



Careers in Ideas *Summer of IP 2024* launch event

Andrea Brewster OBE (she/her)

Lead Executive Officer, IP Inclusive

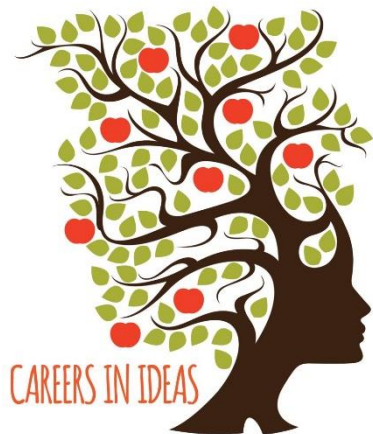
5 June 2024

Careers in Ideas

Summer of IP 2024

Launch event 5 June 2024

- Raising awareness of IP-related careers
- Improving access
- Diversifying the pool that the IP professions recruit from
- For all IP sector careers (including “business support”)
- For all diversity strands, not just eg gender balance or social mobility



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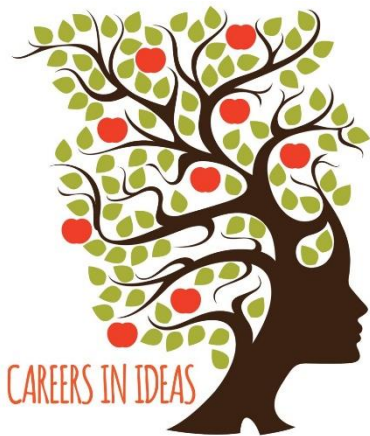
Working for diversity and inclusion in IP

Careers in Ideas: what we do

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- Information, events and resources for students and their advisers
- Resources to support IP professionals' careers outreach activities
- Building relationships, to help us reach the recruits who most need our information and support:
 - With relevant charities and community interest groups
 - With schools, colleges and universities
- Working with IP sector organisations (eg employers, membership bodies, regulators) to improve access and fair recruitment



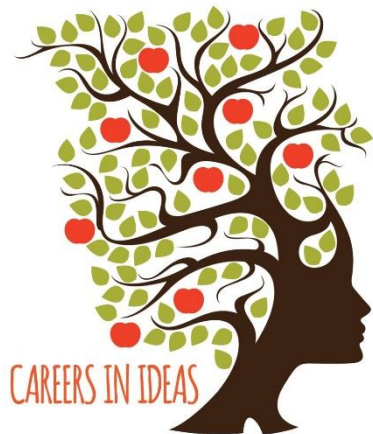
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Careers in Ideas: what we do

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- Website:
<https://careersinideas.org.uk/>
- Showcases all sorts of IP-related careers:
 - Basic information, eg about job description, entry requirements and essential skills, prospects
 - “My Career in Ideas” personal stories



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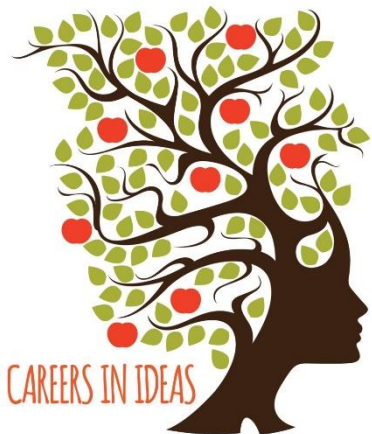
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Careers in Ideas and IP Inclusive

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- Careers in Ideas is the outreach arm of [IP Inclusive](#)
- IP Inclusive's aims:
 - To promote and improve equality, diversity, inclusion and wellbeing in the UK's IP professions
- *We can't do that without a diverse pipeline of new recruits*
 - Equally, there's no point bringing in diversity if it isn't welcomed and nurtured within the sector



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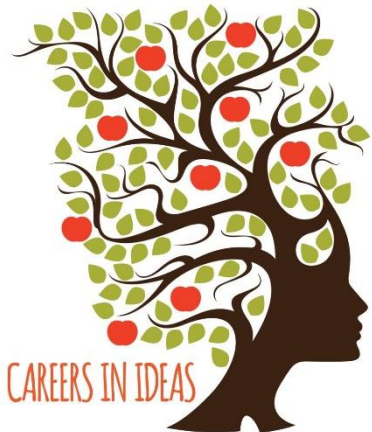
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Contact details

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- *Summer of IP 2024:*
 - <https://ipinclusive.org.uk/careers-in-ideas/summer-of-ip-2024/>
- Socials:
 - LinkedIn: [Careers in Ideas](#)
 - X: [@CareersinIdeas](#)
 - Instagram: [careersinideas](#)
- Email: contact@careersinideas.org.uk

- IP Inclusive:
 - <https://ipinclusive.org.uk/>
 - contact@ipinclusive.org.uk
 - LinkedIn: [IP Inclusive](#)
 - X: [@IPInclusive](#)



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Helen Smith
Executive Team, IP Inclusive

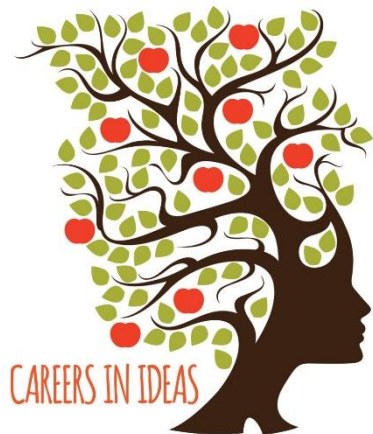
Summer of IP

Summer of IP 2024

Launch event 5 June 2024



- A series of free events and activities through the summer of 2024
- Raising awareness of IP sector careers
- Opportunities to learn about the various careers in IP and gain practical experience of an IP workplace
- Intended for anyone interested in careers in IP - secondary school, college and university students, graduates, career changers



