



8 June 2009

Dear Member

Welcome to the second edition of LSA News, a quarterly source of comment and updates on issues relevant to the LSA Principles.

LSA membership continues to grow at a fantastic rate, and we now have 113 members. I'd like to welcome those who've recently joined us who include Pinsent Masons, Ware & Kay, Forsters and Birkett Long. The greater the number of firms, chambers and in-house legal teams that get involved, the greater our chance of having a real influence on the way the sector does business. I encourage our new members to use the [LSA Carbon Protocol](#) to measure their firms' carbon footprint and identify priority areas to cut carbon emissions and costs.

Hot Topic – Sustainable Procurement

The LSA has produced [new guidance](#) for members to provide practical advice on climate-friendly purchasing. Produced by procurement experts from Burges Salmon, DLA Piper, Slaughter and May, and Taylor Wessing, the easy-to-use web-guide outlines 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.

The guide is particularly useful for smaller LSA member firms that do not have professional procurement departments. It is intended to inform firms' existing approach to buying goods and services, not by redesigning the procurement process, but by raising issues to consider along the way. Many thanks again to those of you who've contributed to this excellent resource.

Hot Topic 2 – the Carbon reduction Commitment (CRC)

In April 2010 a new requirement to participate in a mandatory carbon trading scheme begins for an estimated 5,000 UK private and public sector organisations. Some larger legal firms will cross the 6,000MWh threshold but of more importance for many professional services firms will be the impact on their clients and the opportunities this may present to support them in addressing the new challenges. Ben Wielgus, Lead CRC Advisor, KPMG Carbon Advisory Group has written an [exclusive comment piece](#) for the LSA, outlining key issues for the legal sector.

On June 17 the LSA is also holding a Carbon Forum, kindly hosted by Bond Pearce LLP in Southampton. The event will showcase the business benefits of taking a proactive approach to climate change, with a focus on the CRC and its impacts on the legal profession and includes a guest presentation and Q&A with Michael Gifford from the Carbon Trust Standard Company. If you would like to attend please e-mail regionalsupport@lawsociety.org.uk.

LSA Update – forthcoming tools and events for members

Regional forums

On June 25 the LSA is hosting a regional meeting at Bond Pearce's Bristol Office to discuss potential climate collaboration opportunities for law firms in the region. If you are interested in getting together to share ideas with other LSA members in your area I would love to hear from you.

The LSA will be holding more regional forums in the North East, South West and Yorkshire & Humber regions during autumn 2009 to share best-practice, network, provide training on how to use the Carbon Protocol and identify local opportunities for climate collaboration.

Employee engagement toolkit

The LSA is producing a toolkit specifically relevant to the legal profession to enable law firms to easily assess where they are on their employee engagement journey. 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 send me an email.

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

