



# Judicial training structures in the EU

## United Kingdom – England and Wales

Entity name: **Judicial Studies Board**

Januarv. 2011

### Target group

Judicial office holders

#### *Initial /induction period training*

- Existence of initial/induction training period - Yes
- Length of such period – Usually 5 days plus the provision of 1-2 weeks sitting-in with an experienced judge. Judicial office holders are recruited from the ranks of experienced lawyers.
- Existence of a curriculum – Yes and presentation of curriculum – Yes (via an annual prospectus).
- Language training - Yes, provision of Welsh language training.
- Internship periods – No

#### *Continuous training*

- Compulsory - Yes
  - There is a minimum annual training requirement of 4 days for salaried judges and somewhat less for fee-paid judges
- Existence of a yearly programme – Yes (via an annual prospectus).
- Average number of persons trained each year – 2500.

### International partnerships/agreements

- Members of the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN).
- Members of the International Organisation of Judicial trainers (IOJT)

Participation of foreign professionals in some training sessions possible – Yes (judicial office holders only).

## History and good practices

- Date of creation of judicial training entity – 1979
- Past and current milestones;
  - 1983 – Publication of the first edition of the JSB bulletin.
  - 1985 - Expansion of provision of training from covering only the Criminal jurisdiction to also covering the Civil and family jurisdictions and also to supervise the training of magistrates and judicial chairmen and members of Tribunals.
  - 1989 – One-day induction course was held for 23 newly qualified Tribunal chairmen was held for the first time.
  - 1990 – Production of a training handbook for magistrates.
  - 1991 – The Ethnic Minorities Advisory Committee (EMAC) was established, later called the Equal Treatment Advisory Committee (ETAC)
  - 1991 Production of a training pack on the Criminal Justice Act
  - 1994 – Review of the JSB's activities and organisational structure.
  - 1994 – Publication of the Equal Treatment Bench Book (Originally the handbook on Ethnic Minority Issues).
  - 1995 – Clayton Report which made recommendations for the future structure and operation of the JSB e.g. creation of a post of Director of Studies; extension of judicial training to the High Court and the Court of Appeal and representation of the JSB on the Judges' Council and the Civil Justice Consultative Council.
  - 1995 – Guidance pack on appraisal for all new chairmen.
  - 1997 – Train the trainers event for Tribunals was held for the first time.
  - 1998 – Human Rights Act training for Tribunals.
  - 1999 – Guide to the Crime and Disorder Act.
  - 1999 – Publication of the booklet Race and the Courts.
  - 2000 – Provision of Human Rights Act training for nearly 4000 judges.
  - 2000 – Publication of equality before the courts.
  - 2001 – Development of the JSB's IT Strategy.
  - 2002 – Publication of the Tribunals Judicial Competences framework
  - 2002 – Provision of minimal levels of IT skills training.
  - 2003 – Training pack for magistrates' courts on domestic violence.
  - 2004 - Strengthened role project looking at the role of the JSB in the training of magistrates within a unified courts administration.
  - 2004 – Publication of fairness in courts and tribunals.
  - 2004 - Launch of the private Judicial training website
  - 2004 – Tribunals advanced skills course was piloted.
  - 2005 – Criminal Justice Act training.
  - 2005 – Judicial Training Strategy Project to review the training provision for the judiciary.
  - 2005 – The magistrates national Training Initiative 2 (MNTI 2) came into effect.
  - 2007 – Advisory Council and Executive Board established.
  - 2007 – Implementation of the Judicial Training Strategy.
  - 2008 - Development of a single consolidated Framework of Judicial Abilities and Qualities for the High Court and the Circuit and District Benches
  - 2008 – Publication of the JSB's new Tribunals training strategy.
  - 2008 – Establishment of a Training Advice Division.
  - 2009 – Publication of the JSB's first Prospectus.

- 2010 – Commencement of unification project aimed at delivering a single training body by 1 April 2011
- Innovative projects that may be of interest:
  - Craft of judging seminar (a residential seminar in cross-jurisdictional judicial skills)
  - E-letters (monthly electronic updates in all jurisdictions)
  - Pilot of E-learning programmes
  - Plans for leadership and management training

### Contact details

- Address: Steel House, 11 Tothill Street, London SW1H 9LJ
- E-mail – [jsb.web@jsb.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:jsb.web@jsb.gsi.gov.uk)
- Website – <http://www.judiciary.gov.uk/>
- Number of staff 50
- Ministerial department/independent structure: Independent judicial body and part of the Judicial Office for England and Wales

Source: Judicial Studies Board