



Social Welfare Solicitors Qualification Fund (SWSQF)

Cohort 1 – started SQE1 course April 2022, anticipated qualification date early 2024

Participants - summary cohort member information

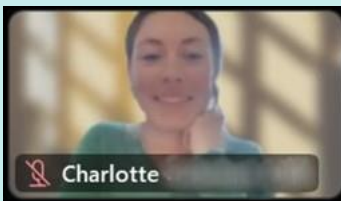
Last updated 16 June 2022

Abdi-Rashid, caseworker at Ealing Law Centre



Abdi-Rashid works at Ealing Law Centre where his role is to help clients challenge unfair decisions around immigration and welfare benefits. In addition to providing comprehensive social welfare services to individuals, his work benefits local communities, voluntary sector institutions, and the wider society.

Charlotte, paralegal at the Centre for Women's Justice



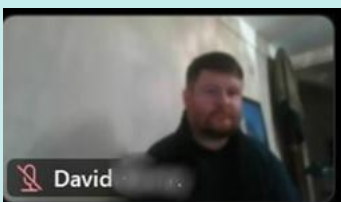
Charlotte works at the Centre for Women's Justice where her mission is to hold the state to account around the failings on violence against women and girls. Importantly, she also provides emotional support for clients which enables them to feel heard and listened to.

Claire, paralegal at Goldman Bailey Solicitors



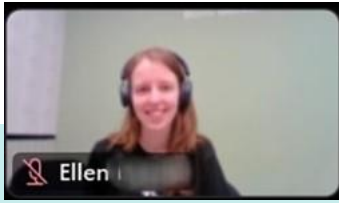
At Goldman Bailey Solicitors, Claire supports clients with their involvement with the police and works on their cases without any judgment. After qualifying, she is excited about being there for her clients from the start all the way through until their case concludes at court. You can find her featured in a travel documentary that aired in Japan.

David, caseworker at Merseyside Law Centre



David is a caseworker at Merseyside Law Centre working on projects around asylum support and housing. The value of his work lies in providing free legal advice for some of the most underrepresented groups in society. As a solicitor, he will be able to act with more autonomy on complex cases. Qualifying will add another vital resource to the organisation where he works at, as their service expands into other areas such as the developing Immigration project with Justice Together. He also has a degree in art and keeps up with an art practice in his free time.

Ellen, paralegal at Lawstop



Ellen works at Lawstop, tackling homelessness through various areas of public law, housing law, and asylum support. Her clients often face discrimination, and she enjoys providing advice that allows them to make their voices heard. A few years ago, she won the National Fish & Chips Award.

Ezzatullah, Duncan Lewis Solicitors



Ezzatullah works in immigration law at Duncan Lewis Solicitors. He works with some of the most vulnerable people in society who otherwise would not get the help and support that they require such as asylum seekers, unaccompanied minors, victims of human trafficking and victims of domestic abuse. Upon becoming a solicitor, he looks forward to providing independent legal advice to clients without the need for the presence of another solicitor.

Fiona, paralegal at Leigh Day Solicitors



As an employment paralegal at Leigh Day Solicitors, Fiona aims to diminish sex discrimination in Tesco scores. She works with hourly paid workers to ensure that those working in Tesco stores, who are mostly women, are paid equally to those working in the warehouses, who are mostly men.

Giulia, paralegal at Centre for Women's Justice



Working at the Centre for Women's Justice as a paralegal, Giulia aims to hold the state to account on issues relating to male violence against women and girls. In her role, she brings specific expertise and understanding to vulnerable clients who may not even be eligible for legal aid.

Izzy, caseworker at Turpin Miller Solicitors



At Turpin Miller Solicitors, Izzy primarily works on the cases of foreign nationals who are challenging deportation after receiving a prison sentence. She also assists women on spouse visas who have fled domestic abuse and wish to apply to remain in the UK. After qualifying, she is looking forward to working on more complicated matters, being able to support her team better and to help expand capacity.

Jenna, caseworker at Butter & Co Solicitors



Jenna works at Butler & Co Solicitors in community care and mental capacity law where she acts for clients who lack the capacity to make decisions for themselves. She also grows a lot of her fruits and vegetables in her allotment.

