

Fit for Purpose?

An update on drugs law, sentencing and policy

1st October 2024 | 6-8pm

Crypt on the Green, Clerkenwell Close, EC1R 0EA

Please note that unfortunately this venue does not have wheelchair access.

Conviction levels for those using and supplying drugs in the UK remains stubbornly high and accounts for a significant proportion of our growing prison population. But are our drugs laws fit for purpose?

In seeking to answer this question, this event will consider recent case law, the impact of “Encrochat”, and the suitability of current sentencing guidelines. It will include a review of the expanding reliance on “expert” evidence in seeking to gain convictions. It will also question whether a more enlightened approach to drugs use, as demonstrated in other jurisdictions, is now necessary and what changes we should be seeking.

Drinks reception will follow.

Chair:

Arlette Piercy
Barrister, 25 Bedford Row

Speakers:

Sebastian Gardiner
Barrister, 25 Bedford Row

Professor Alex Stevens
*Professor in Criminal Justice,
University of Kent*

Dr Simon Harding
*Criminology Expert Witness
and Director of Criminology
Services Limited*



For further information and to register your place, please email 25br.events@25bedfordrow.com or call 020 7067 1500.

We are pleased to welcome our collaborative partner organisations and their members and teams at this event:

Release
Drugs, The Law & Human Rights

lccsa
London Criminal Courts Solicitors' Association