



Annual report 2017/18

Contents

Message from the Chair	4
About us	6
Overview of our work	8
Our influencing work	10
Information service	13
The Strategic Legal Fund	15
Training	16
Membership	20
Finances	24
Thank you	26

“ILPA staff and members
have been at the forefront
of holding the Home
Office to account...”

ILPA

Lindsey House, 40–42 Charterhouse Street, London, EC1M 6JN

Tel: 020 7251 8383

Email: info@ilpa.org.uk

Website: www.ilpa.org.uk

Immigration Law Practitioners' Association, registered charity no 1155286.

A company limited by guarantee no 2350422. Registered in England and Wales.

Registered office Lindsey House, 40–42 Charterhouse Street, London, EC1M 6JN

Message from the Chair

In the last few months developments in the field of immigration law and policy seem to have been focused on Brexit and post-Brexit immigration policy for EU citizens and their family members. Yet all areas of immigration continue to throw up issues of concern.

One consequence of the febrile situation in Parliament and Government is that the basis upon which newly-arriving EU Citizens and their family members will reside in the UK after December 2020 is not clear. Nor, despite assurances, can it be said with complete confidence what the position will be for those already here on Brexit day in March 2019 in the event that a withdrawal agreement does not take effect at all or in time for so-called transitional provisions to kick in. Unilateral commitments about settled status are not set in law, however unlikely a reversal of policy may sound. Much may depend on the evolving UK political situation.

At the time of writing (October 2018) this situation seems particularly fluid. As a result, there are consequences not only for EU Citizens and their family members but for others upon whom immigration law and policy has an impact. The contours of a post-Brexit economic migration policy are yet to emerge. It seems unlikely that the Tier 2 (General) route can bear the weight of expectation placed upon it if it reshaped to accommodate migration from the EU in accordance with the recent recommendations of the Migration Advisory Committee.

In any event, a root and branch rethink of the economic migration routes is long overdue. As a result of years of tinkering on an incontinent scale, there is a points-based system in name only. What remains is an unsavoury mix of highly particularised and rigid evidential requirements, subjective evaluate tests, and poorly judged substantive conditions, all expressed in a style so tortuous that it drains the English language of any vitality.

Problems with economic migration policy are deep rooted. The Tier 1 Investor route, unappetising to applicants and uncompetitive with its European rivals, doubles down on such inadequacy though provides little benefit to society. As regards enterprise, the operation of the Tier 1 Entrepreneur route perversely beats back those prepared to take business risks (actual entrepreneurs).

Further, there remains no route for self-employed persons to come to the UK, something long-established in EU free movement law. Many self-employed persons use not financial capital but human capital (graft) to contribute to growing the UK economy. Self-employed persons from other EU states form a part of the economic environment in which UK businesses both provide and receive services. No proper work has been done on the impact of the end of free movement in this area.

The long-term prosperity of the UK depends in part on getting economic migration right. The same is true also for student migration under Tier 4, where Home Office policy has had such an adverse impact in recent years. The problems are real. However, other policy areas also require urgent attention. Family reunion rules remain harsh and continue to cause separation and heart-break. This is unacceptable. While far too many adult dependent relatives seeking that elusive path to entry clearance find they are blocked by a rule seemingly designed to frustrate rather than facilitate migration. There is a real need for the Home Office to go back to the drawing board and to draft a humane and sensible family reunion policy that takes account of the way in which lives are lived; a policy that is not only human rights compliant but that recognises the value of human relationships.

Perhaps the most pressing areas concern those most vulnerable to exclusion from fundamental rights and standards of protection. Indefinite detention of migrants remains a disgrace. The treatment of asylum-seekers and victims of trafficking is

also unworthy of a prosperous country ostensibly committed to the rule of law and human rights. On the question of international protection, the UK has much to do to improve. New thinking is required, not least as the UK may no longer be participating in the Common European Asylum System before long. The Home Office itself needs fundamental reform and a change of culture. The undocumented continue to suffer egregiously, as the Windrush scandal demonstrated. ILPA remains committed to working in all these areas, as well as others.

ILPA staff and members have been at the forefront of holding the Home Office to account and in seeking to secure a fair and just immigration law and practice. As members, we owe thanks to all our staff. Nicole Francis, Chief Executive, continues her excellent work on our behalf. Bella Kosmala and Emmanuel Benedetti do fantastic work in administering the Strategic Legal Fund. Lana Norris, our Finance Manager, keeps us running smoothly. Vishal Misra, our Legal Officer and Paul Erdunast, our Legal and Parliamentary Officer drive our policy work forward to great effect. Our thanks are due also to Claire Laizans, who was our Legal and Parliamentary Office until earlier this year. Helen Williams remains our Membership Manager and is now also our Website Project Manager. We thank her for her work in both areas. Celina Kin-Armbrust, our wonderful Training and Communications Officer is on maternity leave. Our training is run extremely well by Becca McNulty our Training Officer since March this year. Thanks are due also to Amira Rady, our new Office Administrator and to Nicolette Busuttill our Executive Assistant, who takes the minutes at ILPA meetings. Without both, ILPA would not function effectively.

I must also thank the Convenors of the Working Groups and all our active members who give their time. I would encourage all members to actively participate in ILPA's work. If you are unsure how best to contribute, do call or email the office or the Convenors of the Working Groups.

Adrian Berry
Chair



About us

Objectives

The Immigration Law Practitioners' Association is a membership organisation established in 1984 by a group of leading immigration law practitioners to:

- Promote and improve the advising and representation of immigrants
- Provide information to members and others on domestic and European immigration, asylum and nationality law
- Secure a non-racist, non-sexist, just and equitable system of immigration, refugee and nationality law practice

ILPA is a registered charity (No. 1155286) and a company limited by guarantee (No. 2350422).

Committee of Trustees

The Committee of Trustees is elected annually by the membership. The work of members is supported by a Secretariat of paid staff.

