



QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST

INSTITUTE OF
PROFESSIONAL
LEGAL STUDIES

Institute of Professional Legal Studies
OPEN LECTURE 2022

FAILED JUSTICE

in the Post Office Scandal

POST OFFICE

SHAPING
A BETTER
WORLD
SINCE 1845

Institute of Professional Legal Studies
OPEN LECTURE 2022

FAILED JUSTICE

in the Post Office Scandal

**SHAPING
A BETTER
WORLD
SINCE 1845**

The Institute of Professional Legal Studies are delighted to welcome Paul Marshall BL for an open lecture which will include a question and answer session. Please note that spaces are limited at this event and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

To register for the event please e-mail
Clodagh.McMorrow@qub.ac.uk

TOPIC

“Failed Justice – how commercial interest displaced the interests of justice in the Post Office scandal”

The ‘Post Office scandal’ discloses the most extensive miscarriage of justice in recent English legal history and the resulting claims (more than 2,400 of them) which have rendered the Post Office technically insolvent.

DATE Wednesday 30th March 2022

TIME 6 pm – 7.30pm

Light refreshments will be available from 5.30pm

COST FREE

REGISTRATION

This event is being delivered free of charge by the Institute of Professional Legal Studies and will include a lecture with a subsequent question and answer session. Please note that spaces are limited at this event and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. To register for the event please e-mail

Clodagh.McMorrow@qub.ac.uk

VENUE

Institute of Professional Legal Studies Queen’s University Belfast, 10 Lennoxvale, Belfast, BT9 5BY

CPD

1.5 CPD hours will be allocated for attendance at this seminar



SPEAKER

Paul Marshall, Barrister-at-Law

Paul Marshall is in practice in Gray’s Inn, London. He is ranked in Chambers & Partners’ global rankings in commercial litigation. Diagnosis of serious illness in 2017 afforded him the opportunity to volunteer to represent without payment some of those wrongfully prosecuted by the Post Office in their criminal appeals to the Court of Appeal. With his junior, Flora Page, he was alone in contending that “category two abuse of process” (essentially, conduct tending to undermine the integrity of the criminal justice system) should be determined by the Court of Appeal as a freestanding ground of appeal, contrary to the view of all the other criminal QCs and lawyers involved in the appeals.

In November 2020 he was responsible for eliciting from the Post Office disclosure of the now infamous “Clarke Advice” which revealed that the Post Office knew of serious errors in its Horizon computer system, and of serially misleading evidence given by the Post Office to the court, as long ago as 2013. The Court of Appeal in April 2021 upheld category two abuse as a ground of appeal in quashing the first 39 convictions (the prosecutions should never have been brought) in the first tranche of appeals referred by the Criminal Cases Review Commission. There are estimated to be more than 700 in total. The Court of Appeal’s judgment opens the way to potential further claims against the Post Office for malicious prosecution.