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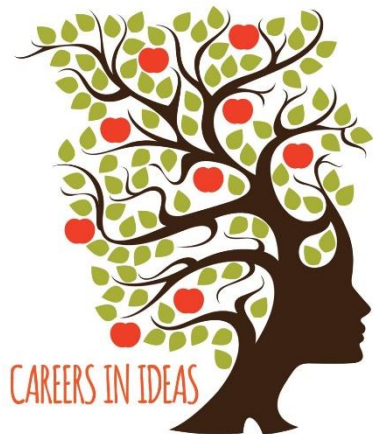
Summer of IP - Introductory events

Summer of IP 2024

Launch event 5 June 2024



- General introductory events and resources from Careers in Ideas
- A range of topics: what IP is, different types of IP, different IP careers and roles, workplaces, application procedures and tips...and more
- Live events during July 2024 with the chance to ask questions
- Recordings (and slides if appropriate) available afterwards
- More details on [our Introductory events webpage](#)



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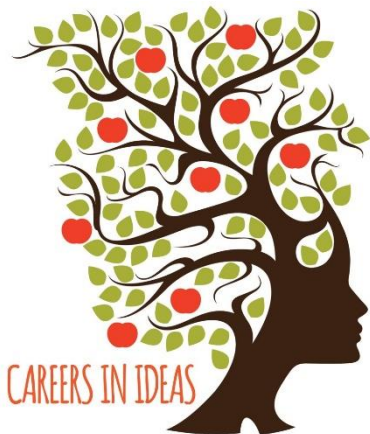
Summer of IP – Employer activities

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Launch event 5 June 2024



- Opportunities, activities and events from individual IP sector employers
- Eg “taster” events, workshops, informal drop-in chats, work experience placements
- Give you a better feel for what it’s like to work in IP
- More details on [our Employer Opportunities webpage](#)
- Apply directly to the organiser of the activity
- Hurry: places are limited and there are application deadlines to meet!



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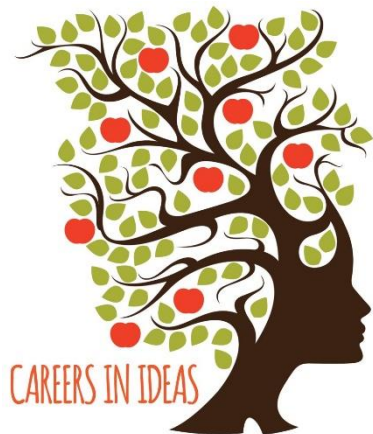
Summer of IP

Summer of IP 2024

Launch event 5 June 2024



- Full details via the Summer of IP webpage <https://ipinclusive.org.uk/careers-in-ideas/summer-of-ip-2024/>
- Registration links for live introductory events
- Recording links when available
- Information about all the various employer activities and events on offer and how to apply



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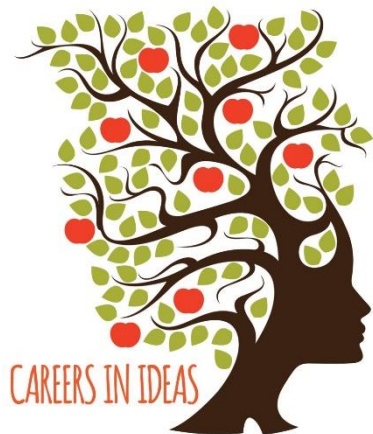


Thomas Hailes
Patent Attorney, Kilburn & Strode

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A Career in Ideas: Why IP Matters and Why You Should Consider It



Thomas Hailes
European and UK Patent Attorney (Associate)
at Kilburn & Strode LLP



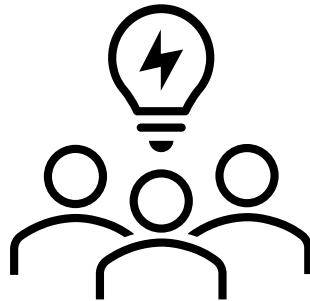
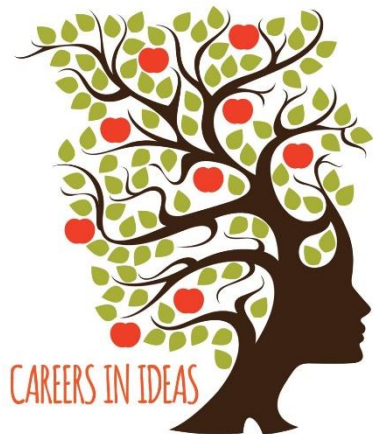
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What is IP?

Intellectual Property = good ideas, e.g. inventions, designs, brands, art, music, software

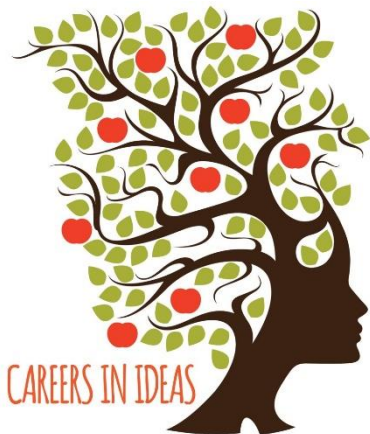
- Allows creators to protect their ideas and profit from them
- Work in IP = Protect ideas from unwanted copying

