

WOMEN WHO WILL

*Celebrating progress
in female leadership
in law.*

2021

obelisk

NEXT
HUNDRED
YEARS 

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METHODOLOGY

In compiling this report, the teams at Obelisk Support and Next 100 Years invited nominations from senior General Counsel and other leaders in law, as well as including women recognised by the judges of the Next 100 Years Inspirational Women in Law Awards 2020 and doing our own research across published and social media. Space only permits us to shout out 21 brilliant women in this report. We know there are many, many more Women Who Will in our profession, and we hope this prompts greater recognition of all the talented women across the legal industry.

Introduction

A letter from Dana Denis-Smith

After the glowing reception of our inaugural “Women Who Will” report in 2020, I am delighted to welcome you to this year’s edition. Building on six years of work by the First 100 Years and Next 100 Years campaign, this report celebrates the achievements and potential of women in law.

For many of us, 2021 opened with another lockdown, with the varied pressures that brought for each of us. The added burden on our mental health and associated loss of well-being, particularly experienced by women in the profession, left many of us at risk of burnout and craving respite. As we recover from the demands the pandemic made of us, it is even sweeter to close this year by celebrating the talent, ingenuity and resilience of our Women Who Will and all the other gifted women in our industry.

I am also encouraged to see how the winds of change continue to blow as life settles to some kind of new normal again. This year has seen a number of significant women appointments at the top of the profession.

Congratulations to Deborah Finkler, first managing partner at Slaughter & May, Karen Davies, first woman global chair at Ashursts, Marie-Aimée de Dampierre, first solo woman chair at Hogan Lovells and to Aedamar Comiskey, Senior Partner at Linklaters, Carolena Gordon, Senior Partner at Clyde & Co and Rebecca Maslen-Stannage, Senior Partner at



Herbert Smiths Freehills, the first women in these roles at their firms. This year also saw the appointment of the first woman Lady Chief Justice in 100 years for Northern Ireland, Dame Siobhan Keegan, and the Old Bailey criminal court in London achieved gender parity across its judges for the first time. Another significant milestone was reached in March this year, when I. Stephanie Boyce became the 177th Law Society President, the first person of colour and black woman to hold that office.

Yes, we are still far from seeing balanced representation across the judiciary, business leadership and professions. Yet still we move forward, step by step, towards a future-facing profession where men and women have true equality of both opportunity and outcome.

Dana Denis-Smith

CEO, Obelisk Support and founder of the Next 100 Years project

2021

Diversity statistics for women and Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic (BAME) people in different areas of the UK legal profession

* Data collected from the Ministry of Justice Report: [Diversity of the judiciary: Legal professions, new appointments and current post-holders](#), published July 2021

** In relation to the top 100 UK Law Firms. Research conducted by Next 100 Years, October 2021

*** Based on desk research, November 2021

COURTS

Supreme Court:

2 / 12 Justices are women*

0% are BAME*



Court of Appeal & High Court:

29%

Women*

4%

BAME*



LAW FIRMS

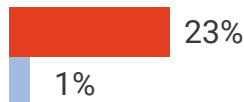
of Top UK Law Firms where the holder of the most senior leadership position are:

22 Women **

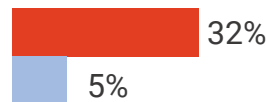
2 BAME **

22 Women
2 BAME

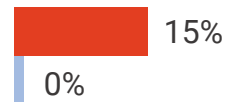
23% Managing Partner



32% Senior Partner



15% CEO



IN HOUSE

of General Counsel at FTSE 100 Companies***:

31

Women




BAR

% of Queen's Counsel are*:

18% Women

10% BAME



“Whilst this appointment might be seen as casting me into the role of standard bearer, I am simply a practitioner following a career path. I am confident, nevertheless, that I am the *first of many to come.*”

-- Dame Linda Dobbs, DBE



WOMEN WHO WILL

In-house

Amy McConnell

Vodafone

Head of Legal Operations

Celebrated for advancing the profile of in-house legal operations

Amy has worked at Vodafone for 13 years, developing her career through a number of different legal roles. Before accepting her current role, she spent time on secondment as Chief of Staff for Vodafone Business. Bringing her operational experience and insight from this role back into the legal team as Head of Legal Operations, Amy is now leading a team of legal operations professionals.

