

Bar Council Employed Bar Awards

The annual Bar Council Employed Bar Awards were held last night at Gray's Inn.

The awards celebrated the wealth of talent and vital contributions made by employed barristers across numerous practice areas.

Our nominations included:

- Cabinet Office, Commercial Policy Team, Legal Team of the Year
- DHSC Legal Advisers, Legal Team of the Year
- National Security and Counter Terrorism Team, Legal Team of the Year
- Sam Littlejohns, Employed Barrister of the Year

Legal team of the year

GLD were proud to sponsor the Legal Team of the Year award and all those shortlisted for the category were government legal teams, showing the true of talent in GLD.

The National Security and Counter Terrorism Litigation Team were praised for their contribution to supporting the national security and defence of the UK, particularly during the pandemic. Whilst the Cabinet Office's Commercial Policy Team were recognised for their work developing and delivering the Procurement Bill, a large technical bill which reformed the way government spends £300 billion per annum.

DHSC Legal Advisers took home the Legal Team of the Year prize for their crucial role supporting the government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The team ensured the rule of law was upheld even in the face of the extreme pressure by providing nuanced, solution-focused, and accessible advice.

Working in a rapidly changing environment, they had to consider the emerging public health picture, novel public law and human rights implications and legal considerations from across all of government.

Professor Chris Whitty even endorsed the work of the team, saying:

The in-house team has been remarkable ... to ensure protection for the whole population from COVID in a way which was manageable for citizens, and legally robust.

Employed Barrister of the Year

For the Employed Barrister of the Year in the Public Sector award Sam Littlejohns was recognised for his tireless work with the Department of Health & Social Care Legal Advisers on COVID-19 public health issues from

February 2020 to June 2021. He showed impressive leadership, motivating a small team who were working under unprecedented pressure.

Congratulations to all those who were nominated.

It was brilliant that so many GLD teams and colleagues were recognised for their vitally important and hard work supporting the government and ensuring that they govern well within the rule of law.

A full list of winners and shortlisted teams and individuals is available on the Bar Council website.

Major reforms to NHS tech agenda accelerated

- Move will streamline data sharing processes across the NHS – benefitting patients while ensuring rigorous data protection safeguards remain in place
- Improved data sharing will ensure patients get more streamlined care and can make more informed choices about how and where they access care

Patients will benefit from more streamlined care and be able to make more informed choices about how and where they access treatment after plans to transform NHS data sharing were brought forward.

The Department for Health and Social Care said the proposed transfer of NHS Digital's functions into NHS England which were due to happen at the end of March 2023 would now happen in early January 2023.

The move will create a single statutory body responsible for data and digital technology for the NHS – meaning patients will benefit from:

- A streamlined experience due to a reduced need to repeatedly share information across the health system
- The ability to make more informed choices about care by providing information about length of wait for treatment, making waiting lists by speciality and by provider, more accessible – a key part of Our Plan for Patients
- Easier access to electronic patient records through accelerated digital transformation services for patients.

The move will build on the huge progress seen on digital transformation during the pandemic, driving efficiencies across the NHS as evidence suggests digitally mature providers are 10% more efficient than their less digitally mature peers.

Accelerating the transfer will lead to faster improvements in co-operation

between the key digital bodies of the NHS by bringing them under one roof for the first time. This will ensure the health and care sector is fully equipped to face the future and deliver for patients.

In line with commitments made to Parliament, NHS England will provide the same protections for people's data as NHS Digital, whilst taking advantage of the merger to improve processes where possible. Working closely with partners, including the Information Commissioner and the National Data Guardian, DHSC and NHSE will ensure there continues to be rigorous internal controls to ensure that data is used and shared safely, securely and appropriately to:

- deliver high-quality care
- understand and protect the health of the population
- effectively plan and improve services
- research and develop innovative treatments, vaccines and diagnostics

Making effective use of the data collected by health and social care services is essential to deliver high quality care, and improving the health of the population. The transfer, which is subject to parliamentary approval and agreement with the Devolved Administration, will see the statutory role of NHS Digital move to NHS England.

This is an important change to make sure that all the expertise and activity in relation to data and digital services are together in a single organisation and meets a key recommendation of Laura Wade-Gery's review: [Putting data, digital and tech at the heart of transforming the NHS](#).

The changes will better support the recovery of NHS services, address waiting list backlogs, and support hardworking staff, all while driving forwards an ambitious agenda of digital transformation and progress.

- Following the merger, NHS Digital as a separate arms-length body of the Department for Health and Social Care will cease to exist.
 - NHS Digital staff and assets will all transfer to NHS England before going through the wider "Creating a New NHS England" change programme which will ensure we retain the necessary talent and expertise of NHS Digital.
 - We set out in [Data Saves Lives](#) how data will be used to improve care for patients and service users, outlining how we will ensure that the benefits and lessons learned from the response to COVID-19 are realised for the longer-term. The strategy including building the right foundations to achieve this – and one key action is to bring together NHS Digital and NHS England, to provide a single statutory body for data, digital and technology.
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Barrow-in-Furness woman has sentence for child cruelty increased under Unduly Lenient Sentence scheme

News story

The offender will now serve 8 years in prison for child cruelty offences



A woman who administered needless and harmful medication to a child has been ordered to serve a longer prison sentence following a hearing at the Court of Appeal.

