



Senior Advisory Lawyer

Independent Commission for Reconciliation and Information
Recovery (ICRIR)

Closing Date: 5 December 2025, 11.59pm

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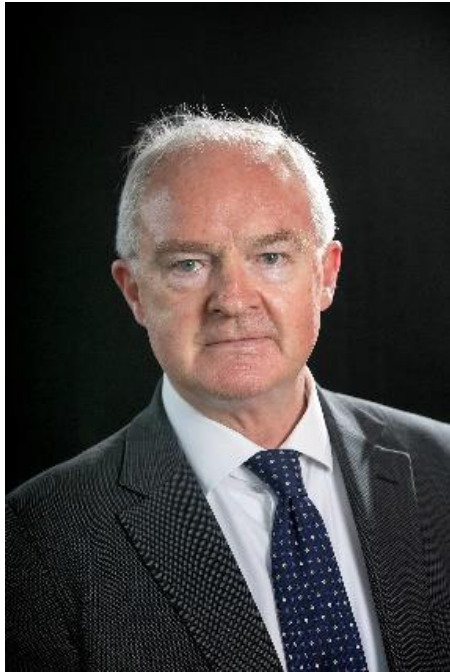
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Welcome! Fáilte! Fair fa ye! Croeso!



A Commission that serves the people of Northern Ireland

The Independent Commission for Reconciliation and Information Recovery (ICRIR) has been set up to provide information to families, victims and survivors of Troubles/Conflict-related deaths and serious injury, and to promote reconciliation.

I accepted the role of Chief Commissioner because I believe this is worth doing. All those affected by the Troubles/Conflict need the legacy of the past to be properly dealt with. Previous attempts to address this have failed but that doesn't mean we can simply give up.

The importance of reconciliation is known by all those who have been affected by the Troubles/Conflict and its legacy. For each and every person, that will mean something different. I want the Commission to best serve the people of Northern Ireland and beyond.

I believe we have a real opportunity here to deliver the answers that people are looking for. To do this, we need to build an independent organisation that's founded on integrity, expertise, and fairness.

Best wishes,

Sir Declan Morgan, Chief Commissioner

Welcome! Fáilte! Fair fa ye! Croeso!

Thank you on your interest in this exceptional and highly challenging role. You will operate at the cutting edge of human rights and public law, with the trust and authority to help me build and shape our team in the General Counsel's Department.

I am searching for a:

- Talented and ambitious lawyer, who works with dedication, initiative and imagination.
- Proven team-enhancing leadership skills
- Confident, effective and influential when advising and engaging with professional colleagues, clients and stakeholders.

I look forward to meeting with candidates to discuss the challenges.

Steven Bramley CBE, General Counsel

Who we are

The Independent Commission for Reconciliation and Information Recovery is an independent organisation that has been established to recover information about Troubles/Conflict-related deaths and serious injuries to families, victims, and survivors and to promote reconciliation.

We are building a values-led organisation. We operate with integrity, impartiality, openness, accountability, and respect, as set out in our Code of Conduct. This is reflected in our fair and open recruitment processes. We encourage people to join us across all backgrounds, communities and faiths to help us deliver.

The Commission is based in Belfast, with further operational sites in Northern Ireland and London. Travel to all locations will be required, but hybrid working arrangements will help us support a range of flexible working patterns. This is an exciting opportunity to join an organisation with a unique and vital remit.

The Commission is formed of seven Commissioners, the Chief Commissioner, Sir Declan Morgan, the Chief Executive Officer and the Commissioner for Investigations, as well as four Non-Executive Commissioners to provide challenge and scrutiny to the executive team.

We are committed to creating a diverse and inclusive workplace. We welcome applications from all communities and backgrounds, including underrepresented groups. We value diversity in our workforce as it enhances our ability to serve the communities of Northern Ireland and the United Kingdom.