A passionate champion of technology and its potential to transform the legal industry, Amy is a

regular contributor to initiatives such as LawTech UK's Sandbox. She is a regular speaker at technology events, sharing her ideas and vision with peers around the world.

Banke Odunaike

CBRE

Head of Legal, EMEA

Celebrated for driving innovation in diversity & inclusion

Following time in private practice with Gosschalks, Shoosmiths and Addleshaw Goddard, Banke made the move in-house to Mercer, before moving to CBRE five years ago. As well as developing her own inclusive leadership style, Banke has been a champion of diversity for the legal profession. 2021 saw her and CBRE become one of the foundation signatories to the UK Model Diversity Survey, an initiative to encourage collaboration between in-house teams and their legal service suppliers to drive greater diversity across the profession.

Christa Hotton

LendInvest

Senior Legal Counsel

Put forward by Ruth Pearson, General Counsel and Company Secretary, LendInvest

"Christa is technically brilliant, confident, commands respect, is comfortable in the limelight and is well-liked across the business, from members of the Board to junior members of the team. A rare combination which I have no doubt will see her continued success in the future."

Christa joined the LendInvest legal team as an incentives specialist from A&O and rapidly became an essential part of the general counsel team. She has taken challenging issues in her stride, led on project work and responded to the impact of COVID 19 with confidence and skill. Christa quickly established herself as a role model and this year she acts as a Diversity & Inclusion Champion in the business, being a keen advocate of all women in the workplace.

Rebecca Mills

EasyJet

Deputy General Counsel

Put forward by Maaike de Bie, Group General Counsel & Company Secretary, EasyJet

"What sets Rebecca apart is besides being an excellent lawyer and business colleague - she is passionate about the wellbeing and success of her team. In the words of one of her team members,



"Her leadership has been second to none. She has supported, coached and championed me and I couldn't have done what we have done over the last few years without her personal support and guidance." Rebecca consistently leads her team with energy, compassion and enthusiasm."

After a number of years in private practice and a brief period working in business, Rebecca joined easyJet in 2010. Since then, she has held progressively more senior roles. Rebecca also worked on the business side of the procurement team for 18 months before returning to the legal team. In her current role, Rebecca leads the legal team responsible for all areas of law across the Group, including Commercial, Customer, Corporate, IP, Litigation & Claims Handling, Legal Ops, Employment, Finance and Procurement. She has also been on the management and Executive Board of EasyJet Holidays since it launched in 2019.

Emma Lilley

SD Worx

Sole Legal Counsel (UK & I)

Put forward by Richard Given, General Counsel, 10X Future Technologies Limited

"In 2019 Emma established [In-House Potter](#) which is one of the places where you go to find out how to become a lawyer without having to follow the traditional LPC/law firm trainee journey. She has been very successful in opening law to a very diverse cross section of society, providing information as to the opportunities that SQE is creating as well as discussing the realities of what being a lawyer means and helping people with starting their careers."

Emma is a demonstration that you do not need great A-levels and to go to a Russell Group University to shine and be a role model." She is a graduate of Staffordshire University and started her career in law, which has been purely in-house, with WEX Europe Services in 2015. She was promoted to Legal Counsel at WEX, before leaving to join Manchester Airports Group as a Commercial Solicitor in 2018. She took on her current position in January 2021.

Kate Lowe

Bupa

Head of Legal, Bupa Global

Put forward by Carl Blake, Group Legal Director, Bupa

"Kate is the exemplar for leadership within in-house legal functions. She is a 'legal wrestler' of the highest order, equally adept at grappling with the knottiest of legal issues in our highly regulated insurance business and grappling with the challenges that come with leading a team of high-performing lawyers and other professionals spread around the globe. Her determination to do what is right for customers and for the business shines through in all that she does, and she has been particularly strong through the pandemic in leading her (remote) troops from the front and acting as trusted counsel to the most senior executives across the Bupa Global business. Her toughness is matched only by her compassion."

After studying at Newcastle University, Kate trained with RPC before moving to Capsticks as a Senior Solicitor. Starting with Bupa as a Senior Legal Advisor in 2012, Kate has built her career with the company, moving to her current role as Head of Legal for Bupa Global just before the pandemic struck in February 2020.

