



2 April 2009

Dear Member

Welcome to the first edition of LSA News, a quarterly source of comment and updates on issues relevant to the LSA Principles. I have recently been appointed as the Project Manager for the LSA and I am delighted to be a part of a leading-edge industry partnership to [measure and reduce carbon emissions](#).

We're now up to 94 members! I'd like to welcome those who've recently joined us who include Bevan Brittan, Clyde & Co, Jackson Barrett & Gass, Mellor & Jackson and Raleys Solicitors. As our membership grows we have increased opportunities to share ideas and best practice. I look forward to working with you to ensure that the LSA continues to provide maximum value to members.

Hot Topic - climate change adaptation and the legal profession

This edition of LSA News focuses on climate change adaptation and how LSA members and clients can respond to the impacts of unavoidable climate change. Vanessa Havard-Williams, Partner and Global Head of Environment at Linklaters, is Chair of the LSA's Policy Working Group and has written an [article for members](#) outlining the relevance of climate change adaptation to the legal sector.

To coincide with yesterday's publication of the [EU White paper on adaptation](#), the LSA has developed a series of nine [briefing notes](#) for members, outlining the key concepts of climate change adaptation for different sectors and the relevance of new and emerging policy and best practice in this area. The briefing notes highlight the particular significance for the legal profession both in terms of business continuity and impact on key client groups. The adaptation notes were produced with expert input from LSA members Bond Pearce, Burges Salmon, DLA Piper, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Linklaters and Martineau. My thanks to the contributors.

The LSA has also launched a [survey](#) of Law Society members to gather information on law firms' experiences of extreme weather events. This will provide an indication of the adaptive capacity of the legal sector with regard to future impacts of climate change. It would be great if you could spend a few moments to complete the survey (closing date April 22) as the results will provide a starting point for the levels of awareness and preparedness of law firms to the impacts of climate change and adaptation requirements. Survey results will be shared with members in early May

LSA Update – forthcoming tools and events for members

Sustainable procurement guide

The LSA will be launching a guidance document for members later this month to provide practical advice on climate-friendly purchasing. Produced by Burges Salmon, DLA Piper, Slaughter and May, and Taylor Wessing, the guide will detail the key climate change and cost benefits of a robust sustainable purchasing strategy and how to put appropriate measures in place to optimise business success. Many thanks to those of you who've contributed to this excellent resource.

Employee engagement toolkit

To coincide with World Environment Day (June 5) the LSA is producing a toolkit for firms to easily assess where they are on their employee engagement journey and figure out which tools, ideas and resources will be most effective in their working environment. The employee engagement toolkit is being prepared by Addleshaw Goddard, Allen & Overy, Irwin Mitchell, Herbert Smith and Linklaters. If your firm has recently carried out any proactive activities to engage employees on climate change it would be great to hear about them – please email me and we can discuss what you've been doing.

Regional forums

The LSA will be holding regional forums in Newcastle and Southampton during summer 2009 to share best-practice, network, provide training on how to use the Carbon Protocol and identify local opportunities for climate collaboration. I would welcome any ideas you have regarding the content of these forums so that they can be of maximum value to you and your firms.

Please forward this newsletter to colleagues who might find it of interest.

All ideas and feedback are very welcome, please email me at:

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Kind regards,

Micael