ICRIR's Code of Conduct

- Integrity
- Impartiality
- Openness
- Accountability
- Respect

The Commission's work is to:

- investigate deaths and other serious Troubles/Conflict-related incidents, where requested, including deciding whether a criminal investigation should be part of the investigation.
- as part of our investigations, give the opportunity for individuals to make personal statements on how the incidents have affected them.
- require that any information necessary for our work is provided by PSNI, the security services, the Northern Ireland Office or any other public body and require that any person comes to the Commission to provide information.
- use police powers, where appropriate, including to secure evidence, arrest, and question suspects.
- produce and publish reports setting out the findings that have been determined from the investigations and addressing questions that have been raised by those making the request.
- refer deaths and other serious Troubles/Conflict-related incidents to prosecutors, where appropriate.
- produce a record of deaths that were caused by incidents during the Troubles/Conflict, and strive, through all it does, to promote reconciliation.

In addition to its principal objective to promote reconciliation, the Commission has agreed that a trauma and resiliency - informed approach should be taken in all its work and that it should follow three essential principles:

- Compliance with the ECHR;
- Respect for the principles of the 1998 Belfast Good Friday Agreement; and
- Focus on providing useful information to those affected by the Troubles/Conflict.

Our Team

- **The Chief Commissioner** has overall responsibility for leading and setting the strategic direction of the Commission to enable it to achieve its overarching aims and objectives. He is responsible for the production and publication of final reports. He is supported by a Findings Team who, under his supervision, will support in preparing reports. The Chief Commissioner chairs the Commission's **Board** which provides challenge, scrutiny and insight to enable the Executive Committee and wider team do its vital work.
- The **Chief Executive Officer** leads the efficient and effective running of the organisation, ensuring that it discharges its functions in line with all legal requirements and that staff are galvanised to work in support of the Commission's mission. They are the Accounting Officer for the organisation but do not take operational decisions on investigations, or reports.
- The **General Counsel** is the principal legal adviser to the Chief Commissioner, Commissioner for Investigations, and the Board. His team are responsible for developing all aspects of the legal advisory framework and legal strategy. The General Counsel's Directorate is a small team of lawyers, spanning litigation and investigations.

General Counsel's Department		
Litigation		Investigations
Senior litigation lawyers ensure the Commission is positively and effectively represented in domestic and international courts, so it can fulfil its purpose consistently with its responsibilities under the European Convention on Human Rights		Senior Investigations lawyers work closely and constructively with our case support, information recovery and findings teams to help them make reasonable and proportionate use of their substantial powers within the law.

About the role

Job Title

Senior Advisory Lawyer

Number of roles

1

Salary

£70,000

Location

Belfast or London

Our Investigations advisory team is split between Belfast and London.

Regular travel will be required home working is available subject to operational requirements and in line with the Commission's approach on hybrid working and with the agreement of your line manager.

Working Pattern

Full time, part time and flexible working. The role may include occasional out-of-core-hours working.

Contract Type

This role is offered on a permanent contract. Secondment arrangements from other organisations will also be considered, including employer pension contributions.

Security Level

Willingness to be assessed against the requirements for SC clearance, if not already cleared.

Closing Date

5 December 2025, 11.59pm

Interview Date

Expected week commencing 12 January 2026

The Role

We are recruiting a Senior Advisory Lawyer, as part of the Independent Commission for Reconciliation and Information Recovery (ICRIR).

These roles will play a major part in small and high quality team focusing on supporting the work of the Commission at all its stages, and on representing its interests in the courts, whether domestically or internationally, and whether defending challenges or asserting claims it may make against others. You will operate at the cutting edge of public law and human rights. The work will be both fascinating and demanding, in a supportive and rewarding environment.

As a senior member of a high performing team in the Commission, you will also be able to help create the vision and set the direction and culture of the Commission. We are happy to discuss the role and answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to contact us for an informal conversation about the role and our organisation by emailing us at recruitment@icrir.independent-inquiry.uk and we will arrange a call for you.

We welcome the unique contribution diverse applicants bring and do not discriminate based on culture, ethnicity, race, nationality or national origin, age, sex, gender identity or expression, religion or belief, disability status, sexual orientation, educational or social background or any other factor.