Protected in law by **patents, designs, copyright, trademarks, etc.**



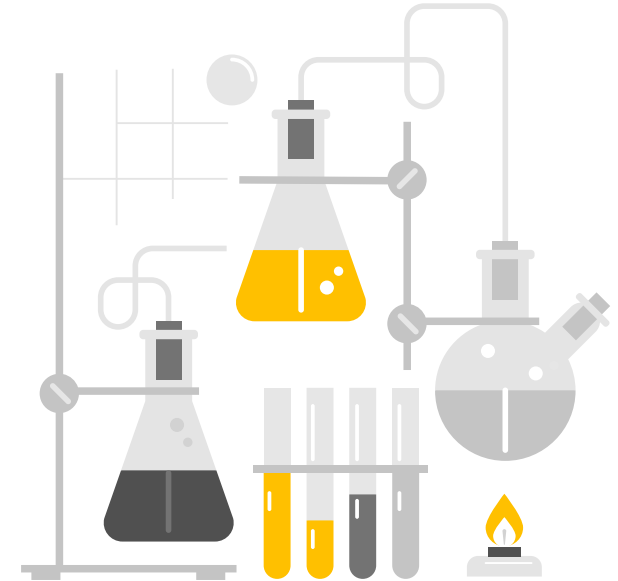
IP protection benefits everyone

- Ideas are £ in today's economy - IP enables owning & profiting from them
- Protects & encourages world-changing innovation – from your phone to your clothes, IP shapes the world around us!
- Disclosure of **patents** adds to public knowledge, fostering further innovation and solving problems, making everyone's life better
- **Trademarks** help consumers trust what they buy



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Diverse career opportunities in IP

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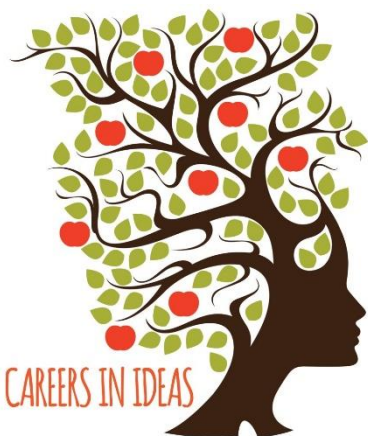


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IP offers diverse career opportunities!

- **Law?** Become an IP solicitor or barrister
- **Business?** Join an in-house IP team at a company
- **STEM?** Help protect inventions as a patent attorney
- **Creative?** Work in trademarks, designs or copyright
- **Other options:** Civil service, academia, publishing, IT
- **Indirect roles:** Marketing, finance, admin, HR



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The IP sector needs you!

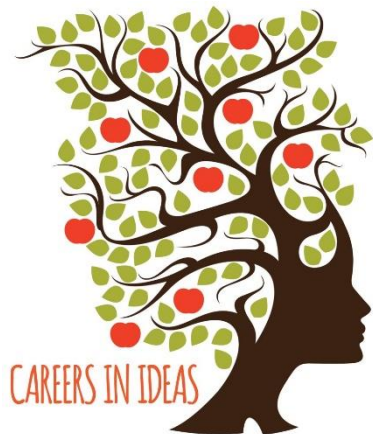
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Five reasons to choose an IP career:

1. Increasingly vital to the economy & rapidly growing
2. Rewarding work protecting world-changing innovation
3. Intellectually and financially rewarding, with great salaries & benefits
4. Global opportunities
5. The IP sector wants YOU!



So what are you waiting for? Get ahead of the curve in this lesser-known but high-potential field!

Learn more at careersinideasorg.uk



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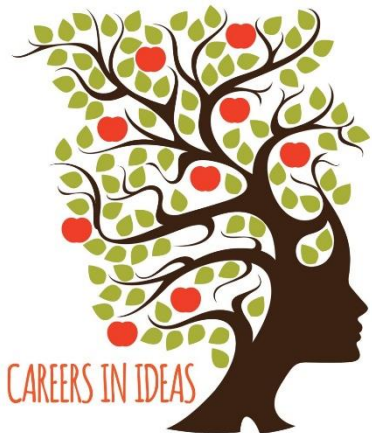


Rachel Bell
Patent Attorney, GSK

Role: Patent Attorney

Introduction

- **2010 - 2013:** BSc Biological Sciences (Microbiology) at University of Leicester
- **2013 - 2014:** Research Scientist at Dstl
- **2014 - 2017:** PhD in Cellular and Molecular Biology at King's College London (collaboration with GSK)
- **2017 - 2021:** Trainee Patent Attorney at Marks & Clerk LLP (Cambridge and London)
- **2021 onwards:** Joined GSK as a UK and European qualified patent attorney



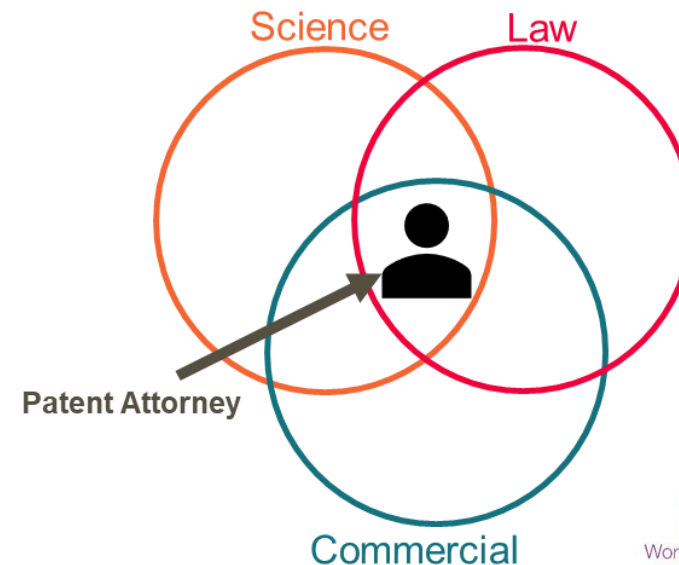
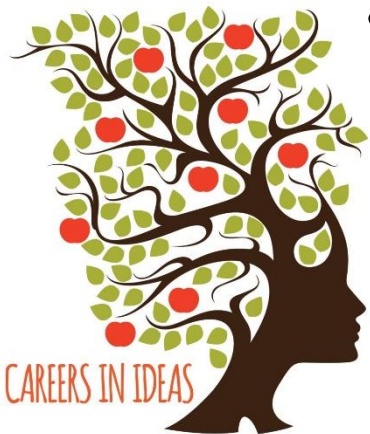
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Role: Patent Attorney

Role summary

- Understand technology and advise on the law
- Meet with inventors to capture inventions
- Prepare patent applications
- Respond to communications from the Patent Office (UK and Europe - directly)
- Third party patents – licence vs oppose
- Advise on IP aspects of contracts
- Advise on commercial and strategic issues
- And a lot more...!