Chair	Adrian Berry, Barrister, Garden Court Chambers
Secretary	Ayesha Mohsin, Solicitor and Partner, Luqmani Thompson and Partners
Treasurer	Eleanor Sibley, Barrister, Field Court Chambers

Members	
Andrea Als	Solicitor and Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Kathryn Bradbury	Solicitor and Partner, Payne Hicks Beach
Hazar El-Chamaa	Solicitor and Partner, Penningtons Manches LLP
Vanessa Ganguin	Solicitor and Partner, Ganguin Samartin

Natasha Gya Williams	Solicitor and Director, Gya Williams Immigration
Grace McGill	Solicitor and Principal, McGill and Co Solicitors
Danielle Cohen	Solicitor, Danielle Cohen Immigration Law Solicitors
Bettina Loveday	Solicitor, Wilford Smith
Vishal Makol	Solicitor, OTS Solicitors

Staff

The work of members is supported by a Secretariat of paid staff.

Chief Executive	Nicole Francis
Legal Officer	Vishal Misra (from February 2018)
Legal and Parliamentary Officer	Claire Laizans (until May 2018) Paul Erdunast (from August 2018)
Finance and Office Manager	Lana Norris
Membership Manager and Website	
Project Manager	Helen Williams
Training and Communications Officer	Celina Kin-Armbrust (on maternity leave from May 2018)
Training Officer	Becca McNulty (from March 2018)
Office Administrator	Amira Rady (from August 2018)
Executive Assistant	Nicolette Busuttil
Strategic Legal Fund Project Manager	Bella Kosmala
Strategic Legal Fund Finance Assistant	Emmanuel Benedetti



Overview of our work

Over the last year ILPA has reviewed and changed a number of key documents and ways of working. The focus has been on ensuring clarity of purpose based on feedback and data from our members (including that from the annual survey).



Strategic Plan for 2018 to 2021

ILPA agreed a new strategic plan for the next three years. The strategic aims and priorities are:

1. Increase ILPA membership so that a greater proportion of practitioners in immigration, asylum and nationality law are ILPA members
2. An essential information resource for our members
3. Deliver a high quality training programme that meets the needs of our members
4. ILPA's influencing work makes best use of its resources and reputation
5. Support legal analysis and publications that will lead to improvements in practice
6. Support litigation that will promote respect for the rule of law
7. Ensure that ILPA is an accountable and effective organisation

Working Groups

Working groups are open to all members and we strongly encourage everyone to join at least one, whether in your region or area of work. They are critical to ILPA's strategic activities and offer an excellent way for members of any level of experience to get involved as well as meet other practitioners. Whether through meetings or email groups, all aim to carry out the following kinds of work:

- influencing policy;
- developing ILPA positions;
- identifying emerging issues;
- information sharing;
- sharing views.

If you would like to get involved in a working group please contact the Secretariat on info@ilpa.org.uk or one of the convenors via the Working Groups page at www.ilpa.org.uk/members.php.

Thematic Working Group Convenors

Courts and Tribunals

Rowena Moffatt, Doughty Street Chambers
Sonia Lenegan, Lexis Nexis

Economic Migration

Tom Brett-Young, Veale Wasbrough Vizards LLP
Rose Carey, Charles Russell Speechlys LLP
James Perrott, Macfarlanes LLP

European

Elsbeth Guild, Kingley Napley LLP
Alison Hunter, Wesley Gryk Solicitors LLP
Jonathan Kingham, North Star Law

Family and personal migration

Katie Dilger, Bates Wells Braithwaite LLP
Sue Shutter, volunteer with the Project for the Registration of Children as British Citizens and Slough Immigration Aid Unit.

Immigration Professional Support Lawyers Network

First meeting took place in June 2018 further meetings planned

Legal Aid

Ayesha Mohsin, Luqmani Thompson and Partners
Carita Thomas, ATLEU

Refugee

Nicola Braganza, Garden Court Chambers
Annie Campbell, North Kensington Law Centre

Removals, Detention and Offences

Jed Pennington, Bhatt Murphy Solicitors
Pierre Makhoul, Bail for Immigration Detainees
Nina Rathbone Pullen, Wilson Solicitors LLP

Well-Being

Nath Gbikpi - Wesley Gryk Solicitors LLP
Kat Hacker - Helen Bamber Foundation
Aisha Choudhry - Bates Wells Braithwaite LLP

Children

Operates as an email group only

In the last year ILPA has set up two new thematic working groups. The first on Well-being for Immigration lawyers has met twice so far and has also organised two free trainings and produced an Information Sheet for World Mental Health day which was on the 10th October 2018.

The Network for Immigration Professional Support lawyers has met once so far and is planning more events soon.

Regional Working Group Convenors

North West

Lucy Mair, Garden Court North Chambers
Denise McDowell, Greater Manchester Immigration Aid Unit
Emma Morgan, DAC Beachcroft LLP

New York

Tanya Goldfarb, Clintons
Jenny Stevens, Laura Devine Solicitors

Scotland

Darren Stevenson, McGill & Co Solicitors,
Kirsty Thomson, JustRight Scotland
Jamie Kerr, Burness Paull LLP

Southern

Mandie Sewa, Moore Blatch

South West

Luke Piper, South West Law
Marie-Christine Allaire-Rousse, South West Law
Sian Pearce, Avon and Bristol Law Centre

Yorkshire and North East

Ish Ahmed, Bankfield Heath Solicitors
Christopher Cole, Parker Rhodes and Hickmott Solicitors

Our influencing work

Parliamentary activity

ILPA has continued to expand its parliamentary influencing work. ILPA has issued briefs on a wide range of subjects, including:

- The immigration exemption contained within the transposition of the General Data Protection Regulations ('GDPR') (9 May 2018)
- ILPA evidence to the Home Affairs Select Committee on post-Brexit Migration (2 July 2018)
- ILPA briefing for the Westminster Hall Debate "Amnesty for Anyone that was a Migrant and arrived in Britain between 1948 to 1971" for all MPs (30 April 2018)
- ILPA evidence to the Immigration and Scotland inquiry of Scottish Affairs Committee (29 March 2018)

Home Affairs Select Committee – oral evidence

ILPA was invited to give evidence before the Committee on 29 November 2017. Our Chair of Trustees, Adrian Berry, gave evidence on ILPA's behalf to the inquiry 'Home Office Delivery of Brexit'.