Key Responsibilities

All Senior Advisory Lawyers:

- Prepare high quality documents and contribute to the preparation of written reports to the ICRIR Board if required.
- Engage actively with internal and external stakeholders and collaborate closely with them.
- Collaborate with staff across the ICRIR and work successfully in multi-disciplinary teams taking responsibility for delivering high quality and timely legal outputs.
- Dealing with correspondence and complaints that arise within the department.
- Participate actively and constructively in discussions in line with the ICRIR's vision, values, objectives, and priorities.
- Undertake such other duties as ICRIR may require, in line with business need.
- Provide and arrange for timely, expert, and high-quality legal support for all the ICRIR's functions.
- Identify, assess, and manage potential areas of legal risk within a complex case load to ensure that decisions are legally robust, evidence-based, and consistent with ICRIR policies and guidance.

Person Specification

Essential Criteria

- A qualified lawyer in England and Wales or Northern Ireland.
- Significant and substantial experience of advisory work
- Knowledge and experience of data and information law
- Knowledge and experience of human rights law
- An ability to switch between tasks, to quickly get up- to speed on new subjects and to deliver to sometimes challenging timetables, consistently delivering high quality and robust legal services.
- A pragmatic, solutions-focused and commercial outlook, mindful of the wider context and issues and with sound analysis and judgement of legal risks.
- Strong communication skills, with ability to explain and defend a position to a variety of audiences.
- An ability to build strong working relationships, internally and externally, and to engage with stakeholders at all levels in business and government. Always exhibits the highest standards of integrity.
- Demonstrate the values set out in the ICRIR Code of Conduct.
- SC clearance or willingness to obtain SC clearance

Desirable Criteria

- Relevant regulatory experience.
- Experience and knowledge of Northern Ireland legislation.

Our Recruitment Process

All applications for employment are considered strictly on the basis of merit. This job description should not be taken as constituting conditions of employment. You should consider if you can meet the values in the ICRIR Code of Conduct, especially in relation to any conflicts of interest that you might have. More information can be found at [ICRIR Code of Conduct – Independent Commission for Reconciliation & Information Recovery](#).

Additional information received after the closing date will not be considered. Failure to provide sufficient information in support of an application prior to the closing date will not be considered as grounds for an appeal if an applicant is not shortlisted for interview.

The selection and interview process will consist of two stages as detailed below:

Stage 1: Sift

Your application will be reviewed against the Person Specification above by a blended panel.

Please upload your CV setting out your career history, with key responsibilities and achievements. Please ensure you have provided reasons for any gaps within the last two years.

You will be presented with four questions when completing your application. Your responses will be used to assess your application against the criteria for the role listed in the person specification.

Stage 2: Interview Successful candidates who meet the required standard at sift will be invited to an interview held via video conference or face-to-face.

At this stage, candidates will also be asked to complete a draft Declaration of Interest.

At your interview, you will be assessed on how your skillset and experience align with the essential and desirable criteria of this role.

We will try and offer as much flexibility as we can, but it may not be possible to offer alternative dates for assessments or interviews. You are therefore asked to note the timetables provided under the about this role section. Please note dates may be subject to change and we



reserve the right to close the job earlier than advertised.

Outcome

Please note that if you are successful in your application, you will be asked to list any interests you have which may be relevant to this role and consider any potential conflicts of interest. Your provisional offer will also be subject to right to work checks, providing two satisfactory references and obtaining the relevant security clearance level. A formal offer will then follow. Please do not provide notice to your employer until the formal offer has been accepted.

If you have any questions or would like an informal chat about the role before

applying, please contact recruitment@icrir.independent-inquiry.uk

Disabled Candidate Interview Scheme

We are committed to being an inclusive employer with a diverse workforce. We will offer an interview to any applicant with a disability who has indicated they would like to take part in our Disability Interview Scheme, provided they meet the essential criteria for the post as set out on the Person Specification page. Please let us know if this applies to you when submitting your application. If you need any reasonable adjustments to take part in our selection processes, please contact:

recruitment@icrir.independent-inquiry.uk

Merit Lists

If we identify more appointable candidates than we currently have posts available, we will hold applicant details on a reserve list from which further appointments can be made for a period of 12 months. This may include roles at a lower pay band.

