

Who should attend

Trade unionists, employment lawyers working in support of trade unions, and academics and students with an interest in industrial relations and labour law.

CPD accreditation

All IER seminars and conferences attract credit hours under the Law Society's Continuing Development Scheme and the General Council of the Bar's New Practitioners' Programme and Established Practitioners' Programme. Delegates requiring CPD points may be charged an additional administration fee of £10 to cover costs.

Additional information

Name changes are accepted up until the time of the event. Delegates who advise IER of their cancellation more than 15 working days in advance will receive a credit note with 10% deduction for administration.

Costs

	Full Price	Early Bird Discount (with upfront payment by cheque or online)
IER Subscribers	£80 per delegate	£75 per delegate
Trade Unions	£100 per delegate	£90 per delegate
Commercial	£240 per delegate	£220 per delegate

Please note: legal firms that subscribe to the Institute are entitled to one subscriber-rate place per conference.

Reduced prices can be negotiated for block bookings. Please telephone the office for further information 0151 207 5265

Bookings: 3 easy ways to pay

1. Website: go to www.ier.org.uk/events and look for this conference. To get your earlybird discount pay online using paypal.
2. Post: to get your early bird discount send a cheque with your booking form. Cheques are payable to IER, post to IER, 4th Floor, Jack Jones House, 1 Islington, Liverpool L3 8EG
3. Email: office@ier.org.uk to make your booking.

How to get there

Train: Lime St Station (British Rail) and Central Station (Merseyrail) are a five minute walk away. Bus: 500 from Liverpool John Lennon Airport to City Centre.

Booking form

Please reserve ___ places at the Access to Justice, Liverpool Conference at £ ___ each

Name

Address

Email

Organisation

Please invoice me/I enclose a cheque for £

Return completed form to IER, 4th Floor Jack Jones House, 1 Islington, Liverpool, L3 8EG, tel: 0151 207 5265, fax: 0151 207 5264, or email office@ier.org.uk

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Access to justice: employment tribunals at a crossroads

A one day conference
Wednesday 5th March 2014
9.30am to 3.30pm
at The Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool

Liverpool
#accessstojustice



Organised by
The Institute of
Employment Rights

About the conference

Workers' access to justice in employment disputes is constantly under attack, an attack that has accelerated over the past two years. The Coalition Government's employment law reforms will fundamentally change the policy and legal framework for seeking justice through the employment tribunal system. This conference will examine the difficulties, challenges and possibilities of the UK's systems for resolving employment disputes: the 'forensic lottery' of the unfair dismissal procedures; the role for Acas and others in mediation and conciliation; the very particular crisis for employment rights in times of austerity; and the choices faced by an employment tribunal system at the crossroads.

The conference will tell a compelling story about the shortcomings of the present system for employees, the particular difficulties for workers not represented by lawyers, and the dangers of the current and proposed changes to employee rights and employment relations.

Many of the barristers, academics and practitioners speaking at the event have contributed to a research project organised by Bristol and Strathclyde universities which looked at the ways in which workers unable to afford legal representation, attempt to resolve employment disputes. The research has culminated in a book published by the Institute entitled 'Access to justice in employment disputes: surveying the terrain' which will be available for sale at this event.

This conference will continue the research and collaboration between advice organisations, trades unionists and academics in supporting workers in employment disputes and making public the need for policy changes to support citizens' rights. The conference will provide an opportunity for trade union members, academics and lawyers to look at the changes to the employment tribunal system and the implications of the diminishing opportunities for workers to resolve employment disputes through recourse to the law.

Programme

- 9.30 Registration
- 9.50 Welcome from Chair
Carolyn Jones, Director of IER
- 10.00 Employment Disputes: surveying the terrain
Nicole Busby, University of Strathclyde
- 10.30 Justice Deferred: the impact of the Coalition's Tribunal reforms?
David Renton, Garden Court Chambers
- 11.00 Questions and discussion
- 11.15 Break
- 11.30 Mediation and employment disputes
Prof Bryan Clark, University of Strathclyde
- 12:00 Trade unions and the struggle to achieve access to justice
Shantha David, UNISON
- 12:30 Questions and discussion
- 12:45 LUNCH
- 1.45 Employment disputes: view from a mediator
Jennifer Eady QC, Old Square Chambers
- 2:15 What's confidential about pre-termination negotiations?
Victoria Phillips, Thompsons Solicitors
- 2:45 The future of employment dispute resolution
Morag McDermont, University of Bristol
- 3:15 Questions and Discussion
- 3:30 Close