Adrian also provided oral evidence to the Committee on 25 April 2018 on the citizenship issues experienced by children of the Windrush generation.

All Party Parliamentary Groups (APPGs) on Migration; and Visas and Immigration

ILPA has been closely involved with the work of both of these groups including attending a meeting on 'Managing migration post-Brexit: What can we learn from other countries?'

During the course of the last year ILPA also met with SNP MP Stewart MacDonald to discuss the Brexit process, EU citizens' rights, as well as the upcoming Immigration White Paper and Immigration Bill. ILPA participated in a seminar in the House of Lords hosted by Lord Roger Roberts (Welsh Lib Dem) focused on the 'Journey to Asylum'.

Key activities and achievements

Brexit

As well as contributing written evidence to the Home Affairs Select Committee regarding post-Brexit migration, and the ILPA response to the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) on EEA migration, ILPA have been able to continue to make significant progress in work relating to Brexit. ILPA were approached by the Home Office, and were able to convene a round-table for members to meet with the drafters of the new Appendix EU to the Immigration Rules.

Alongside this, ILPA has continued to monitor the Brexit developments, facilitating member groups to meet and raise concerns regarding the functioning and contradictions of post-Brexit migration. This has allowed ILPA to continue to forge links with other organisations.

Further to this, ILPA has continued to monitor the effects of developments in European immigration law within the context of Brexit. This has included liaising with the European Casework team of the Home Office to press for a swift implementation of rulings from the Court of Justice of the European Union in cases such as Lounes.



Windrush

Following ILPA's parliamentary advocacy regarding the predictability and scale of the issue of undocumented Commonwealth nationals, known in the media as the 'Windrush' generation, ILPA has been able to respond to the numerous consultations that have followed the 'Windrush' scandal making recommendations on how a compensation scheme should work, and what sorts of losses it should take into account. Alongside this, ILPA have continued to monitor the implementation of all the 'Windrush' schemes coming from the Home Office.

Challenges in Court

ILPA were involved in the recent judicial review case of R (KA & Awofadeju) v Secretary of State for the Home Department [2018] UKUT 201 (IAC). This case reviewed the extension of time that the Secretary of State enjoyed as a result of the decision in R (Kumar) v SSHD (Acknowledgment of Service: Tribunal Arrangements) [2014] UKUT 104. The decision in Kumar was made to help the Secretary of State deal with a "temporary" problem of capacity in filing acknowledgments of service. By the time KA came to judicial review, it was clear that the Secretary of State had not taken any steps to comply with the usual procedure rules, and was, instead, taking the extension of time in Kumar for granted. To support this important piece of litigation, ILPA produced a witness statement with a host of examples of how this extension of time was being used to prejudice applicants. The challenge was successful, and the Secretary of State can no longer rely on an automatic extension of time as of 1 January 2019.

ILPA also provided a witness statement for The Children's Society case challenging the fact that unaccompanied/separated non-asylum seeking minors making immigration applications (e.g. Article 8/mixed applications) were outside the scope of legal aid. ILPA collated a witness statement for this ultimately successful legal challenge.



Economic migration

Throughout the year, ILPA continued to work closely with the Home Office regarding operational issues. Most importantly, ILPA has corresponded with the Home Office regarding the difficulty in obtaining Premium Service appointments, the failure of the Home Office to meet service standards for those using the Super-Premium Service, and the rCoS cap and refusals under 322(5) of the immigration rules. One of the most significant results of this correspondence has been the removal of doctors and nurses from the rCoS cap, a move welcomed by ILPA members.

A group of ILPA members met with the Home Office to discuss how the November 2017 Statement of changes affected Tier 1 applicants and their dependents.

Home Office Liaison

ILPA had a wide range of bilateral meetings and one-day visits to UKVI casework teams during the last year.

Visa Operations, Resourcing and Planning

ILPA members met with UKVI staff from this team in November 2017 and May 2018. A key agenda item that was discussed at the May meeting was how UKVI could improve the guidance on Visa Application Centre websites about current procedures for submitting entry clearance applications. This was an issue that Wesley Gryk had been highlighting and he presented a report on this issue using information provided by ILPA members.

European casework team

In December 2017 a group of ILPA members visited the European Casework team in Liverpool.

Nationality Casework Team

In March 2018 a group of ILPA members visited the Nationality casework team in Liverpool. The purpose of the visit was to learn about how nationality applications are processed, and to discuss issues in nationality law.

Immigration and protection

ILPA met with the Director of Home Office Immigration Protection in January 2018.

Appeals, Litigation and Subject Access Requests.

ILPA has met with the Head of Appeals, Litigation and Subject Access Requests on a number of occasions during the year.

Information Service



The Information Service is part of our work supported by funding from the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust. Since the last AGM, the Information Service has produced 5 new Information Sheets on the following topics:

- Well-Being
- The Laws of Evidence in Immigration Investigations
- Effectiveness of out of country rights of appeal
- Status of EU Nationals in the UK following Brexit
- Technical Note: Citizens' Rights – Administrative Procedures in the UK

Next Generation Casework – Bootle

In February 2018 a group of ILPA members visited the new asylum screening unit at Bootle. The trip revealed the scale and ambitions of the Home Office in dealing with asylum seekers, especially children. The new screening units include a video-interview system, which should help vulnerable asylum seekers by not forcing them to travel to Bootle. However, ILPA also raised concerns regarding the 'disconnect' that can occur over video calls, and to ensure that caseworkers will receive appropriate training in handling the system.