Role: Patent Attorney

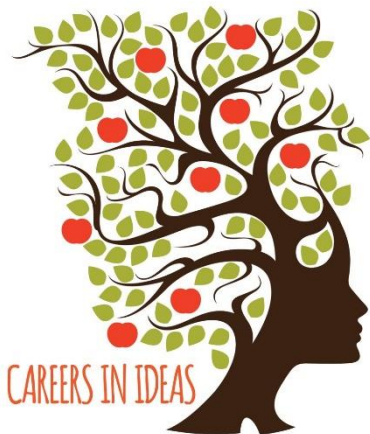
Positives and negatives of the job

Pros:

- Interesting
- Intellectually challenging
- Variety of work
- Forefront of technology
- Professional qualification
- Earning potential

Cons:

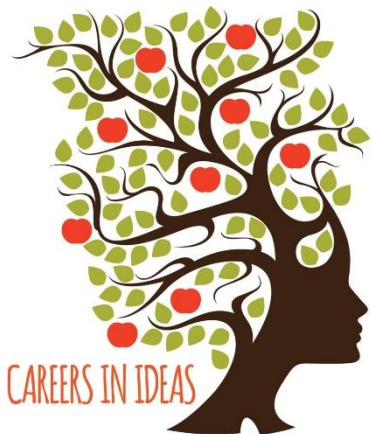
- Legal language can be challenging
- Minimum 4 years training
- Exams
- Deadline driven



Role: Patent Attorney

Tips and advice

- Polish and tailor CV and cover letter
- Focus on key skills – organization, ability to learn new areas quickly, balancing multiple deadlines, resilience/dealing with failure
- Stand out from the crowd – all experience counts!
- Network – offline and online





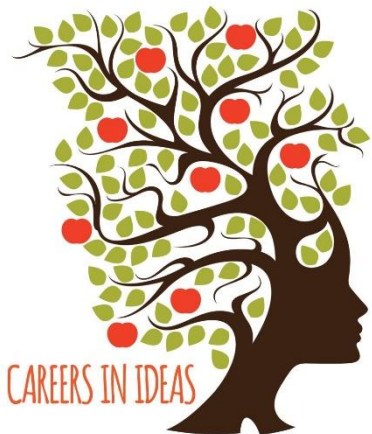
Alex Nott

Trade Mark Associate, Dehns

Role: Trade Mark Attorney

Introduction

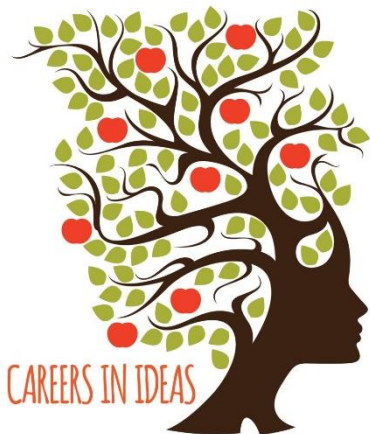
- Graduated in June 2016 with a BA in Politics and International Relations, and started working at Dehns as a Trade Mark Assistant in September 2016.
- Did two short work experience placements during university summers (both in commercial law firms, but with some involvement in IP).
- Passed QMUL PG Cert in TM Law and Practice in 2018 (part-qualified).
- Passed NTU TM Practice Certificate in 2019 (fully qualified).
- Associate of Dehns in 2022.



Role: Trade Mark Attorney

Role summary

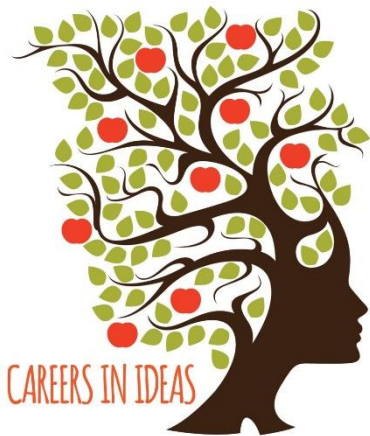
- Advising clients on, and assisting with, the protection and enforcement of their trade marks. These can include business names, product names, logos and slogans, as well as more unusual signs such as shapes and colour combinations. Protection involves clearance searching/availability advice and then prosecution/registration, and enforcement involves opposition proceedings, cease and desist letters, etc.
- It's a very commercial area of IP – commercial agreements relating to trade marks are very common (coexistence, assignments, licencing).
- Also advise on related issues such as designs, copyright and domain name/company name disputes.



Role: Trade Mark Attorney

Role requirements

- Most employers will likely be looking for candidates to achieve a 2.1 undergraduate degree. However, unlike the patent attorney job role, there are no specific subject requirements to be a Trade Mark Attorney (language skills are advantageous but not essential – luckily for me!).
- Any experience to show an interest in IP/law would help (e.g. a work experience or placement scheme), but again is not essential.
- Key skills: attention to detail, strong written and oral communication, research ability – think about examples from your degree or any part-time work that showcase these.