Leeanne Whaley

BT

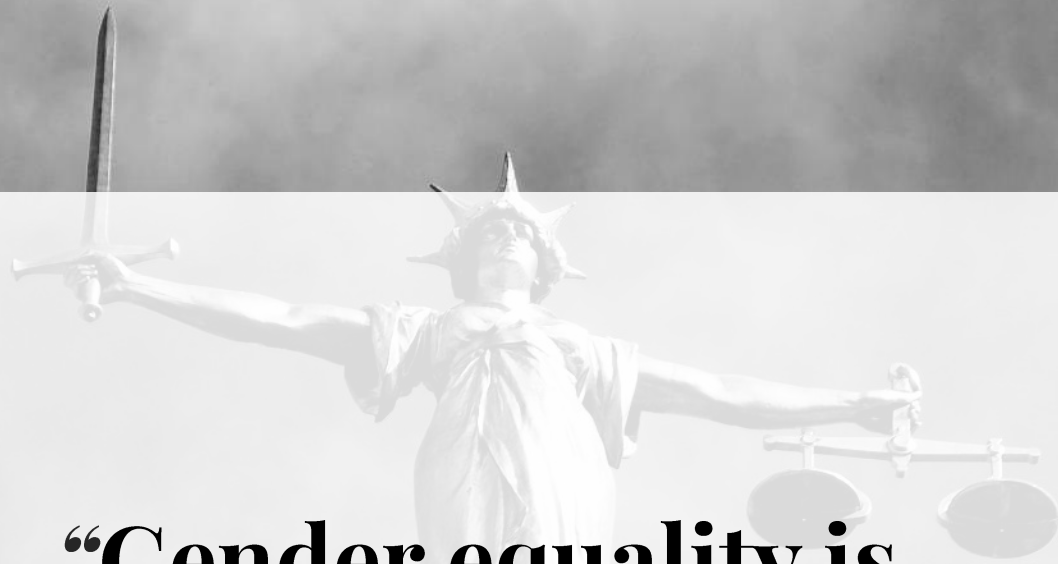
Transformation Director, Legal and Co Sec, BT

Put forward by Ruth Murphy, formerly of BT, now Head of Legal, Google Ireland

"Leeanne is an inspiration both in her role as a trusted legal advisor and also as a business leader. She loves a challenge, she inspires her teams to be true business leaders, ensuring legal is creating value across our business. She is passionate about seizing opportunities, owning your career and being brave in these decisions. She is a stand-out role model both internally in our business, and externally, consistently challenging the status quo, spotting opportunities for change and making that change happen. As she has done this she has constantly sponsored and mentored junior people both in the business and in our legal community, ensuring talent thrives. She brings "edge", bravery and diversity of thought to every debate, ensuring the best outcome for our business. For me, she is the very definition of a *woman who will.*"

Leeanne has had a diverse career to date, a journey from private practice to a number of in-house roles in manufacturing and technology. In BT she has held a number of senior roles from end-to-end commercial support as a senior lawyer, to taking on the role of Legal Director of Procurement and Partnering for BT. She has now taken on the role of Transformation Director for Legal and Co Sec in BT.





“Gender equality is within our grasp and *law is one of the mechanisms* that can be used to secure it. However, it requires **persistence and constant review.”**

-- Helena Kennedy, Baroness Kennedy of the Shaws, QC



Private practice & the bar

Ana Paula Telleria

NGH
Partner

Put forward by Yves Hayaux du Tilly, Partner, NHG

“Ana Paula is one of the youngest partners at NHG and a key member. In addition, she is involved in various pro-bono activities working with Abogadas MX, UN Global Compact and ONU Women supporting inclusion in Mexico's law firms. Last year, she led the Next 100 years campaign in Mexico, hosted by NHG, with excellent results.”

Ana Paula's practice focuses mainly on securities and capital markets, with significant expertise in secured transactions, including joint ventures, mergers and acquisitions and corporate related matters. She is also a member of NHG's Sustainable/ESG Transition

Working Group, advising clients on the transition of their business into a sustainable economy, reaching their sustainable development goals, applying environmental, social and corporate governance principles in their investments and activities.

