



REPORT FROM THE TECBAR CHAIR FOR 2021/2022

1. This is it, my final report to TECBAR. I first joined the committee in 2001. I was Treasurer from 2007 to 2017 and so produced reports and accounts for 10 years (and was TECBAR's Bar Council Representative for three of those years (requiring production of a second report)), had two years off (while Vice-Chair) before producing three reports as Chair, of which this is the last.
2. I believe that I am leaving TECBAR in a 'good place'. I am disappointed that my time as Chair coincided with COVID-19 but think we managed to make the most of it. Looking on the positive, it forced us to learn how to put on remote / hybrid events which, it turns out, makes them accessible to more members which is a good thing!
3. Matters to report from 2021/2022:
 - 3.1. We have received the Black Inclusion Group Report. It is not easy reading. It requires a response. The TECBAR Committee has therefore put together TECBAR's Response which will be presented by Riaz Hussein QC, the head of the E&D sub-committee at the AGM. The membership will note the commitments made by the Committee. I have no doubt that the Committee will work tirelessly to meet those commitments.
 - 3.2. We had our inaugural (and what I hope will become a regular) seminar on adoption, maternity, and paternity leave. This was a virtual event to encourage attendance. It is also an event which members can watch online.
 - 3.3. We continued to work closely with the MOJ but used the opportunity to press the difficulties of TECBAR supporting initiatives to Saudi Arabia (and similar countries) with poor human rights records.
 - 3.4. The number of requests for TECBAR adjudicators continues to increase. I am reliably informed (by Calum Lamont QC) that Network Rail's standard forms provide for the nomination of a TECBAR adjudicator. That is progress!
 - 3.5. The Committee is and will continue to be involved in the TCC 150 initiative.
 - 3.6. A great dinner for Carr LJ and Fraser J – so nice to return to in person social events.

- 3.7. The Annual Conference will return in November 2022 (in a hybrid format).
4. And now my thank-yous:
- 4.1. to my Vice Chair, Simon Hargreaves QC, who takes over from today, for your support and words of wisdom. I am leaving TECBAR in safe hands;
- 4.2. to the Treasurer, Rob Stokell, who has done an absolutely amazing job;
- 4.3. to Riaz Hussein QC, for all his work on E&D – your energy and commitment is incredible;
- 4.4. to all the members of the Committee, for all the hard work; and
- 4.5. finally to Jessica Stephens QC, TECBAR’s Secretary, without whom (as I have said every year that I have been Chair) I could not have done this job. Jess – you are a superstar!

Rachel Ansell QC
28 July 2022