Asylum Strategic Engagement Group

From March 2018 ILPA became a member of this group.

Mark Thomson – Director General of UKVI

Nicole Francis and Adrian Berry met with Mark Thomson, Director General of UKVI and board members to discuss how they could work more effectively with ILPA and our members at an operational level. The Law Society were also at this meeting.

Customer Strategy and Partnerships

ILPA and the Law Society met with the Head of this team in September 2018.

Family and Human Rights

Members from ILPA and the Law Society met with the Deputy Director in October 2018.

Law Commission – Simplification of the Immigration Rules

ILPA members participated in a meeting with the Law Commission to discuss the above project. The Law Commission prepared a paper for distribution and discussion at that meeting. ILPA members provided a lot of feedback and input. The Law Commission has since confirmed that the planned consultation document has been slightly delayed and will be issued in late 2018/early 2019.

Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration meetings

ILPA hosted four meetings between members and the inspection teams from the ICIBI on the following issues:

- charging for services
- helplines and guidance (this inspection was at the planning stage and is now not taking place)
- illegal working
- re-inspection of the Home Office's application of the good character requirement for young people applying for British citizenship



The Strategic Legal Fund

Strategic Legal Fund – key achievements 2017/2018

The Strategic Legal Fund supports strategic legal work in the UK which benefits vulnerable young migrants. In April 2017, ILPA took over management of the Fund, which was established by The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund in October 2011. We recruited a project manager and a finance officer over the summer months and once in post they proceeded to set up the systems and processes needed to re-launch the Fund, which happened in November 2017.

The SLF ran six funding rounds between November 2017 and November 2018. During this time, we received 44 expressions of interest and accepted 26 of these to be considered by the expert panel. To date, 14 proposals have been awarded funds for a total

value of £126,711. The January round saw ten applications, a record number of submissions, most likely due to the eight-month hiatus, but on average the Fund considers 2-3 applications per round. We have been pleased to see an increase in applications from outside of London, such as Northern Ireland, Manchester and the South-West.

The Fund is keen to maximize the relevance of grants awarded, ensuring that we respond to emerging legal and policy issues. ILPA has identified three particular issues, with the help of its membership, applications received and members of the SLF expert panel. These are the hostile environment policies; the growing number of NRPF conditions affecting families; and the issue of high fees for young people who need to go through a ten-year route to settlement. We have awarded grants to fund projects across all three priorities:

- Just for Kids Law - to intervene in support of Against Borders for Children in a challenge against the Department for Education and the collection of nationality and country of birth data from children in the school census (January round)
- Deighton Pierce Glynn and the Unity Project – to gather evidence on the discriminatory impact in the implementation of No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) conditions which disproportionately impacts single mothers and their children (March round)
- Migrants and Refugee Children's Legal Unit (Islington Law Centre) – to address the unlawfulness in the 10-year route to settlement and to evidence the discriminatory impact of the current regime on specific protected groups (July round)



Training

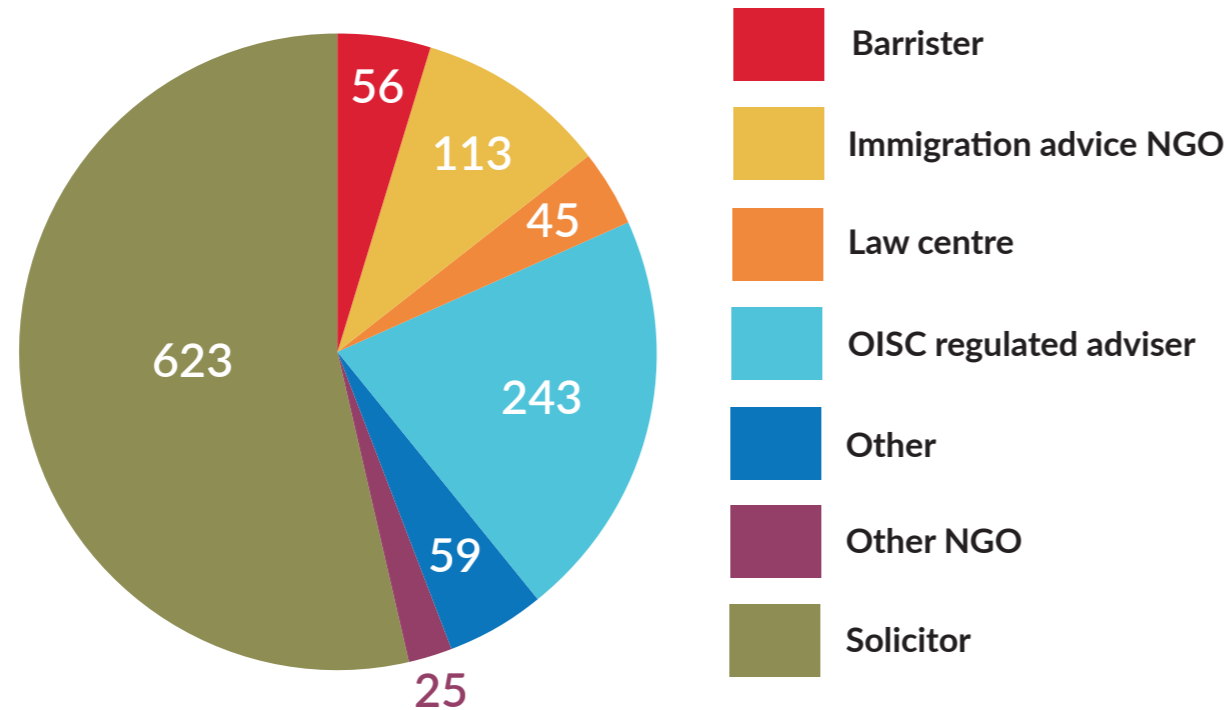
ILPA remains one of the leading training providers in the sector. In our continued effort to offer better targeted courses, our training programme was designed with ILPA members' training needs in mind and planned in collaboration with our Training Working Group.