Julie, legal advisor at Suffolk Law Centre



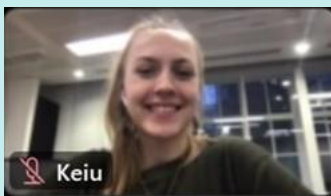
Julie works at Suffolk Law Centre with vulnerable members of society who suffered unlawful discrimination. She specialises in bringing complaints against the police and aims to tackle discrimination. She is a goat keeper and loves roller skating.

Karolis, caseworker at Haringey Law Centre



Karolis is a philosophy graduate and legal and political theory postgraduate working as a housing caseworker at Haringey Law Centre. By helping those in need secure shelter, he enables them to pursue their other needs such as caring after their family, finding work, and getting some general stability and security in their life.

Keiu, paralegal at GT Stewart Solicitors



Keiu represents people with low income at GT Stewart Solicitors in the civil liberties and actions against the police team. She focuses on compensation claims against public authorities. As a solicitor, she is looking forward to helping more people and encouraging new talents in the field of civil liberties.

Martin, paralegal at Sternberg Reed Solicitors



Martin was a paralegal at Sternberg Reed Solicitors advising and representing clients in both Housing and Public Law matters. Since he was awarded the scholarship, he has been promoted to Trainee Solicitor and now, to compliment his SQE education, has conducted more complex cases. Once a qualified solicitor Martin will be able to operate and supervise a second duty possession scheme providing critical last-minute advocacy to society's most vulnerable, at court. Additionally, he will be able to supervise up to four Legal Aid advisors allowing the firm to expand its provision of legal aid services to the public.

Paige, paralegal at Phillips Solicitors



Paige works in Criminal Defence at Phillips Solicitors. She helps clients navigate through the criminal justice system from the police station to the appeal courts. Paige has worked on a range of criminal cases in the UK and abroad, including working on a mass shooting capital punishment case in America. Following qualification, Paige will use all of her skills to advocate for those who cannot advocate effectively for themselves. Outside of law, Paige often volunteers to support vulnerable groups in society.

Raida, paralegal at Amosu Robinshaw Solicitors



Raida is a criminal defence paralegal at Amosu Robinshaw Solicitors. She helps people within some of the poorest boroughs in London who would otherwise not have any legal representation. She is an absolute foodie and loves water sports.

Rohan, paralegal at Bhaia Best Solicitors



Rohan works at Bhatia Best Solicitors focusing on public law and community care, mostly assisting asylum seekers in bringing Judicial Review claims against the Home Office. His favourite type of work is in assisting unaccompanied asylum-seeking children with age dispute matters, following the authorities having assigned the children to be adults over the age of 18. As a solicitor, he will have complete control to advise his clients and have greater involvement in the work that is needed after issuing a court. He once won his school's Battle of the Bands competition playing Marvin Gaye's Let's get it on.

Sarah, caseworker at Derby Law Centre



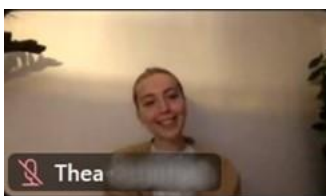
Sarah works at Derby Law Centre advising on legal aid issues such as challenging homelessness decisions and possessions matters to help people maintain their homes, and unlawful evictions and injunctions.

Sean, paralegal at Leigh Day Solicitors



Sean is a paralegal in the employment and discrimination department at Leigh Day Solicitors. The group action claims he works on challenge the misclassification of workers within the gig economy. He previously studied for a year at an American liberal arts college.

Thea, paralegal at GT Stewart Solicitors



Thea is in the housing team at GT Stewart Solicitors. Her work involves challenging local authorities' decision making about people's homeless applications and helping clients defend possession proceedings brought on by their landlords.

Victoria, legal secretary at Star Legal Solicitors



At Star Legal Solicitors, Victoria works with people who have been sectioned under the Mental Health Act 1983. Victoria is involved in representing mental health clients at tribunals to help them get discharged of their section. As mental health is legally aided, she can help clients who would otherwise not be able to get representation.