Your professional body
The value of your membership
Welcome to the Law Society

Our commitment to members is at the heart of everything we do

The Law Society is the independent professional body for solicitors in England and Wales. We are run by and for our members. Our role is to be the voice of solicitors, to drive excellence in the profession and to safeguard the rule of law.

On behalf of the profession, we influence the legislative and regulatory environment in the public interest. At home, we promote the profession and the vital role legal services play in our economy. Around the world, we promote England and Wales as a global legal centre, open new markets and defend human rights.

Whether you are working in a high street practice, a commercial, regional or city firm, an ABS (alternative business structure), or in-house for a private, public or charitable organisation, as your professional body, the Law Society exists for you.

We are committed to ensuring that you can make the most of opportunities and can respond to the challenges of a changing legal sector against the backdrop of the UK’s withdrawal from the EU and technological advances.

As your Law Society, we are determined to make sure we deliver value both for the public interest funding contribution that you make as part of your practising certificate fee and if you choose to purchase additional products and services.

This handbook sets out the benefits of your membership with us and provides links to pages on our website where you can find additional information.

We are always open to hearing your views and hope you enjoy reading this handbook.

The Law Society
Your professional body

lawsociety.org.uk/what-we-do-for-you
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What we do for our profession, and for you
What we do for our profession

We are committed to helping our current and future members

We influence for impact

• we are the voice of the profession in Westminster, Cardiff, Brussels and with other governments across the world, influencing on the issues that are important to you
• we work for law reform in the interest of the public and the profession by influencing government, regulators and those who shape the law and legal market.

We promote the profession

At home

• we raise the profile of the profession through our Solicitor brand campaign, positioning solicitors as the expert source of legal advice
• we help you to build your business through our online Find a Solicitor directory. With over 600,000 visits to the website each month and nearly 7,000 consumer calls to the helpline, it’s one of our greatest tools to help generate business for you
• we support and promote your pro bono and corporate activities, enabling you to take pride in the work that you do
• we celebrate the best work in the profession through our annual Excellence Awards.

Abroad

• through our Global Legal Centre campaign, we represent England and Wales internationally as the global legal jurisdiction of choice
• we open-up new markets for English and Welsh solicitors to practise, showcasing our members as some of the best legal professionals in the world and promoting the value they bring.
What we do for you

We support practice excellence

• to help you to stay on top of changing regulatory requirements and improve your practice, we offer a host of specialised training, legal education and business support.

We are your career companion

• we give you ways to plan for and take your next career step, by offering help and support through a host of events, courses and qualifications
• our Gazette Jobs website is the first stop for legal sector recruitment, giving you access to a host of legal opportunities.

We keep you up-to-date

• we work at the forefront of the legal sector and keep you up-to-date by bringing you the latest news, information and research from the profession
• our research provides expert insights, informing the work of our boards and committees and helping us to lobby on the issues that are important to you.

Find out more about how we work for you:

law society.org.uk/what-we-do-for-you
How we work

We continually listen and respond to our members

Our Council

The Law Society Council governs our work. Set up under our Royal Charter, the Council agrees the strategic direction of our work. This includes the annual business plan and budget, changes to policy and rules, and the focus of our efforts on behalf of our diverse membership.

Members are elected from the profession to represent solicitors across England and Wales, including different demographic groups and areas of practice.

The Council has 100 seats, with 61 members representing 42 geographical constituencies and up to 39 members representing special interest groups and areas of practice.

Nominations for seats on the Law Society Council are encouraged from all eligible solicitors, irrespective of gender, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation or disability.

The profession we represent

We harness the knowledge and experience of our Council and around 300 volunteer board and committee representatives to deliver the advice, support and services our members want. We continually listen and respond to our members, so we can be sure we are meeting your needs.

Solicitors earn their title through a dedicated commitment to legal education, training and development. We represent the interests of over 160,000 registered legal practitioners to parliament, government and regulatory bodies and have a public interest in the reform of the law.

Find out more about our Council and our election process:

lawsociety.org.uk/our-council
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Promoting our profession
Find a Solicitor

Use a professional

Find a Solicitor (FAS) is an inclusive service which provides information about Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) regulated organisations or people providing legal services in England and Wales. The site helps visitors access accurate, trusted and up-to-date information about solicitors, quickly and easily. It also includes non-solicitors who hold a Law Society accreditation.

The ‘quick search’ tool enables visitors to easily find the nearest legal adviser to help with their legal issues. Visitors can choose a legal issue from the list and enter their location. With over 600,000 visits to the website each month generating roughly 49,000 enquiries to firms, and nearly 7,000 consumer calls to the helpline, it’s one of our greatest tools to help generate business for you.

Contact us:

020 7320 5650
Monday – Friday, 09:00 – 17:00

solicitors.lawsociety.org.uk

@LawSocietyFAS
Our Solicitors. Here to help campaign protects the reputation of the solicitor profession and promotes the use of solicitors above other sources of legal advice. We aim to raise awareness about the values of the profession and educate consumers about why solicitors are the best source of legal advice for all their personal and business needs.

