

The launch of the IALS Centre for Law and Information Policy

Tuesday 24 February 2015 at IALS

Evening lecture and reception: 18:00 - 20:00, RSVP to IALS.Events@sas.ac.uk**Venue:** Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, Charles Clore House, 17 Russell Square
London, WC1B 5DR**Evening lecture, 6pm****'Does Privacy Matter?'**

A public lecture by **Timothy Pitt-Payne QC**, 11KBW, followed by discussion and drinks reception, to mark the launch of the Centre for Law and Information Policy. Chair: **James Michael**, Senior Associate Research Fellow, and chair of the Centre for Law and Information Policy Advisory Board, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies.

"Scepticism about privacy – in particular, about information privacy – is widespread. It takes many different forms. For instance, it is often said that, in modern conditions, there can be no such thing as privacy; or that the generation that has grown up with the internet and social media is not interested in privacy. Even those who recognise that there is some value in privacy will often accept that it is readily outweighed by other considerations: e.g. safeguarding national security, protecting vulnerable groups, or making public administration more efficient. This presentation will discuss whether privacy still matters to us, and if so, whether we have the right legal tools to protect it."



Timothy Pitt-Payne QC, barrister at 11KBW, is well known for his expertise in the field of information law, including data protection, freedom of information, access to environmental information, RIPA, human rights issues, privacy, and breach of confidence. His clients include commercial organisations, the Information Commissioner, numerous regulators, NHS bodies, local authorities, Universities, and private individuals. His freedom of information cases have considered the disclosure of Cabinet Minutes about the Iraq War, MPs' expenses, abortion statistics, and the risk register relating to the Government's NHS reforms. He has extensive advocacy experience in information law, at all levels from the First-tier Tribunal to the Supreme Court. He has advised a wide range of commercial organisations (e.g. in the banking, insurance, healthcare and outsourcing sectors) about their use of customer and other personal information, and about the implications of sharing confidential business information with public authorities. He has contributed chapters to *Computer Law* (OUP, 2011), *Media Law and Practice* (OUP, 2009) and *Judicial Review* (Butterworths, 2010). He is a member of the Advisory Board of the new Centre for Law and Information Policy.