

## **Examples of Non Legal Work Experience**

If you cannot find direct legal experience then look at finding work in areas related to the practice area that you wish to pursue. You will need to consider:

- The quality of the work experience
- Will it attract employers
- Will it prove significant in developing a network of useful contacts
- Are there any entry requirements and skills/knowledge
- Is there additional training required and do you really want to do more at this stage?
- Dates for in-house training programmes eg. CAB
- Deadlines for applications

To get your foot in the door you could consider contacting a temping agency who specialises in one of the following areas. You could also ring an organization that you wish to work in eg. a trade union or large bank and ask them which temping agency they use and sign on with that agency.

Suggested sectors/places to find work:

### **Banking/Corporate Finance**

- Accountancy firms
- Banks
- Building societies;
- Cash offices
- Tax offices;
- Insurance companies;
- Finance houses;
- Investment companies
- Office of Fair Trading
- Internships

### **Commercial Property/Construction and Engineering**

- Estate gents;
- Conveyancing agents
- Facility management agents;
- Property developers;
- Construction companies
- Civil engineering companies;
- Engineering companies
- Architects firms
- Surveyors
- Environmental agencies
- Local government planning office
- Land Registry
- Mortgage department of lending institution

### **Commercial Litigation:**

- In house legal department
- Citizen's Advice Bureau;
- Crown Prosecution Service;
- Consumer associations
- Specialist – construction, media, shipping

#### **Crime:**

- Police;
- Law courts;
- Citizen's Advice Bureau;
- Crown Prosecution Service;
- Victim support groups
- Local community rights organisations
- Youth offender support agencies
- Rehabilitation agencies
- Outdoor clerking
- Government/Civil Service bodies
  - Serious Fraud Office
  - Customs and Immigration
  - HM Revenue and Customs
- Criminal Cases Review Commission
- Prison Service
- Probation Service
- Internships

#### **Employment:**

- Union Head Office or regional offices;
- Personnel departments;
- Employee Assistance Programme
- Citizen's Advice Bureau
- Law Centres
- Free Representation Unit
- Relevant charities eg. related to racial discrimination or equal opportunities

#### **Environmental:**

- Department for the Environment, Food & Rural Affairs
- Waste disposal companies;
- Utility organisations
- Property developers;
- Local authorities
  - Planning
  - Health and safety
  - Waste management
- Environmental/conservation charities
- Internships

#### **Family:**

- Citizen's Advice Bureau
- Law Centres
- Charities eg. Family Rights Group, child support groups
- Child Support Agency
- Social services
- Mediation organisations
- Family refuges

#### **Intellectual Property:**

- Legal departments of media/broadcasting companies;
- IT companies;
- Publishing houses;
- Legal publishing
- UK Patent Office;
- Patent agents
- Patent and Trade Mark attorneys
- Marketing departments – branding issues
- Biotech companies
- Pharmaceutical companies

#### **Media and Entertainment**

- Advertising firms
- Marketing departments
- Advertising Standards Authority
- National Lottery
- Ofcom
- Newspapers
- Publishing companies
- Film companies
- Broadcasting companies
- Music industry
- Media Houses
- Theatre and opera companies
- Campaigning charities in areas such as:
  - Freedom of speech
  - Right to privacy

#### **Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence:**

- Healthcare authorities/trusts;
- Medical insurance companies;
- NHS legal department
- NHS Litigation Authority
- General Medical Council
- Medical Defence Union
- Medical related charities eg. Scope

#### **Private Client**

- High street law firms;

- Citizen's Advice Bureau;
- Charities
- Law Centres
- Trust:
  - National charities
  - Local private charitable trusts
  - Charity Commission

## **Public Interest**

### ***Civil Liberties/Human Rights***

- Voluntary organisations egs
  - Law Centres
  - Howard League for Penal Reform
  - Liberty
  - Justice
- Internships egs
  - Amicus
  - Foundation for Human Rights Initiative
  - Interights

### ***Community Care***

- Voluntary Organisations eg. Age Concern, Help the Aged, Mind, Scope, Mencap, National Schizophrenia Fellowship
- Health Authority or Local Council day centres

### ***Education:***

- Local Authority Education Dept.
- Staff/student liaison work
- Volunteering organisations eg. local groups working with children with special needs
- School governors

### ***Immigration***

- Refugee Legal Centres
- Immigration Advisory Service
- UK Immigration Service (part of Home Office's Immigration and Nationality Directorate)
- Voluntary Organisations egs
  - Joint Council for Welfare of Immigrants
  - Amnesty
  - Medical Foundation for Victims of Torture
- Internships

### ***Mental Health***

- Voluntary Organisations eg. Mind or Mencap
- Local or community support groups
- Local Authority Social Services
- Local Health Authority

### ***Welfare***

- Legal Advice Centres
- Citizens Advice Bureau
- Voluntary Organisations eg. Mary Ward Legal Centre, National Debtline, Consumer Credit Counselling Service

- Local support groups/community initiatives
- Benefits Agency
- Utilities sector debt collection department eg. electricity

## **Shipping**

**(In addition to London, look at larger port cities)**

- Shipping Agents
- Ship Building Companies
- Shipowners
- Customs and Excise
- Freight Companies
- Marine Insurers (Protection and Indemnity Clubs)

## **Sports**

- Governing bodies eg
  - RFU
  - MCC
  - FA
- Legal departments of media organizations (negotiating rights)

## **Tax**

- Tax dept of large corporation
- Tax dept of financial institution
- Accountancy firms
- Government bodies
  - Inland Revenue
  - Customs and Immigration

## **TMT (technology, media and telecoms)**

- IT companies
- Telecoms companies
- IT dept of any large company
- Oftel
- Ofcom
- British Approvals Board of Telecommunications

Inspired by AGCAS Legal Toolkit (Katherine Hankins, Kingston University Careers Service) and Working for Justice: Legal aid; a great opportunity (College of Law/LAGP/LSC)