

The Law Society at 2018 political party conferences

The Law Society of England and Wales will attend the Liberal Democrat, Labour and Conservative Party Conferences and run a programme of activities and events. Our priorities for the 2018 party conference season are to:

- Maintain the attractiveness of the legal jurisdiction after Brexit
- Make the legal system accessible for all
- Ensure the UK leads the way on technology.

You can find out more about our recommendations to Government in these areas here.

Liberal Democrat Party Conference 2018

Brighton, Monday 17 September

Time	Venue	Event	Members can attend
<i>Monday 17 September</i>			
18.15 - 19.30	Hilton Metropole	<p><i>The impact of Brexit on legal services and the justice system</i> Panel discussion hosted by the Rights-Liberties-Justice</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baroness Ludford, Liberal Democrat Brexit Spokesperson • David Greene, Deputy Vice President the Law Society of England and Wales • 3rd panellist TBC • James Sandbach, Chair of Rights-Liberties-Justice (Liberal Democrat Lawyers Association) 	Yes

Labour Party Conference 2018

Liverpool, Sunday 23 – Tuesday 25 September

Time	Venue	Event	Members can attend
<i>Sunday 23 September</i>			
18.30 - 20.30	ACC – Hall 2, Room 1 (in the secure zone)	<p><i>The future of justice in the UK</i></p> <p>Panel discussion on the future of the justice system including legal aid, the LASPO review and the criminal justice system in conjunction with the Society of Labour Lawyers and the Bar Council.</p> <p>Confirmed speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simon Davis (Vice President, Law Society) • Baroness Chakrabarti (Shadow Attorney General) • Nick Thomas-Symonds MP (Shadow Solicitor General) • Richard Burgon MP (Shadow Lord Chancellor) • Kate O'Rourke, Chair of Labour Lawyers (Chair) • Andrew Walker QC (Chair, the Bar Council) 	Yes
21.00 - 23.00	Malmaison Liverpool	Dinner with legally qualified parliamentarians hosted by the Law Society of England and Wales in association with the Society of Labour Lawyers	Invitation only
<i>Monday 24 September</i>			
17.30 – 19.30	Gusto Restaurant and Bar (the bar area) Edward Pavilion Albert Dock Liverpool L3 4AF	<p><i>The Law is Broken: How Labour can fix our Criminal Justice system</i></p> <p>Law Society Vice President, Simon Davis, will be speaking at the Young Labour Lawyers annual reception</p>	Yes
<i>Tuesday 25 September</i>			
12.00- 13.30	Albert Suite 3, Hilton Hotel, Liverpool	<p><i>Court reforms, rights and the rule of law</i></p> <p>Panel discussion in conjunction with the Society of Labour Lawyers, JUSTICE and the Bar Council.</p> <p>Confirmed speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jodie Blackstock (Legal Director, JUSTICE) • Andrew Walker QC (Chair, the Bar Council) • Simon Davis (Vice President, Law Society) • Baroness Chakrabarti (Shadow Attorney General) • Sir Keir Starmer MP (Shadow Secretary of State for Exiting the EU) 	Yes

Conservative Party Conference 2018

Birmingham, Monday 1 – Tuesday 2 October

Time	Venue	Event	Members can attend
<i>Monday 1 October</i>			
18.30 – 20.00	The Banqueting Suite, The Council House, Victoria Square, Birmingham, B1 1BB	<p><i>Society of Conservative Lawyers, Law Society and Bar Council drinks reception</i></p> <p>Drinks reception with short speeches from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Gauke MP, Lord Chancellor • Victoria Prentis MP, Chair of Society of Conservative Lawyers • Simon Davis, Vice President of the Law Society • Andrew Walker QC, Chair of the Bar Council 	Invitation only
<i>Tuesday 2 October</i>			
08.00 – 09.00	Hall 6, Birmingham ICC, (in the secure zone)	<p><i>Legal and ethical implications of artificial intelligence: what are the threats and opportunities?</i></p> <p>Panel discussion with ConservativeHome.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christina Blacklaws, President, Law Society • Neil O'Brien MP, Science and Technology Committee • Kelly Tolhurst, Small Business, Consumers and Corporate Responsibility Minister (invited) • Matthew Fell, CBI Chief UK Policy • ConservativeHome (Chair) 	Yes
12.45 – 14.00	Scherzo, Hyatt Regency, Birmingham	<p><i>Making the justice system work – what are the necessary features of a functioning justice system and how do we ensure that these work in practice?</i></p> <p>Panel discussion with Society of Conservative Lawyers, JUSTICE and Bar Council.</p> <p>Confirmed speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christina Blacklaws, President, Law Society • Andrew Walker QC, Chair, Bar Council • Andrea Coomber, Director, JUSTICE • Lucy Frazer QC MP, Justice Minister • Victoria Prentis MP, Chair of Society of Conservative Lawyers (Chair) 	Yes
17.45 – 19.00	Executive Room 2, ICC Birmingham, (in the secure zone)	<p><i>Global Britain: what does it mean?</i></p> <p>Panel discussion with Prospect.</p> <p>Confirmed speakers:</p>	Yes

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Christina Blacklaws, President, Law Society• Richard Graham MP, Exiting the European Union Committee• The Rt Hon. the Lord Adonis• Steve Broomfield, Deputy Editor of Prospect (Chair)	
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