Emma Hughes

Mills and Partners Solicitors
Legal Assistant Paralegal

Celebrated for her work with Bridging the Bar

As well as establishing her legal career, Emma is a member of the Bridging the Bar Committee, working to create opportunities for those from underrepresented backgrounds to succeed in a career at the Bar. Outside of her role at BTB, she serves as the Middle Temple Young Barrister's Association (MTYBA's) Diversity and Inclusion Officer, and sits on the Bar Council Race Working Group. Emma has received an Access to the Bar Award and a Jules Thorn Scholarship from Middle Temple.

Maria Patsalos

Mishcon de Reya

Partner

Celebrated for her work on behalf of the women judges in Afghanistan

Maria is a Partner in Mishcon Private on all areas of Immigration law and is recognised as an expert in her field by both Chambers and Legal 500. In 2021, Maria and colleagues from Mishcon de Reya acted pro bono to support the cases of a number of women judges in Afghanistan seeking visas for the UK, following the rise of the Taliban. Maria also founded and supervises the immigration element of Pink Law, a free legal advice service for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals run via Queen Mary University.

Kerry O'Connell

Slaughter & May

Partner

Put forward by Beatrice Vos, Deputy General Counsel, Elanco

"Kerry consistently goes above and beyond for her clients - for instance, in her support of Elanco's acquisition of Bayer Animal Health - while keeping a balance with her private and family life. Kerry is a role model!"

After studying at the University of Manchester, Kerry came straight to the law and has specialised in competition. She has experience of both EU and UK competition law and has acted on a number of merger, antitrust, state aid and regulatory matters.

Lucy Cole

Clifford Chance

Future Trainee Solicitor

Celebrated for her work on demystifying the path to the profession

Having graduated from the University of Exeter, Lucy is currently working in the Marketing team at Clifford Chance, before starting her training contract. She is also the COO of GROW Mentoring, a registered charity that aims to increase diversity, inclusion and social mobility in the legal industry by creating mentoring partnerships. With over 11,000 followers on Instagram and her own blog, she has shared her experiences of finding her way into the legal profession, encouraging others to follow in her footsteps.

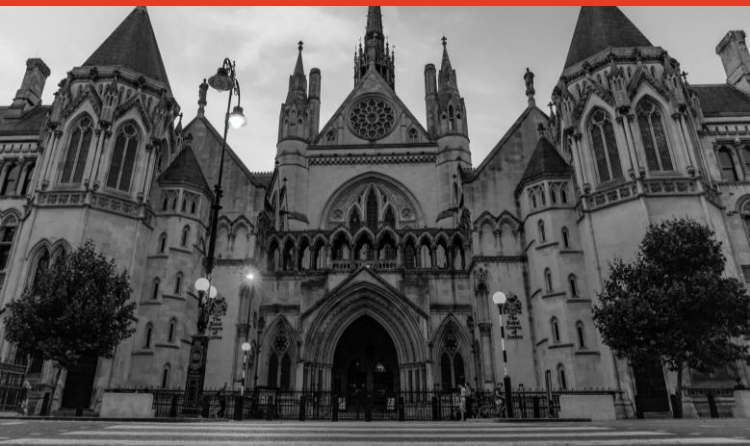
Kama Melly QC

Park Square Barristers

Barrister

Recognised by the Inspirational Women in Law Awards in 2020

Kama is widely recognised as one of the foremost advocates in the North East, known for her technical ability and as a powerful advocate. She specialises in criminal law, in particular sexual offences, including historical cases and child cases. She is recommended by both the Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners, and has been particularly recognised for her expertise in working with young defendants.



Samina Iqbal

Goldsmith Chambers

Barrister

Recognised by the Inspirational Women in Law Awards in 2020

Samina is a senior public law and immigration practitioner with over 20 years' experience. Samina specialises in immigration law with a background in family law. She is ranked in the Legal 500 2021 edition, Immigration, (Tier 3 – Leading Juniors) and as a leading junior within Chambers & Partners 2021 edition (Band 4).

Samina was also first appointed as a Fee-Paid Judge in the First-Tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber) in 2006 and was at the time one of the youngest appointees. She has subsequently been appointed to the Social Entitlement Chamber in 2018 and in 2017, as an Environment and Traffic Adjudicator.

Tracey Dovaston

Boies Shiller Flexner LLP

Solicitor

Recognised by the Inspirational Women in Law Awards in 2020

Tracey has extensive experience acting on behalf of financial services and corporate clients in global regulatory investigations, representing both firms and individuals under investigation by the Financial Conduct Authority, the Prudential Regulation Authority, the Serious Fraud Office, and other global regulators and prosecutors.