In the period between 1 November 2017 and 31 October 2018, we delivered 48 courses and 6 conferences through our training programme, training a total of 1,194 delegates; 874 on standard courses and 320 on conferences. This year's programme included four courses co-funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme of the European Union, in collaboration with the European Council on Refugees and Exiles; one course in collaboration with Asylum Aid; one new event on well-being in partnership with LawCare; one new training on vicarious trauma and self-care with Freedom from Torture; and six out of London courses (in Birmingham, Glasgow, Leeds, and Manchester).

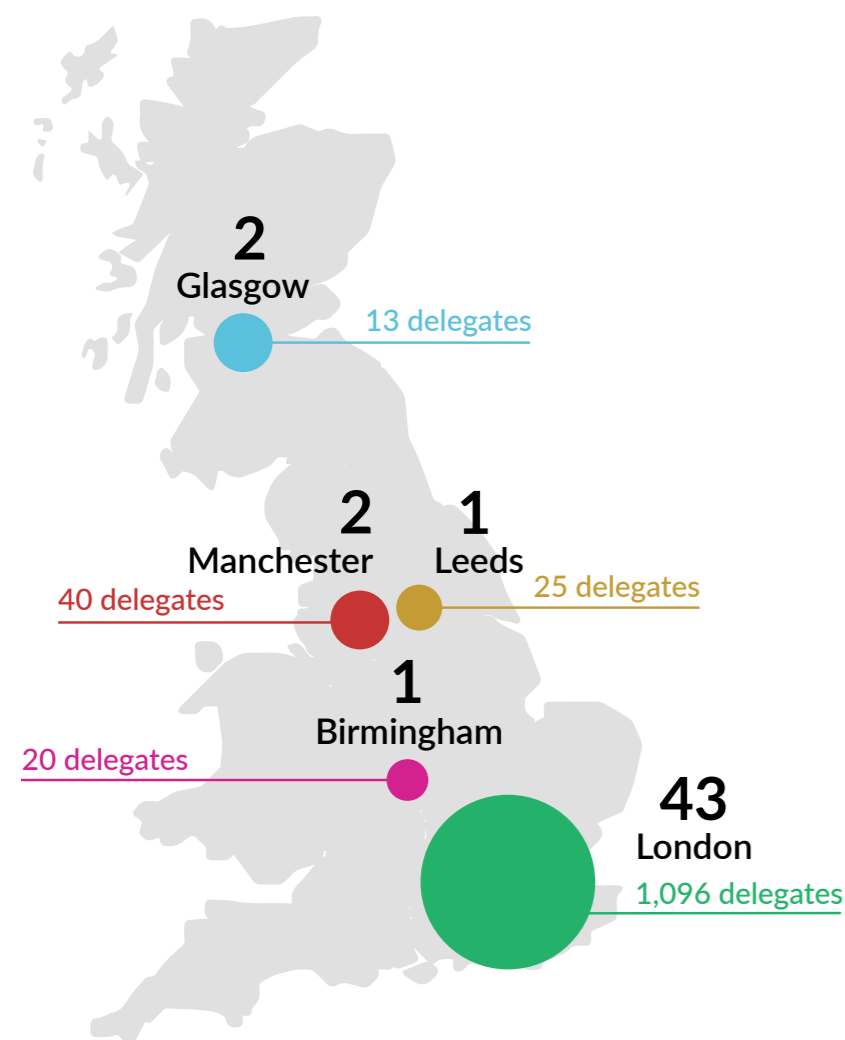
Alongside our regular core courses, we ran the following specialist courses:

- *Mergers and Acquisitions*
- *Sole Representatives*
- *Adoption, a guide for immigration practitioners*
- *Surrogacy: immigration, nationality, and family law issues*
- *Well-being for immigration lawyers*
- *Vicarious trauma and self-care*

Who ILPA trainees are



Where ILPA ran courses



Conferences and Seminars

The ILPA Conference on Business Immigration in London, and its counterpart, in Leeds were both well attended. With Brexit approaching, there was a lot of interest in the ILPA Annual Seminar on Free Movement of EEA Nationals, as members were keen to engage with experts on the topic. In addition to our regular conferences, we also held three brand new events in 2018—the Sponsor Licence Law Conference in April, the ILPA Conference on Family Migration to the UK in May, and the ILPA Conference on Immigration Detention in October, all of which were very well received.

Training for MPs Staff

ILPA continued to provide training to MPs' caseworkers/researchers based in Cardiff, Edinburgh, Liverpool, and London. Over the past year, we delivered 7 training courses to MPs' staff.

Free training

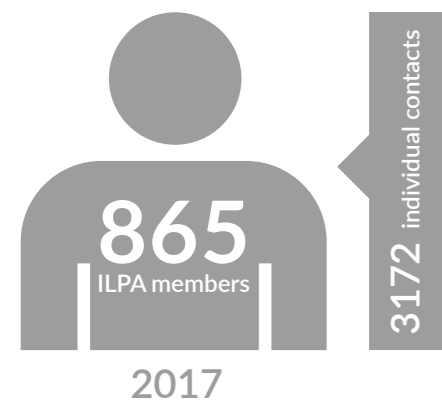
ILPA ran several free training sessions as part of its regular training programme. The following free training courses were delivered:

- *LGBTI asylum claims (Manchester)*
- *Well-being for immigration lawyers, in collaboration with LawCare (London)*
- *Vicarious trauma and self-care, in partnership with Freedom from Torture (London)*
- *4 courses co-funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme of the European Union, in collaboration with ECRE*



Membership

Membership report for AGM 2017-2018



Membership News

We welcomed 83 new members to ILPA this year, a mix of 42 organisations and 41 individual memberships, and we now have 878 members (up from 865 at AGM 2017).

