



14 December 2009

Dear Member

Welcome to the final 2009 edition of LSA News, a quarterly source of comment and updates on issues relevant to the LSA Principles.

LSA membership continues to expand, and we now have 143 members. Members who have recently joined include Morrison & Foerster, Taylor & Emmet and Canter Levin & Berg. LSA members represent more than a quarter of solicitors in private practice in England & Wales.

On 2 December the LSA Annual Symposium showcased the benefits and successes of corporate collaboration on climate change to over 100 delegates. LSA members were invited to a discussion with an expert panel who reviewed LSA performance and goals as well as providing analysis of trends in corporate sustainability ahead of the United Nations Conference of Parties in Copenhagen. The Symposium also saw the launch of the [2009 LSA Annual Report](#), which details the results of the first ever survey of members' performance against the LSA Principles.

The Symposium was broadcast live to showcase the model and share learning with colleagues and interested parties across the world. If you were unable to attend the event in person and have not yet watched it online, video of the Symposium is available on the [LSA website](#).

Hot Topic – measuring carbon performance

Calculating your firm's carbon footprint is an essential first step towards gaining an understanding of your impacts and enables you to prioritise management of the most important issues for your organisation. The [LSA Carbon Protocol](#) allows members to easily calculate their footprint and has been updated to include the latest DECC GHG emissions factors.

Last year the LSA's Executive Members published their carbon footprints in a [landmark move for the legal sector](#). To improve transparency and gain further knowledge of the carbon performance of our members, the 2009 LSA Carbon Protocol Report will include carbon footprint data from all member firms who wish to publicly disclose their footprint. *If you would like to include your firm's carbon performance in the 2009 report, please [submit your completed Carbon Protocol](#) by 15 January.*

Hot Topic 2 – managing paper use

Paper consumption is a key environmental issue for law firms and the LSA will be producing detailed guidance on best-practice paper strategies in 2010. Tim Barker, Product Stewardship Manager, PaperlinX Europe, has written an [exclusive comment piece](#) for the LSA, outlining key issues for the legal sector.

LSA Update – resources and events for members

Regional forums

The LSA already has two regional forums in the diary for 2010. Full details will be available on the LSA website and communicated to members closer to the events and the dates are as follows:

- **Bristol:** January 20, hosted by Bevan Brittan from 16.30-18.00
- **Leeds:** March 10, hosted by Addleshaw Goddard from 16.30-18.00

Additional forums are planned in Plymouth and Hull and the LSA will host further forums across England and Wales throughout 2010. Please contact me if your firm would like to host a regional event next year.

Regional LSA events include:

- Case studies from law firms and expert guest speakers to highlight the business and cost benefits of acting on climate change.
- Engaged discussions to explore climate opportunities for law firms.

Attendees are also invited to discuss how future events can best serve the needs of your firms, to ensure that the LSA continues to focus on the topics most relevant to regional issues.

Employee engagement and legal technology

Forthcoming new resources on the LSA website in 2010 include an employee engagement toolkit specifically relevant to the legal profession to enable law firms to easily assess where they are on their employee engagement journey.

IT and Legal technology is a key area where law firms can save money and reduce their carbon footprint. The LSA website will soon include expert guidance on best-practice in this area, including forthcoming blogs by IT experts.

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 and season's greetings,

Micael