Elizabeth Faragher, 43, lied about symptoms the child was experiencing to medical practitioners.

Because of this, the child received a large amount of unnecessary and intrusive medical investigation and treatment, including prescribed injections.

Faragher also deliberately injected the child on 5 separate occasions with hypodermic needles contaminated with faeces.

On 28 July 2022, Faragher was sentenced to 5 years and 10 months' imprisonment for one count of child cruelty and 5 counts of administering a noxious substance. The sentencing took place at Preston Crown Court.

Her sentence was then referred to the Court of Appeal under the Unduly Lenient Sentence scheme for being too low.

On 21 October 2022, the Court found Faragher's original sentence to be unduly lenient and imposed a new sentence of 8 years' imprisonment.

Speaking after the hearing, HM Solicitor General Michael Tomlinson MP said:

This was a deeply upsetting case of child cruelty, and it was clear to me that Elizabeth Faragher's shocking actions warranted a

stronger prison sentence.

Today's verdict shows that all forms of cruelty to children will be met with the strongest possible punishment.

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[Honiara: children participate in UK-Pacific Oceans and Plastics workshop](#)

The children learnt about the impact of plastic pollution on our oceans and created beautiful pieces of artwork from plastic waste collected from the beach.

The workshop aimed to use art to connect with young people and raise awareness of the issue, changing behaviours towards plastic pollution, and protecting the marine biodiversity in Solomon Islands.

Supported by the British High Commission together with the British Council New Zealand and Dreamcast Theatre Solomon Islands, students aged between 9 to 11 years, worked remotely with renowned UK artist Mandy Barker to create pieces of artwork made from everyday plastics.

Mandy who helped guide the children through the creative art workshop said:

I'm humbled to think I might have made a difference on the other side of the world. Never in my wildest dreams. It makes what I do worthwhile when you can see the results. Thank you for letting me facilitate the workshop to inform them of the issue. It only takes one child to be inspired to become an ambassador for the environment and try to make changes.

The children's artwork was on display at the Dreamcast Theatre Art Hub in Honiara for public viewing until Friday 21 October 2022.

Acting British High Commissioner to Solomon Islands, Nicola Noble described the event as a real success. She said:

It's wonderful to see the positive impact this unique workshop has had on the children who participated. The Oceans and Plastics

workshop is a result of a successful collaboration between the British High Commission in Honiara together with the British Council in New Zealand and Dreamcast Theatre Solomon Islands. I would like to acknowledge the children from Perch, Koloale, Tuvarufu, Coronation and the Honiara Integrated Community School for their participation as well as their parents and teachers for permitting them to attend and learn about this important issue.

Speaking at the art exhibition event on Tuesday, 18 October in the afternoon, Minister of Education and Human Resources Development, Hon. Lanelle Olandrea Tanangada said:

This exhibition is lifelong learning for our young children, who have demonstrated their creativity, teamwork, ownership of their environment and most importantly to become responsible and environmental friendly citizens. Our life on the islands depends on the ocean, we are the ocean and we must at all costs influence others to keep our environment plastic free.

On behalf of the Government and the Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development, I sincerely thank the British High Commission, British Council New Zealand and the Pacific and Dreamcast theatre for taking this initiative to work with our selected schools and their students and teachers. Parents should be proud of their children, as these wonderful children have demonstrated outstanding artwork, in the hope to promote our ocean and plastics and the impacts and consequences of plastic waste.

Director of British Council New Zealand and the Pacific Natasha Beckman was in Honiara for the two-day workshop and art exhibition and said she was very pleased to have achieved so much in so little time. She said:

It was wonderful to see the creativity of the children and the pride they had in their work when showing it to their teachers and parents. From the two days, I hope the children have been inspired to use art and culture to raise awareness of global problems.

Congratulations to all who attended the UK-Pacific Oceans and Plastics workshop. It was a fantastic two-day event, filled with fun and creativity at the Dreamcast Theatre Art Hub in China Town, Honiara. The students' artworks were displayed to their parents and teachers as well as the Minister of Education and Human Resources Development and other guests.

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[Recruitment for Principle Veterinary Advisor](#)

News story

Details of a permanent vacancy for a Principle Veterinary Advisor.



This is an exciting opportunity to work at the heart of the Veterinary Medicines Directorate in the delivery of its strategic objectives. The successful candidate will be working in the authorisations section of the Veterinary Medicines Directorate reporting to the Deputy CEO.

Job Title

Principle Veterinary Advisor

Grade

G6

Salary & Pension

£64,114 – £72,439 per annum with Pension Scheme

Annual Leave Entitlement

Commencing at 25 days

Experience

It is essential that successful candidate is a qualified veterinary surgeon, with a knowledge of the regulatory framework governing veterinary medicines and an in-depth understanding of veterinary medicines in the context of animal health and welfare, safety, and impacts on the environment.

Qualifications

Qualified Veterinary Surgeon.

How to apply

You must make your application via [Civil Service Jobs website](#) where you will find a full job description including salary details.

Closing Date

17 November 2022

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