

BPP University Pro Bono Centre's Streetlaw project: free legal education for people affected by homelessness

Why would Streetlaw benefit my service users?

1. Streetlaw is a **free legal education project** which **empowers individuals** by making them **aware of their legal rights and responsibilities** as citizens in a democratic society.
2. Our **fun and interactive** workshops help **demystify complex areas of law** relevant to people's lives, 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 environment.
3. **Streetlaw: Homeless** 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. Venues who have been in receipt of our workshops have included the **Whitechapel Centre in Liverpool, Crisis in Birmingham and Centerpoint in London.**



Why are BPP students best placed to deliver Streetlaw?

1. Workshops are delivered by **trained postgraduate law students** in the final stage of academic and vocational training prior to entry into the legal profession.
2. BPP student volunteers are **committed to the "pro bono" ethos** - to use their legal skills to enhance access to justice for their local communities.
3. The Streetlaw project is **overseen by staff members who are qualified lawyers**. Staff members responsible for Streetlaw have attained **"Gold" status as UK Parliament Teacher Ambassadors**, demonstrating the project's ability to help develop the public's understanding of democracy.
4. BPP's Streetlaw project is **award winning, recognised on a national level** at the annual LawWorks and Attorney General Student Awards for its positive impact in communities (most recently **2021 Runners Up in the Best Team of Students** category).
5. **97% respondents** to our 2020/21 client survey **agreed or strongly agreed** that the workshop they attended:
 - (a) Helped **increased their knowledge** about legal rights and responsibilities relevant to their life; and
 - (b) Was delivered by volunteers who were **friendly, approachable and easy to understand.**



How does Streetlaw work?

- Streetlaw workshops are **available for delivery** by a group of trained student volunteers either:
 - (i) **in person at your venue; or**
 - (ii) **online** with either:
 - (a) individual access to devices (e.g. computer; smartphone); or
 - (b) group access to a shared device (utilising a venue staff member as facilitator).
- Workshops **usually last 45 – 90 minutes** to fit into your timetable.
- All we require from you is that a **member of your staff is present** during the workshop.
- **Face to face delivery is only available** in locations commutable from city centres where BPP University Law Schools are based: **Birmingham; Bristol; Manchester; Leeds; London (Holborn & Waterloo)**
- **Online workshops** for all other clients are delivered via **Microsoft Teams** meetings. There is no requirement for you to download specific software onto your device to participate.
- To facilitate requests (provided clients have access to technology) we may also recommend online provision for locally based clients due to e.g. volume or timing of workshops requested.



What Streetlaw workshops are available?

These are our most regularly requested topics by charities supporting people affected by homelessness (others are available). A synopsis of any topic is available upon request.

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|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Common Landlord & Tenant Disputes (private tenancies) | Earning money on the streets | Knife Crime |
| Discrimination (in general settings) | Employment rights: the basics | Sex working |
| Disclosing Convictions | Having Contact with Your Children | Stop and Search |

A quick word about the remit of the Streetlaw service

Streetlaw workshops aim to empower individuals with general knowledge about their rights. Knowledge is a powerful tool. Student volunteers are not permitted (and do not have the professional qualifications yet) to give specific legal advice to audience members about their personal circumstances (and will politely decline to do so). They *are* able to signpost audience members to potential sources of help.

Ready to book a workshop, or have more questions?

Please contact us at streetlawteam@bpp.com to discuss your requirements in more detail (including e.g. your preferred delivery mode, time and topic; audience needs; and any Covid-19 secure measures external visitors to your site are expected to adhere to).

"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