Prior to joining Boies Schiller Flexner, Tracey was Head of Litigation Investigations & Enforcement for Barclays in the UK and EMEA, and held an equivalent role at GE Capital for the EMEA region prior to this. She has sat on client advisory boards of law firms and is an active member and advocate of multiple organizations that bring together thought leaders and innovators in the field of diversity and inclusion.

Sue McLean

Baker Mackenzie

Partner

Celebrated for her work with the SCL Women in Tech Law network

As a technology specialist, Sue advises on issues relating to outsourcing, cloud, digital transformation, technology procurement, development and licensing, m/e-commerce, AI, blockchain and data privacy. Her clients include some of the world's best known tech companies and multinational corporations. She also enjoys working with emerging and growth companies and is sought after as a speaker and writer on the impact of disruptive technologies. She is an advocate for women in the profession and founder of the Society for Computers & Law Women in Tech Law network.

“You do not have to be perfect. *You really, really don't.* **You've got what you've got: you've got the brain you've got; the background with which you were visited; you've got the looks that you are given.** *All you can do is capitalise on them.*”

-- *Dame Anne Rafferty DBE, PC*



Change-makers

Elisabet Hardy

Thomson Reuters

VP Product Management

Put forward by Jim Leason, VP Customer Proposition, Thomson Reuters

Throughout her more than two decades of leading global product management teams at technology companies including Thomson Reuters, INFOR, and Sage, Elisabet has championed technology innovation as a transformative enabler for the legal profession.

“Elisabet runs the product management team for Elite 3E, one of the mission critical systems used in the legal industry. She manages the

talent in her team, as well as being a fantastic colleague and partner to work with, recognising the contributions of others around Thomson Reuters. She is also available to all our customers around the world giving them the confidence that we have them covered.”

Anne Bodley

Founder Lex: Lead

Solicitor

Recognised by the Inspirational Women in Law Awards in 2020

Anne has combined a career in law in-house with founding a pioneering charity project to support economic advancement and development.

Anne has achieved this by running an essay writing competition open to aspiring lawyers from the world's poorest countries, along with internship and mentoring opportunities to help winners further their legal career.

Penelope Warne

CMS

Senior Partner and Head of Energy

Put forward by Dr Sam De Silva, Partner, CMS

"During the incredibly challenging times of the past year, Penelope has truly led from the top showing that the firm's people are the greatest asset and should be treated as family. Penelope has been a pillar of strength for all of us in weathering the storm together and with the firm's support, we have been able to continue working hard to deliver exceptional results for our clients. It is these qualities of a leader today that inspires and builds the leaders of tomorrow."



Penelope became CMS's first female Senior Partner in 2014 and at that time, was the only female senior partner in the top 20 global and the top 20 UK law firms. As well as her work with CMS, she also holds board positions with the Law Society and business school IMD. A passionate advocate for diversity and inclusion in the City, Penelope's contribution has been previously recognised by the UK Legal 500 Awards "Outstanding Contribution" award.

Susan Cooper

Accutraine

Founder

Celebrated for launching the Accutraine Scholarship programme

Having trained with Hogan Lovells before time spent in the construction industry, Susan founded her legal services business Accutraine in December 2011. This year saw the business launch their pioneering Accutraine Scholarship programme, a partnership with in-house legal teams and leading law firms that pays the SQE fees and exams and provides placements for deserving candidates who may not otherwise be able to enter the profession. In its first year, the scheme has already opened doors for five talented lawyers of the future.



Yasmin Lambert

RSGI

Managing Director

Put forward by Reena SenGupta, CEO, RSG Consulting Limited

“Yasmin showed unbelievable resilience, creativity and dynamism throughout 2020. Thrust into acting as the interim-CEO of RSG, due to my cancer, she was then faced with not only having to run the business, but to help pivot it in the face of the pandemic. She did this with two under 5s at home, in a flat with no outside space, a working husband and homeschooling.”

Yasmin advises law firms, legal service providers, technology companies, professional services firms and in-house legal teams on strategy, business development, client relationships, law firm structures and remuneration and transformation.

