



Julie Bishop

▪ Director, Law Centres Network, UK

BIOGRAPHY

Julie Bishop is Director of the UK Law Centres Network (LCN), a post that she has held since 2008.

Law Centres employ lawyers and other professionals to defend the rights of people who cannot afford a lawyer. They are experts in the law of everyday life, helping resolve legal problems with housing, work, benefits, immigration and discrimination. They have been serving their communities across the UK for over fifty years. There are currently 42 LCs across England, Wales and Northern Ireland. All Law Centres hold legal aid contracts.

The Law Centres Network (LCN) is the national membership body for Law Centres. We fight injustice and poverty by supporting Law Centres to maintain, develop and extend their services to people in need. We help them to collaborate with one another and with other organisations, strengthening them as a network. We also raise the collective profile of Law Centres and the voices of their clients, so they can speak out for better ways and against injustice. Together, Law Centres and LCN use the law and advocacy to change our society for the better, making it more just and equal.

Prior to LCN, Julie was Director of the National Association of Community Legal Centres in Australia for over 5 years and worked in the legal aid sector in Australia at community level for almost 20 years.

Julie's professional training is in IT. It was as an IT consultant that Julie first worked in legal aid. Before IT, Julie studied and taught Philosophy at the University of Sydney.

Julie is a Board member of 3 Charities, was a Commissioner on the Bach Commission on Access to Justice, has sat on other Committees of Inquiry, and provides evidence to parliamentary committees on access to justice and legal aid.