



**Synopsis of Civil Justice Council meeting held on
27 April 2018**

A team from **Lexis Nexis and ThoughtWorks** made a presentation to the Council on three pilot projects they have been developing; including an Insurance Checker application to encourage increased use legal expenses insurance, a simplified process for completing Personal Independence Payment (PIP) 2 forms and a triage tool for use in advice centres. These projects arose from the CJC's 10-year strategy for access to justice for citizens without means. Lexis-Nexis also presented on a variety of studies showing the status of available legal representation and support. They hope to attract further funding and make these projects available to the advice sector.

The Council discussed the further work done on **Anti-Social Behaviour Injunctions** following an inter-disciplinary meeting held in Bristol on the 11th April 2018 which had been a success. It was agreed that a new working group would be established to produce a report and recommendations, with HHJ Cotter as the chair.

The Council received updates from its **Working Groups**:

- ADR - the workshop on the 6th March had been a success. The working group had later met in April 2018 and a final report was being put together with the aim of completing this before the July 2018 meeting.
- The Litigant in Person Engagement Group had been focusing on engagement with Online Civil Money Claims. The CJC would run its next regional workshop in Exeter on the 7th June including an opening of a Law Clinic at the University of Exeter. The next national forum was scheduled for the 7th December 2018.
- A Clinical Negligence working group meeting was held on the 23rd April 2018 at the Law Society, attended by a wide range of stakeholder representatives. A core group would be created which would meet over the coming months and report back to the wider group. The aim was to complete the work by December 2018.
- The Boundary disputes working group was working with the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors and Property Litigation Association to adopt a protocol (created by the PLA) and produce a collection of guidance documents for the public.
- The Council was informed that the Holiday Sickness working group had completed its report on the first stage of its work. The new rules would come

into force from the 7th May affecting this year's holiday season. The group had now commenced work on looking at low value claims more generally.

The representative from the **Ministry of Justice** provided an update on recent work including the second reading the following week of the Civil Liability Bill. The post-implementation review of LASPO Part1 (legal aid) was now in progress. The CJC would be holding a seminar in the summer in relation to the review of Part II of the Act. The CJC discussed its planned further engagement on Part I.

The Council discussed the CJC commissioned research report on **Assisted Digital**, which had been received and would be published following feedback from members.

The Council was updated on **developments in civil justice** of note including an appeal in the *Merricks v Mastercard* case and publication of a green paper on modernising consumer markets by the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

The secretariat provided an update on work undertaken to achieve compliance by the Council on the **General Data Protection Regulation** which was due to come into force on the 25th May.

Finally, the Council was informed that the response had been sent to the **HMCTS Estates consultation** had been sent and would be published online. The 2018-2019 **Business Plan** was also further discussed and signed off by Council members.

The date of the next meeting is Friday 27th July 2018