# The London Logal Support Trust

Supporting free legal advice agencies throughout London and the South East

WWW.LONDONLEGALSUPPORTTRUST.ORG.UK

## The London Legal Support Trust

We work to support access to justice for those who need it most throughout London and the South East. We do this by raising funds for free legal advice agencies. We also provide free management support to the agencies.

Most of the funds that we raise come from fundraising events such as the London Legal Walk. We also receive generous donations from the legal profession and, increasingly, from other charitable trusts.

We are part of a network of seven Legal Support Trusts across England and in Wales working with the Access to Justice Foundation to support pro bono and advice agencies, ensuring funds can be distributed where needed most.



LLST's flagship event, the London Legal Walk has been held annually since 2005. Now the biggest event in the legal calendar, the walk sees thousands of people from across the sector take on a 10km sponsored walk through central London. Starting and ending with a street party behind the Royal Courts of Justice, this summer walk is a perfect way to support access to justice with your team.



Many other events take place throughout the year. As well as regional Legal Walks all across the UK, there are national Quizzes and Bake sales which take place in-house.

In London, there are varied events; from a sponsored dog walk, to a marathon length Thames challenge. Unique, accessible events make it easy for everyone to get involved and enjoy the fun! We also have places on third party events such as; the London Marathon, and the Big Half.







### Sector Support

The funds we raise go to supporting legal advice providers including Law Centres, Citizens Advice and other legal advice agencies. We help by providing them with grant funding, offering our knowledge and experience of the sector, and supporting them to become more sustainable through our organisational development programme.

#### Small Grants

We hold small grant rounds three times a year. Free legal advice agencies can apply for grants for a variety of needs. Typical grant requests include: funding for a specific staffing role, IT upgrades and other infrastructure improvements, as well as emergency grants to 'keep doors open' for a service or for a whole advice centre.



The Centres of Excellence (COEx) Scheme supports a core group of around 40 key advice agencies in London and the South East. The aim is to assist the agency to improve overall and increase their sustainability. Centres are awarded COEx status once they meet specific criteria, and are supported to continue developing and improving on all aspects of their organisation.

LLST provides training sessions for COEx throughout the year on topics of importance, as well as core funding and arranging networking events to facilitate collaboration and support. Providing support and guidance alongside our grant funding helps to make sure that every penny raised by our supporters is well spent.

"LLST has provided [us] with invaluable support, not just in terms of financial support, but also through their willingness to share their knowledge of the legal service landscape and their experience from supporting other organisations. The financial support we have received from LLST has been crucial in helping us deal with unforeseen issues and to enable us to continue to provide innovative and high quality accessible services. Thank goodness for LLST."

Stuart Hearne Co-Director Islington Law Centre

As well as grant giving, LLST provides other wrap around support for the sector. We run various money saving schemes including a stationery buying group, and archiving group, and we also negotiate favourable relationships with telecoms providers, printer and photocopier services, and other services from which all free legal advice centres can benefit. A regular newsletter helps to promote discounted and free options to the sector and facilitate inter-sector collaboration sharing news including funding opportunities, vacancies, and more. We promote "self-help" as well as efficiency in the sector and any free legal

#### **Centres of Excellence**

We promote "self-help" as well as efficiency in the sector and any free legal advice agency can fundraise for themselves at our events, enabling them to engage with their community and raise funds themselves with no administrative costs.

### Get involved

There are many ways that you can support LLST:

- Get signed up to take part in our fundraising events
- Get match funding from your organisation for any sponsorship you raise
- Make a firm or individual donation to support LLST's work
- Sponsor an event, or an element of one we have many flexible sponsorship opportunities
- Spread the word about the vital work we do

We are fortunate to have many strong supporters throughout the legal sector, and are always keen to work with firms, chambers, service providers, and other organisations who support our cause of promoting access to justice.

"Many of our key pro bono projects rely on strong partnerships with the advice sector – we strongly support the [LLST centres] of excellence] programme which rewards and promotes good governance. helping to create a more robust and sustainable advice sector."

#### Paul Yates Head of Pro Bono **Freshfields**

"The support we have received from LLST has been vital in helping us to develop our work supporting vulnerable users with complex needs" **Eddie Coppinger** Director Legal Advice Centre

#### Get in touch

We would love to hear from you - drop us an email, tweet us, or pick up the phone.

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For more information about us, our events, and what we do, please visit: www.londonlegalsupporttrust.org.uk

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