

Streetlaw: Homeless

BPP University Law School
Pro Bono Centre



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CENTRE**

Why would Streetlaw benefit my service users?

1. Streetlaw is a free legal education project which **empowers individuals by making them aware of their rights and responsibilities as citizens in a democratic society**. It improves access to justice by:
 - (a) demystifying complex areas of law which directly affect members of the public; and
 - (b) challenging negative perceptions of the law and encouraging discussion about wider legal issuesthrough the **delivery of fun and interactive legal workshops to individuals and groups** that might not otherwise have access to legal information.
2. We **work with a wide range of people**, including schoolchildren (Streetlaw Schools and Youth Groups), prisoners and ex-offenders (Streetlaw Prisons), and homeless people (Streetlaw Homeless).
3. **Streetlaw workshops are free, informative and interactive**. We encourage critical thinking and active participation from our audience members through activities such as role plays, group discussion and quizzes. The format allows for audience members to develop and offer their own opinions in a respectful and controlled environment.
4. The Streetlaw programme has a precedent bank of over 60 workshops: each can be **tailored to the particular audience's needs**. New workshops are continually developed in response to topical issues (e.g. EU referendum) and client requests for bespoke sessions will be considered.



Why are BPP students best placed to deliver Streetlaw?

1. BPP University Law School's Pro Bono Centre ("BPP") **recognises the injustice inherent in our society's unmet legal needs**. We strive to enhance access to justice by facilitating the provision of pro bono legal services in our local communities. This includes our Streetlaw project, which is free to members of the public.
2. Streetlaw is **delivered by trained BPP law students** who are in their final stages of academic and vocational training prior to entry into the legal profession. The Streetlaw **materials are overseen by tutors who are qualified lawyers** internal to BPP.
3. Streetlaw Homeless focuses on the provision of practical legal information to people affected by homelessness. The project is motivated by a passion for seeing people who may be skeptical of the legal system, empowered through a basic understanding of the law as it affects them on a daily basis. In the 2015/16 academic year alone we **delivered over 40 workshops to hundreds of people affected by homelessness across the UK**. Venues for Streetlaw workshops have included the Whitechapel Centre in Liverpool, Crisis in Birmingham and Centrepoin in London.



4. BPP's Streetlaw project is an **award winning programme, recognised on a national level** at the annual LawWorks and Attorney General Student Awards for its positive impact in local communities. In 2011 the **Streetlaw Homeless team won the award for Best Contribution by a Team of Students.**

5. Feedback received from the sessions delivered has been overwhelmingly positive, with **attendees reporting increased knowledge of their rights, as well as confidence in seeking further professional advice about their personal situations.**

"I just wanted to thank you for sending your students. We really enjoyed the workshop. The residents and students got on really well with each other and the session was very engaging. There was plenty of laughter and smiles."

Vicki Roberts, LSW Boost Officer at St Basils, Birmingham

What Streetlaw sessions are available?

The list below covers some of the most popular topics we deliver to people affected by homelessness. We are happy to discuss new requests/particular audience needs.

Criminal law	Housing issues	Earning money	Employment law
Police powers of stop and search	Tenancy rights	Earning money on the streets	Employment and disclosure of criminal convictions
Knife Crime (possession of a knife)		Sex working	Basic Employment Rights
Domestic abuse			

How does Streetlaw work?

- The Streetlaw Homeless project is run by Student Directors (all law students at BPP). Their work is overseen by a member of staff at the BPP site local to you.
- To **book a single or series of workshops contact the member of staff relevant to your locality** (details below). You can then discuss and agree details of your preferred venue, time and topic, and any other needs particular to the intended audience.
- The Student Directors organise a small **group of student volunteers to attend your venue to deliver the workshop(s) (usually 45 – 60 minutes long)**. The students are trained prior to delivery of the workshop.
- All we require from you is that a **member of your staff is present in the room** with our volunteers during the workshop. Use of projector facilities at the venue is desirable but not necessary.

A quick word about the remit of the Streetlaw service

Streetlaw workshops are aimed at empowering individuals with knowledge and information about their rights. Knowledge is an extremely powerful tool. The student volunteers are not allowed (and do not have the professional expertise) to give any specific legal advice to audience members about their personal circumstances. Audience members can, however, be signposted by Streetlaw presenters to alternative sources of help.

I want to book a Streetlaw workshop!

Please contact the BPP member of staff in your area to discuss your particular requirements:

Birmingham and Bristol

Lucy Burrows, 0330 060 3505, LucyBurrows@bpp.com

Leeds and Manchester

Craig Fahey, 0330 060 3569, CraigFahey@bpp.com

London and Cambridge

Jessica Duxbury, 0207 067 2850, JessicaDuxbury@bpp.com



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