

Election manifesto for CIArb London Branch Elections 2026

Dear Members of the CIArb London Branch,

I am writing to set out my candidacy for election to the London Branch Committee. It would be a privilege to contribute to the Committee's work and to support the Institute's objectives on behalf of its London membership. My priorities, as outlined below, would be to promote awareness of London's updated legislative framework for arbitration, to support the Branch's programme of professional development and networking activities, and to contribute to the Institute's efforts on diversity and inclusion.

Promoting the Arbitration Act 2025 and London as a Seat

The Arbitration Act 2025 represents a significant modernisation of the legislative framework governing arbitration in England and Wales. Whilst practitioners based in London will be well placed to understand these developments, there is value in ensuring that the international arbitration community is similarly informed and that confidence in London as an arbitral seat is maintained. Having practised across a range of institutions and rules from London, I would look to contribute to the Branch's efforts to engage with international counterparts on these developments.

In addition, the LCIA has recently announced a consultation into potential revisions to its Arbitration Rules. As a current member of the LCIA's EDI Steering Committee, I am closely involved in the work of the LCIA and would be well placed to assist in publicising any proposed amendments to the Rules once announced, and to help ensure that London Branch members are kept informed of those developments as they progress.

Supporting Professional Development and Community

The Institute's programme of training, education, and networking plays an important role in the professional development of its members, and I would be committed to contributing to that programme as a member of the Committee. I'm committed to helping junior lawyers grow by offering skill-building opportunities; in particular, mentoring our arbitration interns at Linklaters keeps me engaged with those at the earlier stages of their careers in arbitration. I would welcome the opportunity to draw on those connections, and my professional associations with colleagues in the wider arbitration community, in support of the Branch's activities. I consider the international dimension of arbitration practice, together with the growing role of technology and artificial intelligence, to be areas of continuing importance that the Committee may wish to address in its programme.

Diversity and Inclusion

I am a current member of the LCIA EDI Steering Committee, and diversity and inclusion in the profession is a subject to which I attach considerable importance. Whilst progress has been made in recent years, there is more to be done, and I would wish to support the Branch's efforts in this area, including in relation to the accessibility and inclusiveness of the Institute's activities.

As a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, I am committed to the Institute's values and mission. I would approach the responsibilities of the role with diligence and would endeavour to make a constructive contribution to the Committee's work.

Thank you for considering my candidacy.

Yours sincerely,

Jacqueline Chaplin FCIArb