This in fact comprises a total of 3471 contacts who are considered members of ILPA (up from 3172 at AGM 2017). To explain, as we are a membership organisation which allows individual and organisation membership types, this figure includes all individual members, plus all contacts who have signed up under an organisation membership. Whilst it is a relatively small increase in member numbers this year, this number of 3471 contacts represents the reach of ILPA membership and is a very healthy increase to become our highest ever number.

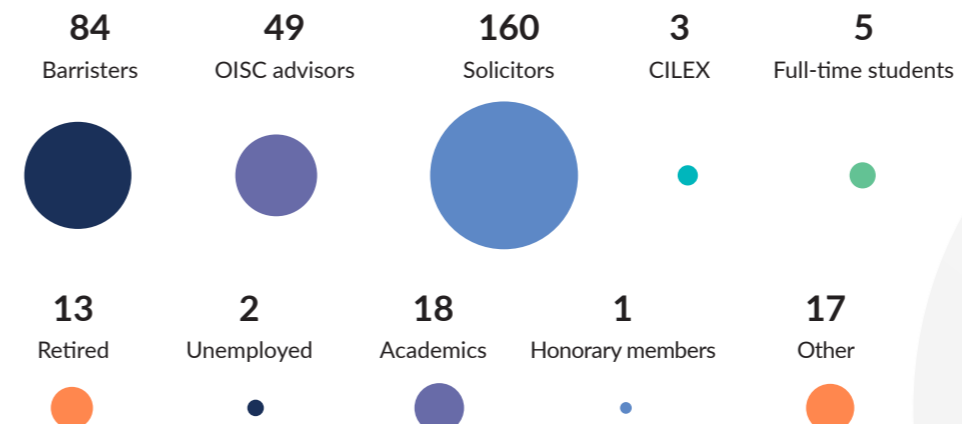
A focus this year has been on making sure that members are aware of all our member benefits, and are making best use of all our services - such as signing up to our working groups email lists, registering for the members' only area of the website and creating a directory entry.

The new member Monthly, the ILPA Monthly, mailing has helped us communicate this and has also been a great tool in member recruitment activities.

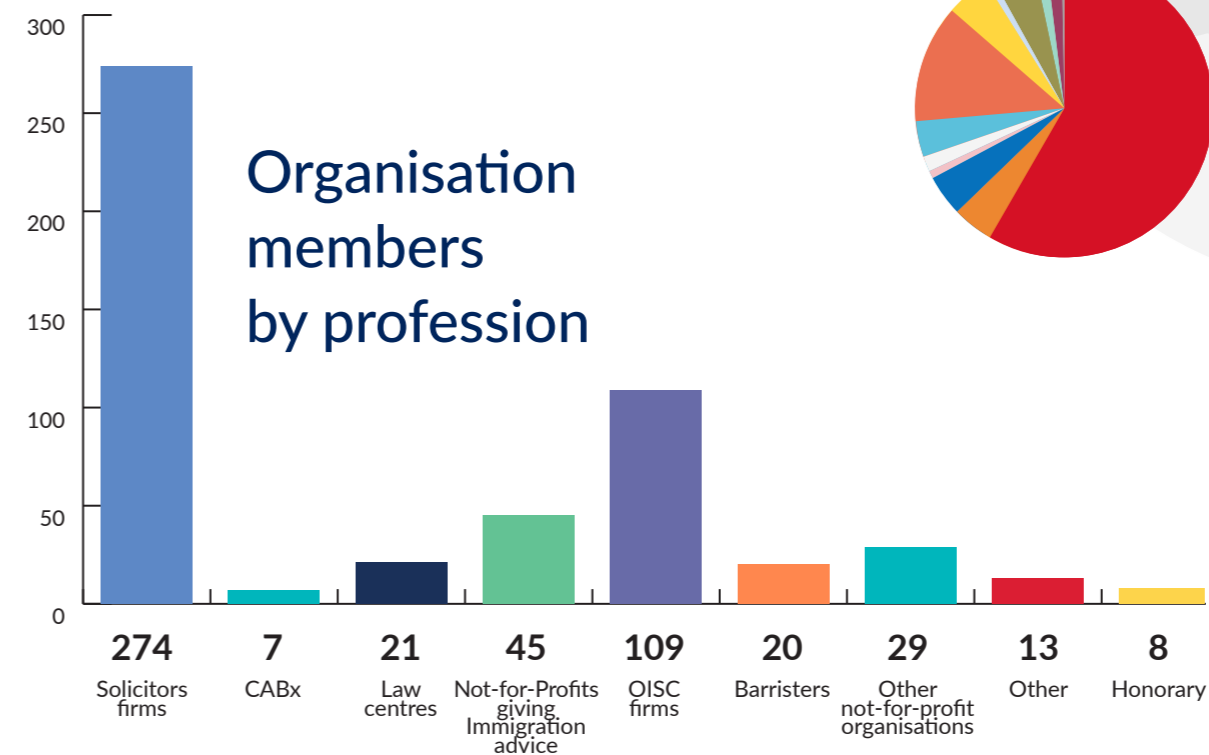
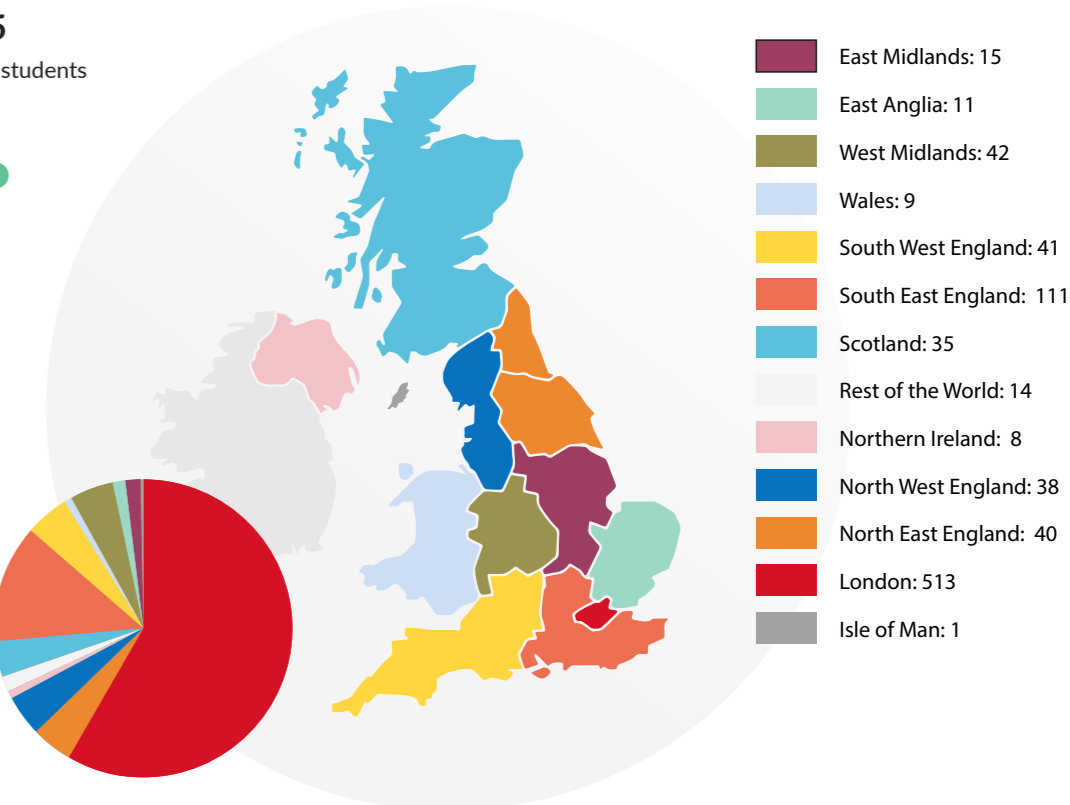
In December 2017 we were very grateful to members of the Committee of Trustees who gave up an afternoon to attend a session at the ILPA office where we focussed on "Driving Sustainable Member Value in 2018 and beyond". It was a productive afternoon where we all took time away from the usual work to think about such things as: what is ILPA's USP?; what is the external environment that will shape ILPA's work?; How must ILPA adapt to meet future member needs? The conversations and resulting actions have all fed into our work this year.



