

Our London office's work in this area includes: supporting local communities through volunteering and charitable activities; cultivating a diverse and inclusive workplace where everyone is comfortable being themselves; representing NGOs, charitable organisations, individuals, and communities in need through our pro bono programme; contributing to reducing our impact on the environment; and promoting good mental health and wellbeing for everyone.

#### **Pro Bono**

Arnold & Porter's commitment to pro bono is at the core of who we are as a firm. We believe that all lawyers have a moral obligation to do pro bono work, and we strive to be the best there is. We work collaboratively on behalf of NGOs, charitable organisations, individuals, and communities in need — no matter how complex or difficult the issues may be.

Projects range from challenging high profile human rights abuses in international courts, pursuing legislative and policy resolutions, liaising with public authorities on behalf of individual and charities, acting to protect the brand and reputation of NGOs, and helping nonprofit organisations comply with their governance responsibilities.

Notable projects include representing families for <u>Kids in Need of Defense UK</u>, assisting <u>ILGA-Europe</u> in third-party interventions before The European Court of Human Rights, assisting non-profit organisations with governance responsibilities, and successful advocacy in PIP appeals.

The firm has received recognition for its commitment, ranking 17th in *Law.com International*'s 2023 Best Law Firms for Pro Bono in the UK and being included in *Law.com International*'s 2023 UK A-List.

#### **Diversity & Inclusion**

Diversity and inclusion are core values for Arnold & Porter. We are committed to cultivating diversity and inclusion in a positive work environment, where all talent is supported and accorded dignity and respect. We value the contributions that each person makes, enable our colleagues to be comfortable being themselves, and encourage every person to realize their potential. We believe that each individual has the right to work in a professional atmosphere that promotes equal opportunity.

Our firmwide Diversity & Inclusion Committee is a catalyst for lasting change. Comprised of senior lawyers and professionals bringing together voices from across different practice groups, departments, geographies, and backgrounds, the Committee ensures that varied perspectives help steer our path forward. We continually shape our approach across five key pillars: recruitment, retention, advancement, engagement, and service. With strong leadership support, we foster an environment where diversity sparks innovation, collaboration thrives, and every individual feels valued.

## Community

The firm encourages community service by providing employees with one day a year to volunteer their time for charity.

We have a two-year partnership with <u>Single Homeless Project</u> and <u>The Felix Project</u> and support the charities by hosting fundraising and volunteering activities, as well as providing pro bono support and gifts-in-kind.

The London office has a particular focus on social mobility, aimed at widening access to the legal profession. We are a founding member of the <u>Social Mobility Business Partnership</u>, a volunteer-led charity committed to supporting and mentoring students from low-income backgrounds, and a <u>PRIME</u> signatory — an alliance of law firms and in-house teams — committed to improving access to the legal profession.

We also support struggling five to seven year olds with online reading sessions through our partnership with <u>Chapter One</u> reading programme.

# Sustainability

Arnold & Porter is committed to creating a better and more sustainable future for people and the planet and reducing our carbon footprint. Our Sustainability Committee evaluates sustainable initiatives, develops policy recommendations, and communicates progress to internal stakeholders.

Our sustainable business practices focus on resource conservation. Specific initiatives include enhanced recycling, reducing emissions relating to travel, donating office furniture to <u>Business2Schools</u>, offsetting the carbon generated from our paper usage through <u>Premier Paper Carbon Capture Scheme</u>, and introducing a cycle to work scheme.

We annually measure scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions and have committed to <u>SBTi</u> ("Science Based Targets Initiative"), committing to develop strategies and submit targets for reduction of emissions to limit global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels in line with the goals of the 2015 Paris Agreement.

Our environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) practice also continues to advise clients in environmental, social, and governance law.

Read our sustainability mission statement here, which outlines our commitment.

## **Mental Health and Wellbeing**

In partnership with <u>Mental Health First Aid England</u>, we have trained mental health first aiders with the skills to provide guidance and support to those who may be experiencing mental health issues.

Our mental health first aid network also promote a number of awareness days including <u>Mental Health Awareness Week</u> and <u>The Green Ribbon Campaign</u> and run several well-being initiatives throughout the year.