The campaign raises awareness of six core values, promoting members of our profession as:

- experts in our field
- client focused
- providing value for money
- honest and honourable
- approachable and accessible
- adding value to society.

We promote the campaign using outdoor and print advertising, ITV Hub adverts, video content, online advertising and through social media. The 2017-18 campaign reached millions of people nationally, including 16.2m opportunities to see bus adverts, 76.9m opportunities to see tube adverts, 23.8m opportunities to see rail and tram adverts, and 9.5m social media impressions. We also reached 2.2m people through newspaper advertising and 4.9m people through TV advertising.

One of our most important objectives for the campaign was to drive traffic to our Find A Solicitor (FAS) web directory, to help consumers find your services. In total the campaign contributed to over 4m visits to the FAS website.

To read more about the campaign and how you can use our materials, visit: www.lawsociety.org.uk/solicitor-brand-campaign

Find out more:

- lawsociety.org.uk/solicitor-brand-campaign
- facebook.com/TheLawSociety
- @LawSocietyFAS
England and Wales: a global legal centre

England and Wales is the leading global centre for legal services

We promote the benefits of the law of England and Wales, highlighting that; we have a strong and reliable judicial system, English and Welsh law is flexible, predictable and stable, and we have a world class legal profession which benefits both the UK and the wider world.

Senior solicitors from around the world have told us why they value English and Welsh law and England and Wales as a global legal centre. Visit our YouTube channel to watch over 40 video testimonials:

youtube.com/LawSocietyEW

Find out more:

↗ lawsociety.org.uk/global-legal-centre

🐦 @TheLawSociety

@LawSocWales

🔍 Search for the Law Society of England and Wales
Criminal justice campaign

Highlighting the issues facing our criminal justice system

We recently launched a new campaign to highlight the issues facing our criminal justice system, which is in crisis following years of underinvestment and neglect.

There are serious problems at nearly every step of the way through our criminal justice system. Due to years of neglect, the system is facing an avalanche of problems. These include growing shortages of duty solicitors, increasing court closures, barriers to accessing legal aid, and crucial evidence not being available until the last minute.

Taken together, all of these problems represent a criminal justice system at breaking point – and without urgent action the system will fall apart.

In the year of the spending review, we are calling on the government to address the problems that impact on all areas of our criminal justice system – in particular the looming crisis in the number of criminal solicitors, criminal legal aid fees and the legal aid means test.

We have developed a new animation showing an example of a nightmare journey through the criminal justice system. Peter, who works as a nurse and has a small child, has his life turned upside down when he is charged with a crime he didn’t commit.

If you would like to find out more about our campaign, or to watch our animation showing Peter’s nightmare journey through the criminal justice system, please visit:

 lawsociety.org.uk/criminal-justice-campaign
Representing and supporting you internationally

We support you to explore international business opportunities across the globe

We help you expand your business internationally by:

- providing business development and networking opportunities across the globe through our foreign trade missions, in-country conferences, and hosting incoming delegations of overseas lawyers
- promoting your expertise internationally, and representing England and Wales as a global legal centre
- lobbying for greater market access and practice rights, and representing your interests to legal professions, governments, law societies and bar associations around the world
- providing you with up-to-date knowledge and market intelligence on other jurisdictions through our ‘Doing legal business’ guides and bespoke support from our regional experts
- representing your interests at the level of international organisations, such as the United Nations (UN) and the World Trade Organisation (WTO), as well as the EU through our Brussels office.

Find out more about how we promote and support our members internationally, or view our legal business guides:

 lawsociety.org.uk/international
 @LSInternational
 Search for the Law Society of England and Wales International Group
Our international public interest work

The Law Society’s International Rule of Law programmes promote the important role of lawyers in upholding the rule of law and defending human rights.

- the Lawyers at Risk programme supports lawyers and human rights defenders who are hindered in carrying out their professional duties because of threats, intimidation, arrest, prosecution, disciplinary measures, disappearance, assassination attempts or murder
- the Capacity Building programme aims to support, develop, and facilitate academic, practical, and professional opportunities for law societies, bar associations, lawyers and judges, to enable them to maximise their individual and collective capabilities
- the International Women and the Law programme seeks to increase and support efforts to achieve gender equality within the legal profession and the judiciary, creating solidarity linkages and collaborative projects globally.

Our Brussels work

The Brussels office represents, supports and promotes you in the EU. It also fulfils an important public interest function by making a positive contribution to the legislative process. In the ongoing Brexit negotiations, the office is working hard to ensure our members’ interests are put forward to our EU stakeholders. We will continue to represent you and your interests in the EU beyond Brexit.

To find out more please visit:

@LSHumanRights

Search for the Law Society Rule of Law and International Human Rights Group
The City

Legal professionals in the City

Working directly with our City members, our specialist City relationship team:

- helps to shape the legal landscape by influencing the legal environment, the law and the regulatory framework
- promotes the contribution of City firms to the wider economy
- seeks to achieve an appropriate and proportionate regulatory regime for City firms
- provides support through helplines, career development, networking opportunities and events.

We support the promotion and development of City firms through:

- our international work, including; opening markets, inward and outward trade missions and promoting and safeguarding the reputation of England and Wales as a jurisdiction of choice and as a centre for international arbitration
- collaborative working with other representative bodies such as City of London Law Society, TheCityUK and the City of London Corporation
- our highly-regarded practice notes.