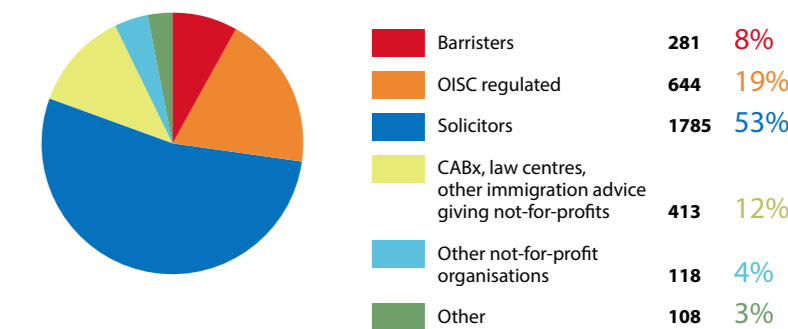
Individual members by profession



ILPA members by region



ILPA members are/work for



ILPA Monthly feedback

We have also had some excellent feedback on our new ILPA Monthly which was introduced in April 2018.

Some member comments:

Love the new ILPA monthly!

For its readers it takes the hard work out of what has always been an invaluable resource for ILPA members.

...an excellent innovation much to be welcomed, please keep publishing it in this format!

If you'd like extra copies of the ILPA Monthly please email info@ilpa.org.uk.



We were very pleased earlier this year to introduce the new Member of ILPA logo and are thrilled to see it in use. We hope you are proud to advertise your membership of ILPA and if possible link the logo with our URL to drive people to our website.

We'd also like to thank you for your support of ILPA. In Autumn 2018 we introduced a special offer to those members who recommended ILPA

membership to a colleague or organisation. You received a free place on one of our 3 hour training courses if their application for membership was accepted and they acknowledged your recommendation.

Annual member survey

At the time of going to press we have not yet released our annual membership survey but watch this space – and when you see it we would be really grateful if you could spare a few minutes to complete it, and pass it on to your colleagues, as it is a great opportunity to shape YOUR organisation and is a vital tool in shaping the strategy and activities for the year ahead.

But don't just wait for the survey – please contact us at anytime to let us know your ideas, criticism, feedback.



Finances

Accounts for 2017-18

The audited accounts for the financial year 2017-2018 indicate a healthy financial performance in an increasingly challenging environment.

This is reflected in income of £696,068 - which is £127,657 more than in 2016/17 (£568,411) an increase of 18% - and carried - forward funds of £670,441.

Looking in greater detail at ILPA's income in the year 2017/ 18, it can be seen that:

- Income from training fell to £166,780 in 2017/18 from £176,910. Analysis suggests that a combination of factors, including a drop in numbers attending courses, and fewer courses than usual being run during the financial year. Changes in CPD requirements may continue to have a residual effect. ILPA is monitoring income from training and has an income-generation plan.
- Income from membership fell to £194,420 in 2017/ 18 from £207,832 in 2016/17. It is considered that this is due to a change in our membership fees model, which allowed chambers to join ILPA as organisations.
- Income from grants increased to £296,776 in 2017/18 from £138,611 in 2016/17. This was mainly due to ILPA taking on the management of the Strategic Legal Fund.

