



## Pro Bono Champions

### About the role

- Pro Bono Champions play a crucial role for Advocate as a key point of contact for us with sets of Chambers.
- The role makes a huge difference to how Advocate is able to engage with Chambers and to the lives of many vulnerable people who would otherwise go without the support of a barrister.
- Through regular feedback provided by Advocate and internal discussions, we hope that Pro Bono Champions will be aware of how much pro bono Chambers is doing, and have a plan for how they will encourage members to take on pro bono work.
- The Advocate team are in touch monthly with resources that you can send around Chambers, and ideas of how to encourage pro bono in Chambers.
- You can get in touch with Advocate at any time if we can help with anything related to pro bono cases in Chambers or your role.
- Key Contact: Bryony Wells, Engagement Manager: [bwells@werareadvocate.org.uk](mailto:bwells@werareadvocate.org.uk)

Outlined below are the top ten Pro Bono Champion actions to get you started!

### Pro Bono Champions Top Ten

1. Encourage members to sign up to the Advocate panel to take on cases via our [sign-up form](#).
2. Organise a short pro bono seminar, either online or to take place during chambers tea / lunch / drinks. An Advocate Caseworker will attend and cover the reasons to do pro bono and how Advocate works in more detail. It is good to run these seminars annually. [Email Bryony](#) to arrange this.
3. Get all second six pupils and new tenants signed up!
  - A great way to get experience, get on their feet, etc.
  - Add pro bono to practice review agendas
4. Encourage junior barristers to do more pro bono:
  - Experience of higher courts
  - Get in front of key judges, meet new solicitors
  - Broaden their experience/areas of expertise
5. Encourage senior juniors to do pro bono for silk applications:
  - Good demonstration of ability to work with others
  - Shows skills in relation to diversity
  - Opportunity for high level advocacy

6. Encourage junior barristers to make use of our [mentoring scheme](#), Collaborate, when taking on pro bono work. You can also encourage senior barristers to [sign up to mentor](#).
7. Make sure your barristers know about [pro bono costs orders](#), and remember to ask for them.
  - NB: previously panel members have asked for their travel costs to be awarded within the pro bono costs order, and that has been successful.
8. Ensure your set knows about our [Bar Pro Bono Awards](#), and organise nominations where appropriate.
9. Pro Bono Champions can also be a great support in helping with our fundraising initiatives.
  - Encourage your barristers to donate £35 at the time of practising certificate renewals.
  - Ask your set to consider becoming a [Pro Bono Patron](#) by joining the Bronze, Silver or Gold Circle.
  - Share the invitation to our Christmas carols event with your set.
10. [Arrange a meeting](#) with Advocate's senior team and your senior team in Chambers to discuss how we can support your members and ensure the best opportunities are coming your way.