
advocate



Advocate Monthly Top Ten

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Join the

Pro Bono Recognition List

today!



[The Pro Bono Recognition List of England and Wales](#) is a newly launched, cross-profession initiative, set up collaboratively by the Attorney General's Pro Bono Committee, the Bar Council, the Law Society and all major pro bono organisations including Advocate.

The Recognition List, endorsed by the Lady Chief Justice, is set to become an annual acknowledgement of all pro bono work happening across the legal profession, both by barristers and solicitors.

The Recognition List recognises pro bono work undertaken in the previous calendar year, so if you are a barrister who completed 25 or more hours of pro bono work in 2023, and would like to have your contribution reflected in the first ever Pro Bono Recognition List (set to be published in June of this year), please fill out [this form](#). In addition to appearing on The Recognition List, you will also be sent a celebratory logo for your email signature and Chambers profile. The deadline for submissions is **Friday 24th May 2024**.

If you did not manage to reach 25 hours of pro bono work last year, there is still time to get ahead for next year's list. If you have already completed 25 hours of pro bono work since the start of the year, fill out [this form](#) to submit your name for the Recognition List to be published next year!

We hope that members of the Bar will be well represented on the Recognition List alongside their solicitor colleagues.

More on the Pro Bono Recognition List

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Take part in the
Pupil Pledge
for 2024!



Are you a pupil in your second six? Take part in the Pupil Pledge!

Last year, over 50 pupils in their second six completed the Pupil Pledge by undertaking one piece of pro bono work through any pro bono scheme, charity or other organisation. Many of these pupils went on to become some of our most active volunteers, with four being shortlisted for this year's Bar Pro Bono Awards.

If you are a second six pupil, we encourage you to sign up to the Pupil Pledge.

[More on the Pupil Pledge](#)

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SIGN UP
TODAY!



London Legal Walk - sign your Chambers up

The London Legal Walk returns for another year on **Tuesday 18th June**. It's the largest fundraising event in the legal calendar and is a fantastic opportunity to come together as a profession to support access to justice by raising vital funds for Advocate, Free Representation Unit (FRU) and the London Legal Support Trust.

Leading the walk will be the Lady Chief Justice, Lord Reed, Sir Geoffrey Vos, and Sam Townend KC, Chair of the Bar Council.

[Register for the Legal Walk today](#)

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Advocate Statistics



Young barrister story:

Robin Pickard

This month, Robin Pickard kindly shared with us about his experience volunteering with Advocate as a young barrister.

Robin impressively undertook 50+ hours of pro bono work in 2023. In his story, he shares about his experience taking on pro bono work in employment cases, one of Advocate’s busiest areas requiring assistance, giving advice to pupils and young barristers looking to do the same.



For example, Robin highlighted the importance of pupils and juniors seeking advice from senior practitioners, as well as the rewards of assisting people in need with their cases from the start to the end of the litigation process where possible.

[Read Robin's barrister story](#)



New Trustees joining the Advocate Board

Advocate are delighted to announce that Lisa Watts, Joe Wilson and Richard Khaldi are joining our Board.

Our trustees play a crucial role in Advocate and we feel privileged to have Lisa, Joe and Richard bringing their skills and experience to the organisation.

Lisa Watts, a legal marketing expert who has been working on Advocate's marketing committee since 2019 said: *"Over the last five years I've been lucky enough to assist with encouraging greater engagement with chambers and barristers in giving up their time to do pro bono work. I look forward to being able to do more in this new role"*.

Joe Wilson, who is CEO and Pro Bono Champion at St Philip's Chambers said: *"I have championed the work of Advocate for over 25 years as a junior clerk through to becoming a CEO and I am honoured to continue these efforts in the role of Trustee. I strongly believe that legal assistance should not be a privilege reserved for a few, but a fundamental resource accessible to all"*.

Richard Khaldi, Director of Maitland Chambers and a qualified solicitor with experience in consulting and working for UK economic regulators said: *"I'm looking forward to using my experience to support the Advocate team in enabling access to legal assistance to as many people as possible"*.

Meet our Trustees



We would like to extend our thanks to James Bruce of 36 Group for getting the Crown Prosecution Service to drop their case against our Applicant, who was accused of stalking her ex partner. Thanks to the application drafted by James, our Applicant avoided having to face trial at the magistrates' court, saving her from the stress of a trial and potentially a wrongful conviction.

Thank you, James

We want to thank Ewan Murray of FOURTEEN for stepping up to advise and represent a father at an urgent 3 day hearing concerning opposing the mother of his children's decision to relocate his children to Afghanistan. This is Ewan's first case via Advocate, so we are hugely grateful for his decision to step up to assist so quickly. We would also like to thank James Holmes of Garden Court Chambers for reviewing the case within 24 hours.

Thank you, Ewan and James

Our many thanks to Matthew Happold for drafting advice as well as representing a former asylum seeker in the Crown Court for a 1 day hearing. This was to appeal a Home Office forfeiture order regarding over £4000 that was seized under The Proceeds of Crime Act when the Applicant, her mother and her sister were detained in 2021. Thanks to Matthew, the Home Office has returned the funds.

Thank you, Matthew



Advocate are here to help you volunteer

If you have any questions about volunteering pro bono, please do [reach out to our engagement team](#), who are happy to help answer any questions.

We can help you take on pro bono cases outside your usual practice area through [Collaborate](#), our case-based mentoring scheme. We also have a number of guides available for barristers looking to volunteer - find out more on our [volunteering page](#).

Thank you for your support.