

**Minutes of Meeting of Legal Aid Special Interest Group Committee held on  
Tuesday 14 November 2023 at 8pm**

Present: Bob Baker  
Paul Seddon  
Rachel Perkins  
Charlotte Flanders  
Ann Henderson  
Carol Calver (ACL head of operations)

**1. AP from last minutes**

AP3 (Recording outcomes of IP recoveries) – PS will carry this over to January PET. He will communicate with Chris Needham and will send draft email to AH for feedback. **[AP1]**.

AP5 (PS to report on today's PET) – unfortunately PS was unable to attend due to overrunning meeting.

**2. 2024 seminar(s)**

It was felt that next year the LAG would hold one in person seminar in the autumn. Committee agreed that remote earlier in the year did not work due to the size of the LAG and risk that this would reduce bookings for the subsequent in person seminar. CC suggested that, if possible, this be held at an ACL member's premises to save on costs. PS suggested that an email advising of proposed date/location be circulated to LAG members confirming that numbers would be limited. **[AP2]**

CC advised that following the breakout session at the ACL London conference in October, that the LAG now had 6 or so new members.

Suggested date was agreed of Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024. Discussion took place regarding location.

PS agreed to do extended version of his breakout session on claiming and recovering inter partes costs under legal aid at the seminar, and that this would include family IP.

CC discussed survey from ACL weekly email – it was requested that Legal Aid information be included. CC will check for specifics.

CC to review feedback from October cancellation survey regarding requested topics.

Seminar to be carried over for discussion in Spring meeting.

**3. RoCLA**

BB to send latest information to PS. CC to see if KK happy to continue attending meetings. Discussion regarding whether LAG needed to attend in light of the MoJ's refusal to review fees schemes, PS suggested that we choose which to attend rather than attend all meetings, but CF thought it was important that the ACL maintained a presence.

Post meeting note – PS has agreed to attend meeting 18.01.24. **[AP3]**

**4. Billing meeting**

AH/CF confirmed that this had been cancelled. CF confirmed next meeting to be held on 08.12.23. An email to LAG members should be circulated a week or so beforehand. **[AP4]**

**5. Civil PET**

As previously mentioned, PS was unable to attend due to another overrunning meeting. PS to check on outcome of discussion about minimum 15% uplift for Children Panel members for work funded under non-children certificates, and ECCT briefing/update. [AP6]

**6. SPG/CCCF**

No one is available to attend next meeting, so BB to send apologies [AP5]. PS agreed to attend CCCG on 06.12.23.

BB agreed to circulate 2024 dates (see table below)

**7. HCCP PET dates**

AH agreed to circulate 2024 dates (see table below). Next meeting 30.01.24 – AH agreed to attend.

**8. Update re ACL website**

CC confirmed that PS had attended the ACL office to assist with this. CC gave update and advised it would be simpler and easier to navigate. CC believes that the website will be ready for testing before Christmas (CF agreed to assist with this) and that hopefully the website would be live at end of January.

**9. LAG committee handbook**

CC requested the return of outstanding signatures. [AP7]

**10. Election**

In view of the new LAG committee handbook, it was agreed that there would be an election in the new year. Nomination forms to be circulated in December, for January election. [AP8]

**11. AOB**

None

Next meeting – TBC

**2024 dates:**

<b>RoCLA</b>		<b>PET HCF</b>		<b>SGP</b>		<b>CCCG</b>	
18.01.24	PS	30.01.24	AH	20.02.24		13.03.24	
21.03.24		30.04.24		23.05.24		12.06.24	
		16.07.24		05.09.24		18.09.24	
		15.10.24		TBA		04.12.24	

AP1	Recording outcomes of IP recoveries	PS
AP2	Circulate email re LAG 2024 seminar	CC
AP3	RoCLA meetings	CC/PS
AP4	Email re billing meeting	CF/CC
AP5	Return of signed LAG handbook page	RP/CF
AP6	Check on Children Panel Uplift and ECCT briefing at Civil PET meeting of 14/11/2023	PS
AP7	Apologies re SPG	BB
AP8	Nomination forms/Election	CC