



Association of **Lawyers for Children**
Promoting justice for children and young people



19-21 November 2026
Delta Hotels Bristol City Centre

Keynote Speaker:
Lady Justice King

With thanks to our sponsors





To make a booking & secure your place at
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www.alc.org.uk

Click on 'Events and Training'



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Payable to CPE:

CPE
4 Netley Lodge Close
Netley Abbey
Southampton
SO31 5BT





THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER

13:30 – 15:30	Registration	
15:30 – 15:45	Welcome and AGM – Wifi sponsored by 42BR	
15:45 – 16:45	Legal Aid Update – Samantha Little , Solicitor, Russell-Cooke and Jerry Bull , Solicitor, Atkins Hope Solicitors Sponsored by DNA LEGAL	
16:45 – 17:00	Tea/Coffee	
17:00 – 17:45	Do we have a shared vision for the future of family justice? Jude Eyre , Associate Director, Nuffield Family Justice Observatory	
17.45 – 18.45	Non-Fatal strangulation and children: the challenges of making invisible harm visible Professor Catherine White , Medical Director of the Institute for Addressing Strangulation (IFAS)	
18:45	Buffet supper Dinner wine sponsored by Expert Witness Gateway	

FRIDAY 20 NOVEMBER

07:30 – 09:00	Breakfast	
08:30 – 09:00	Registration for new delegates	
09:00 – 09:45	Welcome and Introduction Her Honour Judge Stephanie Cope , Senior Circuit Judge and Designated Family Judge Bristol Civil and Family Justice Centre, Conference Chair Co Chairs' Report – Lorraine Cavanagh KC , St Johns Buildings Chambers and Jamie Niven-Phillips , Cafcass Legal	
09:45 – 10:45	Keynote Address by The Right Honourable Lady Justice King	
10:45 – 11:15	Tea/Coffee	
11:15 – 11:30	Address by The Right Honourable Sir Stephen Cobb , President of the Family Division	
11:30 – 12:00	The Honourable Mrs Justice Knowles, DBE – Child Focused Courts	
12:00 – 13:15	WORKSHOP A (1) Surrogacy: navigating the legal framework, procedure and reform Sarah Dodds , Senior Associate at Birketts and Professor Kirsty Horsey , Loughborough University (2) Achieving Best Evidence: Ensuring the voice of the child is heard – Dr Martin Vaughan , Managing Director Vaughan Training (3) Age Assessments for Unaccompanied Asylum seeking Children – Harry Johnston-Sluka , Senior Solicitor and Tricia Lawlor , Senior case worker at Invicta Law (4) The Homicide Timeline: Deconstructing and Evidencing Coercive Control – Sarah Ellis , Barrister, Foundry Chambers, Homicide Timeline (5) Mental Health in International Family Law: How the Courts Approach the Needs of Adult Parties and Subject Children – Anita Guha KC , 1 KBW Chambers and Forum Shah , Partner at Dawson Cornwell LLP (6) "But where is the evidence?" Re-thinking how children communicate their sexual abuse in family proceedings - Emma Barwell , Consultant Social Worker, Centre of expertise on child sexual abuse.	

FRIDAY 20 NOVEMBER (Continued)

13:15 – 14:15	Lunch	
14:15 – 15:15	Panel Discussion: Managing Vulnerability in family proceedings – Chaired by The Honourable Ms Justice Henke, DBE, Lucy Turner , Intermediary from the Intermediary Cooperative, Dr Roger Hutchinson , Psychologist, Gemma Taylor KC , 42 BR Chambers, Richard Ellis , Partner at RWK Goodman Sponsored by Cubas	
15:15 – 16:30	WORKSHOPS B (1) Surrogacy: navigating the legal framework, procedure and reform Sarah Dodds , Senior Associate at Birketts and Professor Kirsty Horsey , Loughborough University (2) Achieving Best Evidence: Ensuring the voice of the child is heard – Dr Martin Vaughan , Managing Director of Vaughan Training (3) Age Assessments for Unaccompanied Asylum seeking Children – Harry Johnston-Sluka , Senior Solicitor and Tricia Lawlor , Senior case worker at Invicta Law (4) The Homicide Timeline: Deconstructing and Evidencing Coercive Control – Sarah Ellis , Foundry Chambers, Homicide Timeline (5) Mental Health in International Family Law: How the Courts Approach the Needs of Adult Parties and Subject Children – Anita Guha KC , 1 KBW Chambers and Forum Shah , Partner at Dawson Cornwell LLP (6) “But where is the evidence?” Re-thinking how children communicate their sexual abuse in family proceedings – Emma Barwell , Consultant Social Worker, Centre of expertise on child sexual abuse.	
16:30 – 16:45	Tea/Coffee	
16:45 – 17:00	Presentation by DNA Legal	
17:00 – 18:00	When Influence Looks like Choice: Hidden Need, Online Harm and Vulnerability in Adolescents (from exclusion, exploitation and the “manosphere” to harmful online communities, autistic distress, self-harm and complex presentations in young people) – Dr Sara Kutereba , Clinical Psychologist	
19:30	Pre-dinner drinks followed by Gala Dinner With a performance by Time Flies (featuring His Honour Judge Patrick Perusko) Drinks reception sponsored by 1GC Dinner wine sponsored by 4PB Band sponsored by DNA LEGAL Social media sponsored by LEXTOX Sweet Trolley sponsored by Cansford Labs	    

SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER

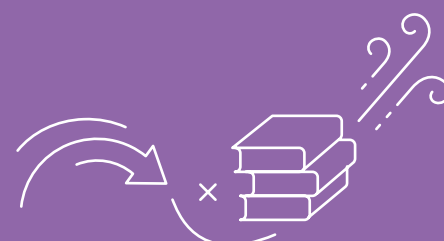
07:30 – 09:30	Breakfast	
09:00 – 09:30	Registration for new delegates	
09:30 – 10:30	Private Law Update – Andrew Powell KC , 4PB Chambers Sponsored by DNA LEGAL	
10:30 – 11:30	The physical signs of child sexual abuse: An overview of the evidence base and how clinicians and experts use it. – Dr Michelle Cutland , Consultant Paediatrician and Clinical Director, The Bridge	
11:30 – 12:00	Tea/Coffee	
12:00 – 13:00	Public Law Update – Susannah Johnson KC , 7BR Chambers Sponsored by Garden Court Chambers	
13:00	Closing Remarks by Chairs and Lunch	



Full residential conference fee at the Delta Hotels Bristol City Centre, ALC member	£665
Full residential conference fee at the Delta Hotels Bristol City Centre, Non ALC member	£790
Full residential conference fee at the Delta Hotels Bristol City Centre, Local Authority Lawyers	£570
Full residential conference fee at the Delta Hotels Bristol City Centre, 2 ALC members sharing	£525 each
Three day non-residential conference fee, excluding B&B and dinners	£470
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(One-day non-residential fee excludes B&B)	
Thursday only, including supper but excluding accommodation	£175
Friday only, excluding dinner and accommodation	£270
Friday only, including gala dinner but excluding accommodation	£315
Friday only, excluding dinner and accommodation, ALC member who is a junior member of profession - less than 5 years PQE or 5 years call	£100
Saturday only, including lunch	£175
Partner's rate for B&B, per night	£20
Partner's rate for Thursday, including B&B and supper	£75
Partner's rate for Friday, including B&B and gala dinner	£115



Special requirements **MUST** be specified when booking





Venue

Delta Hotels Bristol City Centre
2 Lower Castle Street, Old Market,
Bristol, BS1 3AD
Telephone: 0117 929 4281
Check-in after 3pm.

How to Get There

Rail

The nearest mainline station is Temple Meads. The station is under a mile from the hotel and served well by taxis and buses. For more information please call National Railway Enquiry Service on 03457 484950.

Car

From the M4 take J19 signposted the M32, stay on the M32 at the first set of lights join the left hand lane signposted towards Temple Meads train station. Do not go under the under pass but take the slip road to the large roundabout (sign posted Broadmead & A420) and move into the right hand lane. Take the third exit of the roundabout, bear right into Lower Castle Street.

Bristol is now a clean air zone. Please see here for further details and charges: www.bristol.gov.uk/residents/streets-travel/bristols-caz

Air

The nearest airport is Bristol International Airport, 9 miles.

Car Parking

The hotel does not offer onsite carparking.

The nearest car parking is located next to the hotel in an NCP (Broadmead NCP, BS1 3AF).

See NCP website for prices, www.ncp.co.uk/find-a-car-park/car-parks/bristol-broadmead/

Conference overnight residents are offered a reduced rate of £17.00 per 24 hours.

Facilities

Delta Hotels Bristol City Centre – Fitness on site.

How to Book

Bookings MUST be made online and priority will be on a first come, first served basis. Once the Conference Hotel is full, alternative accommodation will be found nearby and you will be advised accordingly.

Online booking only via the ALC website: www.alc.org.uk
Click on the **Events & Training** button.

Payment by Secure Bank Transfer
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CPE

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Please note that payment must be received and acknowledged prior to the event.

Refunds

Refunds will only be made on cancellations received before Mon 19th October, less an administration charge of £50.

No refunds will be made after that date. However, a substitute delegate is acceptable.

Both pre-paid and unpaid bookings will be liable for full charge. Full joining instructions will be sent to delegates approximately 10 days prior to the event once full payment has been received.

Queries & Assistance

For assistance with booking please contact Helen or Abi on 01371 705050 or email alc@cpluse.co.uk

For all other matters relating to conference contact Francesca: email admin@alc.org.uk or call 07473 590332.

Continuing Competence

Solicitors: Attending this conference will contribute to the 'SRA competency part B: legal knowledge' requirement of your training and development plan.

Dress Code

Casual during the day.

The Gala Dinner is a 'Glad Rag' affair: Cocktail Dresses and Lounge Suits.

Become a Member of The ALC

Membership of the ALC is open to all legal and other professionals working with or for children.

Annual subscription for lawyers: £85
(discount for group membership)

Associate membership (non lawyers): £40

Student membership: £15

Further details available from:

www.alc.org.uk

Email: admin@alc.org.uk

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