Role: Trade Mark Attorney

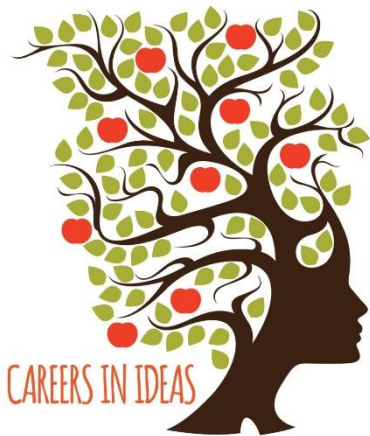
Positives and negatives of the job

Pros:

- Diverse client base. Every business, in every commercial field, has a trade mark – this means working with companies of all sizes, and learning about industries you might not have come across before. This keeps the job fresh and interesting.
- Community. The TMA profession is small, and so you get to know colleagues in the UK and overseas quite well.

Cons:

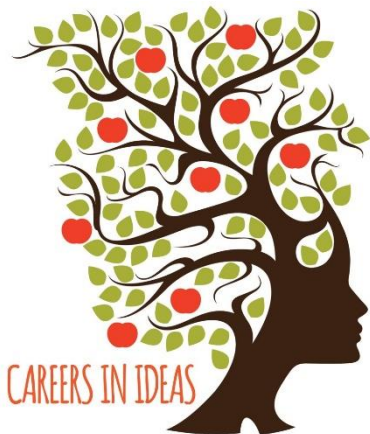
- Time-pressure. Timescales for trade mark matters tend to be shorter than for patents (weeks/1-2 months, rather than 6 months+).
- Billing! (Although this is less relevant at the training stage, and is a feature of most legal jobs.)



Role: Trade Mark Attorney

Tips and advice

- Be prepared to do your own research – there seems to be quite limited awareness of the Trade Mark Attorney job role and career path amongst Careers Services, so you might have to put in more time to find out about the opportunities that are available.
- Research different firms so you can make an informed decision about where you would like to work.
- Engage with news stories about IP – certain disputes get picked up by mainstream media and being able to talk about and have an opinion on these is really valuable in an interview.
- Check your CV and Cover Letter *over and over* again!



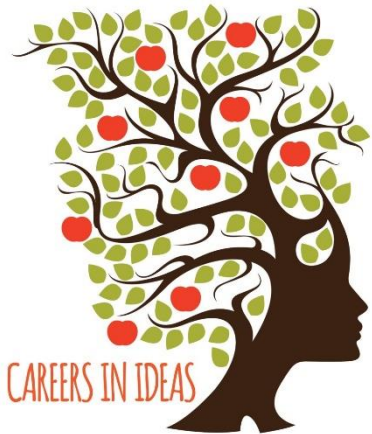


Esther Gunaratnam
Partner, Wedlake Bell

Role: IP Solicitor

Introduction

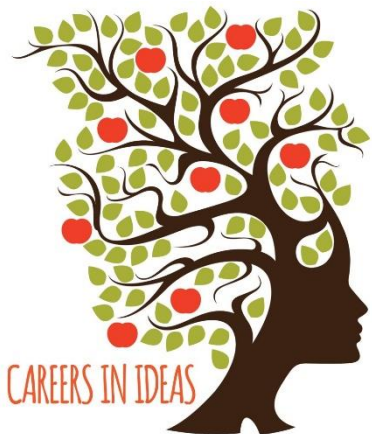
- Esther Gunaratnam
- Partner, Wedlake Bell LLP
- Solicitor (Qualified 1998)
- Non-Law Degree (Engineering)
- Originally from Hong Kong (English second language)



Role: IP Solicitor

Role summary

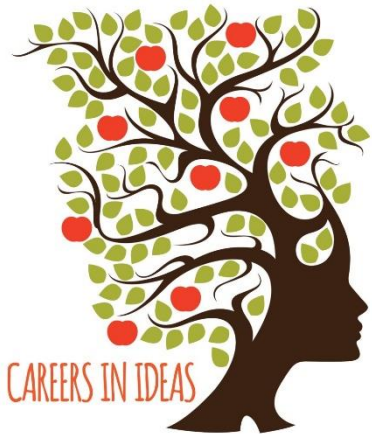
- All areas of IP – Patents, Trade Marks, Copyright, Designs, Confidential Info
- IP creation, protection, exploitation, enforcement (Cradle to Grave)
- IP, IT, Data Protection, Commercial
- Versatile
- Advisory, strategy, contracts, opinions
- Helping clients with their business



Role: IP Solicitor

Role requirements

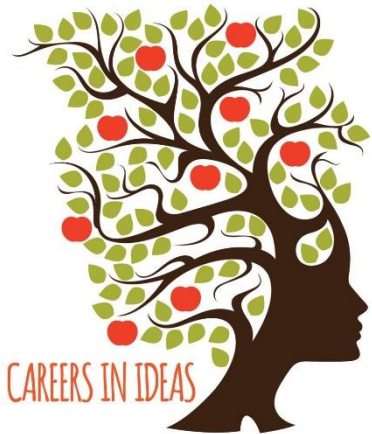
- IP needs Science background? No
- Qualification
 - 5+ GCSC – grade 4/C or above
 - 3+ A Levels – grade C or above
 - A Levels – many choices
 - Graduate (any degree)
 - School leavers / Graduates - different routes (explained later)



Role: IP Solicitor

Role requirements

- Experience
 - Work experience (helps but not mandatory)
- Skills
 - Attention to detail
 - Communication skills
 - Team Work
 - Analytical skills
 - Organisational Skills



Role: IP Solicitor

Positives and negatives of the job

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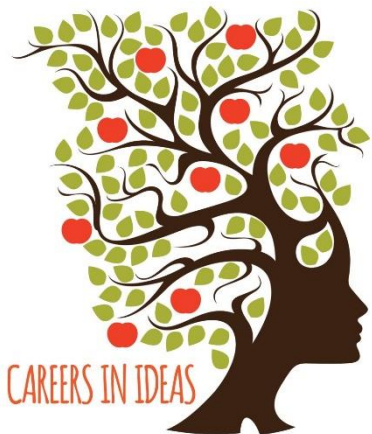


Pros:

- Interesting, varied work and clients
- Rewarding, contribute to society, learning all the time
- Pay?
- Trendy?

