

March 2010

Dear Member

Welcome to the first 2010 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 163 members. Members who have recently joined include Clarke Willmott, Nabarro and Walker Morris. LSA members represent more than a quarter of solicitors in private practice in England & Wales.

This year the LSA is expanding its focus to include broader environmental sustainability issues. **Waste** and **transport** will be the key focus areas for the LSA in 2010. The LSA will also retain an ongoing focus on broader carbon reduction initiatives to ensure that LSA members continue to share best practice and drive improvement in this area.

The LSA model has already demonstrated success in the UK and the LSA will promote the model to other jurisdictions in 2010. The LSA has recently joined forces with key figures in the Australian legal sector to develop AusLSA based on the LSA model in the UK. The LSA has shared its skills, knowledge and experience of working collaboratively to take action on climate change in order to assist our counterparts in the Southern Hemisphere.

Hot Topic – LSA carbon footprint report

32 members publicly reported their carbon footprint using the [LSA Carbon Protocol](#) in this year's [Carbon Footprint Protocol Report](#). The results reveal an overall reduction in absolute carbon emissions of 4% among the LSA executive members since the first public report, demonstrating that carbon management remains a key priority for members, despite the economic downturn.

Going forward the LSA annual carbon report will contain increasingly comprehensive performance data as an increasing number of members publicly report performance year on year.

Hot Topic 2 – Integrating carbon reduction and stakeholder engagement

Investment in local community based carbon reduction projects provides the perfect vehicle for employee and wider stakeholder engagement. Shelley Bartlett and Jonathan Ekin, from sustainability experts C-Change, have written an [exclusive comment piece](#) for the LSA, outlining key issues for the legal sector.

Hot Topic 3 - Earth Hour 2010

The Law Society and the LSA [executive members](#) are all supporting WWF's Earth Hour. On 27 March 2010 they'll be turning off the lights at their offices at 8.30pm for one hour.

Please [sign up](#) too and switch off to support people and wildlife threatened by climate change. WWF's [Support Pack for Business](#) outlines the key themes of the campaign along with ideas for activities and fundraising - a great step-by-step guide for any members who want to take things forward in their own offices.

LSA Update – resources and events for members

Regional forums

The LSA is hosting a series of regional events in 2010 to showcase the business benefits of taking a proactive approach to climate change, with a focus on key climate impacts and opportunities for law firms. The events will include case studies from law firms and expert guest speakers to highlight the business and cost benefits of acting on climate change.

LSA Forums will be held in the following locations:

Ipswich: April 20, 16:15 - 18:00, hosted by Gotelee & Goldsmith

Cambridge: June 8, 16:15 - 18:00, hosted by Mills & Reeve

For more information on these events and details of additional future events please visit the [LSA website](#).

New case studies, employee engagement and legal technology

Forthcoming new [resources](#) on the LSA website include:

- new case studies highlighting climate change best practice by LSA members
- the LSA employee engagement toolkit
- expert guidance on legal technology, including 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,

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