A skilled facilitator, speaker and coach, Yasmin was part of the executive leadership team which launched the Digital Legal Exchange, the non-profit, global learning institute committed to accelerating digital transformation in corporate legal departments.





Women & Leadership in the new normal

Opportunities & pitfalls post-pandemic

When we published our first [“Women Who Will” report](#) in November 2020, the world was still waiting for the Covid-19 vaccine roll-out to start. Legal work in many countries was largely happening from people’s home offices, kitchens, even bedrooms. 12 months and further lockdowns later, the global vaccination campaign is underway and most countries in the world are finding their “new normal” for living with the virus.

Whilst it is too soon to say we are post-pandemic, the trends shaping our new world are emerging. Working from home and hybrid working, for so long held out against by legal traditionalists, are becoming normal practice. Technologies such as video conferencing and video hearings are established. Acceptance of digital documents, as opposed to paper, is growing stronger. In this new working world, where are the opportunities for women leaders in the legal industry? And what potential pitfalls do we need to watch out for?

CELEBRATING ADVANCES IN WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP

Notable advances in women's leadership in 2021

- Kamala Harris was inaugurated as the first woman Vice-President of the United States.
- Female premiers such as Angela Merkel (Germany), Jacinda Ardern (New Zealand) and Katrin Jakobsdottir (Iceland) led an approach to Covid-19 that led to substantially less deaths in their countries than similar countries led by men¹, prompting fresh debate about the unique qualities of women as leaders.
- Clyde & Co, Herbert Smith Freehills and Linklaters announced their first women senior partners, Aedamar Comiskey, Rebecca Maslen-Stannage and Carolena Gordon respectively, following the appointment of Georgia Dawson, first woman senior Partner at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in November 2020.
- Karen Davies became Ashurst's first woman global chair in August 2021, a non-executive role tasked with setting strategic direction for the firm.
- Marie-Aimée de Dampierre was announced as the first solo woman chair at Hogan Lovells.
- Deborah Finkler was appointed first managing partner at Slaughter & May.
- Dame Siobhan Keegan, appointed first woman Lady Chief Justice in 100 years for Northern Ireland.
- I. Stephanie Boyce inaugurated as the 177th Law Society President, the first person of colour and black woman to hold that office.
- Monica Howard Douglas was appointed as Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Coca-Cola Company.

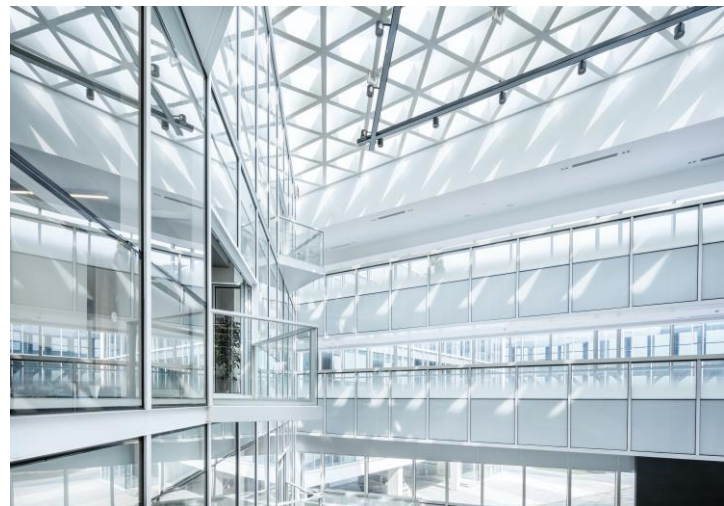
Why is diversity at the top important?

There is a well-established business case for diversity, which clearly demonstrates there are real commercial arguments as well as moral arguments for building more diversity at all levels of an organisation.

Researchers consistently find that increased innovation, a more stable approach to risk and greater profitability all correlate with increased diversity². As the world re-adjusts to life with C-19, legal teams at firms and in-house alike face operating in an increasingly challenging environment. Restrictions to the global supply chain, increased geo-political instability, continued health threats, rising wages and the "great resignation" are all making it harder for leaders to deliver continued growth.

These shifting macro factors make it more important than ever to attract and nurture resilient and innovative leaders.

Greater diversity at the top also tends to encourage greater diversity across an organisation. For example, just months into her new role Georgia Dawson announced a range of new targets for race and gender at Freshfields³.