Cons:

- Long hours
- Stress



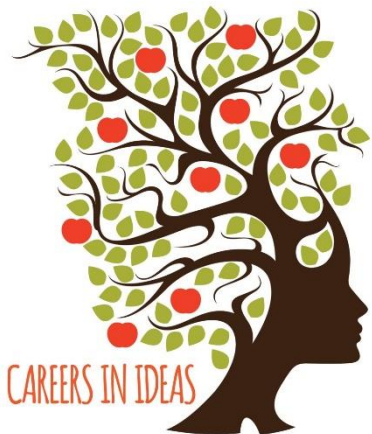
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Role: IP Solicitor

Tips and advice

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- How to Enter
 - **School leavers** – Apprenticeship (6 years) + SQE (“super exam”)
 - **Graduates** (any degree): SQE + 2 years’ qualifying work experience/training contract
 - Application deadlines – **2 years ahead** for training contracts



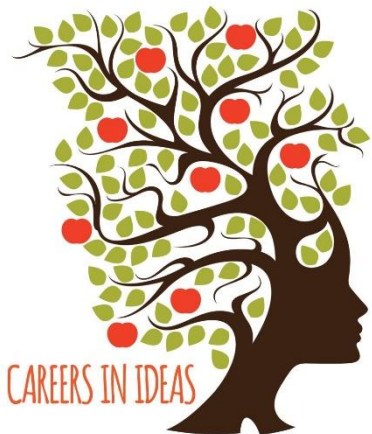
Role: IP Solicitor

Tips and advice

- Love it
- Research
 - Law firm specific arrangements / Vacation Schemes

<https://careers.wedlakebell.com/pages/early-careers>

- Culture, specialist area
- Be Enthusiastic, Proactive, Positive, Engaging



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Becky Knott

Barrister, Hogarth Chambers

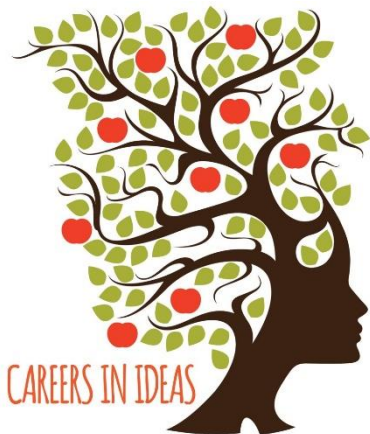
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Role: IP Barrister

Introduction

- English Language and Literature.
- Qualified Trade Mark Attorney (2018) and Trade Mark Attorney Litigator (2020).
- Graduate Diploma in Law.
- Bar Transfer Test.
- Called to the Bar 2022.
- Pupillage with Hogarth Chambers 2023 – 2024.
- Tenancy with Hogarth Chambers, 2024 onwards.



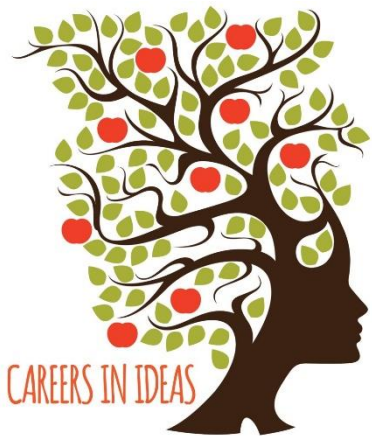
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Role: IP Barrister

Role summary

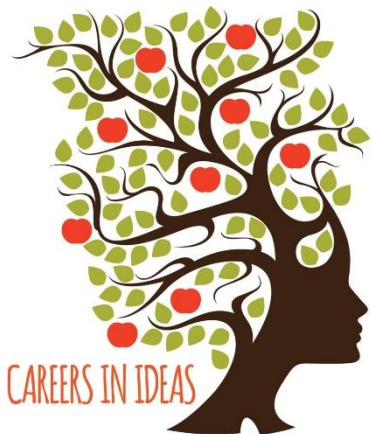
- **Area of IP:**
 - Trade Marks, Copyright, Designs, Patents, Breach of Confidence.
- **Summary of the role:**
 - Advising on potential litigation (starting/avoiding).
 - Advocacy in a range of forums.
 - Written submissions.
 - Reviewing evidence.



Role: IP Barrister

Role requirements / Tips and advice

- **Role requirements:**
 - Law degree/GDL + non-law degree.
 - Bar Practice Course.
 - 12 months of pupillage.
- **Tips to enter the profession:**
 - Advocacy experience.
 - Mini pupillages.
 - Speak to as many people as possible.



Role: IP Barrister

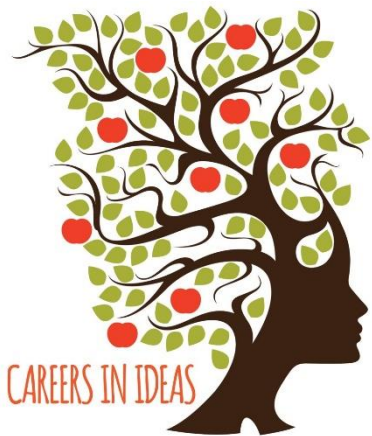
Positives and negatives of the job

Pros:

- Self-employment: freedom.
- Variation.
- Satisfying.

Cons:

- Self-employment: uncertainty.
- Stress.
- Sometimes very long hours.



