

UK COLLABORATIVE PLAN FOR PRO BONO

The UK Collaborative Plan for Pro Bono (the "Plan") is a profession-led initiative made up of law firms with a strong institutional commitment to pro bono and access to justice. The Plan now has almost 40 firms participating firms¹ and covers over 12,300 lawyers. Participating firms collaborate with each other in order to improve access to justice through pro bono in the UK.

The Plan incorporates an aspirational law firm target of 25 pro bono hours (on average) per lawyer in the UK per year.

The statistics below relate to a survey of the pro bono work undertaken in the UK in the calendar year 2015 by 36 of the Plan's member firms.



¹ Member firms as at 30 September 2016: Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, Allen & Overy, Arnold & Porter LLP, Ashurst, Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP, Clifford Chance, Cooley LLP, Covington and Burling LLP, Dechert LLP, Dentons, DLA Piper UK LLP, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Gibson Dunn, Herbert Smith Freehills LLP, Hogan Lovells, Holman Fenwick Willan LLP, Kirkland & Ellis LLP, Kingsley Napley, King & Wood Mallesons, Latham & Watkins LLP, Linklaters, Mishcon de Reya, Morgan Lewis, Morrison Foerster, O'Melveny & Myers LLP, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP, Reed Smith, Ropes & Gray LLP, Seyfarth Shaw LLP, Shearman & Sterling LLP, Simmons & Simmons, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom (UK) LLP, Travers Smith, Vinson & Elkins, Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, White & Case, WilmerHale, Wragge Lawrence Graham & Co LLP.

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Task forces supporting access to justice

The Collaborative Plan has several Task Forces which have been formed to share resources and discuss pro bono opportunities relating to particular areas of law. Task Forces exist for Domestic Violence, Employment, Housing, Immigration and Welfare Benefits.

These Task Forces meet periodically and are able to share information through a secure deal room provided on a pro bono basis by Intralinks.

Case Study: Collaborative Domestic Violence & Family Law Legal Clinic

One of the reasons for forming the UK Collaborative Plan was the idea to not only share ideas and aspirations but, where possible, to jointly establish projects together.

The Domestic Violence Task Force have formed a collaborative Domestic Violence & Family Law Legal Clinic which is now run by six of the firms from the Task Force: Gibson Dunn, Reed Smith, Ropes & Gray, Shearman & Sterling, Skadden Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom and Travers Smith. The firms shared the cost of training in the area of domestic violence and family

law; shared the responsibility for forming a relationship with a local legal advice centre to help create the clinic and now share the responsibility for sending volunteers to provide free legal advice to those in need.

This clinic exemplifies the collaborative nature of firms within the Plan and the idea that by working together we are better equipped to form collective projects and are able to help individuals in need and improve access to justice.

UKademy 13-14 September 2016

The Plan organised UKademy, a free professional development conference in London, aimed at people who manage pro bono in law firms. UKademy was developed in response to Plan member discussions that focused on how firms could share practical knowledge with each other to help expand their

respective pro bono practices. The conference was open to anyone who develops or manages pro bono work in a law firm setting and was not limited to Plan members. UKademy was also used to launch an on-going pro bono manager mentoring scheme.



Representatives from Collaborative Plan member firms at the July 2016 quarterly meeting hosted by Weil Gotshal and Manges