Find out more about our work with the City:

🌐 lawsociety.org.uk/the-city
🐦 twitter.com/LSTheCity
Regional support

Building and maintaining relationships with our members across England and Wales is a vital part of our work

We have a national relationship management team made up of individuals who work regionally and meet with individual members and firms to ensure that:

- we represent the views of the whole profession and influence with strength
- we promote the positive contribution made by the profession both locally and nationally
- we provide relevant and targeted support to assist members with emerging and ongoing challenges
- we support and add value to our members’ businesses.

We provide local support to our members through:

- our regional networking opportunities
- our regional roundtables, seminars and events
- working collaboratively with other local stakeholders i.e. local law societies, banks, universities and local business groups.

Find out how your local relationship management team can support you:

law society.org.uk/regional-support

Twitter:
- Eastern @LawSocEastern
- Yorkshire @LawSocYorksNE
- South West @LawSocSW
- North West @LawSocNorthWest
- Midlands @LSMidlands
- London & South East @LSLondonandSE

LinkedIn:
- Search for the The Law Society South West and Law Society North groups
Our annual Excellence Awards bring the profession together to celebrate solicitors’ achievements and acknowledge exceptional firms, teams and individuals across England and Wales.

The awards showcase excellence throughout the profession; from sole practitioners to city firms and in-house teams. We recognise outstanding contributions across a range of different categories.

Every year offers a snapshot of the inspirational and innovative work that you do. In 2018 we received a record number of nominations and ceremony attendees, with hundreds of nominees across 23 categories.

I think it’s a great way to recognise the contribution that solicitors are making to their clients but also to enhance the standing of the profession in the community.

Ben Foat, Post Office
Winner of Solicitor of the Year – In-house 2018

Excellence Awards
The only legal awards for the profession, by the profession
The awards are especially valued by individuals, as well as smaller and medium-sized firms, because of the positive attention being shortlisted or winning brings to individuals and their firms.

We encourage members and practices across the profession to nominate and join us for the awards ceremony.

Find out more about how we celebrate excellence:

网址 lawociety.org.uk/excellence-awards

邮箱 awards@lawociety.org.uk

I would recommend firms enter the awards because it is such a great celebration of the diversity of initiatives across the legal sector.

Rameen Naylor-Ghobadian, Government Legal Department

Winner of Excellence in Diversity & Inclusion 2018
Pro bono

Free legal advice for the common good

We actively support and facilitate your involvement in pro bono initiatives, where you provide your services free of charge to those with legal needs who cannot afford a solicitor and are not eligible for legal aid. We know our members provide a significant amount of important free legal advice to individuals, charities and community groups throughout England and Wales, and we work with you and your practice to help celebrate, support and grow this work.

Pro bono work is a great way of making a real contribution to the communities in which our people and their families live and work, and this is why we are proud to be a Pro Bono Charter founding signatory. Society benefits, the reputation of the legal profession is strengthened, our people value it and the firm is stronger as a result of it.

Hugh Welch,
Senior Partner, Muckle LLP
We support LawWorks, the solicitors’ pro bono charity, working in England and Wales to connect solicitors to pro bono clients, through their non-profit programme and national network of pro bono clinics: [www.lawworks.org.uk](http://www.lawworks.org.uk)

In 2016, we launched the Pro Bono Charter. The Charter is a Statement of Commitment that firms, ABS and in-house teams are invited to sign up to. It is a great opportunity to highlight your law firm or organisation’s pro bono work and connect with the wider pro bono sector.

We have also developed our Pro Bono Manual. The manual is a practical guide to developing a law firm pro bono programme, and has been compiled by law firms to enhance and support the provision of pro bono services. Other resources include our Legal Aid Guide for Pro Bono Clinics, which helps those conducting pro bono work understand when their clients may be entitled to legal aid.

To access our Pro Bono resources, please visit:[lawsociety.org.uk/pro-bono-charter](http://lawsociety.org.uk/pro-bono-charter)
The Law Society has allowed me to touch base with a wider group of solicitors, both regionally and nationally. I don’t often have interactions with other solicitors, so I really value being able to access a network of solicitors across the country, as well as the range of events that it puts on.

Umar Kankiya, Solicitor/Head of Mental Health, Sternberg Reed
Influencing for impact
Our influencing work

Our public affairs work gives voice to the profession

We focus on lobbying the government and parliament, coordinating our campaigns, managing our relationships with senior external stakeholders and our thought leadership programme.

In the context of a challenging political environment, the Law Society is a leading voice on legal and justice issues. In 2017-18, we were mentioned positively 338 times in parliament, invited 13 times to give oral evidence and had 45 parliamentary questions tabled.

On access to justice, our campaigns have received wide traction across all parties, particularly our legal aid deserts campaign (which has been publicly praised by the shadow lord chancellor) and our early advice campaign.

We are also being recognised as a thought leader on legal technology. The House of Lords select committee on artificial intelligence (AI) quoted our evidence in its report and took on board several of our recommendations on the legal implications on the use of AI.

