wide range of public and private sector employers. Laura takes pride in working as business partner to her HR clients, and really getting to know the ins and outs of each business and its commercial goals as an employer.

Laura regularly acts for respondents in complex and valuable tribunal claims. Laura advises on all employee relations matters including disciplinary and grievance issues, sickness absence, capability issues, restructures and redundancies and employment contracts. Laura has particular experience of advising registered providers on governance compliant termination payments, various matters arising out of the Working Time Regulations such as sleep-ins and on call rotas and complex trade union issues including difficult consultation and de-recognition processes. Laura regularly assists clients on TUPE transactions, with particular focus on supporting the Public Sector department with local authority contracts.

Social Care Service Reform and Judicial Review

Expect the unexpected

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ON24

10 September 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Browne Jacobson

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

A case study based on a Judicial Review which was all about supporting a service's transition of its home care services into a new Care and Wellbeing Service, moving from provider competition to collaboration. To facilitate this there was to be Geographical alignment of support with 2-3 providers in each geographical area, operating as equal partners within multi-disciplinary and collaborative working arrangements across health and social care.

This plan led to a reduced number of providers, and inevitably some providers who didn't want it to happen

Suitable audience:

Social Work Managers involved in Adult and Children's Social Care Reform, Commissioning Managers

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Social Care Reform - how market shaping might leave local authorities open to challenge.

Interactive elements

Attendees will be asked to look at parallels in their own market shaping work, and spot who might wish to challenge the decision making, where the key risks are, and what can be done both to minimise those risks and address the inevitable challenges.

Competencies

This course will cover:

- A Ethics professionalism and judgement
- B6 Negotiation
- C Working with other people
- C1 Communicate clearly and effectively
- D Managing themselves and their own work

Presenter profiles:

Sarah Erwin-Jones is a partner at Browne Jacobson, specializing in social care. She is highly experienced in advising local authorities on the implementation of reforms in social work delivery. Sarah's expertise includes safeguarding against challenges by judicial review, demonstrating that legal frameworks are robust and compliant. Her proactive approach helps clients navigate complex legal landscapes effectively, making her a trusted advisor in the sector.

James Arrowsmith is a partner and leads Browne Jacobson's social care team which works with Local Government clients on a wide range of contentious and non-contentious work related to adult and children's services. He works closely with data, technology, procurement, commercial and other colleagues in relation to complex projects relating to health and care, to deliver holistic solutions to client requirements. James and his colleagues support children's and adult services legal teams with comprehensive legal services in relation to novel and complex issues, and in response to periods of high demand. Their delivery model is rooted in collaboration with in-house teams to maximise in-house solutions and support continuous improvement and, on occasion when things do go wrong, to help clients respond proactively and constructively so as to minimise the effect on the organisation.

Introduction to RIPA

Level of course: Introductory / Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

11 September 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Weightmans

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

The course will act as an introduction to RIPA. It will explain how the law works and give you all the information you need to make a RIPA application. It will give practical applications and introduce you to the Home Office guide. We will also look at discrete areas such as RIPA and social media. After attending the course you should be able to spot a RIPA issue, make a RIPA application and know where to look for the answer if a difficult issue arises.

Suitable audience:

Lawyers and officers involved in RIPA applications.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

As above

Interactive elements

None on this one.

Competencies

This course will cover:

- A Ethics professionalism and judgement
- B Technical legal practice
- B2 Legal research
- B4 Draft documents

Presenter profiles:

John Riddell is a Partner at Weightmans LLP. He has advised local authorities for the past 35 years. He has lectured on RIPA for many years and has advised many local authorities upon their RIPA policies.

He also advises many police forces and therefore has a wide knowledge of RIPA and surveillance and intelligence issues.

The Code of Practice for the Golden triangle (HoPS, CFO & MO)

Level of course: Intermediate/Advanced

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

16 September 2025

12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Bevan Brittan

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

The Code of Practice on Good Governance was developed jointly by LLG, SOLACE & CIPFA for Statutory Officers and was drafted by Philip McCourt of Bevan Brittan. At its launch the professional bodies described the Code as representing a huge step forward in defining the roles and responsibilities of those working within the golden triangle, the head of paid service, chief finance officer and monitoring officer and how the organisation interacts with them. The session offers an overview of the best practice principles for positive working arrangements within local authority and an opportunity to assess its impact one year on.

Suitable audience:

HoPS, CFO and MO

Anyone involved in Governance

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- What is the golden triangle?
- Defining the roles and responsibilities of those working within the golden triangle?
- The impact of the golden triangle

Interactive elements

Q&A / Poll.

Competencies

This course will cover:

- A Ethics professionalism and judgement
- B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Phil McCourt specialises in local authorities' corporate law and decision making. Phil joined his first local authority in 1988 as a trainee Chartered Secretary and then Solicitor. He was first made an authority's Monitoring Officer and a member of the senior management team in 2000. Since then Phil has acted on governance, standards and monitoring officer issues for a wide range of local authorities, combined authorities and central government through both consultancy and direct employment.

Biodiversity Net Gain and the creation of Habitat Banks

Helping local authorities create, use and sell their own Biodiversity Units

Level of course: Advanced

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

17 September 2025

12 noon - 1.15pm

Presented by Freeths

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This course will help attendees understand the mechanics of mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain and the opportunities available to local authorities to create their own Habitat Banks on land which they own. Doing this will enable local authorities to bring private sector investments into local nature recovery whilst also ensuring that there is sufficient supply of local Biodiversity Units for developers

Suitable audience:

Planners, Inhouse Lawyers, Inhouse Ecologists and others connected with the management of local authority land

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Biodiversity Net Gain and local nature recovery

Interactive elements

Polls / Q&A

Competencies

This course will cover:

- B Technical legal practice
- B4 Draft documents
- C Working with other people
- D Managing themselves and their own work

Presenter profiles:

Richard Broadbent was a solicitor at Natural England since 2010 and was the Head of Legal Services since 2017. Richard then joined Freeths LLP in January 2022 to support us in strengthening and developing further our already nationally recognised natural environment and natural capital legal practice.

Richard led on many of Natural England's high-profile litigation and enforcement cases and provided advice to Natural England's teams on the emergence of the Environment Act 2021 and Nature Recovery Green Paper. Richard is a highly distinguished environmental lawyer and has worked on a number of high-profile nationally significant infrastructure, planning and species licencing cases. These include nuclear power stations, offshore windfarms, port developments and HS2.

Richard trained at Collyer Bristow LLP in London and holds an LLM in Environmental Law from UCL. Richard was listed on the ENDS Power List of Environmental Lawyers in 2024.

Judicial Review – introduction to JR practice and procedure with practical tips

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

18 September 2025
12 noon – 1pm

Presented by Capsticks

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This webinar gives an introduction to judicial review for those new to law or just new to the subject. We will be covering practice and procedure in the Administrative Court, responding to pre-action letters, and the life of a case through all stages of judicial review.

Suitable audience:

Junior lawyers & senior lawyers or staff/decision makers new to JR

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Judicial review
- Practical tips
- How to respond to pre-action letters

Interactive elements

Q&A

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Anita Rao is a Principal Associate & practising barrister at Capsticks. She is a specialist in public law, and regularly deals with both non contentious and contentious matters in the sector, including judicial review proceedings.

Peter Edwards is a Partner at Capsticks. He has 30 years' experience of advising public sector organisations on their governance, legal powers and decision-making. During this time he has been involved in some of the most complex and sensitive public law cases in the area, and regularly deals with judicial review proceedings.

Holiday Pay Update

A legal update on the changes to holiday pay over the past 12 months and what they mean for employers

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

24 September 2025
12 noon – 1pm

Presented by Geldards

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This webinar will look at recent legal developments and changes to holiday pay, particularly the Government's reforms to holiday entitlement and holiday pay calculations and what they mean for employers.

Suitable audience:

It is relevant to anyone dealing with or advising in relation to calculating holiday entitlement or holiday pay or advising on holiday entitlement in general.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Working time
- Calculating a week's pay
- Holiday entitlement
- Holiday pay
- Government's reforms introduced in January 2024

Interactive elements

Q&A

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Helen Snow, Partner with 18 years' experience and has built a reputation in public sector employment law. She consistently deals with matters on behalf of Local Authorities, public bodies such as the National Museum of Wales, the Police and Crime Commissioners and Welsh Government. Helen is particularly experienced in dealing with Chief Officer disciplinary and grievance processes, severance terms and special severance payments and also advises on complex contentious issues including unlawful deductions from pay, holiday pay, whistleblowing, industrial action issues, varying terms and conditions of employment, employment status and collective redundancies.

Sue Jennings, Senior Associate in the Employment Team in the East Midlands with over 20 years' knowledge and experience of all aspects of employment law. Sue excels at providing clear, strategic and solution focused advice on complex HR matters with experience across both the private and public sector.

Subsidy Control

Managing effective processes and how public authorities should prepare for increased checks and audits

Level of course: Advanced

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA GOTOWEBINAR

25 September 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by DWF

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

The Labour Manifesto states that public authorities will be required to demonstrate "exemplary management of public money" in order to secure regeneration funding. This is expected to involve much more rigorous checks around compliance, including Subsidy Control.