WHERE ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP IN THIS NEW WORLD?

There are three emerging trends that, if capitalised on to the full, should make it easier for women to stay in their legal careers and develop their full legal potential. In response to the pandemic, the legal industry had to adopt remote working.

1. Now offices are open again, most large firms and in-house teams are offering some form of “hybrid” working. Losing the commute makes it easier to balance work and care, especially childcare, which still tends to disproportionately fall to women.

2. The pandemic has also seen a shift in recognition of the importance of mental health, and the lack of mental wellbeing in the profession. Research published recently in the Financial Times found that 90% of lawyers surveyed said that, if they were applying for a job now, there were firms that they would refuse to work for, regardless of remuneration, because they believe the culture would impact their wellbeing⁴.

3. Finally, the pandemic has led to a shortage of legal talent and increasing competition for talented lawyers at all stages of their careers. In response, employers are increasingly offering a personalised employee experience, tailoring working practices and benefits to meet the needs of a more diverse workforce.

As well as work location and hours, firms have hit the headlines recently with a range of more innovative benefits, including egg freezing and fertility treatment⁵, a wider variety of parental leave packages and support for parents impacted by pregnancy loss⁶.

Alongside these new trends, we continue to see the rise of the status of the in-house legal community, where women have been able to build leadership careers at the highest levels in greater numbers than in the large law firms. And the types of legal career also continue to expand, with roles in legal operations, legal technology and legal design offering alternative opportunities to shine.

Ensuring the profession delivers on this promise

Changing over 100 years' of attitudes and culture takes more than 18 months (many of the firms announcing women senior partners this year launched women's leadership programmes several years ago). We've described previously how entrenched conscious and unconscious biases can hold women back⁷.

Whilst increased hybrid working for both men and women has the potential to alleviate some of the stresses that force working mothers to step back (or leave the profession altogether), senior leaders and policy makers need to be alert to the potential for it to create another type of "mummy track", where those who spend more time working remotely are left out of opportunities to network, build their profile or work on the most exciting projects.

Women are still at a disadvantage when it comes to reward, with a pay gap between men and women of between 40 and 47% reported in the elite firms⁸. This compares with a 13% gap across industry as a whole.

Finally, firms cannot rely on their pipeline alone delivering women leaders in the short-term. Whilst the recent flurry of senior women appointments in the UK is heartening, we are still far from a 50/50 split when it comes to men and women in the most senior positions in the law in most countries around the world. To increase the pace of change, firms in particular need to be less afraid to look outside the partnership and bring in new leadership from outside.



Investing in future legal leaders earlier

Leadership and management as distinct skills need to be nurtured and invested in. Recent research by LawCare found that less than 50% of the professionals surveyed who had management or supervisory responsibilities had been given any kind of formal leadership or management training.

More investment in structured leadership development earlier in lawyers' careers would help both men and women to progress, as well as creating opportunities to explore and redefine what good leadership looks like.

Covid-19 has led to a mass re-evaluation of the employer-employee relationship, work-life balance and our attitudes to risk and security. Against this backdrop, leaders who are in touch with their humanity, flexible in their thinking and able to collaborate are the most likely to succeed.





About the Next 100 Years

Founded by Dana Denis-Smith, CEO of Obelisk Support, who conceived the idea for the First 100 Years project back in 2014 when she stumbled upon a photograph from 1982. It showed City law firm, Herbert Smith (now Herbert Smith Freehills) celebrating its centenary. Front and centre of the photo was the firm's first female partner, Dorothy Livingstone.

For Dana it was the start of a five-year journey to chart and celebrate the history of women in the law and to inspire future generations. Activities have included the commissioning of the first artwork for the Supreme Court to focus on

women lawyers, the publication of "First", a book dedicated to the stories of the women legal pioneers and the creation of an archive of films capturing the stories of the first women to occupy different roles across the profession.

The Next 100 Years continues this work whilst looking to the future and how we can create an equal future for women in law. Obelisk Support is proud to be a founding sponsor of the Project and to have helped it grow and succeed over the last six years.

