

TECBAR – CHAIR’S REPORT JULY 2026

This has been a busy year for TECBAR marked at the outset with the appointment of Mr Justice Constable as the Judge in Charge of the TCC. Members of TECBAR met with Mr Justice Constable on 24 February 2026 as part of a process of rolling consultation carried out by the Judge. It was a very helpful meeting where the processes and procedures of the TCC were discussed and potential improvements or changes were suggested. The end of the year saw the launch of the new TCC Guide and TECBAR co-hosted the launch event organised by Mr Justice Eyre.

It has also been a very full year for CPD. On 18 September 2025 TECBAR held a seminar to discuss ADR addressed by a distinguished panel made up of Rosemary Jackson KC, Hugh Raven, Justine Ash and Martin Burns. The TECBAR Conference on 13 November 2025 was another very successful event. Returning to the Parliament Chamber at Middle Temple TECBAR members were privileged to hear stimulating lectures from Kate Grange KC, Robert Scrivener, Felicity Dynes and Crispin Winsor KC. Lord Justice Peter Coulson, in his retirement year, gave the closing address. On 4 February 2026 Tecbar held a sold-out session on advocacy skills at Grays Inn. Lord Justice Jackson, Mr Justice Constable and Julian Cope gave illuminating talks on what makes a good advocate in the Court of Appeal, cross examination in the High Court and what makes a good adjudication submission.

As one of the main specialist bar associations TECBAR has been heavily involved in consultations with bodies including the Bar Council, the Bar Standards Board, Bar Mutual and various TCC groups on topics including disclosure, embargoed judgments, opportunities for work in India, expert evidence in arbitration, guideline rates, conduct obligations, barristers’ insurance and TCC practice.

Additionally, TECBAR has continued to receive a steady stream of requests for Adjudication Appointments (with its very successful training day due to take place on 7 July 2026) and throughout the year it has offered financial and other support to E&D events and activities as well as other causes promoting access to the Bar.

I am very grateful for the support provided to me by the members of the committee and particularly the Secretary, Ryan Turner.

Ben Patten KC

Four New Square