

Successful Law Reform

Practical issues today



One-week professional development workshop
29 September to 3 October 2025 in London



BRITISH ACCREDITATION COUNCIL
ACCREDITED SHORT COURSE PROVIDER

PAI is accredited by the
British Accreditation Council
for Independent Further and Higher Education

About the workshop

It is crucial that the law is as fair, modern, simple and cost-effective as possible. Reform of the law is vital across the world and is becoming ever more important. Increasingly it is essential for reform of the law to be principled, to be based on sound methods, to make use of modern technology and to take account of the views not only of experts, but also of civil society. In some countries law reform is undertaken by government alone. However, in an increasing number of other countries, law reform commissions and other permanent law reform agencies provide expert and detailed advice to governments; there are now over sixty such agencies.

Law reform typically aims to sustain the rule of law, improve protection for the vulnerable and increase human rights. It has to be respected, reliable, rigorous and responsive. Law reform agencies have to capture the attention of governments. Law reformers need to be dynamic, imaginative, creative and forward-thinking. They can be catalysts of change, responsive both to the public they serve and to the latest issues and challenges in the world.

Who is the workshop for?

This one-week capacity building workshop is about law in action and is designed for all those involved in law reform, including:

- Those working for law reform commissions, committees and institutes
- Law reformers working within governments
- Other major contributors such as academic lawyers, parliamentarians and judges.

The workshop is invaluable for all who are involved in law reform or who might be in the future.

Participants are most likely to be working at middle to senior levels and be equally from countries where law reform is a major priority, or from those where resources for law reform are much smaller. The workshop first took place in 2008. So far we have welcomed participants from countries as varied as Bermuda, Botswana, Brunei, Canada, Ireland, Kenya, Mongolia and Nigeria, including many Law Reform Agency Chairs, Commissioners and Chief Executives/Secretaries.

How participants will benefit

The workshop will help you to:

- Explore different organisational structures for law reform, and how to establish them
- Increase understanding of a variety of methods of achieving successful law reform
- Discover the full value to law reformers of wide consultation and outside expertise
- Explore how law reformers from other countries conduct high quality law reform
- Learn how law reformers are meeting modern needs
- Consider legislative and other methods of reforming the law
- Investigate the modern methods used in law reform
- Enable you to learn from law reformers from different legal and political systems
- Contribute to your professional development.

What the workshop will cover

The workshop is designed flexibly, so that it can be adjusted to meet the specific requirements of participants and their organisations. It will include presentations, case studies and discussions and we will provide you with a free copy of "Changing the Law: A Practical Guide to Law Reform", produced by the Commonwealth Association of Law Reform Agencies and the Commonwealth Secretariat. Visiting speakers or visit hosts are likely to include an experienced law reformer, the Chief Executive of the Law Commission for England and Wales and staff with practical experience of working in the UK Government's Ministry of Justice.

Programme outline:

	AM	PM
Day 1	Welcome and introductions Overview of law reform <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What is law reform?• Why is law reform needed?	Overview of law reform (continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who does law reform? The role of government, law reform agencies, the legislature and the courts Participants' informal presentations
Day 2	Independent law reform: the advantages; and are there any disadvantages? Establishing a new law reform agency Characteristics of successful law reform	Doing law reform (1) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Choosing, planning and managing projects• Using modern methods• Research: legal, policy and empirical Case study: introduction
Day 3	Doing law reform (2) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consultation with the public• Assistance from experts• Publications and presentation; the media Case study: group work by participants	<i>Face-to-face or virtual visit to the Law Commission</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meeting and discussion with the Chief Executive and law reformers Relationships between law reformers and Government
Day 4	Law reform: standards, values, motivation and ethics; international obligations and the Sustainable Development Goals Law reform with limited resources	<i>Face-to-face or virtual visit to/from the Ministry of Justice</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussions with a law reformer
Day 5	Doing law reform (3) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• After-report work• Law reform reports: implementation and impact	Review and evaluation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concluding discussions• Participants' action planning• Presentation of certificates of attendance

We reserve the right to change the programme as necessary.

Workshop Director

The Workshop Director is Malcolm McMillan.

Malcolm is a consultant on law reform and public law. He is an Executive Committee member of the Commonwealth Association of Law Reform Agencies and, for thirteen years, was the Chief Executive of the Scottish Law Commission.

How to apply

Please complete the PAI application form online via our website:

www.public-admin.co.uk/booking-form/

You can also complete our hard copy application form. Please contact us at pai@public-admin.co.uk to obtain a copy. Once completed return to Amanda Anderson, Programme Manager, at the same email address.

If you would like to discuss this workshop, any of our other international workshops or our consultancy services, please contact Claire Cameron, Director. We also have extensive experience of designing tailor-made training (from one day to two or three weeks) which can be run in your own country or in the UK to meet the specific needs of groups or individuals at all levels within your organisation. Please contact us if you would like further information.

Language

The workshop is conducted in English. You will need to have a good working knowledge of the language.

Location and arrival arrangements

The workshop is based in central London. We can arrange travel to and from one of the London airports into central London if you let us have your flight arrival details in good time. The cost of airport transfers is included in the workshop fee.