Find out more about our influential work:

lawsociety.org.uk/policy-campaigns/public-affairs
Early advice campaign

As part of our access to justice work, we are campaigning for the government to bring back legal aid for early advice. Early advice can address problems before they escalate. When a problem isn’t addressed early, it can result in knock on costs for the public purse and create more pressure on courts.

Our campaign has received support across all political parties and wide press coverage. Members have also shown their support, with over 400 writing to their local MP about the campaign.

Engage with the campaign:

- lawsociety.org.uk/early-advice
- @TheLawSociety
- @LSHumanRights

On average, 1 in 4 people who receive early professional legal advice had resolved their problem within 3-4 months compared to 9 months for those not receiving early advice.

- Ipsos Mori/The Law Society 2017

Human rights

Our human rights work supports the independence of the justice system and the legal profession as well as international and domestic law reform. We facilitate member input to policy development and law making and we seek to protect legal professionals while they carry out their work.

Find out more about our human rights work:

- communities.lawsociety.org.uk/human-rights
Influencing the regulatory environment

Our work represents members on all issues relating to the regulation of solicitors

We work on issues such as:

- education and the routes to qualification as a solicitor
- professional standards and ethics
- regulatory processes and procedures, including the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal and Legal Ombudsman
- professional indemnity insurance and compensation arrangements
- broader reforms such as the new SRA Handbook, or new SRA requirements to publish price and service information.

We ensure members’ views are heard and influence future regulatory developments by regularly engaging with the Solicitors Regulation Authority, Legal Services Board, government and other stakeholders. We also hold events which, for example, highlight the importance of solicitors’ professional ethics.

We work to ensure that regulation works in the public interest, protects clients, and ensures high professional standards are maintained.
When new regulatory proposals are developed by the regulator, we respond on behalf of the profession, ensuring that the voice of the profession is considered. Recent examples of this work include responding to:

- SRA proposals to reform rules relating to professional indemnity insurance and the Compensation Fund
- proposals to overhaul the SRA handbook.

When new rules are implemented, we ensure members are informed and we develop Practice Notes and other guidance to help members comply with changes. Recent examples include publishing:

- the Price and Service Transparency practice note which offers support to solicitors in deciding how to comply with new requirements
- an outline of what is known about the SRA’s Solicitors Qualifying Exam to help prepare aspiring solicitors, employers, providers of legal education and other organisations offering training.

Find out more about our work: lawsociety.org.uk/regulation
The work that the Law Society does is of huge benefit to the profession as a whole. They do valuable work in maintaining the public view of the profession and promoting the use of solicitors above other sources of legal advice. They also provide an important public service element; for example, looking at how court closures will affect the public.

Emma Heather, Solicitor/Partner, Nicholson Portnell
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Supporting your practice excellence
Library services

We hold one of the most comprehensive law library collections in England and Wales

Whether you visit the library in London or use the service remotely, we offer a range of services to assist you with your research.

Enquiry service

Our team of experienced law librarians can help you find the information you need. You don’t have to visit the library to use these services – just contact us by telephone or email and leave your enquiry with us. We also trace past solicitors and law firms to help locate lost wills and deeds.

Online library catalogue

Easy access to the library catalogue – Library search – provides a guide to our extensive legal collection and corporate archive.

Collection service

The library provides access to one of the most comprehensive printed collections of law material in England and Wales. It is a reference only collection made up of:

- **Precedents** – including EF&P, Atkins and a wide range of textbooks
- **Law reports** – a broad range of law reports for England and Wales, smaller collections for other British jurisdictions and a small collection of Commonwealth law reports
- **Legislation** – public general acts, local and private acts, plus access to original and amended legislation
- **Journals** – a large collection of journal indexes and legal journals
- **Parliamentary** – House of Commons papers from 1801 and Hansard debates from 1804
- **Commentary** – an extensive collection of up-to-date practitioner textbooks and loose-leaf.

The library also has 11 public access computers, including two for visually impaired lawyers, providing access to Lexis, Lexis PSL, WestLaw, Justis and Parliamentary information online (PIO). We can also search these on your behalf.
Document supply

Our Lawdocs service can email, fax or post copies of most material within our collection to anywhere in the world (subject to copyright law).

Contact us:

- **020 320 5946**
- [lawsociety.org.uk/library](http://lawsociety.org.uk/library)
- [library@lawsociety.org.uk](mailto:library@lawsociety.org.uk)
- Library catalogue: [https://wv-tls.olib.oclc.org/webview](https://wv-tls.olib.oclc.org/webview)
- [@LSLawLibrary](https://twitter.com/LSLawLibrary)

Online bookshop

We publish a wide range of books to help our members with their professional practice, including the highly regarded *Conveyancing Handbook*. Written by practising solicitors and other subject experts, our books cover the major practice areas and provide support in areas such as regulation and compliance and practice management. Our books focus on providing practical guidance to help solicitors with their work and many include forms, precedents, templates and other useful documents.

Law Society books can be purchased from our online bookshop in both printed and electronic form, alongside stand-alone forms and Law Society gifts, such as practising certificate frames in a variety of finishes.

