

## Library and Information Service

The aim of the Library and Information Service [LIS] is to provide, source, collate and deliver information, material and services to support the professional information requirements of members of the Bar Library. To this end the LIS holdings include both a significant hard copy collection and a comprehensive electronic collection. In addition the LIS continually evaluates the needs of members and has developed many information support services to add value to Bar Library membership beyond the provision of the collection of legal materials. These services include:

- Legal Enquiry Service
- Bar Library Authority Gathering Service – BLAG
- Provision of OLIB, a unique database of Northern Ireland law
- Current Awareness Services
- Access to corporate deals
- Members' Subscription Service
- Members' Bookshop
- Members' Book Binding Service

The LIS is staffed from Monday to Friday 8.30 am – 6.00 pm (5.00 pm on Friday). The Issue Desk can be contacted in person, or by phone on 028 9056 2599 or by email at [enquiries@barlibrary.com](mailto:enquiries@barlibrary.com) and [BLAG@barlibrary.com](mailto:BLAG@barlibrary.com). Voicemail renewal messages can be left on 028 9056 2472.

### The Collection

**Hard Copy** includes:

- All Northern Ireland legislation, all Westminster Primary legislation, some Irish and European legislation
- An extensive series of law reports
- An extensive series of journals
- Text books and looseleaves on a wide range of legal and allied topics

**Electronic** includes:

As part of Bar Library subscription fees members have unlimited access to an impressive range of online information including:

- **OLIB** - See below
- LexisNexis Legal Library, including Valentine's All the Law of Northern Ireland
- Westlaw UK
- Jordans Family Law, including the Family Law reports, The Family Law Journal, Hershman on Children Law and Practice and Duckworth on Matrimonial finance

There are several other electronic databases that the Library and Information Service has a site licence to and which the staff can search on behalf of the member. These include:

- Additional LexisNexis content
- Lloyds Law Reports online

- Building Law Reports online
- Solicitors Journal online
- Modern Law Review online
- Judicial Review Online
- Westlaw Crime Package online

### **Enquiry Service**

The LIS provides a comprehensive Enquiry and Legal Research Service which aims to meet the information requests of members in a timely and accurate fashion. Enquiries can be made in person, by telephone on 028 9056 2599 or by email to [enquiries@barlibrary.com](mailto:enquiries@barlibrary.com). Each enquiry is assigned a reference number which can be used by members to track its progress. All enquiries are archived to inform the future enhancement of the Information Service. Members are only charged the standard rate per page copied, printed, or faxed. Any additional expenses relating to document delivery from an external source will be agreed with the member in advance. Whilst the LIS team will endeavour to fully respond to all research enquiries they cannot engage in any interpretive work on behalf of the member.

### **BLAG**

The Bar Library Authority Gathering Service – BLAG – provides members with the facility to manage their lists of authorities and bundles for court efficiently and effectively. Lists can be submitted in person, by telephone on 028 9056 2599, by email to [blag@barlibrary.com](mailto:blag@barlibrary.com). On submission of a list of authorities, staff will source, collate and deliver the case law to members. A flexible choice of format of delivery is offered, e.g printed, bound hard copy, pdf bundle complete with indexed table of contents. This professional and reliable service allows members to save significant time by outsourcing authority gathering and only the costs of resources are charged out. Members also have the added benefit of one itemised cost for inclusion in fee submission. The BLAG service complies with the exacting requirements of Practice Direction 4 of 2012 and a 24 hour turn-around of lists will be offered wherever possible. There is no charge for electronic BLAGs.

### **OLIB**

**OLIB** is a unique database of Northern Ireland law designed exclusively for members of the Bar Library. **OLIB** includes continually updated and fully searchable abstracted Northern Ireland case law (both reported and unreported) and NI legislation with electronic links to full text. It also contains the Bar Library catalogue which is fully searchable. Maintained and updated by the Library and Information Service staff the information available on **OLIB** reflects the information needs of barristers in Northern Ireland. It is only available to those who have full membership of the Library.

A recent project has commenced to hypertext link Northern Ireland unreported case law. All judgements from 2015 onwards will be linked and staff are now applying the links retrospectively. The benefit of linked unreported NI case law is exclusive to **OLIB**

### **Current Awareness Service**

The LIS strives to keep members abreast of current legal issues using its Current Awareness Service which is offered in a variety of ways.