Fees

The fee for this workshop will be £2,550. It includes tuition, travel to and from the airport in London, travel on scheduled visits which form part of the programme¹, presentation material and other documentation. It also includes an Android tablet for you to use during the workshop and take home with you for future reference and follow up. We provide a light lunch and refreshments during each working day as part of the fee.

Other costs

Airfares and daily travel to and from the workshop venue are not included. Our workshops are non-residential and you are responsible for your accommodation costs. We can help you with booking hotel accommodation so please let us know if you would like us to advise you or make a reservation. We suggest that you should allow approximately £160 per day for a modest standard of hotel (for example, three-star), local travel in the UK, meals (apart from a light lunch on working days) and other incidental expenses.

Value Added Tax

We do not have to charge UK Value Added Tax (VAT) if you can provide written confirmation from your government or its accredited representative that you are "employed by the government in furtherance of its sovereign activities". In all other cases, we will have to charge VAT (currently 20%) in addition to the fee.

Ways to pay

You, or your government agency, can pay by bank transfer or by cheque, made payable to Public Administration International. We accept payment by credit or debit card but there is a surcharge for this way of paying. Please contact us if you would like to pay by credit or debit card.

Discounts

We offer a 10% reduction on the full tuition fee if we receive payment no later than 28 days before the first day of the workshop. If we receive payment after that, we will charge the full tuition fee.

Cancellation

If you have to cancel your booking, you must let us know in writing and we will acknowledge in writing your cancellation. For cancellations received up to 29 days before the start of the workshop we will refund the tuition fee, minus a charge of £200 to cover our administration costs. For cancellations received within 28 days of the start of the workshop, we will charge the full tuition fee. If you have paid the tuition fee and have subsequently been refused a visa to enter the UK, we will refund the tuition fee, minus a charge of £200 to cover our administration costs, providing you send us the original letter from the British High Commission/ Embassy confirming refusal of a visa and providing you have not entered the UK.

Substitutions and transfers

If you have booked a place on a workshop and are not able to attend, we will accept an appropriate substitute at any time without penalty but our normal terms and conditions will apply. Also, it is possible to transfer to a future workshop but only one transfer is permitted. Please get in touch with us and we will advise you about transfers.

Please see our website for our full terms and conditions. If you would prefer a hard copy of our full terms and conditions, please let us know.

<http://www.public-admin.co.uk/terms-and-conditions-for-booking/>

Insurance

We advise you to arrange travel and health insurance cover before you leave your home country.

¹Travel to and from the airport in London are provided at cost.

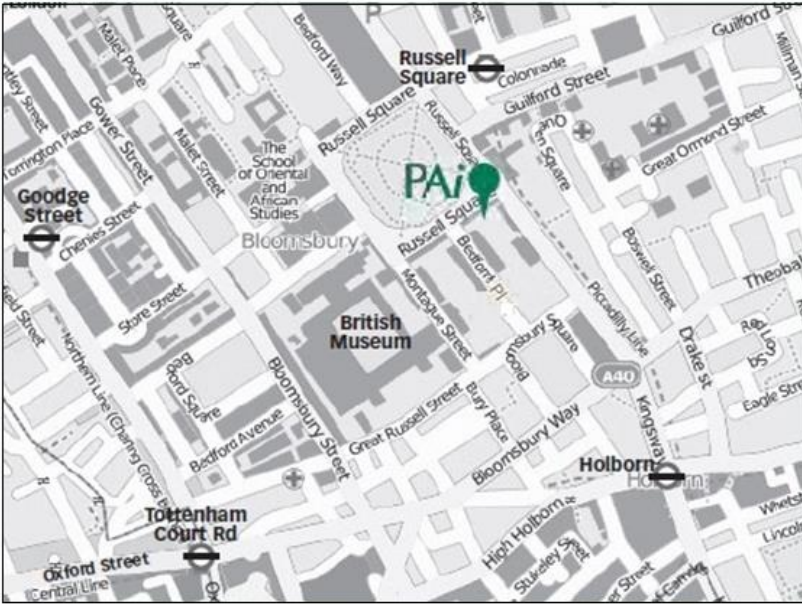
Who we are

PAI (Public Administration International) specialises in management consultancy, training and development services for organisations in, and associated with, the public sector worldwide. We provide advice and support for governments going through political, economic, structural and legislative change. Our extensive network of associates includes practitioners, academics and independent consultants. Our key objectives are promoting good governance and good practice in delivering public services. This workshop is one of a number of specialist UK-based professional development workshops designed to meet the needs of public services worldwide.

We pride ourselves on our:

- High quality, practical advice and support for our clients
- Professionalism and integrity
- Ability to offer excellent value for money
- Sound experience and track record internationally
- Networks and partnerships across the world
- Flexible, collaborative approach
- Friendliness and focus on putting people first.

Where we are



Public Administration International

56 Russell Square London WC1B 4HP UK

T: + 44 (0) 20 7580 3590 F: + 44 (0)20 7580 4746 E: pai@public-admin.co.uk