Find out more about our online bookshop:

- [lawsociety.org.uk/support-services/publications](http://lawsociety.org.uk/support-services/publications)

This is a very impressive service as to speed and indeed cost.

Robert Sainsbury, Solicitor and Director, BWB Legal
Practice notes are a useful resource and represent our view of good practice in a particular area. They give you guidance on a range of important legal topics including anti-money laundering, terrorism and complaints handling. Although they don’t provide legal advice or any judgment on the law, they help make sure you’re giving your clients the best possible advice.

View practice notes online:

↑ lawsociety.org.uk/practice-notes

The Law Society’s practice notes are very good reference points. When in doubt, I consult these, whether on a first principle basis or as a benchmark to working out any difficult points in practice.

Debra Wilson,
Partner, Anthony Gold
Practice Advice Service

Our Practice Advice Service (PAS) is a free and confidential helpline for members and employees of member firms. PAS deals with approximately 35,000 enquiries each year on a variety of practice issues. We also receive calls on client care and compliance.

Helplines

We provide a range of telephone helplines to support you and your practice. All our helplines are open on weekdays from 9am to 5pm.

Our team of experienced solicitors offers free and confidential advice on legal practice including: anti-money laundering, conveyancing, private client, complaints handling, cyber security and data protection.

Call our helpines today on:

Practice Advice Service
020 7320 5675  |  practiceadvice@lawsociety.org.uk

Anti-money Laundering
020 7320 9544  |  AML@lawsociety.org.uk

Lawyerline
020 7320 5720

Pastoral care
020 7320 5795

For full details of the helplines visit:

lawsociety.org.uk/support-services/help-for-solicitors

I am really happy with the advice that I received; prompt, comprehensive and thoughtful. The advice given was sensible and practical.

Practice Advice Service user
We know a commitment to excellence drives everything you do. We are proud to support you and your practice and aim always to help you achieve the highest possible standards.

Accreditation

Achieving accreditation demonstrates that you or your practice have met the Law Society’s standards and attained the Law Society’s quality mark in a given area of practice. Accreditation can help demonstrate expertise to potential clients and other members of the profession, setting you and/or your practice apart from other service providers.

Practice accreditations

- **Lexcel England and Wales (v6.1)**
  Designed specifically for the legal sector, Lexcel provides a framework helping your practice to achieve excellence in practice management and client care. It provides law firms and in-house legal departments with a flexible, supportive management framework to help them develop greater operational efficiencies, manage risk effectively, reduce costs and promote profitability. Lexcel v6.1 was updated in 2018 to assist firms in compliance with GDPR and anti-money laundering regulations.

  Contact lexcel@lawsociety.org.uk

Lexcel provides an opportunity to really improve the efficiency and management of the firm. What you invest into Lexcel is what you’ll get out of it, so go into it knowing that this is going to be a positive thing for your firm.

Kevin Blount,
Managing Partner, Howard & Bryne
• **Conveyancing Quality Scheme (CQS)**
  CQS provides a recognised quality standard for residential conveyancing practices. The scheme establishes a level of credibility for firms with stakeholders such as regulators, lenders and insurers, as well as residential homebuyers and sellers.

  Contact [CQS@lawsociety.org.uk](mailto:CQS@lawsociety.org.uk)

• **Wills and Inheritance Quality Scheme (WIQS)**
  WIQS is designed for practices specialising in wills and estate administration. Accreditation can provide comfort to consumers that they are choosing a qualified, regulated and insured solicitor and to differentiate your practice from non-solicitor will-writers and other service providers.

  Contact [WIQS@lawsociety.org.uk](mailto:WIQS@lawsociety.org.uk)

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**Individual accreditations**

Individual accreditations enable legal practitioners to demonstrate that they have attained the Law Society’s standards in specific areas of law.

• **Diploma in Local Government Law and Practice**
  The Diploma is a one-year self-study course which can assist you to improve your knowledge and understanding of local government law and practice. The Diploma is an excellent way to demonstrate your commitment to the field and can assist your career progression to more senior posts.

Find out more about our accreditation schemes:

[lawsociety.org.uk/accreditation](http://lawsociety.org.uk/accreditation)
Risk and compliance

Our risk and compliance service is the profession’s one stop shop for compliance support needs

We deliver a comprehensive range of solutions and services to provide you with the information, skills and expertise you need to mitigate risk and comply with industry regulations.

Our services have been designed to deliver support and guidance to match your particular needs and:

- ensure you are aware of the latest developments in risk and compliance via a monthly newsletter, inclusive webinars and podcasts and news and features accessed through our website
- provide thorough training on compliance processes and procedures, such as best practice in AML and GDPR, outcomes-focused regulatory approaches, cyber security safeguards and arrangements to evidence your continuing competence
- deliver bespoke assessment, advice and recommendations via our advisory service – we have worked with over 500 organisations like yours to help them to understand their current risk profile and ensure they have what they need to implement any required mitigating measures.

We help legal practitioners stay up-to-date with all the regulatory obligations affecting them. You can book Service membership for an individual or for designated members of your team, for access to a range of informative benefits and discounts.