To assist public authorities with preparing for this new regime, DWF Subsidy Control experts will provide a webinar focusing on common errors made in this area of law and explain how public authorities can introduce and manage effective processes and structures to demonstrate compliance with the Subsidy Control Act 2022, including the effective use of subsidy schemes when making multiple similar awards.

Suitable audience:

All those working in the public sector particularly those involved in subsidy.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above

Interactive elements

Possible use of polls

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Jonathan Branton is Head of EU/Competition at DWF and also leads the Government & Public Sector group.

He has been advising on EU/Competition issues for 25 years, much of which was spent living and working in the EU capital of Brussels. He is a dual qualified UK and Irish solicitor and now largely shares his time between the UK and Ireland. Jonathan advises in all aspects of EU and UK Competition law including restrictive agreements, abuse of dominant position, merger control etc, and is particularly well known for advising on all forms of State aid and public funding issues (including ESIF/ERDF, eRGF and many other funds) and public procurement.

Jonathan also has long experience in international trade defence and WTO law issues, and more recently has advised extensively on Brexit and related transformation issues between the UK and Ireland and the rest of the EU. He deals with various regulators on a regular basis, such as DG COMP, DG REGIO, the CMA and especially UK government departments such as DLUHC, DBEIS and DfT, and has successfully pleaded before the General (European) Court in Luxembourg.

Jonathan acts for a wide range of clients, from large scale manufacturing multi-nationals, through to central and local government bodies, mid-range corporates, universities and research organisations and a number of public sector institutions, funds and charities.

Alexander Rose is one of the UK's leading Public Funding lawyers, with an international reputation for his expertise in Subsidy Control, EU State aid law and grant funding programmes.

Alexander is a Partner in the Commercial and Competition team at DWF. He is a highly sought after expert in matters involving public funding, including Subsidy Control.

Alexander's expertise has been independently recognised by the Chambers Directory, Who's Who Legal and Legal 500. He also recently won a Lexology Client Choice Award for lawyers who stand out for their excellent client care - this prize is based upon votes cast by in-house lawyers and other clients.

Anatomy of a Commercial lease and High Street Rental Auctions

Level of course: Introductory / Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA TEAMS

30 September 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Sharpe Pritchard

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

Anatomy of a Commercial Lease and power of Local Authorities to hold letting auctions of vacant high street properties pursuant to Pt 10 Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023.

Suitable audience:

For junior/intermediate legal teams who work in these areas e.g. Council's property teams

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Main provisions of a Commercial Lease and power of Local Authorities to hold letting auctions of vacant high street properties pursuant to Pt 10 Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023.

Interactive elements

Q&A

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Gemma Duncan has extensive experience of all aspects of real estate transactions and specialises in large scale development and regeneration projects.

She works with a range of public and private sector clients on their commercial property portfolios including freehold and leasehold acquisitions and disposals, title due diligence, agreements for lease, licences and development agreements.

Gemma has particular expertise in advising local authorities on complex regeneration schemes from concept to completion. Her work involves advising clients on site assembly, routes to market, procurement of developer and drafting and negotiation of development documentation including development agreements, collaboration agreements, joint venture agreements, transfer and lease documentation and construction documentation and warranties

The Duty on employers to prevent sexual harassment

One year on

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

7 October 2025

12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Weightmans

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This will provide an overview of the duty that came into Force in October 2024, providing practice guidance and noting any developments that have taken place since its introducing.

Suitable audience:

Those involved in advising on employment law and with overall responsibility for legal compliance.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above.

Interactive elements

None given that the webinar is limited to an hour.

Competencies

This course will cover:

- A Ethics professionalism and judgement
- C Working with other people

Presenter profiles:

Victoria Duddles is both a qualified solicitor and Fellow of the CIPD. She has been specialising in employment law for 30 years and advises both public and private sector clients on all aspects of employment law including, in particular discrimination.

Ross Hutchison is a Principal Associate in the Employment, Pensions and Immigration team having qualified in 2009. Ross works extensively with private, charitable and public sector clients providing advice on both employment law and immigration law.

Disrepair

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

8 October 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Capsticks

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

Daniel Fitzpatrick will look at disrepair in detail, where he will explore:

- What constitutes Disrepair and relevant legislation
- What to look out for in surveyors reports
- Compliance with the Disrepair Protocol
- Tips on dealing with aggressive tenant representatives
- Tips on dealing with difficult tenants
- Defences to claims
- Calculating damages
- Impact of the Social Housing Regulator increased powers

Suitable audience:

Anyone working in local authorities or Housing

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above

Interactive elements

Questions

Competencies

This course will cover:

A Ethics professionalism and judgement
B Technical legal practice
B6 Negotiation

C Working with other people

C1 Communicate clearly and effectively

Presenter profiles:

Daniel Fitzpatrick is a Partner at Capsticks and he has over 20 years' experience in Housing and Public Law, specialising in Human Rights and Discrimination cases and leading large group actions. His expertise encompasses homelessness appeals, judicial review cases, discrimination, claims for disrepair, possession claims, unlawful evictions, and general landlord and tenant disputes.

Attorney General Guidelines

Review of the Attorney General Guidelines on Prosecutions and Disclosure

Level of course: Advanced

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA GOTOWEBINAR

9 October 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by DWF

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This webinar will provide key tips for prosecuting authorities and those involved in bringing and taking criminal prosecutions on how to conduct prosecutions in the current regime and deal with thorny issues such as disclosure to ensure successful results.

Suitable audience:

Prosecuting authorities and those involved in bringing and taking criminal prosecutions

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above

Interactive elements

Possible use of polls

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Mark Thompson, Director is a criminal defence specialist providing representation in relation to investigations and prosecutions by the Police, HSE and other regulatory bodies.

He has almost 20 years' experience representing clients in criminal investigations and prosecutions brought by the Police, HSE, trading standards and other regulatory bodies.

Mark regularly attends and advises upon PACE interviews and have considerable experience of Magistrates and Crown Court hearings.

His criminal law and regulatory experience has enabled him to provide sound advice on all areas of general and financial crime as well as an expertise in relation to Road Traffic Offences and Proceeds of Crime.

Jill Brookes, Senior Associate is a Solicitor Advocate with experience advising individuals, companies and executive and non-executive Government authorities in contentious and non-contentious regulatory matters, with a focus on health and safety, local authority and Maritime alleged infringements/breaches, fraud, cybercrime and fatalities. With an extensive background in prosecuting large scale multi handed conspiracies, complex fatalities and high gravity criminal matters, including fraud and organised crime.

Jill's career includes investigations/prosecutions for a number of prosecuting authorities, including the CPS, FCA, HSE, EA, LA's, and HMRC. And prosecuting on behalf of the MCA and LA's.

Preparing for PFI Expiry

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

14 October 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Geldards

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This webinar will consider the key issues to address when a PFI contract is due to expire and the legal and practical issues associated with these.

Suitable audience:

Officers who are involved with dealing with PFI contracts and the arrangements when they expire.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Key issues
- PFI contracts
- Future delivery of services

Interactive elements

The webinar will include opportunity for discussion about the issues.

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Clare Hardy advises local authorities on a range of public law matters, including legal issues relating to contracts.

Email attraction

How to write e-mails with good results

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ON24

15 October 2025

12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Browne Jacobson

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

- The six biggest email mistakes - do you make them?
- The three Ws (how to avoid info dumping)
- How to be more pragmatic and down to earth

Suitable audience:

Anyone who writes emails and wants a response first time!

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above.

Interactive elements

- Lots of discussion
- Interactive exercises / case studies

Competencies

This course will cover:

C1 Communicate clearly and effectively

Presenter profiles:

Chloe Cadman is the Design and Delivery Advisor in the Knowledge Management Department. With a law degree from the University of Nottingham, Chloe combines her love of the law and her passion for people in her role, helping people to thrive and develop throughout their career at Browne Jacobson.

Navigating the Interface Between Subsidy Control Law and the Public Procurement Rules

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

16 October 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Bevan Brittan

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

Although the subsidy control rules and the public procurement rules are two distinct regulatory regimes, they are closely interlinked and it pays for a public authority to take a holistic approach to compliance.

Suitable audience:

In - house legal
Project officers
Procurement officers

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Applying the two regimes in parallel
- The ways in which a compliant procurement exercise can help to demonstrate subsidy control compliance
- When running a public procurement exercise may not enough to avoid a subsidy
- The relevance of whether the parties are public or private in nature
- Factoring subsidy control and public procurement into project design

Interactive elements

Q&A
Polls - to be confirmed

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Bethan Lloyd specialises in public procurement law, subsidy control law and competition law. Bethan's clients include a wide variety of public bodies, including local authorities, government bodies, higher education institutions, housing associations and NHS bodies.

Monitoring Officer Update – Part 2

Level of course: Advanced

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

22 October 2025

12 noon – 1pm

Presented by Anthony Collins

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

Vires / Public Law Decision Making

Suitable audience:

MO/ DMO and governance lawyers

Overview and topics to be covered include:

This webinar will provide an update on current issues in the sector that affect governance.

It may cover new case law, legislation, ombudsman or public interest reports and guidance that focuses on good governance at your Council.

