

Changing the Law

Successful reform



One-week professional development workshop
4 to 8 November 2019



BRITISH ACCREDITATION COUNCIL
ACCREDITED SHORT COURSE PROVIDER

PAi is accredited by the
British Accreditation Council
for Independent Further and Higher Education

About the workshop

Reform of the law is vital across the world and is becoming ever more important. As societies become more complex, it is crucial that the law is as fair, modern, simple and cost-effective as possible. Increasingly it is essential for reform of the law to be principled, to be based on sound methods, and to take account of the views not only of experts, but also of civil society. In some countries law reform is undertaken by government alone. However, in an ever-increasing number of other countries, law reform commissions and other permanent law reform agencies provide expert and detailed advice to governments; there are now over sixty such agencies.

Law reform typically aims to improve protection for the vulnerable, sustain the rule of law and increase human rights. It has to be respected, reliable, rigorous and responsive. Law reform agencies have to capture the attention of governments, and law reformers therefore need to be dynamic, imaginative, creative and forward-thinking. They can be catalysts of change, responsive both to the public they serve and to the latest issues and challenges in the world.

Who is it for?

This one-week capacity building workshop is designed for all those involved in law reform, including:

- Those working for law reform commissions, committees and institutions
- Law reformers working within governments
- Other major contributors such as parliamentarians, judges and academic lawyers.

Participants are most likely to be working at middle to senior levels, and be equally from countries where law reform is a major priority, or from those where resources for law reform are much smaller. The workshop first took place in 2008. So far we have welcomed participants from countries as varied as Bermuda, Botswana, Brunei, Canada, Ireland, Kenya, Mongolia and Nigeria, including many Law Reform Agency Chairs, Commissioners and Chief Executives / Secretaries.

How participants will benefit

The workshop will help you to:

- Explore different organisational structures for law reform, and how to establish them
- Increase understanding of a variety of methods of achieving successful law reform
- Discover the full value to law reformers of wide consultation and outside expertise
- Consider legislative and other methods of reforming the law
- Enable you to share your experience with others from different legal and political systems
- Contribute to your professional development.

“Michael Sayers was an excellent leader and provided a sophisticated setting for discussion of all aspects of law reform processes, exceeding my (already high) expectations of the workshop.”

Ray Byrne

Director of Research (and subsequently appointed a Law Commissioner)

Law Reform Commission

Ireland

What the workshop will cover

The workshop will include presentations, case studies and discussions. It is designed flexibly, so that it can be adjusted to meet the specific requirements of participants and their organisations. Visiting speakers or visit hosts are likely to include an experienced law reformer, the Chief Executive of the Law Commission for England and Wales and law reform staff with practical experience of working in the UK Government's Ministry of Justice.

Programme outline

| | AM | PM |
|-------|---|---|
| Day 1 | Welcome and introductions Overview of law reform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is law reform? • Why is law reform needed? | Who does law reform? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of government, the legislature, the courts and law reform agencies Participants' informal presentations |
| Day 2 | Independent law reform: the advantages and disadvantages Establishing a new reform agency Characteristics of successful law reform | Doing law reform (1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choosing, planning and managing projects • Research: legal, policy and empirical Case study: introduction |
| Day 3 | Doing law reform (2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with the public • Assistance from experts • Publications and presentation; the media Case study: group work by participants | <i>Visit to the Law Commission</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting and discussion with the Chief Executive and law reformers Relationships between law reformers and Government |
| Day 4 | Law reform: standards, values, motivation and ethics; international obligations and the Sustainable Development Goals Law reform with limited resources International co-operation in law reform | <i>Visit to/from the Ministry of Justice</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions with a law reformer |
| Day 5 | Doing law reform (3) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After-report work • Law reform reports: implementation and impact | Review and evaluation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concluding discussions • Participants' action planning • Presentation of certificates of attendance |

We reserve the right to change the programme as necessary.

Language

The workshop is conducted in English. You will need to have a good working knowledge of the language.

Location and arrival arrangements

The workshop is based in central London. We can arrange travel to and from one of the London airports into central London if you let us have your flight arrival details in good time. The cost of airports transfers is included in the tuition fee.