The Risk and Compliance Advisory Service can provide you with more tailored advice, bespoke support and training, relevant to your firm and delivered face-to-face by one of our expert risk and compliance advisors.

Keeping up with your compliance obligations and safeguarding your business is crucial in the face of ongoing changes to the legal regulatory landscape. We offer a highly trusted source of information and expertise.

For more information on how we can support you contact us at:

✉️ riskandcompliance@lawsociety.org.uk
➡️ lawsociety.org.uk/risk-and-compliance
🐦 @LSRiskandComp
Sections
Tailored support for your area of law

Guided by expert contributors to develop your specialist practice skills and know-how, sections are premium subscription-based packages suitable for both individual and corporate groups.

We offer a range of services tailored to your specific area of practice:

**Civil Litigation**
Our Civil Litigation Section covers civil and commercial litigation and alternative dispute resolution (ADR), including litigation and funding costs.

**Private Client**
Our Private Client Section covers private client law, including wills, probate, estate and tax planning, elderly client and mental capacity.

**Property**
Our Property Section covers commercial, residential, landlord and tenant law which includes planning, tax, environment and fraud.

Find out more about our premium support for your area of law:

🔗 lawsociety.org.uk/communities

Twitter Civil Litigation
@LSCivLit

LinkedIn

Search for the following groups:
- Competition Section
- Private Client Section
- Property Section
It’s important to know that you’re a member of a collective that will speak for you and help to defend your profession. The Law Society puts across their members’ views and they provide a lot of resources to help you progress throughout your career. They’re there to help us be better in our profession.

Amanda Adeola, Associate, BHP Law
Your career companion
Our Professional Development Centre has been designed specifically to meet your learning and development needs and will help you to comply with the SRA’s continuing competence regime. It allows you to capture all of your learning in one free online record, create your own development plan and assess yourself against the SRA Competence Statement.

You can discover and complete a wide range of online courses, webinars, bite-sized learning, and podcasts, and we will provide training suggestions tailored to your areas of interest and competence needs.

The Law Society has allowed me to touch base with a wider group of solicitors, both regionally and nationally. I don’t often have interactions with other solicitors, so I really value being able to access a network of solicitors across the country, as well as the range of events that it puts on.

Umar Kankiya,
Solicitor/ Head of Mental Health, Sternberg Reed
Gazette Jobs

We are here to help you shape your career with expert guidance and new vacancies in print and online

The Law Society Gazette provides guidance throughout your career with regular training and education content in print and online. Visit Careers Counsellor, hosted on lawgazette.co.uk, for a wealth of information, including career dilemma advice from a 20-strong expert panel.

Time for your next step? When you’re reading the professional features you need to keep you informed, take a look at the new vacancies that are advertised each week in the Jobs section of the magazine. Search jobs.lawgazette.co.uk to browse 5,000 jobs weekly, across 60 practice areas and all levels of PQE. Sign up for job alerts to get matching jobs sent to you as they crop up.

Need to recruit? Advertise your roles with us – we put you in touch with the legal profession’s most diverse talent pool, to fill your roles with the best candidates. We will help you achieve your business goals by working with you to create a multi-channel and unrivalled route to both our members and other legal professionals.

See page 48 to find out more about the kinds of news and content featured in the Law Society Gazette.

Visit our website:

🚀 jobs.lawgazette.co.uk
✉️ gjobs@lawsociety.org.uk
🐦 @GazetteJobs
Career development service

We offer you support for every stage of your career

All careers experience challenges. Our career development service helps you make informed choices throughout the various stages of your career. We offer a wide portfolio of products and services to support you, including our new career clinic service; offering a free, confidential 45-minute one-to-one consultation with a career coach/legal recruiter. The service is open to LLB/LPC/GDL students, paralegals, final seat trainees and qualified solicitors.

Support for qualified members

We also provide guidance and tips for making informed choices at various career stages, including changing career direction. We organise workshops, training sessions, online tools, seminars and networking opportunities. All products are specifically targeted to equip you with the necessary tools to take control of your personal career development within a rapidly changing legal market.

Support for potential members

A dedicated webpage provides guidance on preparing for a career in the solicitors’ profession. Our student events cover all aspects of preparing for entry to the profession, including tips on increasing chances of success. Our online support provides tips for securing training, including completing applications, surviving assessment centres and interview techniques.

Find out more about how we can support your career development:

lawsociety.org.uk/law-careers
Events

Conferences, training sessions and seminars providing the latest information and insights

We host over 350 events a year throughout England and Wales for our members. These include conferences, training sessions and seminars to enable you to keep updated with all areas of law.

Our events showcase expert speakers from around the world, providing you with the latest information and insights, as well as networking opportunities with your peers across the profession.

Whether you’re looking for a fast update on the latest developments or need more in-depth support to develop personal or professional skills, our range of high-quality conferences and training are designed to help support you throughout your career.

“I think if I was to choose one national event to attend, it would be the Law Society’s annual Private Client Section conference – the speakers are always top-notch.”

Elisabeth Whybrow
Silks Solicitors

Get involved with our regional forums

These events offer an opportunity to influence our work and better support members of the profession and their organisations.

