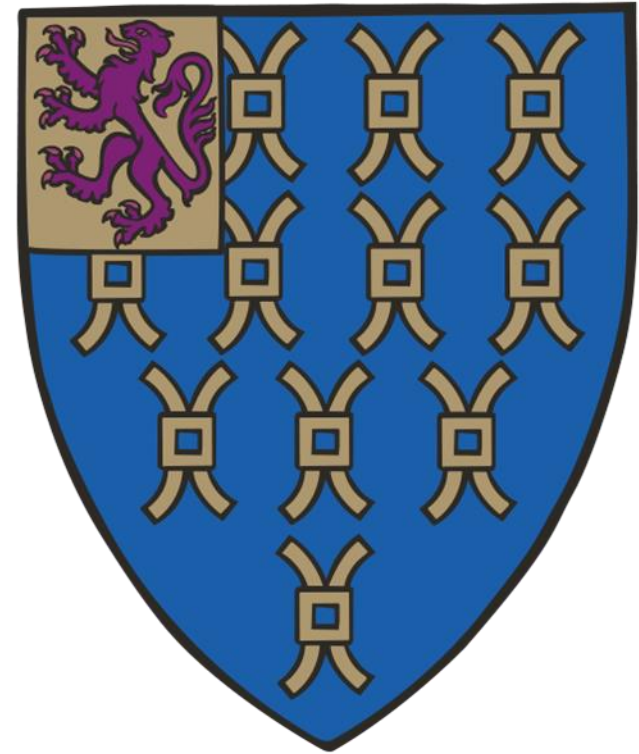


# The work and selection of Benchers and Getting involved in the Inn



# Tonight's Panel

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**Faye Appleton**, Director of  
Membership & Education

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**Thomas Barrett**, Benchers &  
Employed Barrister at GLD

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**Claire Palmer**, Benchers & Self-  
Employed Barrister at 5 Essex Court

# Governance at the Inn

Benchers together form the Inn's governing body: Council

Council is responsible for the oversight of the Inn's function and the election of new Benchers

Committees carry out the detailed oversight of the Inn's operations which are delivered by the Inn's professional teams

Committees are chaired by Benchers of the Inn and most members are Benchers but they are joined in this work by barristers of the Inn

Each year Benchers elected the Officers of the Inn: Treasurer, Keeper of the Library, Keeper of the Black Book, and Keeper of the Walks

# What do Benchers do?

Oversee the Inn's governance through Council and the Inn's Committees

Play an active role in the Inn's educational and member engagement activities

Represent the Inn with other organisations such as the Bar Council, BSB and other key stakeholders through committees, working groups, and responding to consultations

Contribution and time commitment varies depending on individual's skills, interests, and availability

# Who are our Benchers?

249 Ordinary Benchers – 79 Emeritus Benchers  
– 74 Honorary Benchers

Ordinary Benchers: 112 Silks, 35 Juniors, and 66 judges

Wide range of practice areas and locations

Areas of and for improvement: women, ethnic minorities, and the Employed Bar

Between four and sixteen new Benchers per year

# The Advisory (Benchers) Committee

Committee responsible  
for selecting the slate  
of candidates for  
Bencher elections

Trained in fair selection  
and conscious and  
unconscious bias

Reports to Council

Proposes double the  
number of candidates  
as vacancies for  
election by Council

# | Composition of A(B)C

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Practice Areas: Crime, Family, Commercial,  
Chancery, Tax, Employment

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Judicial: Two High Court judges and a Circuit  
judge

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8 Benchers and 4 Hall members

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Circuit representation

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Employed Bar representation

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Range of backgrounds and protected  
characteristics

# Criteria

Set out in  
Standing Orders

## **Eligibility criteria**

A member of the Inn  
for at least five years

Called to the Bar

## **Selection criteria**

Standing in the legal profession

Past contribution to the Inn and / or legal  
profession

Promotion of Diversity

Experience demonstrating suitability to be a  
Bencher

Ability and willingness to serve the Inn



# Process

Those who wish to be considered submit the Bench Register Form on the Inn's website



Forms reviewed by two members of the A(B)C



A(B)C puts forward twice as many candidates as there are vacancies



A(B)C prepares a report on the candidates for Council, based on the information in the candidate's form



Ordinary Benchers vote by secret ballot (elections held twice a year – May and November)



[MEMBERS](#)

[STUDENT MEMBERS](#)

