

President:

Date: 22 April 2015

Bev Cullen
Assistant County Solicitor (Litigation and Employment):
Lancashire County Council.

PRESS RELEASE

Every year Lawyers in Local Government (LLG) runs an intensive three-day training programme known as the *LGG's Weekend School*. The 2015 event was held between 16 and 18 April 2015 at the University of Exeter.

The AGM of LLG took place on 18 April 2015. It elected Bev Cullen as new President. Bev Cullen is Assistant County Solicitor (Litigation and Employment) with Lancashire County Council. Previously Vice-President, Bev is no stranger to leadership roles having formerly been Chair of predecessor body, Solicitors in Local Government.

Doreen Forester-Brown, Director of Legal Services at London Borough of Southwark now becomes Vice-President, while Phillip Horsfield, Director of Legal and Planning at Broxtowe Borough Council, was voted Deputy Vice-President.

Nigel Snape and Nicholas Dobson continue respectively as Treasurer and Communications Officer.

The AGM also saw Helen Thompson from Gateshead Council and Natalie Baldwin from North Yorkshire County Council being elected LLG's Junior Professional Representatives to replace Sam McGinty and Gurbinder Sangha.

Current Executive Board members and Special Area Activity (SAA) representatives are noted below. SAA Leads covering Adult Social Care & Health, Employment and Planning, Highways & Environment are currently vacant.

Bev Cullen said:

'It is an enormous honour and a privilege to be elected to lead LLG as the national authoritative and representative voice of all levels of local government lawyers across the land.

I intend to build on the outstanding work of my predecessors, Mark Hynes of Lambeth Council and Philip Thomson of Essex County Council as we seek to add increasing value on behalf of our members and their authorities.

For instance, we're currently in the process of appointing a Development Officer to strengthen our support capacity and our new Mentoring Scheme is just going live. As well as the excellent professional legal training support provided by LLG's Training Arm – LGG Limited – the Mentoring Scheme will plug a vital professional development gap for the benefit of all our members.'

But highlighting the three SAA vacancies in Adult Social Care & Health, Employment and Planning, Highways & Environment Bev urged talented lawyers in these areas to come forward.

She pointed out that these are fantastic opportunities to promote LLG whilst also giving a turbo charge to their own careers. Those interested should contact membership@lawingov.org.uk

And pointing to existing creativity of legal practice across local government and likely further deregulation, Bev said that there were 'lots of opportunities out there for local government lawyers. Together we can seize them and promote ourselves'.

Lawyers in Local Government New Board Appointments

About LLG

1. Lawyers in Local Government (LLG) is the organisation formed in March 2013 by the merger of the former Association of Council Secretaries and Solicitors (ACSeS) and Solicitors in Local Government (SLG) to give a strong and unified national voice to all lawyers and governance officers working in local government.
2. LLG plays a leading role in the development of law and governance affecting local authorities and related bodies and works closely with other associations, Government Departments and agencies.
3. Bev Cullen, Assistant County Solicitor (Litigation and Employment) with Lancashire County Council was elected President at LLG's AGM on 18 April 2015
4. The LLG Executive Board is currently as follows:

Bev Cullen	President	bev.cullen@lancashire.gov.uk
Doreen Forrester-Brown	Vice President	Doreen.Forrester-Brown@southwark.gov.uk
Phillip Horsfield	Deputy Vice President	phillip.horsfield@broxtowe.gov.uk
Philip Thomson	Immediate Past LLG President	Philip.Thomson@essex.gov.uk
Nicholas Dobson	Communications Officer	nicholas.dobson@tiscali.co.uk
Nigel Snape	Treasurer	nigel.snape@gmail.com
David Carter	LGG Chair	davidcarter@warwickshire.gov.uk

National Leads for Special Area Activities (SAAs) are as follows (current vacancies also indicated):

VACANT	SAA: Adult Social Care & Health	
Graham Cole	SAA: Children's Services & Education	graham.cole@luton.gov.uk
VACANT	SAA: Employment	
Alison Stuart	SAA: Housing & Regeneration	alison.stuart@bdtlegal.org.uk
Mark Turnbull	SAA: Information Management	mark.turnbull@leeds.gov.uk
Helen Thompson	SAA: Junior Lawyer	h.thompson.llg@hotmail.com
Natalie Baldwin	SAA: Junior Lawyer	njbaldwin.llg@hotmail.com
Tim Briton	SAA: Litigation and Licensing	TimBriton@Gateshead.Gov.uk
Eleanor Hoggart	SAA: Monitoring Officers and Governance	eleanor@hoggart2.fsnet.co.uk
Ian Anderson	SAA: Partnership & Procurement	ian.anderson@hullcc.gov.uk
VACANT	SAA: Planning, Highways & Environment	

For Press Enquiries, please contact our Communications Officer: *Nicholas Dobson*
(Nicholas.dobson@tiscali.co.uk)

Ends.