Find out more about our range of events:

✉️ lawsociety.org.uk/events
✉️ events@lawsociety.org.uk

To find out more, please visit:

✉️ lawsociety.org.uk/diversity-inclusion
Divisions

Tailored support designed to keep you connected and updated

Our divisions bring together solicitors and other experts with shared interests and provide access to relevant Law Society support and benefits.

We offer free member support services based on who you are and your practice type.

“ ...

The Law Society’s LGBT+ Division has really helped me develop and has given me the confidence to be out and proud at my law firm. It has also offered me a way to meet people from other areas of law, everyone from managing directors to paralegals.

Joshua Ryan, Trainee Solicitor, Hodge, Jones & Allen LLP

Practice type

In-house
Our In-house Division provides advice and support on key issues facing all in-house lawyers, working in corporate and public sectors, not-for-profit organisations and charities.

International
Our International Division provides law-firms, in-house legal teams and legal practitioners with the contacts, tools and information they need to do business internationally.

Small firms
Our Small Firms Division helps small firms and sole practitioners with advice, business tools and news to help you stay competitive.

Solicitor judges
Our Solicitor Judges Division offers an ideal way to connect you with your peers – both solicitors interested in becoming judges and fellow judiciary.
Who you are

Junior lawyers
The Junior Lawyers Division represents, campaigns and provides services for LPC students, LPC graduates, trainee solicitors and solicitors up to five years qualified.

Ethnic minority lawyers
Our Ethnic Minority Lawyers Division provides members with access to tailored information, advice and training as well as opportunities to speak out on issues that matter.

Women lawyers
Our Women’s Lawyer Division supports and advises all women solicitors, including LPC graduates, roll members, those on a career break and retirees – no matter your area of practice.

LGBT+ lawyers
The LGBT+ Lawyers Division is the community for lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT+) lawyers and their allies.

Lawyers with disabilities
Our Lawyers with Disabilities Division is committed to promoting equality of opportunity for solicitors, would-be solicitors and clients with disabilities.

To find out more, or join one of our Divisions please visit:

↗️ lawsociety.org.uk/communities

Twitter
International – @LSInternational
Junior Lawyers – @juniorlawyers
Diversity & Inclusion – @LawSocDI

LinkedIn
Search for the following groups:
- Junior Lawyers Division of the Law Society of England and Wales
- Law Society In House Division
- Law Society LGBT+ Lawyers Division
- Law Society Women Lawyers Division
- Law Society Small Firms Division

Facebook
Junior Lawyers
Lawyers with Disabilities Division
Diversity and inclusion

We want the legal profession to be:

- **inclusive** – reflecting the diversity of our society
- **responsive** – able to provide a sensitive, appropriate and professional service to all sections of society
- **good employers** – recruiting on merit and offering training and development opportunities to all staff regardless of their background.

We offer a range of support tools and networks to enable you to promote best practice in diversity and inclusion.

**Diversity and Inclusion Charter**

The Diversity and Inclusion Charter is a public commitment by legal practices to promote the values of diversity, equality and inclusion throughout their business.

Created in 2009 with the Society of Asian Lawyers and BT, the Charter supports legal practices to turn their commitment to diversity and inclusion into positive action.

The Charter is free to sign up to and provides access to toolkits and advice which are member protected on the website.

Promoting best practice in diversity and inclusion

Sign the Charter for free:

[lawociety.org.uk/equality](http://lawociety.org.uk/equality)
Diversity Access Scheme

The Diversity Access Scheme (DAS) aims to improve social mobility in the legal profession, supporting students who face social, educational, financial or personal obstacles to qualification.

The DAS is a scholarship with a difference. It provides awardees with:

- financial assistance through the provision of Legal Practice Course fees
- access to relevant high-quality work experience
- a professional mentor.

So far, the DAS has helped over 200 students to complete their professional education.

Find out more about how the DAS can support you:

➡️ lawsociety.org.uk/law-careers

✉️ diversityaccessscheme@lawsociety.org.uk

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Search for the following groups:

- The Law Society Ethnic Minority Lawyers Division (EMLD)
- The Law Society’s Women Lawyers Division
- The Law Society Returners Course
- The Law Society of England and Wales Diversity Forum
- Lawyers with Disabilities Division
There are so many seminars and courses on offer for solicitors. What I really like about them is that they’re so varied. If I find a course that sparks my interest, I’m able to go along to it and speak to experts and find out how to get the most from the seminar. I’d really encourage people to get involved and find a course or seminar that interests them.

Joshua Ryan,
Trainee Solicitor,
Hodge, Jones & Allen LLP
The Law Society Gazette

All the latest news, views and sector analysis, in print and online

The Law Society Gazette is the best-read legal news and current affairs magazine, covering the latest sector news, features, analysis and commentary.

The online Gazette at lawgazette.co.uk is regularly updated with the latest breaking news, which can also be accessed through a daily news update (free to subscribers) and an app.

The Gazette also publishes Litigation Funding – the essential guide to finance and costs, which appears six times a year and is available on a paid subscription.

