

SUMMARY OF NOMINATION: BARRISTER COMMITTEE MEMBER

Advisory Committee candidate seeking appointment to the Advisory Committee at the AGM on 3 December 2024

Ellodie Gibbons of **Landmark Chambers** of 180 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2HG has been proposed by **Fanshawe White** and **Marr-Johnson & Stevens** for appointment to the Advisory Committee as Barrister Committee Member.



Statement:

I was the first barrister Advisory Committee member and stepped down when my first child was born. She is now 10 and I finally feel that I have regained the time and energy to commit to the role once more. As many members know, since I was last on the committee, I have spent over six years working part-time for the Law Commission leading to the passing of the Leasehold and Freehold Reform Act 2024. Aside from an intimate knowledge of the Act and the rationale behind it, I believe I have gained valuable skills and experience beyond those of a barrister, which I would hope to bring to the Advisory Committee.

I was heavily involved in the Law Commission's initial consultation and travelled the length and breadth of England and Wales in the process. I was able to engage with, and hear the views of, stakeholders across the sector and, as well as helping me develop the ability to assimilate and balance a wide variety of viewpoints, it has given me a perspective beyond the parameters of my own practice. I have endeavoured to maintain this broad perspective and regularly meet with enfranchisement practitioners and speak at events across the country. I would like to ensure that ALEP has something to offer everyone in the enfranchisement world regardless of which part of the sector they're working in, in what type of organisation, in which part of the country or at what stage of their careers they are at. By the same token, I would like to make sure that we are giving everyone an equal opportunity to participate in, and contribute to, both the events that ALEP puts on and the work that it does.

In particular, I am keen to support and encourage the more junior members of the sector. There is arguably less incentive now than there has been in the past to specialise in enfranchisement work. In turn, the decline in specialisation means that there is less incentive to attend ALEP events and training and therefore less opportunity to develop a specialist practice in the future. I would like to look at the ways this might be addressed through ALEP's membership structure and events.

In addition to liaising with stakeholders, I have also had considerable experience, during my time with the Law Commission, of liaising with Government and have seen the inner workings of the civil service firsthand. I think that with the 2024 Act on the statute book, but not in force, the legal challenges the Government faces and the promise of a draft Leasehold and Commonhold Bill in the 2024-25 parliamentary session, there is more of a role for ALEP to play, both on the political stage and behind the scenes, than ever before. I am keen to play my part in that.