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Réi Retallick

EPV Sales Support Assistant, Marks & Clerk

Role: IP Administrator

Introduction

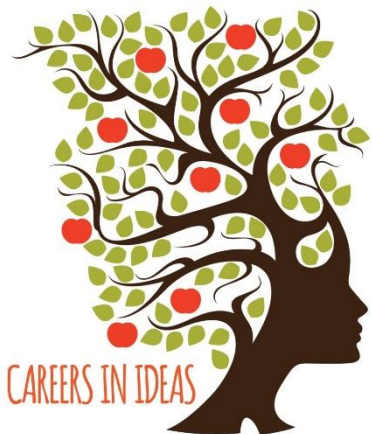
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Réi Retallick

Certified CIPA Administrator

- IP Administrator (Patents)
- EPV Sales Support Assistant
- Marketing and client care



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Role: IP Administrator

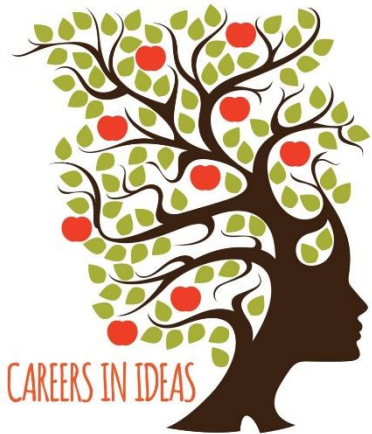
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Role summary

Formalities and Support Roles

- Secretarial work
- Case creation
- Workflow coordinator
- Case administration
- Filing specialist
- Recordals
- Records & systems management
- Marketing & Business Development
- European grant and validation



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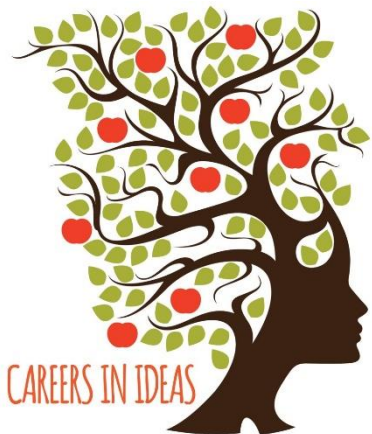
Role: IP Administrator

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Role requirements

- Administration
- Attention to detail
- Written and verbal communication
- Data entry
- Understanding of Intellectual Property
- Research skills
- IPPC qualification



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Role: IP Administrator

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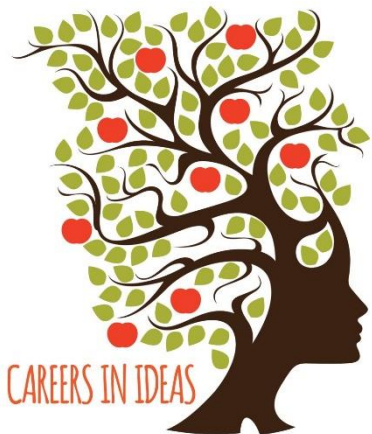
Positives and negatives of the job

Pros

- Work closely with attorneys
- Develop skills
- Variety of roles available to learn
- Working as a team

Cons

- Workload can fluctuate
- Time consuming
- Limited direct contact with clients
- Only some degree of opportunity to use own initiative

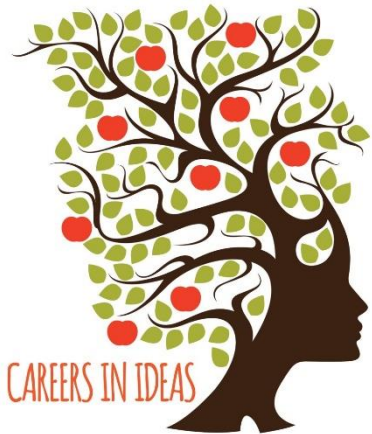


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Role: IP Administrator

Tips and advice

- Transferable skills
- Legal or IP background is beneficial
- Communication and organisational skills
- Research in to IP



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Philip Lawrence
Senior Patent Examiner, IPO

Role: Intellectual Property Office

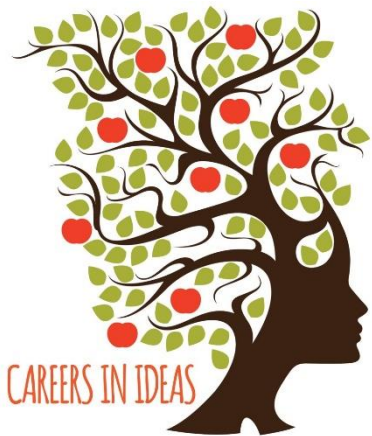
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Introduction

Philip Lawrence

Senior Patent Examiner

(civil engineering and medical patents)



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Role: Intellectual Property Office

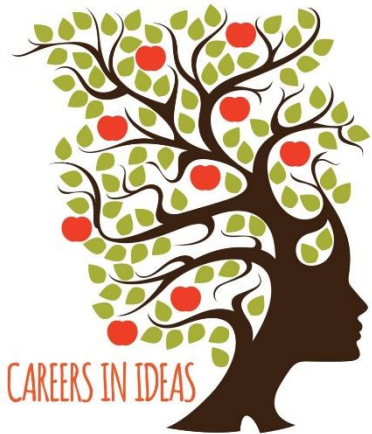
Summer of IP 2024

Launch event 5 June 2024

Role summary

What is the Intellectual Property Office?