#### ***Unreported judgments email update***

To facilitate members being up to date with Northern Ireland judge made law the Current Awareness Service provides weekly email alerts of newly received Northern Ireland unreported judgments. The updates include an abstract of each decision and a link to the

full text of each judgment. To ensure the updates best meet the needs of the membership and to avoid information overload the judgments are sent by areas of practice which reflect the “Areas of Expertise” on the Bar of NI’s Online [Barrister Directory](#). Members wishing to receive updates relevant to their areas of interest should email [enquiries@barlibrary.com](mailto:enquiries@barlibrary.com) for more information.

### ***Family Law Current Awareness***

On a weekly basis during term time, Family Law practitioners benefit from a family Law specific email bulletin which includes practice area specific case law and legislation alerts, journal abstracts and citations, relevant online news and current affairs and online professional journals. All information cited in the bulletin is available within the Library and so an integral part of this service is a document delivery service where members can have hard copy of any piece of information requested delivered to their desks. Copyright declaration forms are a requirement of this service.

There are plans to further develop the practice area Current Awareness bulletins to other areas of law and members will be informed of developments as they are progressed.

### **Access to Corporate Deals (at significantly discounted rates)**

The LIS is constantly striving to access corporate deals on behalf of the membership and currently have negotiated access for members to the following products:

- Times and Sunday Times Online. The price for members is 25% of the RRP
- Westlaw UK Crime Specialist Package, including Archbold, Thomas on Sentencing, Phipson on Evidence, Wilkinson on Road Traffic, Mitchell, Taylor and Talbot on Confiscation and many more
- The Westlaw UK Common Law Library – all Sweet and Maxwell Common law series titles, including Clerk & Lindsell on Tort, Chitty on Contract, Charlesworth and Percy on Negligence, McGregor on Damages and many more
- LexisNexis Common law Library

Details for all add-ons and corporate deals can be obtained from the LIS team at [enquiries@barlibrary.com](mailto:enquiries@barlibrary.com)

### **Members’ Bookshop**

The “Bookshop”, available to all members of the Bar Library, allows members to purchase textbooks and benefit from the corporate discounts offered to the Library from major publishers and booksellers. Staff handle all parts of the purchase process and members are therefore relieved of this administrative burden. Billing is through internal Bar Library accounts.

The majority of major legal publishers offer discounts ranging from 5% - 30%. Members can place their orders in person or by emailing [enquiries@barlibrary.com](mailto:enquiries@barlibrary.com). Lists for all major publications are posted on notice boards and for major forthcoming titles, information will be included in the weekly ezine to members.

### **Members’ Subscription Service**

The LIS offers members a subscription service where staff will manage the administration of individual subscriptions to journals, looseleaves, law reports etc on behalf of the member. In

addition to being relieved of administration the Member will also enjoy the benefit of the corporate discounts offered to the LIS by the major publishers which range from 5% - 30%.

**Members' Book Binding Service**

Members who subscribe to journals and law reports can avail of the corporate binding deals the LIS has negotiated with various binders. Staff will arrange to have loose parts collected and bound by a professional bookbinder with a wide choice of colours and text fonts available.

**October 2017**

Bar Library Membership Fees Applicable for 2021\*

Seniority	Bar Fees (ex VAT)
Year 1	£412
Year 2	£727
Year 3	£1,147
Year 4	£1,637
Year 5	£2,339
Year 6	£3,184
Year 7	£4,093
>7 Years	£5,356
QC	£7,457

\*Subject to Bar Council confirmation

**Payment Options**

To make payment by credit or debit card please contact the Finance Department on +44 (0)28 9056 2497.

Alternatively you can make payment directly into the relevant Bank Account quoting your name or account number as reference using the following details;

Account Name: The Executive Council  
Account Number: 37211784  
Sort Code: 90-21-27  
IBAN: GB67 BOFI 9021 2737 2117 84  
Reference: Name or Account Number

If you have any queries regarding the enclosed please contact the Finance Department on +44 (0)28 9056 2497.