Interactive elements

Discussion forum

Competencies

This course will cover:

- B Technical legal practice
- C Working with other people
- D Managing themselves and their own work

Presenter profiles:

Claire Ward is a local government lawyer who after 20 years working for Herefordshire Council and Cumbria County Council moved to Anthony Collins.

She started her career in local government as an assistant solicitor. She has had many roles since then, moving into legal management and finishing her career as acting deputy chief executive.

She has extensive local government expertise as monitoring officer working with committees, cabinet and full council.

She now acts as a sounding board for local authorities and their companies nationwide, on local government law, constitution, decision making, standards and member/officer relationships.

Overview of the Heat Networks Regulations – legal issues for landlords and developers

Understanding the new regulatory regime for heat and considering the practical implications

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

23 October 2025
12 noon – 1pm

Presented by Trowers & Hamlins

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

The Heat Networks Regulations apply fully from January 2026, and are a step-change for the heat sector. This session will look at the new regulatory landscape, including the regulated "operator" and "supplier" roles, authorisation conditions and technical standards. This session will also consider the practical implications for new and existing developments, including procuring ESCOs and associated services, drafting for leases/tenancy agreements and navigating change in law under existing contracts.

Suitable audience:

Landlords, Asset Management teams, Development teams, Housing teams

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Heat Networks Regulations
- Landlord and Tenant
- Lease/tenancy agreement drafting
- Technical standards

Interactive elements

Case studies

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Chris Paul is the Head of Energy and Sustainability at Trowers & Hamlin LLP, and advises clients on a range of energy related projects, including utility connections, low-carbon heating, heat networks, renewable energy, EV charging infrastructure, microgrids and decarbonisation/retrofit. He advises on grant funded retrofit programmes, and is at the forefront of developments in the financed retrofit space (including advising on 'comfort charge' and 'energy-as-a-service' models). Chris works with a range of clients including developers, local authorities, registered providers, funders and operators/service providers.

Diana Lupa is an Associate in Trowers & Hamlin's Energy and Sustainability department. She advises private developers, registered providers and local authorities on energy-related infrastructure projects such as district heating, renewables, utility connections and public funding for retrofit and energy efficiency works.

Whistleblowing and Culture

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA GOTOWEBINAR

4 November 2025

12 noon - 1pm

Presented by DWF

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

Whistleblowing claims are on the rise and whilst many employers are keen to root out unethical behaviour the correct processes are not always in place. Watch our latest webinar.

Suitable audience:

HR Professionals, those managing teams or in managerial positions

Overview and topics to be covered include:

During this webinar we consider:

- How employers can foster a positive workplace culture and minimise the risk of incidents occurring in the first place.
- How to handle a whistleblowing complaint should it occur, including how to conduct a thorough investigation.
- Post-incident learning and actions.

Whistleblowing complaints are notoriously complex and investigations are rarely straightforward, we will set out the legal parameters from both an employment law and regulatory perspective. We will provide insight into regulatory compliance and the importance of legal privilege when handling a whistleblowing investigation.

Throughout the webinar we highlight the importance of a supportive workplace culture which allows concerns to be appropriately raised and addressed for the benefit of the whole organisation.

Interactive elements

Possible use of polls

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Kate Meadowcroft – as a Partner in the Employment team Kate provides clear, robust advice to private and public multi-site organisations on a wide range of employment law matters.

Kate is known for her delivery of innovative training to HR specialists and senior management teams.

Her approach is to partner with clients, providing sound commercial advice to resolve HR issues whether contentious or non-contentious. She works within a variety of sectors, and has considerable expertise in large scale restructuring projects and whole scale changes to terms and conditions, providing support throughout the project to both HR and senior management.

Molly Fellows

Molly Fellows is a dedicated and accomplished solicitor at DWF Law LLP, based in Birmingham. Molly is an active member of the DWF Global Young Professionals Network and has a strong commitment to diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

Molly has chaired significant events, such as a webinar on diversity and inclusion, where she emphasised the importance of open conversations to drive change and inspire action. Her leadership and insights have contributed to fostering a more inclusive and equitable work environment.

In her role at DWF, Molly continues to advocate for inclusive practices and supports initiatives that promote diversity within the legal profession. Her dedication to these values makes her a respected and influential figure in her field.

Governance update

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

5 November 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Capsticks

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This session will provide a high-level update on Governance and what local authorities need to consider for 2026 taking account of the progress of devolution and local government reorganisation.

Suitable audience:

Anyone working in local authorities

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Latest position on devolution and reorganisation
- Recent cases on vires, powers and consultation
- What's coming up for 2026

Interactive elements

Presentation slides and poll

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Tiffany Cloynes, Partner and Head of Local Government has an excellent reputation and substantial experience of acting on large scale, complex transformation projects and is recognised as a leader in her field by clients and the legal press. Underpinning this experience is extensive knowledge and practical experience of public and administrative law.

Tiffany regularly advises on structuring, governance, best value, vires, procurement and subsidy control. She also has extensive experience of drafting and negotiating collaboration agreements,

development agreements, funding agreements, service contracts, management agreements and FM contracts.

Tiffany's practical experience enables her to manage projects effectively as well as identifying solutions to potential issues arising and supporting her clients throughout their projects enabling them to progress as smoothly as possible.

Rebecca Gilbert is an experienced public sector projects solicitor advising local authorities and other public sector clients on a variety of complex and multi-disciplinary projects ranging from regeneration and development, infrastructure, energy, alternative delivery models, joint ventures, collaborations, funding arrangements and service arrangements.

She regularly advises public sector clients on public and administrative law including structuring, governance, best value, vires, procurement and subsidy control as well as drafting negotiating a range of contractual and property documents.

Anita Roo is a Principal Associate at Capsticks, who specialises in healthcare advisory law, on a wide range of matters including contentious and non-contentious public law matters, commissioning responsibilities and disputes, NHS service reconfiguration, matters involving the Mental Capacity Act and Mental Health Act, and inquests.

Sharon Bridglalsingh from Milton Keynes City Council will be co-presenting this session.

Procurement Law Update

Update on the impact, in practice, of the Procurement Act 2023

Level of course: Advanced

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

6 November 2025

12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Freeths

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

A legal update on the implementation and adoption of the Procurement Act 2023

Suitable audience:

Lawyers, procurement officers and others in the public sector that are involved in procuring works, services and supplies

Overview and topics to be covered include:

This session aims to take a backward-looking view of the implementation of the Procurement Act 2023 picking out key areas of legal uncertainty that have arisen in practice and how these issues have been overcome.

Interactive elements

Q&A

Competencies

This course will cover:

- B Technical legal practice
- C Working with other people

Presenter profiles:

Nathan Holden - Freeths LLP, is a partner and Head of the Freeths' Local Government practice with over 30 years' experience of advising local authorities and other public sector clients on procurement issues, from assisting in supporting major procurement processes to advising and defending legal challenges.

Childcare: Case Law Update for Local Authorities

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

11 November 2025

12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Weightmans

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

A review of the latest developments in Public Law proceedings

Suitable audience:

Lawyers involved advising Children's Services

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Case Law overview

Interactive elements

Q&A

Competencies

This course will cover:

A Ethics professionalism and judgement

B Technical legal practice

B2 Legal research

C Working with other people

C1 Communicate clearly and effectively

Presenter profiles:

Marion joined Weightmans in March 2021 and leads the Regulatory, Social Care & Governance Team

Marion has over 25 years' experience specialising in Public Law children matters including Age Assessment advice and Judicial Review challenges arising from Age Assessments

Marion worked as a Senior Solicitor working in-house for Local Authority Legal Teams, managing the Safeguarding Legal team, providing Panel advice and continuing to manage a case load with an emphasis on childcare matters.

AI in Local Government – Part 1

The new knowledge and skills to navigate AI projects to success

Level of course: Introductory / Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ON24

12 November 2025

12 noon – 2pm

Presented by Browne Jacobson

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

With artificial intelligence (AI) rapidly transforming public sector operations, it's crucial for local government officials and stakeholders to stay abreast of these changes. This introductory program aims to equip participants with an understanding the range of AI applications that are developing, the particular features of AI use in a range of contexts and the ethical considerations, and legal frameworks relevant to AI within the local government context.

Session 1 will provide an overview of the AI landscape, both in terms of the areas in which AI is finding applications and the legal and regulatory landscape in which it operates. It will include case studies to bring out challenges and success factors and provide insight into the opportunities and barriers to AI.

Suitable audience:

Legal team & colleagues who may work in AI projects

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Insight into AI use cases
- experience of AI in the sector to date
- Legislative & regulatory frameworks
- Relevant guidance
- Data & privacy considerations
- Ethical deployment of AI
- Strategies for legal teams to support successful AI project delivery

Interactive elements

Each session will include interactive elements, in particular snap polls to explore issue such as AI readiness and areas of concern/excitement. Opportunities will be included for discussion and exploration of case studies, with use of breakout rooms and shared spaces to document views and ideas.