ILPA's overall expenditure was £660,723, which is £31,348 (or 5%) higher than in 2016/17. This resulted in a net surplus of £35,345 (compared to a deficit of £60,694 in 2016/17) which was 42% higher than in 2016/17. A detailed analysis of expenditure is at pp. 19-20 of the Audited Accounts.

In 2017/18 ILPA planned a budget deficit, as part of its ongoing plan to reduce its reserves in a managed way. ILPA has since revised this policy and, looking forward, is moving towards a balanced, and then surplus budget. This is, in part, due to increases in overheads, including rent.

ILPA continues to allocate money to "designated funds" for use for specified purposes approved by the Committee of Trustees. In 2017/ 18, ILPA spent a total of £953 on one-off staff related costs. In addition, it allocated a further £10,039 for use in projects that focus on refugee children, £50,000 to develop and improve ILPA's website, providing better interface to members and the general public, and £176,308 to cover ILPA's lease commitment for 3 years to 30 September 2020.

As of 31 March 2018, ILPA's funds stood at £670,441. Of this £152,264 (23%) was held as restricted funds and £236,347 (35%) was held as designated funds (see above).

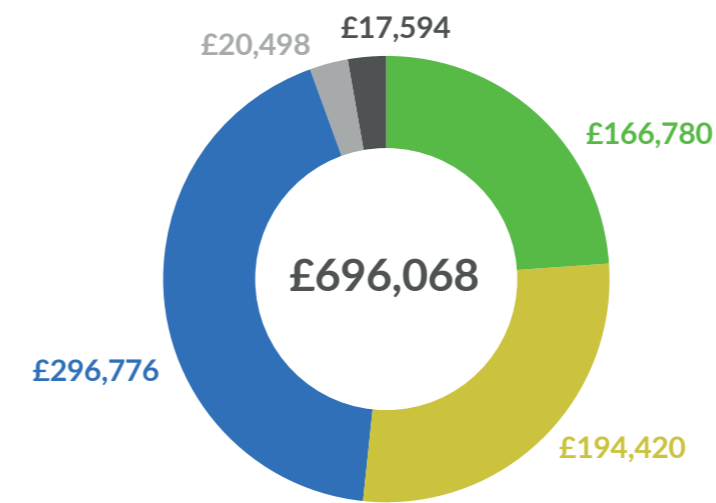
In April ILPA received funding from Unbound Philanthropy, and the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, and continued to carry out work funded by Trust for London.

In April 2017, ILPA took over the management of the Strategic Legal Fund, which funds strategic legal work in any area of law where vulnerable young migrants experience disadvantage or discrimination as a result of migration status.

ILPA continues to be very grateful to its funders and members for supporting its work. Thanks also go to Ramon Lee and Partners for auditing our accounts to Lana Norris, Finance Manager, for her diligent work in preparing the accounts, and to Nicole Francis, Chief Executive.

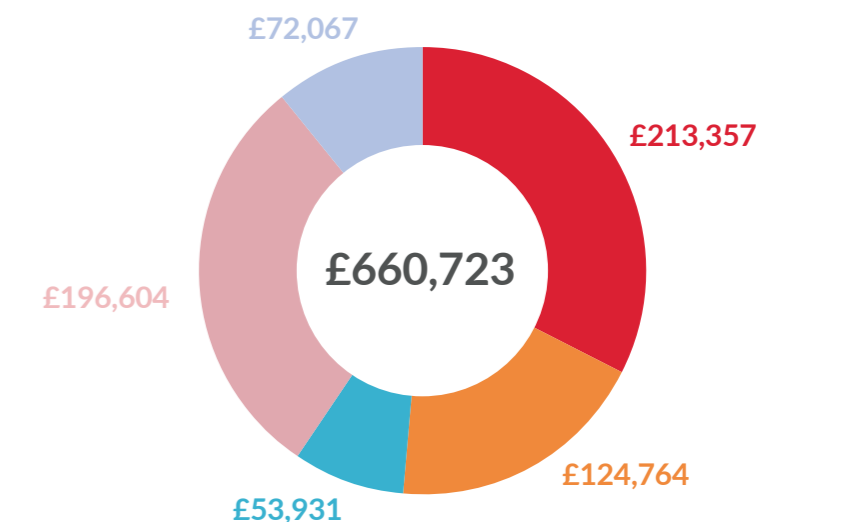
Eleanor Sibley, Treasurer
Barrister, Field Court Chambers

Income for 2017-18



- Training and Conference fees
- Members' subscriptions
- Grants and donations
- Other
- Consultancy fees

Expenditure for 2017-18



- Training and conferences
- Membership services
- Information services
- Legal policy research and litigation
- Governance

Thank you

To our trustees and convenors

ILPA has benefitted immensely from the important and valuable contribution of time, expertise and skills that our Trustees make to the Committee's work. Thanks are also due to the Convenors of the thematic and regional Working Groups, whose work is vital to ILPA across the range of areas in which we are engaged.

To our tutors and speakers

ILPA would like to thank all tutors and guest speakers and conference chairs, who have provided their time and expertise to ILPA's training programme during the year and continue to receive excellent feedback from delegates.

To our funders

ILPA would like to thank our grant funders for their continuing support of our work:

- Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust for the funding for our Legal Officer post.
- Unbound Philanthropy for their contribution to our General Operating costs and funding for a Parliamentary officer post.
- To all the funders of the Strategic Legal Fund. The five funders who have contributed are Esmée Fairbairn, Trust for London, Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, Paul Hamlyn Foundation and Unbound Philanthropy.

To our auditors

Once again, our accounts were audited by Ramon Lee and Partners. We are grateful to them for their hard work and advice.



Design: Imaginnovation Ltd
Print: Emtone Printing Services Limited
Photography: Images on cover and pages 5, 7, 11, 12, 14, 17, 19, 20, 23 and 27 by David Brunetti Photography



ILPA

ilpa.org.uk