See page 39 to find out more about our GazetteJobs website

Sign up to the Gazette Daily Update:

✉️ lawsocietygazette.co.uk

Print subscription enquiries:

✉️ gazette-subscriptions@lawsociety.org.uk

🐦 @lawsocgazette

"Having up-to-date news for my clients means I’m able to give them the best advice. The Gazette also opens my eyes to different areas of law that I’m not familiar with – it’s a great resource."

Maxine Barrett, Solicitor, Tollhurst Fisher
My Law Society

News, advice and jobs relevant to your professional interests

My Law Society is your online account with us. From here you can access practice notes, bookmark your favourite content and personalise your homepage by telling us your professional interests. You can set your contact details and marketing preferences, which we use to get in touch with you. You can also access and personalise your Find a Solicitor profile.

We will be adding more to My Law Society in the coming years so that it becomes your one-stop-shop for Law Society support.

Login or register at:

lawsociety.org.uk/log-in
Newsletters

Our range of newsletters and magazines to keep you up-to-date with what’s happening in the legal world

Professional Update is the Law Society’s flagship e-newsletter, covering the top legal issues of the week. It goes out to over 180,000 recipients weekly and keeps members up-to-date with important sector developments and the work the Society is undertaking on their behalf (e.g. lobbying government, publishing position papers, and building relationships and networking opportunities).

We produce a host of additional newsletters, including City Update, Risk and Compliance, International Update, and the Brussels Agenda newsletter.

Subscribe to our newsletters:

lawsociety.org.uk/newsletters
Research and insights

Up-to-date reports on topical trends and issues

Our research reports provide reliable insight and benchmarking information for members on:

- the make-up of the profession
- topical issues affecting the working lives of solicitors and the businesses in which they work
- wider legal market trends and issues.

Law Society Insights is our online research community used to gather the views of members in a timely and informative fashion, through activities ranging from three-minute surveys to online discussions. Views are aggregated and inform policy and service development by the Society. In return for participation, community members gain access to findings from the research activities in which they took part and a host of other useful market intelligence. The community is open to all members and is free to join.

Depending on your area of expertise, you may be interested in research outputs that are used on behalf of the profession, to lobby on proposed government or regulatory policy changes affecting solicitors.

Our research also plays a key role informing the work of our boards and committees – from specific issues such as PII to informing debate on longer term strategic decisions facing the organisation.

Contact the research team:

✉️ lawsociety.org.uk/support-services/research-trends
✉️ enquiriesSRU@lawsociety.org.uk
📞 020 7320 5937

Join our Insights Community:

✉️ support@insights.lawsociety.org.uk
The Law Society is always there in the background. If I ever have any problems, I will go to the Society for help. I find the helplines really useful and if there’s ever any doubt they can help guide you in the right direction. There’s so much pressure to get things right, that it’s reassuring to be able to speak to someone for guidance.

Amanda McIntyre-Brown, Senior Associate, HRJ Foreman Laws Solicitors
Additional benefits
Personal and professional benefits

We partner with businesses who offer products and services which aim to meet your needs.

Explore the personal and professional benefits offered by our partners, for you, as a Law Society member.

Access a range of benefits including:

• business services
• cybersecurity and GDPR services
• lifestyle options

lawsociety.org.uk/membership-extra

Our partners include:

Bupa
WESLEYAN BANK
we are all about you

EST 1898
T.M.LEWIN
JERMYN ST. LONDON

HICSOX
EVER ONWARDS

Hertz

and many more.
Sustainability

We support the Legal Sustainability Alliance, a collaborative network of nearly 300 firms across the UK with members ranging from small practices to global firms. The Alliance helps law firms to develop sustainable business practices, including reducing their carbon footprint. We have used sustainable measures to gain improvements in some of our recent property refurbishments and will continue seeking similar improvements to support efficient business management practices and cost reductions. Membership of the Alliance is free.

For more information, visit: 

➡️ legalsustainabilityalliance.com
Venue hire

We offer both traditional and contemporary backdrops for conferences and dinners, as well as for some very special occasions. With eight distinct areas available for hire, we can offer you versatility and style for events that leave a lasting impression.

The Law Society offers the ideal venue for all types of corporate events, including meetings, conferences, training days, seminars, lunches and grand dinners. We can offer event spaces for meetings from 10 to 280 delegates.

Your dedicated event specialist will help you to organise an occasion that works for you and matches your specifications, ensuring that you’re able to get the most out of your day. Our venue staff are welcoming and accommodating, offering a relaxed but professional environment.

Our iconic central London location is also licensed for civil ceremonies.

All members are entitled to 15% room hire discount.

Visiting 113 Chancery Lane

Our Chancery Lane office is a great location for meetings. Members can use The Bayes (Reading Room), The Dressler (Common Room) and the Vulliamy Lounge Restaurant & Bar, unless there are events taking place.

The Vulliamy Lounge Restaurant & Bar

We are also home to The Vulliamy Lounge Restaurant & Bar, a comfortable contemporary space which is perfect for informal meetings or catching up with friends over coffee or lunch. It is also available for private hire in the evening.

For more information about the venue, to visit our gallery or take a virtual tour, please visit:

- 113chancerylane.co.uk
- venuehire@lawsociety.org.uk
- 0207 320 9555
- @113ChanceryLn