Find out more about the project at www.next100years.org.uk

INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN IN LAW AWARDS

Six years at a glance

2021

Paralegal of the Year

Toria Barnes

Rebecca Jiggins - Winner

Megan Ryan

Saadia Sharmin*

Marianna Vlas

In-House Lawyer of the Year

Rosamund Browne

Vicky Harris*

Jenny Moore - Winner

Claire Porter-Bryant

Harpreet Sagoo

Legal Academic of the Year

Sarah Hendry

Aoife Nolan

Shaïd Parveen - Winner

Nicole Pierce*

Metka Potocnik

Barrister of the Year

Rehana Azib - Winner

Morayo Fagborun Bennett

Charlotte Proudman

Christina Warner

Diana Wilson*

Solicitor of the Year

Phyllis Acheampong

Katharine Landells*

Samina Majid

Farah O'Brien

Leena Savjani - Winner

Mentor of the Year

Catherine Bamford

Laura Coates*

Amy Cox

Alexandra Gordon - Winner

Jade Williams-Adedeji

Under-35 Lawyer of the Year

Faith Edmunds

Mary-Rachel McCabe*

Emma McIlveen

Chidi Onyeche - Winner

Sabrina Pervez

Champion of the Year

Vanessa Challess

Anthony Metzger QC

Amanda Millar*

Kenny Robertson

Lynette Wieland - Winner

Lifetime Achievement Award

Dame Linda Dobbs DBE

2020

Barrister of the Year

Caoilfhionn Gallagher QC

Anneli Howard

Kama Melly QC - Winner

Sheryl Nwosu

Sarah Pinder

Solicitor of the Year

Amanda Adeola

Vanessa Challess

Tracey Dovaston - Winner

Farzana Naz

Champion of the Year

Natasha Harrison

Samina Iqbal - Winner

Sabeena Pirooz

David Stone

Suzanne White

Under-35 Lawyer of the Year

Chloe Birch

Netanya Clixby

Anne Collins

Sangeetha Iengar

Karlia Lykourgou - Winner

In-House Lawyer of the Year

Shanika Amarasekara MBE

Clare Belcher

Anne Bodley, Lexlead – Winner

Attia Hussain

Amy Marren

Angharad Price

Lifetime Achievement Award

Cherie Blair QC

* Highly commended

INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN IN LAW AWARDS

Six years at a glance

2019

Barrister of the Year

Elaine Banton
Poonam Bhari
Kate Brunner QC
Professor Jo Delahunty QC
Rehana Popal - Winner
Professor Suzanne Rab

Solicitor of the Year

Hermione Allen
Danielle Ayres
Catherine Hart
Dr Laura Janes - Winner
Sarah Khan-Bashir MBE
Kelly Thomson

Champion of the Year

Dr Kim Barker
Alison Eddy - Winner
Jemima Lovatt
Sun-Hee Park
Rachel Pears
Eduardo Reyes

Under-35 Lawyer of the Year

Cynthia Jakes
Stephanie Kay
Coralie McKeivor
Coleen Mensa
Ingrid Munyaneza
Priscilla Osoba - Winner

In-House Lawyer of the Year

Penny Caven
Elaine Hutton
Catherine Palmer - Winner
Ruth Pearson
Prini Pithouse
Angharad Price

Lifetime Achievement Award

Baroness Helena Kennedy QC

2018

Barrister of the Year

Kirsty Brimelow QC - Winner
Martha Cover
Caoilfhionn Gallagher QC
Angela Rafferty QC
Brie Stevens-Hoare QC

Solicitor of the Year

Katja Butler
Hilary Meredith - Winner
Brandusa Tataru-Marinescu
Belinda Lester
Natasha Harrison

Champion of the Year

Ray Berg
Nilema Bhakta-Jones - Winner
Dan Fitz
Charlotte Wannedeaya
Mary-Ann Wright

Under-35 Lawyer of the Year

Frances Hull
Zeena Luchowa
Katherine McAssey
Annsley Merelle Ward
Rachel Welch-Phillips - Winner

In-House Lawyer of the Year

Maaïke de Bie
Ruth Murphy - Winner
Jolie Norris
Anna Suchopar

Lifetime Achievement Award

Baroness Hale

2017

Anita Jewitt - Winner

Harriet Johnson
Suzanne Keenan
Suzanne Szczetnikowicz
Jenny Wilde

2016

Keily Blair - Winner

Annie Flower
Gemma Pesce
Claire Sng
Georgina Wolfe

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