Competencies

This course will cover:

- A Ethics professionalism and judgement
- B Technical legal practice
- C Working with other people

Presenter profiles:

Richard Nicholas heads up the data, digital and sourcing teams in Birmingham. Recognised as a leading expert in technology law by Legal 500 and in Chambers and Partners, Richard advises on an array of matters including AI projects, data protection and technology procurement. Richard holds professional qualifications in AI Governance and in Data privacy from the IAPP. These are the AIGP (AI Governance Professional) and CIPPE (Certified Information Privacy Professional/Europe)

Anja Beriro is a partner in Browne Jacobson's government and infrastructure team and is a trusted advisor to numerous public sector clients. Anja is recognised for her experience in public procurement (litigious and non-litigious), outsourcing arrangements, complex governance structures, alternative service delivery models, and joint working between health and local government. She is noted for her work with central and local government clients in relation to complex IT projects.

James Arrowsmith is a partner and leads Browne Jacobson's social care team which works with Local Government clients on a wide range of contentious and non-contentious work related to adult and children's services. He works closely with data, technology, procurement, commercial and other colleagues in relation to complex projects relating to health and care, to deliver holistic solutions to client requirements.

Overage – an overview

Level of course: Introductory / Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

13 November 2025
12 noon – 12.45pm

Presented by Anthony Collins

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

- What is Overage
- The essentials of an overage clause (the overage period, the “triggers”, calculating the overage payment, single or multiple payments and securing the overage payments).
- Defining the “trigger” event(s) (planning permission, sales, commencement of development).
- What is “planning permission” and should it be defined.
- Creating formulae to calculate the overage payment(s).
- Pitfalls to avoid when drafting.

Suitable audience:

Estates Officers and in-house Counsel that deal with development and regeneration and are responsible for structuring acquisitions and preparing heads of terms.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Planning, highways and environmental.

Interactive elements

Case studies

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice
B4 Draft documents
B6 Negotiation

Presenter profiles:

Raj Flora-Seehra is a senior associate in the local government real estate team. She is an experienced property development lawyer who advises public sector clients on a broad range of property disposals, the redevelopment and/or regeneration of existing stock and longer-term strategic land projects.

Hayfa Tejani is a solicitor in the local government real estate team. Hayfa advises public sector clients on a broad range of property disposals, redevelopment and/or regeneration of existing stock and longer-term strategic land projects. She also supports public sector clients with the management of their portfolios and deals with Leases, Licence for Alterations, Consents, Licences, 1954 Act matters and Tenancies at Will.

AI in Local Government – Part 2

The new knowledge and skills to navigate AI projects to success

Level of course: Introductory / Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ON24

19 November 2025

12 noon – 2pm

Presented by Browne Jacobson

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

With artificial intelligence (AI) rapidly transforming public sector operations, it's crucial for local government officials and stakeholders to stay abreast of these changes. This introductory program aims to equip participants with an understanding the range of AI applications that are developing, the particular features of AI use in a range of contexts and the ethical considerations, and legal frameworks relevant to AI within the local government context.

Session 2 will take a deeper dive through a selected case study or studies. These will be determined nearer the time, based on the latest developments in the area, but will be selected in order to pose questions and challenges that are expected to be seen across AI implementations. It will round off with practical guidance on how to approach involvement in an AI project to maximise prospects of successful delivery.

Suitable audience:

Legal team & colleagues who may work in AI projects

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Insight into AI use cases
- experience of AI in the sector to date
- Legislative & regulatory frameworks
- Relevant guidance
- Data & privacy considerations
- Ethical deployment of AI
- Strategies for legal teams to support successful AI project delivery

Interactive elements

Each session will include interactive elements, in particular snap polls to explore issue such as AI readiness and areas of concern/excitement. Opportunities will be included for discussion and exploration of case studies, with use of breakout rooms and shared spaces to document views and ideas.

Competencies

This course will cover:

- A Ethics professionalism and judgement
- B Technical legal practice
- C Working with other people

Presenter profiles:

Richard Nicholas heads up the data, digital and sourcing teams in Birmingham. Recognised as a leading expert in technology law by Legal 500 and in Chambers and Partners, Richard advises on an array of matters including AI projects, data protection and technology procurement. Richard holds professional qualifications in AI Governance and in Data privacy from the IAPP. These are the AIGP (AI Governance Professional) and CIPPE (Certified Information Privacy Professional/Europe)

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Leadership, Management and Supervision

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

20 November 2025

12 noon - 2pm

Presented by Trowers & Hamlins

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This course will look at how to effectively lead, manage and supervise others.

Suitable audience:

Aimed at people with management responsibilities.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Leadership, supervision and management
- Developing your leadership brand
- Knowing your team members and adapting your style
- The supervision cycle
- Motivating team members
- Effective delegation
- Feedback and appraisals
- Coaching

Interactive elements

Open discussion, breakout rooms and will use Mentimeter (interactive online tool).

Competencies

This course will cover:

C Working with other people

C1 Communicate clearly and effectively

Presenter profiles:

John Worrall is the Head of Learning & Development at Trowers & Hamlin and has been working at the firm for nearly 10 years. John is a former Banking & Finance Lawyer.

Schools' PFI Agreements Expiry – planning for expiry and handback

Planning for expiry and handback in PFI Agreements

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA TEAMS

25 November 2025
12 noon – 1pm

Presented by Sharpe Pritchard

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This session will cover the essential, practical points to think about when preparing for the expiry of a School's PFI agreement.

Suitable audience:

Local authority lawyers who may need to deal with school PFI expiry, and other officers managing school PFI agreements.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- A review of the document suite and a more in-depth consideration of the relevant provisions in the Project Agreement.
- A discussion of the process leading up to and beyond handback.
- Appropriate planning for handback and necessary timescales.

Interactive elements

We would encourage participants to share their authority's own experiences in a discussion.

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice
B4 Draft documents
B6 Negotiation
C Working with other people
C1 Communicate clearly and effectively
D Managing themselves and their own work

Presenter profiles:

Catherine Newman is a partner, specialising in procurement and commercial contracts. She trained and then spent 15 years as a local government solicitor before joining Sharpe Pritchard in 2010. Whilst in-house Catherine advised on Cambridgeshire County Council's BSF Project. She now regularly advises local authorities on education PFI matters, including issues arising on preparation for handback.

David Owens is a partner in Sharpe Pritchard's construction team, and a specialist in construction and PFI dispute resolution. David regularly acts for local authorities in PFI disputes with their Project Co.s, including disputes arising from the PFI expiry and handback process.

Introduction to the Local Government Pension Scheme

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

2 December 2025

12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Anthony Collins

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

An introduction to the Local Government Pension Scheme including:

- What it is
- Who it covers
- What the employer's role is
- Discretionary benefits
- Early retirement
- Managing disputes

Suitable audience:

HR Managers and advisers

Employment lawyers

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Employment.

Interactive elements

Quiz

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Doug Mullen heads up our pensions work and regularly advises local authorities on the LGPS. He is a member of the Association of Pension Lawyer's Public Sector Committee and leads Anthony Collins' relationship with the National Local Government Pension Scheme Framework.

Microsoft Word Training for Lawyers

Level of course: Introductory / Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

3 December 2025

12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Freeths

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

- Bullets & Numbering
- Track Changes
- Comparing & Combining

Suitable audience:

Lawyers who format their own documents using Microsoft Word

Overview and topics to be covered include:

This training presentation will be delivered by video conferencing covering the subjects listed below. It will be delivered by an experienced Digital Skills Specialist.

Bullets and Numbering

- Working with Single Level Bullets and Numbering
- Working with Outline Numbering
- Promoting and Demoting Text
- Starting and Stopping Numbering
- Editing Bullets, Numbering and Outline Numbering

Track Changes

- Turning Track Changes On/Off
- Tracking Documents
- Displaying and Printing Track Changes
- E-Mailing Tracked Documents
- Working with More Than One Author / Colour

- Finding Changes
- Accepting and Rejecting Changes Manually
- Accepting and Rejecting Changes Automatically

Comparing & Combining

- Comparing Documents
- Combining Documents

Interactive elements

Q&A at the end of the training presentation via chat.

Competencies

This course will cover:

IT Skills

Presenter profiles:

Amanda Grattan has been designing and delivering IT training courses to Lawyers for 30 years. She has experience of law firms working practices, terminology and compliance standards so courses are always tailored to the needs of the practice/department. Amanda knows what Lawyers require from Microsoft Office and Legal Applications.

Planning Law Update

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA GOTOWEBINAR

4 December 2025
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by DWF

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

Join us for an insightful event where we delve into the latest developments and changes in planning law. This session will provide a comprehensive overview of recent legislative updates, key case law, and emerging trends that are shaping the planning landscape. Our expert speakers will share their knowledge and practical insights, helping you navigate the complexities of planning regulations and policies. Whether you are a seasoned professional or new to the field, this event will equip you with the essential information and tools to stay ahead in the ever-evolving world of planning law.

Suitable audience:

Legal professionals, planners, developers, real estate developers and construction professionals who must navigate planning regulations, government officials, consultants, and interested individuals.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above

Interactive elements

Possible use of polls

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

John Webster is a Partner in DWF's National Planning team and has over 15 years of experience advising on planning law.

John advises on the full extent of the statutory consenting and land assembly processes. He specialises in large-scale commercial and residential development, regeneration schemes and energy projects. This includes acting for national developers, infrastructure operators, investors, funds and government bodies.