If you don't want to be added to the reserve list, please contact recruitment@icrir.independent-inquiry.uk

Expected Timeline

The anticipated timetable is as follows:

Advertisement Closing Date	5 December 2025, 11.59pm
Stage 1: CV and Statement of Suitability	w/c 8 December 2025
Stage 2: Interview	From w/c 12 January 2026
Outcome	From w/c 19 January 2026

We will try and offer as much flexibility as we can, but it may not be possible to offer alternative dates for assessments or interviews. You are therefore asked to note the above timetable, exercising flexibility through the recruitment and selection process, in order to meet the dates given. Please note that these dates may be subject to change.

Benefits of working for the ICRIR

As an employee of the ICRIR, you will have access to a wide range of benefits. These include:

- ✓ **Investment in you.** Whatever your role, we take your career and development seriously and want to enable you to build a successful career. You will benefit from development opportunities, the opportunity to take bespoke training and study leave where applicable, as well as the opportunity to take secondments.
- ✓ **Flexible ways of working,** including a blend of office and home working and options for working compressed hours arrangements.
- ✓ A **supportive work environment,** with access to occupational health services, wellbeing support and disability friendly policies.
- ✓ A **positive work life balance.** We offer 30 days of annual leave in addition to 10 bank holidays observed in Northern Ireland from Day 1. In addition, you can take paid special leave for volunteering commitments up to 5 days per year.
- ✓ **Family Friendly Policies,** with generous maternity, paternity, adoption and shared parental leave notably more than the statutory minimums, including paid leave for prenatal and preadoption appointments, as well as paid compassionate and emergency leave. We also offer paid leave in the event of miscarriage and loss of a child.
- ✓ **High occupational sick pay** notably above statutory minimums (1-month full pay, 1 month half pay, rising to 4 months full pay, 4 months half pay in your 5th year with the ICRIR).
- ✓ **Tax-free charity donations,** interest free loans and salary advances via payroll
- ✓ **Travel and subsistence** where you are required to travel for work commitments with us.

Pension Package

The ICRIR operates the Northern Ireland Local Government Officers' Superannuation Scheme. This is a defined benefit scheme with a generous employer contribution rate that allows you to save while you are working to enable you to enjoy a pension when you retire and peace of mind when it comes to planning for your future retirement.

Benefits of the NI local government pension scheme include:

- ✓ Main defined benefit pension scheme, providing a pension payable for life with no investment uncertainty.
- ✓ Choice of a tax-free lump sum.
- ✓ Generous employer contribution rate.
- ✓ Able to nominate anyone for a tax-free lump sum in the event of your death.
- ✓ Option to take early retirement.
- ✓ Tax relief on all your pension contributions.

You can find further information about the scheme on www.nilgosc.org.uk/members

FAQs

Is this role suitable for part-time working?

This role is available for full-time, or flexible working arrangements (including job share partnerships).

Will the role involve travel?

Regular travel to and presence at the Belfast HQ will be required if you are not Belfast based.

Where will the role be based?

The post can be based in Belfast or London. Whichever office you choose to be based in, weekly travel to our other office may be required to support delivery of key objectives. Relocation costs will not be reimbursed, however, travel costs between Belfast and London can be reclaimed as an expense.

Can I claim back any expenses incurred during the recruitment process?

No. Unfortunately we will not be able to reimburse you, except in exceptional circumstances and only when agreed in advance.

What are the nationality requirements for this role?

To be eligible for employment to this role you must be a national from the following countries:

- The United Kingdom
- The Republic of Ireland
- The Commonwealth*
- A European Economic Area (EEA) Member State
- Switzerland
- Turkey

Certain family members of EEA, Switzerland and Turkish nationals are also eligible to apply regardless of their nationality. (*Commonwealth citizens not yet in the UK, who have no right of

abode in the UK and who do not have leave to enter the UK are ineligible to apply.) For further information on whether you are eligible to apply, please visit [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk).

