

News

Regulator takes Pride in the legal profession

25 May 2018

The Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) will be celebrating lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) inclusion within the legal sector this Summer by supporting three major Pride festivals.

Staff from the SRA will take to the streets at Birmingham Pride on Saturday 26 May, London Pride on Saturday 8 July and Cardiff's Pride Cymru on Saturday 25 August.

The events are part of our ongoing commitment to promoting and supporting a diverse, open and accessible legal profession, providing services for all the community.

Our research, published in February 2018, revealed that three percent of solicitors identified as lesbian, gay or bisexual, in line with Government statistics for the overall working population, although Stonewall estimates the figure for the wider population is five to seven percent.

A further two percent of solicitors identified as trans, double the level estimated in the wider population.

Jane Malcolm, SRA Executive Director said: "We are looking forward to Pride season, which is now well established in our calendar, and I am pleased we are joining the parade in Cardiff, for the first time.

"These events are a celebration of both the wider LGBT community and also the role those within it play in helping to create a diverse, modern legal profession."

The SRA has continued to work with firms this year to encourage a diverse and LGBT inclusive profession, including working with Stonewall to support an Innovative LGBT Mentoring Scheme.

Jane Malcolm added: "It is important that we have a truly diverse profession, attracting the best talent and reflecting the community it serves. This is something we are passionate about, working with Stonewall is a good way of supporting law firms to make a difference."

Joining us over the Pride season will be the Legal Ombudsman, the Legal Services Board, Bar Standards Board, CILEx Regulation, Intellectual Property Regulation Board, the Council for Licensed Conveyancers and law firms.

The legal regulators will also be promoting the consumer website, LegalChoices, and emphasising that respect for diversity is something people should expect when they use legal services.

Further information on each of the Pride events visit:

www.birminghampride.com [http://www.birminghampride.com/]

www.prideinlondon.org [http://www.prideinlondon.org/]

www.pridecymru.co.uk [http://www.pridecymru.co.uk/]