He has significant experience advising on the promotion of major infrastructure development (DCOs) and compulsory purchase orders (CPOs). This includes protecting clients' assets through negotiation of complex settlement agreements and securing compulsory purchase compensation where land has been acquired compulsorily.

He has particular experience in promoting development projects in London including mixed-use schemes, tall buildings, build-to-rent developments and urban logistics. John has extensive experience in advising clients in relation to Judicial Review, Legal Challenges and Planning Appeals.

Catherine Knight is a Legal Director at DWF, based in London. She specialises in planning law, with a particular focus on regeneration and infrastructure projects. Catherine joined DWF in July 2024, bringing extensive experience and expertise in delivering complex projects. Her role involves advising clients on various aspects of planning and compulsory purchase, helping to navigate the legal landscape and achieve successful outcomes. Catherine is known for her strategic approach and her ability to manage large-scale developments effectively.

Introduction to Section 106 Agreements

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

9 December 2025

12 noon - 1.15pm

Presented by Geldards

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

The course will offer an introduction to section 106 planning obligations, covering both the legal requirements and practical issues to be considered.

Suitable audience:

In-house lawyers with no or limited experience of s.106 planning obligations. Planning, highways and housing officers

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- the statutory requirements for a valid planning obligation
- government policy and guidance;
- key considerations when drafting substantive obligations;
- practical tips;
- compliance with Regulation 122 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010

Interactive elements

Case Studies

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice
B4 Draft documents
B6 Negotiation

C1 Communicate clearly and effectively

Presenter profiles:

Charles Felgate is an experienced planning and environmental lawyer, who provides advice to both public and private sector clients. Charles regularly participates in planning and enforcement appeals, call-ins and related matters. He has recently acted on a minerals planning application recovered appeal and associated commons application, and prior to that was engaged on a yearlong public inquiry into the statutory orders for the proposed M4 motorway corridor around Newport, South Wales. He also has significant non-contentious experience, delivering section 106 agreements and other infrastructure agreements. He previously completed a s.106 agreement to deliver a residential development of 2,300 plus homes on the site of the former Drakelow Park Power Station, near Burton upon Trent, on behalf of South Derbyshire District Council. Charles also has significant judicial review and statutory challenge experience with numerous notable successes in the Administrative and Planning Courts to his credit.

Tomos Phillips has significant knowledge and experience in planning, environmental, compulsory purchase and highways law. He is experienced in negotiating major section 106 obligations for local planning authorities, landowners and developers. He recently acted for the local planning authorities on the drafting and negotiation of complex s.106 agreements relating to a development of 1,050 houses on the site of the former Gedling Colliery and a development of up to 1,100 houses and other ancillary development in South Derbyshire. He has also advised the Welsh Ministers on section 106 obligations submitted during planning appeals and has experience of negotiating s.106 agreements for other types of development such as wind farms. Tomos is also experienced in all other aspects of planning law and has also advised clients on the interplay between equality and human rights legislation and listed building legislation. He also provides strategic advice on matters ranging from emerging local plans and the 'duty to co-operate', to the interpretation of CIL legislation and the adoption of charging schedules.

Gareth Aubrey is an Associate specialising in planning, environmental, highways and compulsory purchase law. He regularly acts for local authorities, landowners and developers drafting and negotiating complex section 106 planning obligations and has been heavily involved in the negotiation of highway works and adoption agreements, including managing multiple agreements across strategic housing sites for developer clients and acting on wide portfolios of agreements for local highway authorities. Gareth advises on all aspects of planning and highways law, with particular experience in community infrastructure levy, neighbourhood planning, public rights of way and enforcement. He has been involved in all stages of the planning process, including planning appeals and judicial review claims in the High Court.

The (Dirty) Secrets of Waste Contracts

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

10 December 2025

12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Trowers & Hamlin

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

Session to help local authorities get the best out of their waste collection and disposal procurements in the context of uncertain environmental legislation.

Suitable audience:

- Monitoring Officers / s151 Officers
- In-House Legal
- Procurement Officers
- Waste Services Officer

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Procurement processes
- Waste sector commercial realities
- Anatomy of a Waste Services Contract
- Preparing for exit from long-term contracts

Interactive elements

Q&A, case study.

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice
B4 Draft documents

B6 Negotiation

Presenter profiles:

Louis Sebastian - Partner - Public Sector Commercial and Governance is a procurement and contracts specialist who also has in-depth knowledge of public sector governance processes and vires matters. Having worked in-house as deputy monitoring officer at a local authority, he has first-hand experience of council constitutions, establishing and restructuring council committees and ensuring proper decision-making processes are implemented and followed. He has also advised on defending procurement and other public law challenges.

Amardeep Gill - Partner - Public Sector Commercial and Governance advises local and central government on transformation or business critical projects and is nationally ranked as an expert in this field (Chambers UK). Amardeep has extensive experience across a range of sectors including digital technology, leisure, transport, education, outsourcing, leisure and waste. He advises on joint ventures, public/private partnerships, complex supply chain arrangements, regulatory matters and large-scale procurement exercises.

Green Leases

The modernisation of leases under statutory 1954 Act lease renewals.

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

11 December 2025

12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Weightmans

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

The course will look at the trend towards 'green leases', will examine typical clauses found in 'green leases' and will cover the way in which the courts will deal with requests to change existing lease drafting on a 1954 Act lease renewal.

Suitable audience:

Property managers, management and agency surveyors, lawyers undertaking landlord and tenant work.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Lease negotiation and drafting

Interactive elements

We will invite participants to share their own experiences.

Competencies

This course will cover:

- A Ethics professionalism and judgement
- B Technical legal practice
- B4 Draft documents
- B6 Negotiation
- C Working with other people
- C1 Communicate clearly and effectively
- D Managing themselves and their own work

Presenter profiles:

Peter Hall is a specialist property litigator who advises developers, occupiers and investors in both the public and private sectors on all manner of contentious issues involving property. He has expertise in commercial landlord and tenant disputes.

Nick Barker is a specialist environmental and sustainability lawyer. In addition to having advised clients upon the use of green clauses in leases since their early inception, Nick's more recent experience supporting clients with all aspects of their sustainability strategies including the preparation of carbon reduction plans, use of specific initiatives to reduce carbon in infrastructure and general advice upon sustainability reporting and disclosures provides him with unique insights on this topic.

Public health procurement under the Provider Selection Regime

Public health procurement under the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023 including dealing with representations (challenges) during the standstill period

Level of course: Advanced

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ON24

17 December 2025

12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Browne Jacobson

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This training explains when the Provider Selection Regime will apply, as it is carved out of the Procurement Act 2023 in respect of public health services (such as smoking, alcohol and drug services, weight loss, health visitors, sexual health, dementia, mental health). This session provides an overview of the procurement processes under the Provider Selection Regime and the steps required in the event of a “representation” (challenge) by an unhappy provider. This session will address how to review and respond to any representation received, what will happen in the event that the supplier refers the procurement to the Independent Patient Choice and Procurement Panel and summarises the Panel decisions to date. This session will also outline the consequences of an adverse Panel decision.

Suitable audience:

Legal, procurement and public health commissioners

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above.

Interactive elements

This session will include case studies and practical scenarios in which attendees will be invited to work out which procurement process is appropriate and what to do in an example of a challenge.

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Louise Bennett is a principal associate in our government and infrastructure team. Louise specialises in high-value transactional matters with a particular focus on public procurement, including procurement litigation. In addition, she has provided advice on a variety of public sector issues, including governance arrangements and other commercial arrangements, including outsourcing agreements and development agreements.

Development constraints, development structures, joint ventures and collaborations

Level of course: Advanced

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

14 January 2026
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Capsticks

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This session will provide a practical guide on development structure and identifying and dealing with hidden legal issues that can hinder or delay development projects.

Suitable audience:

Anyone working in local authorities

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Development structures including development agreements, joint ventures and collaborations
- Tips on spotting development constraints including restrictive covenants, boundary issues such as encroachment and adverse possession, prescriptive easements and Japanese knotweed
- Practical solutions for overcoming issues

Interactive elements

Presentation slides and poll

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Tiffany Cloynes, Partner and Head of Local Government has an excellent reputation and substantial experience of acting on large scale, complex transformation projects and is recognised as a leader in her field by clients and the legal press. Underpinning this experience is extensive knowledge and practical experience of public and administrative law.

Tiffany regularly advises on development agreements, joint ventures and collaboration arrangements including advice on structuring, governance, vires, procurement and subsidy control. She also has extensive experience of drafting and negotiating collaboration agreements, development agreements, funding agreements, service contracts, management agreements and FM contracts.

Tiffany's practical experience enables her to manage projects effectively as well as identifying solutions to potential issues arising and supporting her clients throughout their projects enabling them to progress as smoothly as possible.

Rebecca Gilbert is an experienced public sector projects solicitor advising local authorities and other public sector clients on a variety of complex and multi-disciplinary projects ranging from regeneration and development, infrastructure, energy, alternative delivery models, joint ventures, collaborations, funding arrangements and service arrangements.