[BECOMING A BARRISTER](#)

[WHAT'S ON](#)

[SCHOLARSHIPS & PRIZES](#)

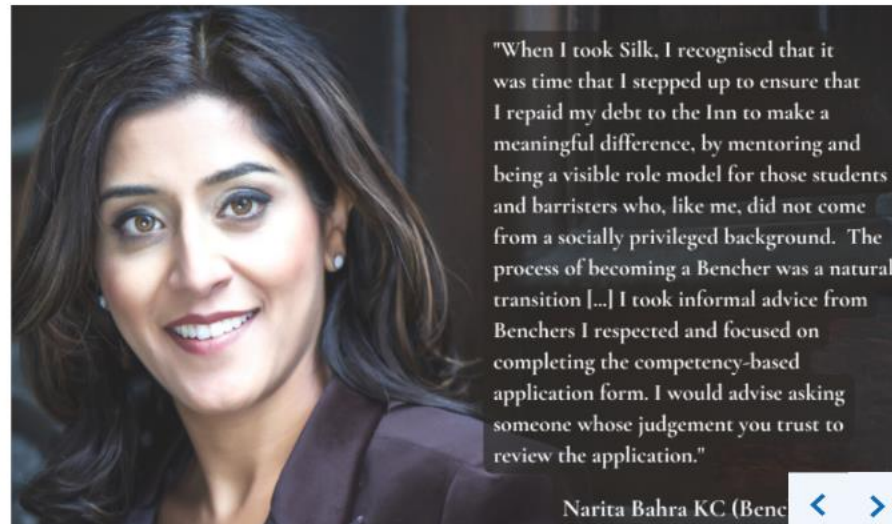
[LIBRARY & ARCHIVES](#)

[THE ESTATE](#)

[ABOUT US](#)

## Becoming a Bencher

What is a Bencher, how are they elected and how does one apply? Here you will find answers to frequently asked questions about the process for becoming a Lincoln's Inn Bencher, along with the guidance and information you need to apply.



### Members

[Member Services](#)

[Support for Members](#)

[Our Professional Community](#)

[Education & Training](#)

[Groups & Societies](#)

[Becoming a Bencher](#)

[International Members](#)

[Ad Eundem Membership](#)

[Representation](#)

[Volunteering](#)

[Code of Conduct for Members](#)

[In Memoriam submission form](#)

[In Memoriam](#)



# Being a Benchher



Questions?



Get Involved

Advocacy Training

Moderating &  
Facilitating

Mentoring &  
Marshalling

Outreach

Scholarships

Lectures and Panels

Writing

# Advocacy Training

## **Accredited Advocacy Tutor**

Training pupils, new practitioners, and established practitioners

## **Students' Advocacy Tutor**

Training students as part of qualifying sessions

## **When?**

Saturdays, full weekends, and evenings



# Moderating & Facilitating

## **Ethics and Case Analysis Sessions**

Facilitating sessions for students, pupils, and new practitioners

## **Advocacy & the Vulnerable**

Facilitating sessions for established practitioners

## **Mooting & Debating**

Workshop sessions for students

## **When?**

Saturdays and evenings

# Mentoring & Marshalling

## **Mentoring Scheme**

Providing students  
with careers advice

## **Pupillage Advice**

Either one-off  
evening or longer  
term

## **Marshalling Scheme**

Judges providing  
students the  
opportunity to  
marshal

When?

Evenings and weekdays

Outreach

## **Open Days**

Informal afternoons

## **University Information**

### **Afternoons & Dinners**

Panel session followed  
by dinner in Hall

## **Regional Presentations**

Single speaker or  
panel sessions at  
universities around  
the country

When?

Evenings and weekday afternoons

# Scholarships

## **Sifting**

Conducting paper sift of candidates for  
GDL and Bar Course

## **Interviewing**

For GDL and Bar Course scholarships in  
London, Birmingham or Manchester

## **When?**

Saturdays and evenings



# Lectures and Panels

Qualifying Sessions

EU and Human Rights

Diversity & Inclusion

**When?**  
Evenings

Writing

Ethics scenarios

Advocacy exercises

Moot problems

**When?**

At your leisure(!)



Find out more at  
[lincolnsinn.org.uk/members/get-involved](https://lincolnsinn.org.uk/members/get-involved)

# Roles at the Inn for Hall members

Bar Representation Committee  
(BRC)

BRC Sub-Committees

Circuit Representatives



Questions?