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Introduction

This first edition of Emerald law-Guide to the English Legal System is wide ranging and covers all the main areas of our complex legal system in depth.

For the average person, the legal system in this country can appear mystifying. All they know is that the process of funding legal cases costs a lot of money. However, for most of us in our lives, one way or another, we will find ourselves in court.

It is very important for a citizen to have a clear idea of how the legal system operates and who is who in the system, the role of the judiciary, the European Courts and also the availability of funding if a case needs to go to court and is proving to expensive.

One of the main axioms of the last ten years or so has been access to justice. How easily can individuals and others access the legal system in this country. It is true that the system has become more accessible and easier to understand. However, that doesn't take away the fact that the process is daunting.

This introduction to the English legal System should prove invaluable to all, student, professional and layperson.

Anthony Chadwick