She regularly advises public sector clients on development agreements; corporate and collaborative structures; joint ventures; options appraisals; governance arrangements; funding agreements, service contracts and other commercial agreements; procurement and vires.

Vicki Moore is an experienced property solicitor providing support to local authority, other public sector and charity clients on a wide range of commercial property transactions and development projects.

Vicki's work includes dealing with the acquisition, disposal and development of sites for residential, mixed use and commercial development together with major infrastructure projects, negotiating commercial leases and general landlord and tenant law. Vicki has led many large-scale projects, including PPP and PFI projects, capital development projects and mergers and acquisitions. She has also advised central government bodies on the development of standard occupancy documentation and estates policies.

Abi Condry specialises in property-related disputes and contentious matters for local authority and other public sector clients.

Abi has extensive experience of advising in relation to possession claims, rights of way, rights to light, party wall disputes, boundary disputes, release of restrictive covenants and removal of barriers to development.

Being Menopause Inclusive

Including employment aspects of menopause

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA GOTOWEBINAR

15 January 2026

12 noon - 1pm

Presented by DWF

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This webinar will explore how employers can be menopause inclusive. A lack of awareness and support can lead to a loss of a key talent pool within organisations. We will also consider the legal impact of the menopause, including the risk of employment tribunal claims and the steps employers can take to reduce that risk.

Suitable audience:

Suitable for all

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above

Interactive elements

Possible use of polls

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Tamsin McCarthy is the Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Manager at DWF, a global legal business. In her role, Tamsin is responsible for implementing DWF's diversity and inclusion strategy on a global scale. She is dedicated to creating a diverse and inclusive environment that reflects the clients and communities DWF

serves, ensuring that all colleagues feel they can be themselves regardless of their background or characteristics.

Tamsin's work involves collaborating with senior leaders and diversity champions across different countries to develop and implement actions that promote diversity and inclusion throughout the organisation. She also uses data to identify issues, remove barriers, and track progress to ensure the achievement of DWF's D&I goals.

Under her leadership, DWF has established five diversity and inclusion employee networks covering gender, race, disability, LGBTQ+, and mental health. These networks support colleagues, empower allies, and celebrate diversity and inclusion events.

Tamsin's commitment to diversity and inclusion extends beyond DWF, as she actively collaborates with clients and stakeholders to share best practices and foster innovation through diverse perspectives.

Introduction to the Leasehold and Freehold Reform Act 2024

Level of course: Introductory / Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA TEAMS

20 January 2026
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Sharpe Pritchard

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

An introduction to and an overview of the key elements of the Leasehold and Freehold Reform Act 2024.

Suitable audience:

For junior/intermediate legal teams who work in these areas e.g. Council's property teams

Overview and topics to be covered include:

An introduction to and an overview of the key elements of the Leasehold and Freehold Reform Act 2024.

Interactive elements

Q&A

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Gemma Duncan has extensive experience of all aspects of real estate transactions and specialises in large scale development and regeneration projects.

She works with a range of public and private sector clients on their commercial property portfolios including freehold and leasehold acquisitions and disposals, title due diligence, agreements for lease, licences and development agreements.

Gemma has particular expertise in advising local authorities on complex regeneration schemes from concept to completion. Her work involves advising clients on site assembly, routes to market, procurement of developer and drafting and negotiation of development documentation including development agreements, collaboration agreements, joint venture agreements, transfer and lease documentation and construction documentation and warranties.

Construction, Regeneration and Maintenance: JCT 24 suite review

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

21 January 2026
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Anthony Collins

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This course will cover how to use the JCT 24 suite of contracts for everything from development, regeneration and maintenance including reviewing the updates to JCT24. We will cover construction insurances, contract particulars and the need for a schedule of amendments.

Suitable audience:

Officers and Assistant Directors dealing with asset management, development, infrastructure, regeneration, Legal Officers

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Construction insurances, contract particulars and the need for a schedule of amendments.

Interactive elements

Polls.

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice
B4 Draft documents
B6 Negotiation

Presenter profiles:

Richard Brooks is the team leader for Construction and Infrastructure, supporting local authorities with procurement and contracts related to regeneration, investment and maintenance activities.

Helen Thompson is a legal director with considerable experience of all construction suites. She has advised local authorities on works contracts from major new roads to school maintenance.

Making and Promoting Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs)

From the start of the process to confirmation and implementation of the Order

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

22 January 2026

12 noon - 1.15pm

Presented by Freeths

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

A summary of the key issues from commencement to implementation of a CPO

Suitable audience:

Lawyers, surveyors, regeneration officers and any other disciplines involved in making and promoting compulsory purchase orders

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Availability and selection of the correct power
- What can you acquire?
- CPO as a last resort
- Compelling case in the public interest - impact of Human Rights and the Equality duty
- Decision-making process
- Do you always need to CPO?
- Impediments - do we need planning permission?
- Impediments - stopping up order?
- Implementation - GVD or Notice to Treat/Entry

Interactive elements

Q&A

Competencies

This course will cover:

- B Technical legal practice
- B4 Draft documents
- B6 Negotiation
- C1 Communicate clearly and effectively

Presenter profiles:

Nathan Holden - Partner, Freeths LLP is a Partner and Head of the Freeths' local government practice and member of the Compulsory Purchase Association with over 25 years' experience of advising on making and promoting CPOs. Nathan's recent experience includes advising on the promotion of a major CPO for a new housing scheme in the East Midlands and a new district centre in Yorkshire.

Cybersecurity for Lawyers – an overview

Key issues for legal teams responsible for, or contributing to, cybersecurity strategy within organisations

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

27 January 2026
12 noon – 1pm

Presented by Bevan Brittan

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

In today's digital age, cybersecurity is a critical concern for all organisations, but is often thought of as an "IT issue". This webinar will provide lawyers with an understanding of the wider regulatory landscape around cybersecurity, with a focus on the role that the legal team plays in helping to meet those obligations. Key topics include:

- Understanding the requirements for technical and organisational measures under the UK GDPR
- Looking at areas of risk relevant to the legal team
- The role of the legal team in risk assessments and implementation of security measures
- Legal obligations related to data protection and breach notification

Suitable audience:

Local Authorities
In-house legal
LA practitioners

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above.

Interactive elements

To be confirmed.

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Vicki Bowles is head of the Information Law and Privacy team at Bevan Brittan, having spent over two decades in information law. Starting as a lawyer in the government legal service, Vicki worked for HMRC and the Charity Commission before working as a charity and information lawyer in private practice. With the implementation of the EU GDPR, Vicki's information law practice grew, and she focussed full time on all aspects of information and privacy law. Vicki works with a variety of clients in the public and private sectors on complex information law issues, including where strategic input is required to ensure compliance is balanced effectively with operational realities.

Religion and Belief – managing conflicts in the workplace

A session designed to raise awareness of competing rights and how to balance them within the workplace.

Level of course: Introductory

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

28 January 2026

12 noon – 1pm

Presented by Trowers & Hamlin

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

The session will cover how to balance competing rights within the workplace, and how best to manage the rights of individuals to hold and express views while ensuring that they do not result in the discrimination or harassment of others. We cover how balancing competing beliefs can be risky with real and recent case examples.

Suitable audience:

All.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- An overview of protection on the grounds of religion and belief
- Case law on beliefs in the workplace
- Tips for resolving conflicts
- Measures to put in place
- Deciding when to take action to prevent or rectify conflict in the workplace

Interactive elements

Quizzes and case studies

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Comments: This course will equip attendees with an understanding of protected beliefs, the existing body of case law in the area, and how to deal with any conflicts which arise within the workplace.

Presenter profiles:

Rebecca McGuirk has specialised in employment law for 20 years. She is known for her down to earth and solution driven approach. Rebecca advises daily on the wide range of employment issues that arise. Rebecca acts for a wide range of clients including those in the public, private and third sector.

Rebecca loves employment law and speaks and writes regularly on a wide range of employment issues.

Laura Welchew specialises in all aspects of employment law acting for a wide range of public and private sector employers. Laura takes pride in working as business partner to her HR clients, and really getting to know the ins and outs of each business and its commercial goals as an employer.

Laura regularly acts for respondents in complex and valuable tribunal claims. Laura advises on all employee relations matters including disciplinary and grievance issues, sickness absence, capability issues, restructures and redundancies and employment contracts. Laura has particular experience of advising registered providers on governance compliant termination payments, various matters arising out of the Working Time Regulations such as sleep-ins and on call rotas and complex trade union issues including difficult consultation and de-recognition processes. Laura regularly assists clients on TUPE transactions, with particular focus on supporting the Public Sector department with local authority contracts.

Judicial Review Update

Recent developments in the substantive law, practice and procedure

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

3 February 2026
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Andrew Sharland, KC

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This course will be delivered by Andrew Sharland KC, Barrister.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Recent developments in the law of judicial review. This will include developments in practice and procedure, key case law on substantive grounds of judicial review together with an update on any new statutory provisions relevant to judicial review.

