



DETAILS OF APPOINTMENT

Appointment title: Member of the Council of the Civil Justice Council

Organisation: Civil Justice Council

Location: London

Start date of appointment: 30 April 2009

Closing date for applications: 25 February 2009

Interview dates: 11-13 March 2009

Induction date: 10am – 12pm, 30 April 2009

Next Council meeting: 2pm – 4pm, 30 April 2009

Length of appointment: Three years

Time commitment: Around eight days per annum

Remuneration: This post is non-remunerated

Expenses: Reasonable travel expenses to Civil Justice Council meetings will be reimbursed

Role specification: The primary task of the Civil Justice Council is to promote the needs of civil justice and to monitor the system to ensure that progress to modernise it continues. Under the Civil Procedure Act 1997, it is required to keep the civil justice system under review; consider how to make the civil justice system more accessible, fair and efficient; advise the Lord Chancellor and the judiciary on the development of the civil justice system; refer proposals for changes in the civil justice system to the Lord Chancellor and the Civil Procedure Rule Committee; and make proposals for research.

Members will have a remit to ensure the discharge of statutory duties; to attend quarterly Council meetings and quarterly Committee meetings; to serve on 1-2 Committees; to prepare for such meetings by reading papers provided in advance; where Chair of Committee, to deliver Committee reports at the Council meeting; to provide written papers as required; to contribute to the drafting of consultation papers as required; where member of Oversight Group, to maintain an e-mail exchange and monitoring function with other members.

Person specification:

Essential

1. Applicants must have experience:
 - as a practitioner covering a wide spectrum of disputes; and/or
 - of consumer affairs/ lay advice sector; and/or
 - in industry and the representation of the interests of particular kinds of litigants (such as business, industry, or employees); and/or
 - of legal aid.
2. Broad familiarity with the civil justice reforms.
3. The applicant will be well placed to consider if the civil justice reforms are working well.
4. The applicant will be well placed to notice whether the reforms are having unforeseen effects and costs.
5. Knowledge of the Civil Procedure Rules.

Desirable

6. Evidence of drafting and committee skills.

Essential

7. Willingness to make sufficient time available for serving on the Council and at least one of its Committees, and to contribute fully to the work of the Council and its committees. Ability to complete a period of service of three years.

How to apply:

The Civil Justice Council is committed to improving its diversity and welcomes applications irrespective of race, ethnic or national origin, sex, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, religion, religious beliefs or similar philosophical belief, age, gender re-assignment or community background. We would particularly welcome candidates from under-represented groups, for example women, people with disabilities and members from black and minority ethnic communities. All public appointments are based on the principle of merit.

You may obtain further details and application papers from www.civiljusticecouncil.gov.uk. To discuss these roles in complete confidence please call Kitty Doherty on 020 7947 6585. The closing date for applications will be Wednesday 25 February 2009.

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