What reasonable adjustments can be made if I have a disability?

We are committed to making reasonable adjustments to support disabled job applicants and ensure that you are not disadvantaged in the recruitment and assessment process. If you feel that you may need a reasonable adjustment to be made, or you would like to discuss your requirements in more detail, please contact recruitment@icrir.independent-inquiry.uk

Do you offer an interview scheme for disabled candidates?

We will offer an interview to any applicant with a disability who has indicated they would like to take part in our Disability Interview Scheme, provided they meet the essential criteria for the post as set out on the Person Specification page. Please let us know if this applies to you when submitting your application.

Is security clearance required?

Yes. If successful you must hold the required security clearance or be willing to obtain the required security clearance for this role. Information about the vetting process can be found [online](#).

What do I do if I want to make a complaint?

The law requires that selection is on merit on the basis of fair and open

competition. If you feel your application has not been treated in accordance with this and our values, and you wish to make a complaint, contact recruitment@icrir.independent-inquiry.uk

What should I do if I think that I have a conflict of interest?

Candidates must note the requirement to declare any interests that might give rise to a conflict of interest. You should consider the policy [ICRIR Code of Conduct – Independent Commission for Reconciliation & Information Recovery](#) and if you believe that you may have a conflict of interest, before submitting your application please contact recruitment@icrir.independent-inquiry.uk

Data Sharing

We will ensure that we will treat all personal information in accordance with data protection legislation, including the General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018.

The legal basis for processing your personal data

Processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest.

Personal data are processed in the public interest because understanding employee experiences is important to inform decisions taken to improve these experiences, and ultimately organisation performance.

Sensitive personal data is personal data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical

beliefs, or trade union membership, and the processing of genetic data, biometric data for the purpose of uniquely identifying a natural person, data concerning health or data concerning a natural person's sex life or sexual orientation.

The legal basis for processing your sensitive personal data

Processing is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest for the exercise of a public body: it is important to know if groups of staff with specific demographic characteristics have a better or worse experience, so that appropriate action can be taken to level this experience.

Processing is of a specific category of personal data and it is necessary for the purposes of identifying or keeping under

review the existence or absence of equality of opportunity or treatment between groups of people with a view to enabling such equality to be promoted or maintained.

Please note if you are successful in your application, your sensitive personal data will be used as part of the on-boarding process to build your employee record.

For further information please see the [GDPR Privacy Notice](#).



Diversity and Inclusion

We value and support all our people and are committed to being an inclusive employer with a diverse workforce. We encourage applications from people from the widest possible diversity of backgrounds, cultures, and experiences.

We are a new organisation and are using this opportunity to build a supportive and inclusive culture. We will develop strong and proactive staff networks, special leave policies for hospital appointments, reasonable adjustments put in place for those who need them, and diversity talent programmes to help everyone, irrespective of background, to achieve their potential.

We want all our people to feel valued for who they are, and we are confident that you will find the Independent

Commission for Reconciliation and Information Recovery a warm, welcoming and inclusive place to work.

We understand that the application process can be daunting. We offer the opportunity for prospective applicants to have an informal conversation with our hiring managers. This is to provide more information about the role, discuss any accommodations needed, and answer any questions you may have.

Disabled Candidate Interview Scheme

We are committed to being an inclusive employer with a diverse workforce. We will offer an interview to any applicant with a disability who has indicated they would like to take part in our Disability Interview Scheme, provided they meet

the essential criteria for the post as set out on the Person Specification page. Please let us know if this applies to you when submitting your application.

If you need any reasonable adjustments to take part in our selection processes, please contact recruitment@icrir.independent-inquiry.uk

Contact Us

If you would like to submit an application or ask more information about this role, please contact recruitment@icrir.independent-inquiry.uk