Interactive elements

Q&A

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice
B2 Legal research

Presenter profiles:

Andrew Sharland KC, Barrister, 11 KBW has a broad public law practice with a particular emphasis on the fields of local government, human rights, education, health and community care law, planning and professional discipline and regulatory law. He also regularly acts in information law matters and public inquiries. He is ranked by Chambers and Partners as a leading silk in six areas: local government, community care, education, administrative and public law, information law and public inquiries and inquests. In 2020, Andrew was nominated for "Public Law Silk of the year" by The Legal 500.

He is currently instructed on behalf of a local authority in a Supreme Court appeal on the correct interpretation of section 117 Mental Health Act 1983 (the leaving and aftercare provision).

Prior to taking silk, Andrew was a member of the Attorney-General's A Panel of counsel. He is now on the Attorney-General's Silk Panel.

Andrew is a co-author of the leading practitioners' textbook, *Judicial Review: Principles and Procedure* (OUP, 2nd edn 2023). Andrew is also contributor to R McManus KC, *Education and the Courts*, P Coppel KC, *Information Rights and Atkins Court Forms on Human Rights*.

Local Authorities as Charity Trustees: managing the conflicts of interest

Level of course: Introductory/Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

4 February 2026
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Geldards

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

In this session we will consider conflicts of interest in charities of which the local authority is sole charity trustee. This will include identifying the different types of conflicts of interest and managing the conflict so as to ensure compliance with charity law and Charity Commission requirements.

Suitable audience:

In-house solicitors, councillors/staff serving on charity or advisory committees where the local authority is sole charity trustee.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Identifying and managing conflicts of interest in charities under local authority trusteeship

Interactive elements

Case studies

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Bethan Walsh is head of the Charities and Third Sector team at Geldards and a recognised specialist in Charity Law who works with a wide range of not-for-profit organisations, from new start-ups to some of the largest charities in the country.

The organisations she has advised are diverse, including art and culture, education, animal welfare, religion, community regeneration, youth and age, sport and health.

Introduction into the Telecoms code

An overview of some of the issues and key cases under the Telecoms Code from a landowner perspective

Level of course: Introductory / Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

5 February 2026

12 noon – 2pm

Presented by Freeths

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

Government property managers and internal legal team faced with requests from operators to build masts on their sites, renew existing telecom agreements and/or clear a site where an Operator is in situ.

Suitable audience:

Government property managers and internal legal team faced with requests from operators to build masts on their sites, renew existing telecom agreements and/or clear a site where an Operator is in situ.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

What is telecoms, why should you be concerned, MSVs, renewals and terminations.

Interactive elements

Interactive quiz and case studies

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Daniel Cuthbert, Partner and Ella Carroll, Senior Associate. Daniel and Ella are both experts in the Code and advise regularly on all issues arising as a result of telecommunications equipment. Both Daniel and Ella have previously acted for operators and have been involved in most of the significant litigation of 2024 including on the first three appeals from the FTT.

Costs and Litigation Funding Update

Level of course: All levels

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ON24

11 February 2026

12 noon - 1.45pm

Presented by Browne Jacobson

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

The aim of the course is to provide a general update on all of the important developments on costs litigation from the preceding 12 months.

Suitable audience:

Claims Handlers; Claims Managers, Team Leaders & Persons with an interest in the costs of litigation.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Costs

Interactive elements

TBC

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

B6 Negotiation

Presenter profiles:

John Appleyard, Partner heads up a team of six costs specialities, provides costs services across the firm, dealing with a whole manner of costs litigation from the various teams and disciplines nationwide. The team is practiced in the costs of personal injury work (ELPL, RTA, health & disease) as well as dealing with professional risk and commercial cases.

Helen Forman, Senior Associate assists in the management and development of the costs team and has over 20 years' experience in both the Claimant and Defendant market with a particular specialism in legal costs recovery. Helen has extensive experience in a spectrum of civil litigation, medical negligence, public law and commercial cases of all values and complexity and regularly deals with high value, complex and novel matters.

Civil claims against local authorities update

Level of course: Introductory / Intermediate and Advanced - All three should be interested in this course

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

12 February 2026
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Weightmans

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This course has become an annual EMLS update which is now repeated due to its relevance and popularity. The webinar will deal with the most relevant local government litigation cases of the last year. It will look at cases of general interest and also discrete areas such as data protection and abuse cases. It will also look at amendments and developments to the CPR such as disclosure and costs. The update is meant to be practical and to give those involved in litigation an update on the practical issues.

Suitable audience:

Lawyers and insurance officers and risk managers.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

As above

Interactive elements

Q&A

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice
B2 Legal research

Presenter profiles:

The course will be presented by the team from previous years – Adam Clemens of Leicestershire County Council and Chris Webb-Jenkins and John Riddell of Weightmans. Adam, Chris and John have collectively over 100 years of local government litigation experience – and say that it feels like it on a Monday morning. They try to bring a practical approach to their experience and have been presenting this course for several years. They always find it a pleasure to speak to colleagues who are involved in the same area of work and look forward to seeing you all again.

The National Planning Policy Framework

Level of course: Intermediate / Advanced

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

25 February 2026

12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Anthony Collins

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This session will explore the policies of the NPPF which are considered to be most relevant to local authority planners and inhouse lawyers. This will include a review of any case law interpreting the NPPF and an overview of any proposed changes to the NPPF.

Suitable audience:

Planners and in-house lawyers.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Planning, highways and environment.

Interactive elements

N/A

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Max Howarth is a specialist planning lawyer with extensive experience of advising on all aspects of planning and highways law, having spent significant time in the public sector having worked for two Warwickshire based local authorities at District and County level prior to joining Anthony Collins.

Stuart Evans leads the Planning Team at Anthony Collins. He has considerable experience of providing legal advice and support in relation to planning matters. Stuart was employed for over 15 years as Head of Planning and Regeneration and Interim City Solicitor at Birmingham City Council where he advised the landowning arm of the Council's Property Services on many large transactions.

Understanding DOLs

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

26 February 2026
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Bevan Brittan

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

The session will provide professionals with a comprehensive understanding of Deprivation of Liberty Orders (DOLS) focussing on legal principles, key considerations and practical advice for local authorities. Key topics include:

- The Legal Framework - Overview of the Mental Capacity act 2005 and its application to DOLS
- Assessment process - understanding the role of the BIA
- The role of a lawyer - how a lawyer can support clients, challenge unlawful deprivations and advise on legal rights within the context of DOLS
- Recent developments and case law

Suitable audience:

Local Authorities
In-house legal
LA practitioners

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above.

Interactive elements

To be confirmed.

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Amrita Hurst is a Partner in the Health & Care Regulatory team. Amrita's practice focuses on people and spans public and human rights law, Court of Protection proceedings and advice, health and social care law, safeguarding and education and extends to inquests, coronial law and regulatory matters. I work with local authorities, health and care providers in the NHS, independent and third sector and central government departments.

Delivery of Regeneration Projects

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA GOTOWEBINAR

3 March 2026
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by DWF

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

Based on a discussion of "live projects", practical solutions will be offered to the legal and commercial 'bumps in the road' and how they can be overcome. The session will be of interest to officers responsible for economic development and regeneration, legal and finance, and procurement officers.

Please do join the session if you want to hear practical solutions adopted by other public sector clients on how to ensure that:

- The right public law powers are relied upon to deliver a regeneration project;
- Consultation requirements are met;
- Subsidy Control issues are satisfied to be able to attract and lawfully spend grant funding;
- Real Estate issues are dealt with to ensure that projects are development ready;
- Public procurement requirements are satisfied (including when a transaction can be categorised as a Land Deal and exempt from the Regulations).

Suitable audience:

Real Estate, Commercial, Planning, Land professionals

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Please see above

Interactive elements

Possible use of polls, case Studies etc

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Julie Simms advises public sector bodies on real estate and regeneration projects working closely with the wider Public Sector team at DWF.

Julie co-leads the UK National Public Sector Real Estate Team and advises on large development and regeneration projects including capital projects, forward funding and income strip deals.

Julie acts for Homes England, Royal Borough of Greenwich, London Borough of Newham, Money & Pensions Service, The Insolvency Service and local authorities such as Wigan Council, Swansea Council, Conwy County Borough Council, Wirral Council and Guildford Borough Council.

Lee Pickett advises public sector bodies on development, infrastructure and regeneration projects working closely with the wider Public Sector team at DWF.

Lee co-leads the UK National Public Sector Real Estate Team and advises on large development, infrastructure and regeneration projects with particular emphasis on housing regeneration.

Lee acts for Homes England, Welsh Government, Royal Borough of Greenwich, Westminster City Council, Advance Northumberland (a local authority delivery vehicle) and other local authorities such as Conwy County Borough Council, West Lindsey District Council and South Tyneside Council.

Property update for local authority lawyers and surveyors

Update on current legal issues affecting property law and practice

Level of course: All levels

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

4 March 2026
12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Geldards

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

Property update, including recent legislative developments and case law.