- The IPO is part of the Civil Service
- In charge of IP rights registration and IP policy (domestic and international)
- Approximately 1600 staff
- Based in Newport, South Wales with a London office



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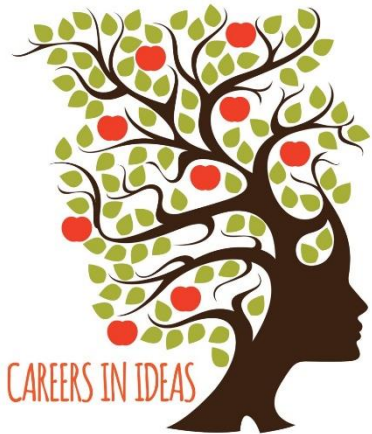
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Role summary

Jobs at the IPO

- Patent examiners – STEM background
- Trade mark and design examiners
- Trade Mark hearing officers – legal background
- Policy staff
- IT staff
- Admin staff



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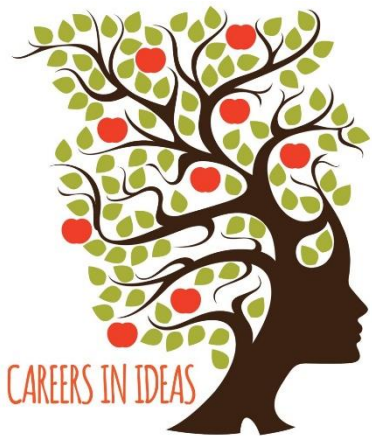
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Positives and negatives of the roles

Benefits of working at the IPO/the individual roles

- Lots!!
- Varied workload
- Wider development opportunities
- Work/life balance
- Being part of the Civil Service



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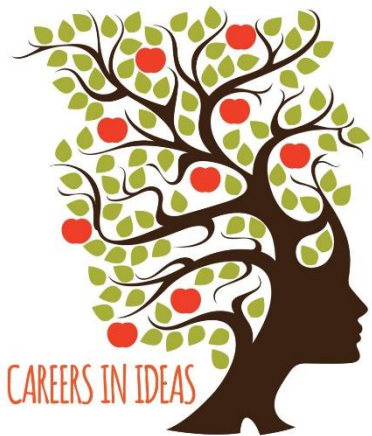
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Tips and advice

How to find out about IPO careers

- Civil Service jobs
- LinkedIn/Facebook
- www.IPO.gov.uk



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Becky Brooks

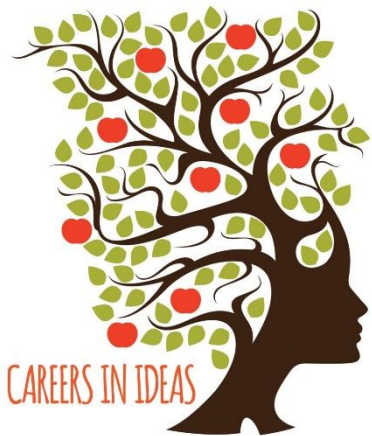
Patent Attorney, Mewburn Ellis

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Resources & How to Apply

Becky Brooks
Patent Attorney



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Resources - Information

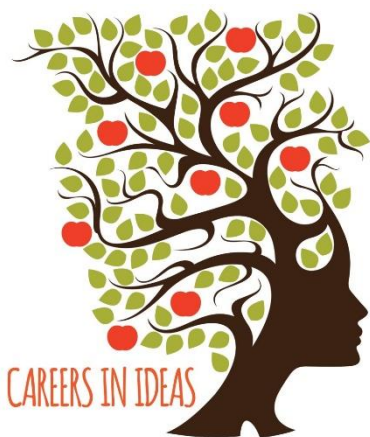
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- [IP Careers Website](#)
- [Government website](#)
- [UKIPO channel](#)
- [IPKat blog](#)

- Patents: [EPO website](#)
- Trade Marks and Designs: [EUIPO website](#)
- Trade Marks: [The Fashion Law](#)

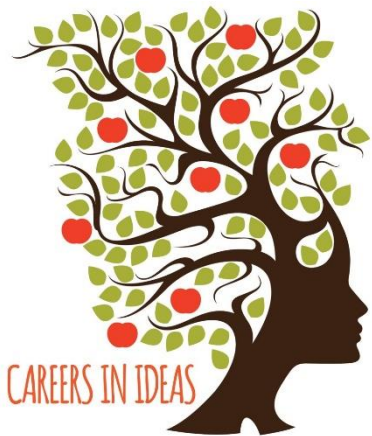


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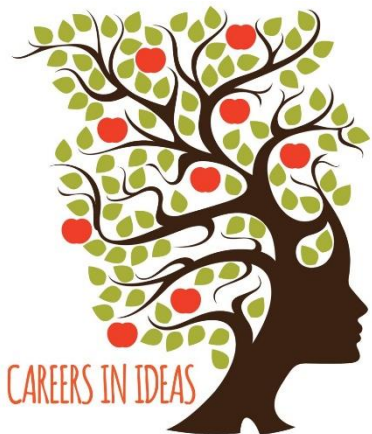
Resources – How to apply

- [IP Careers Website](#)
- LinkedIn
- Company websites:
 - Open days
 - Internships
 - Trainee roles
- Recruitment agencies



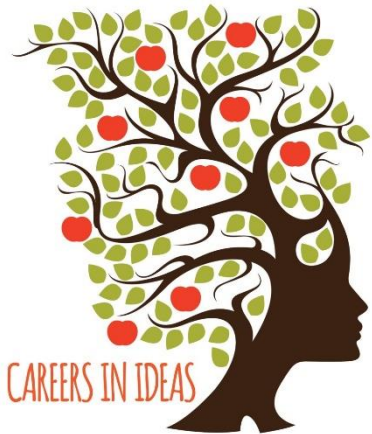
Recruitment process

- Trainee Attorney roles (private practice):
 - Yearly recruitment cycles
 - CV + Cover letter
 - Typically a two-stage interview process: technical and non-technical questions
- Paralegal/administrator roles:
 - Apply direct or through recruitment agencies



Recruitment process

- Examiner roles:
 - Apply through Civil Service Jobs website
 - Interview – questions and interactive tasks
- Solicitor roles:
 - Vacation Schemes
 - Training Contract





Careers in Ideas *Summer of IP 2024* launch event

Thank you