Fees

The fee for the workshop will be £2,280. It includes tuition, travel to and from the airport in London, travel on scheduled visits which form part of the programme¹, presentation material and other documentation. It also includes a sim-enabled Android tablet for you to use during the workshop and take home with you. We also provide a light lunch and refreshments during each working day as part of the fee.

Other costs

Airfares and daily travel to and from the workshop venue are not included. Our workshops are non-residential and you are responsible for your accommodation costs. We can help you with booking hotel accommodation so please let us know if you would like us to advise you or make a reservation. We suggest that you should allow approximately £160 per day for a modest standard of hotel (for example, three-star), local travel in the UK, meals (apart from a light lunch on working days) and other incidental expenses.

Value Added Tax

We do not have to charge UK Value Added Tax (VAT) if you can provide written confirmation from your government or its accredited representative that you are “employed by the government in furtherance of its sovereign activities”. In all other cases, we will have to charge VAT (currently 20%) in addition to the fee.

Ways to pay

You, or your government agency, can pay by bank transfer or by cheque made payable to Public Administration International. We accept payment by credit or debit card but there is a surcharge for this way of paying. Please contact us if you would like to pay by credit or debit card.

Discounts

We offer a 10% reduction on the full tuition fee if we receive payment no later than 21 days before the first day of the workshop. If we receive payment after that, we will charge the full tuition fee.

Cancellation

If you have to cancel your booking, you must let us know in writing and we will acknowledge in writing your cancellation.

Substitutions and transfers

If you have booked a place on a workshop and are not able to attend, we will accept a substitute at any time without penalty but our normal terms and conditions will apply. Also, it is possible to transfer to a future workshop but only one transfer is permitted. Please get in touch with us and we will advise you about transfers.

Please see our website for our full terms and conditions. If you would prefer a hard copy of our full terms and conditions, please let us know.

<http://www.public-admin.co.uk/terms-and-conditions-for-booking>

Insurance

We advise you to arrange travel and health insurance cover before you leave your home country.

¹Travel to and from the airport in London and on scheduled visits in the programme are provided at cost.

Workshop Director

The Workshop Director is Michael Sayers, a barrister. For ten years, he was the Chief Executive of the Law Commission, the official law reform body for England and Wales. He previously worked on reforming the law in a variety of governmental posts. He co-founded the Commonwealth Association of Law Reform Agencies (www.calras.org), of which he is the first General Secretary. He has represented CALRAs at all recent Commonwealth Law Ministers' meetings. He has acted as a consultant in law reform for the World Bank, the British Council, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the European Development Fund and the Canadian International Development Agency. His work on law reform has taken him to Uganda, Turkmenistan, Trinidad, South Africa, Northern Ireland, Nigeria, Malaysia, Malawi, Kenya, Indonesia, India, Hong Kong, Ghana, Chile, Brunei, Botswana, Bangladesh and Australia. He has written a number of published articles on law reform. He is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Who we are

PAI (Public Administration International) specialises in management consultancy, training and development services for organisations in, and associated with, the public sector worldwide. We provide advice and support for governments going through political, economic, structural and legislative change. Our extensive network of associates includes practitioners, academics and independent consultants. Our key objectives are promoting good governance and good practice in delivering public services. This workshop is one of a number of specialist UK-based professional development workshops designed to meet the needs of public services worldwide.

We pride ourselves on our:

- High quality, practical advice and support for our clients
- Professionalism and integrity
- Ability to offer excellent value for money
- Sound experience and track record internationally
- Networks and partnerships across the world
- Flexible, collaborative approach
- Friendliness and focus on putting people first.

How to apply

Please complete the PAI application form and post, fax or email it to Amanda Anderson, Programme Manager, at the address on the bottom of the page.

You can also apply online via our website www.public-admin.co.uk

If you would like to discuss this workshop, any of our other international workshops or our consultancy services, please contact Claire Cameron, Director.

We also have extensive experience of designing tailor-made training (from one day to two or three weeks) which can be run in your own country or in the UK to meet the specific needs of groups or individuals at all levels within your organisation. For example, PAI has recently run tailored versions of this workshop in Malaysia and Uganda, with a range of participants. Please contact us if you would like further information.

Where we are



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