Suitable audience:

Local authority lawyers and surveyors.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Recent Case Law - Update
- Consultation, Legislation and Regulation - Update
- Commercial Property Problems - latest updates and key issues to consider
- Best Practice and updates from Land Registry

Interactive elements

Forum

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Neil Walker advises local authorities on a range of local authority real estate matters particularly involving regeneration and development. Neil also provides advice to local authorities in connection with local authority estate rationalisation, 'public law' matters and wider commercial property/real estate work

Kelly Lawton advises local authorities on a range of commercial property matters including acquisitions, disposals and landlord and tenant matters

Sumandeep Nahl advises local authorities on a range of real estate matters including acquisitions, disposals and landlord and tenant matters

Matthew Holtam advises local authorities on a range of real estate transactions, particularly involving acquisitions, disposals and landlord and tenant matters. Matthew also advises on public law matters including subsidy control, procurement and vires which are incidental to local authority real estate transactions

Anti-money laundering: Key issues for Local Government

A detailed explanation of how the Money Laundering Regulations affect local government and practical guide to adopting effective anti-money laundering policies.

Level of course: Advanced

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA TEAMS

5 March 2026

12 noon – 1pm

Presented by Sharpe Pritchard

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This session will give an insight into the UK anti money laundering regime and the UK Money Laundering Regulations (including the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002).

Suitable audience:

Local government lawyers with responsibility for developing Council finance policies relating to money laundering and lawyers dealing with large transactions such as property disposals.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

Understanding the extent to which local authorities are covered by money laundering and related legislation and application of the CIPFA guidance

- Become updated on new areas covered, including requirements in relation proliferation financing
- Refresher on main offences under anti-money laundering legislation
- Develop knowledge of best practice to ensure robust policies and procedures are in place

Interactive elements

Q&A

Competencies

This course will cover:

- A Ethics professionalism and judgement
- B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Peter Collins heads up Sharpe Pritchard's corporate and funding team. He advises local authorities on a range of matters from corporate transactions to establishing corporate and contractual joint ventures for project delivery. He also advises on public procurement and subsidy control. Peter is Sharpe Pritchard's Money Laundering Reporting Officer.

Construction Disputes

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

10 March 2026

12 noon - 1pm

Presented by Capsticks

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This session will be an introduction to the law and practice of construction disputes. The speakers will consider the types of issues that commonly arise on construction projects from the perspective of clients/developers/authorities, and the impact of the Building Safety Act 2022.

Suitable audience:

Anyone with an interest in Construction Disputes

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Litigation
- Arbitration
- Adjudication
- Mediation
- Other forms of alternative dispute resolution in the construction context
- Tips on dispute avoidance

Interactive elements

Q&A

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Catherine Kay is a Partner at Capsticks in the corporate and commercial team and specialises in non-contentious construction and engineering, with over 25 years' experience acting for both the public and private sector. Catherine has specific expertise on the planning and tendering of projects, letters of intent and the completion of building contracts, terms of engagement of members of the professional team, collateral warranties, bonds and guarantees and project funding.

Matthew Phipps is a Partner at Capsticks specialising in construction with over 15 years' experience in dispute avoidance and resolution. He provides astute and pragmatic legal advice blended with industry knowledge and commercial awareness, throughout the full life-cycle of buildings and infrastructure assets.

Landlord and Tenant Update – Commercial Property

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

11 March 2026

12 noon – 1pm

Presented by Anthony Collins

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

Update and discussion of recent case law, legislation, regulatory and market changes in respect of leasehold commercial property.

Suitable audience:

In house legal and property/portfolio managers.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Civil litigation
- Miscellaneous

Interactive elements

Discussion forum via chat function and opportunity to ask questions and have them addressed during the presentation.

Competencies

This course will cover:

B Technical legal practice

Presenter profiles:

Phil is the leader of our property litigation team. He has experience of a wide range of estate management issues, including 1954 Act lease renewals, dilapidations claims, service charge disputes, rent arrears claims, insolvency issues and forfeiture and possession proceedings.

Licensing Update

Update on Taxi Licensing and Licensing Act with Mock Appeal

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A FACE-TO-FACE COURSE AND IS BEING HELD AT GEDLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

12 March 2026

9.45am registration (10.00am start) - 12.45pm (followed by lunch) and afternoon workshop 1.45pm - 4pm, Gedling Borough Council's Offices

Presented by Anthony Collins

Course overview

Registration 9:45 for 10:00 start.

Taxi update 10:00 - 11:15

Refreshments 11:15 - 11:30

Licensing Act Update - 11:30 - 12:45

Lunch 12:45 - 13:45

Appeal Tips 13:45 - 14:45

Refreshments 14:45 - 15:00

Mock Appeal 15:00 - 16:30

Morning

There will be an update on the latest developments concerning the Licensing Act 2003 and taxi licensing including a discussion on the "hot topics" affecting licensing authorities.

Afternoon

The afternoon workshop will include a mock hearing dealing with an appeal and will involve the assistance of Counsel. There will be an opportunity for delegates to play various roles in the hearing. There will also be some useful tips on how to present appeals from Counsel.

Suitable audience:

Solicitors/Legal Officers advising Licensing Officers and/or appearing at appeal hearings. Licensing Officers will also find the course useful.

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Local Authority Licensing
- Case Law Update
- Mock Hearing - Advocacy Skills

Interactive elements

Afternoon workshop

Competencies

This course will cover:

- A Ethics professionalism and judgement
- B Technical legal practice
- B2 Legal research
- B4 Draft documents
- B5 Advocacy
- B6 Negotiation
- C Working with other people
- C1 Communicate clearly and effectively

Presenter profiles:

Laura Chaplin. Laura is Legal Services Manager and Data Protection Officer at Gedling Borough Council and is the legal licensing lead, having joined the Council from private practice in 2017. Laura is a Higher Rights Advocate and has represented the Council in a number of taxi licensing appeal cases in both the Magistrates and Crown Court. Laura currently works with the Council's licensing team to provide advice and assistance, attending and advising Licensing Committee. Laura has been involved with the Council's Member/officer working group to implement changes to the Council's licensing regime following the introduction of the Statutory Standards and updated Practice Guidance.

Anthony Collins and Counsel speaker tbc.

Procurement Fraud – the real risk in today’s business landscape

An advanced session on navigating fraud and conflicts of interest in public procurement, including a review of key legislation changes, red flags associated with procurement fraud and key steps organisations should be taking to prevent procurement fraud and conflicts of interests.

Level of course: Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

18 March 2026
12 noon – 1.30pm

Presented by Trowers & Hamlins

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

This session will look at:

- The significance of preventing conflicts of interest and fraud in ensuring integrity of procurement activities
- Overview of procurement law principles
- Key regulations and legislation governing procurement ethics and integrity (including Procurement Act 2023 and changes brought in by that legislation and relevant anti-corruption and anti-bribery legislation e.g. UK Bribery Act 2010 and Fraud Act 2006)
- Risk factors associated with conflicts of interest and procurement fraud
- Detecting conflicts of interest and procurement fraud
- Mitigating and managing conflicts of interest and procurement fraud including anti-fraud mechanisms and investigating suspected procurement fraud
- Review of relevant case law to highlight procurement fraud and lessons learnt

Suitable audience:

- Procurement team members
- In-house lawyers

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- Procurement fraud
- Conflicts of interest

Interactive elements

Looking at two or three case studies regarding suspected procurement fraud / conflict of interest and asking attendees to identify key risks / actions to be considered in the circumstances.

Competencies

This course will cover:

A Ethics professionalism and judgement
B Technical legal practice
B2 Legal research

Presenter profiles:

Liz Mulley - Managing Associate specialising in commercial and civil litigation and alternative dispute resolution including mediation. In particular, Liz has extensive experience in dealing with civil fraud and cyber response disputes and investigations. She acts for both private and public sector clients, which has developed her specialism in procurement fraud. Her work is often complex and sensitive in nature emanating from her cases involving fraud and dishonesty.

Liz also specialises in advising clients on fraud and cyber risk management, in particular, preparing financial crime policies and providing board and staff training to clients in these areas. She also regularly speaks at conferences and on webinars on the subject of fraud and cyber risk management.

Homelessness challenges and judicial reviews

Best practice and avoiding pitfalls

Level of course: Introductory / Intermediate

PLEASE NOTE THIS WEBINAR IS BEING HOSTED VIA ZOOM

19 March 2026
12 noon - 1.30pm

Presented by Freeths

If you would like to book onto this webinar please book via the book tickets section and you will receive a link to the webinar and further details approximately three days before the event.

Course overview

A webinar focussing on the practicalities and legal issues arising from applicants challenging a local council's decisions, including

- whether to provide temporary accommodation
- the suitability of offers of accommodation; and
- appeals to the county court

Suitable audience:

Local Authority personnel dealing with homelessness applications and challenges

Overview and topics to be covered include:

- assessing priority need
- discretionary powers to secure accommodation
- suitability and judicial review
- powers to accommodate pending review
- review of decisions and appeals to the County Court

Interactive elements

The webinar will include case studies.

Competencies

This course will cover:

- A Ethics professionalism and judgement
- B Technical legal practice
- B4 Draft documents
- C Working with other people
- C1 Communicate clearly and effectively
- D Managing themselves and their own work

Presenter profiles:

Philip Myers is a partner with over 22 years' experience in property litigation.

Philip acts on a full range of contentious property matters on behalf of public authorities, Universities and developers. He leads a team of 16 lawyers undertaking residential and commercial litigation, including defending housing disrepair claims, and defending local councils facing homelessness review challenges.

