



The Law
Society

Local Law Society Bulletin

13 March 2023

Dear Local Law Societies' Office Holders and Staff

We are delighted to launch our latest edition of the LLS bulletin. You'll find a wealth of resources for you and for your members.

Resilient law firms reported a strong performance in fee income and continued to invest in staff in 2021/2022, despite a challenging economic environment, according to our latest Leadership and Management Section Financial Benchmarking Survey, the annual financial health check for small to medium-sized firms. For details about the survey results and the leadership and management section, please visit [Leadership and Management Section](#). Solicitors can connect with their peers, exchange ideas, support each other and stay up to date with the latest developments in areas of interest by joining one of our [sections](#) (private client, property, dispute resolution, competition, risk and compliance, and leadership and management).

Many thanks

Valeria

Valeria Mancheva

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Topical News and Updates

Criminal Justice System



Law Society takes government to court on criminal legal aid

We're taking the fight for fair legal aid funding to court, after the government rejected mediation.

- [See our projections for the decline of criminal defence by 2025](#)
 - [Read about the criminal legal aid review](#)
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Regulation

Another SIF success; SRA Board decides to secure SIF's future

The Solicitors Regulation Authority Board has now confirmed that it will bring post six year run-off cover under its direct control, meaning solicitors' clients will still be able to claim compensation if something goes wrong years after a firm has closed.

- [Updated SIF guide](#)
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Public Affairs

Retained EU law

We're concerned about government plans to make major changes to retained EU law in the UK by December 2023, which could lead to poor law-making and confusion for UK businesses and consumers.

Westminster update: Law Society appears before the Home Affairs Committee

1. Law Society appears before the Home Affairs Committee
 2. Ministry of Justice officials questioned by Justice Select Committee
 3. MPs question the Attorney General
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Supporting Members' Businesses

Five challenges facing the legal sector in 2023

2023 presents plenty of challenges – and opportunities – for the legal profession. Our partner, Access Legal, sets out five of the biggest pressures firms are facing and explores possible solutions.

Dispute Resolution

Civil Reform update – transfer of work from County Court Money Claims Centre

Please circulate the latest Civil Reform update on the County Court Money Claims Centre from HMCTS to your members.

Spiralling 50,000 Employment Tribunal backlog

Spiralling tribunal backlogs are leaving employees and businesses in limbo for far too long, the Law Society of England and Wales has warned.

Fixed recoverable costs

Read what the Law Society's current proposals are on the issue of Fixed Recoverable Costs.



Get involved

Know someone who deserves recognition? Nominate a Legal Hero

Throughout March and April, solicitors across England and Wales will be nominating their Legal Heroes. This year's Legal Heroes will be announced in September. Please find below information for Local Law Societies to help you involve your members.



[Campaign information for LLS](#)

Diversity Access Scheme

The Diversity Access Scheme is a unique scholarship programme, designed to address key barriers to the solicitors' profession faced by those from less advantaged backgrounds.

Make sure your members are aware before the deadline for applications - 16 April 2023.

Help us enhance market access in South Korea, and/or Australia

Let us know about any challenges your member firms face operating in South Korea ahead of UK-South Korea trade negotiations, and/or Australia.

To share your concerns, email our international policy adviser for North Asia and the Pacific, [Will Miller](#).

Careers Advice

Are your members aware of the career advice on offer? Suitable for:

- LPC paralegals (including those completing qualifying work experience)
- Trainee solicitors
- Qualified solicitors (including those admitted overseas)
- Returners and career changers who are considering a switch to law

And its free!

Make the most of your membership!

...by joining one of the Law Society's communities. Take a look at our new communities page [here](#).

Events:

Please find below a list of upcoming events:

- Wed 15 Mar 2023 - [Workplace culture – creating better work environments](#)
- Thurs 16 Mar 2023 - [Women Solicitors Network and Goodwin Procter present International Women's Day 2023](#)
- Fri 17 Mar 2023 - [LIVESTREAM - Risk and Compliance Annual Conference 2023](#)
- Tue 21 Mar 2023 - [MEES and EPCs Update](#)
- Tue 21 Mar 2023 - [Networking for Junior and aspiring lawyers in Private Client Practice](#)
- Tue 28 Mar 2023 - [Demonstrating value and influencing internal clients](#)
- Wed 29 Mar 2023 - [Effective marketing and pricing of legal services](#)

Other resources:

Event Recordings

- [Managing Competition Investigations using advanced analytics](#)
- [All things pensions: How to make the most of your pension allowances](#)
- [Preparing for recession: are your clients ready?](#)
- [Making the big move in-house](#)

Property

- [The conveyancing landscape: trends and industry expert views on the sector](#)
- [Should I return a draft contract to the other side if a transaction falls through?](#)

- [Green leases: what are they and how do you draft them?](#)
- [Property Practitioner's Guide to the First-tier Tribunal - Law Society Bookshop](#)

Cyber Security

- [Cyber Security Toolkit - Law Society Bookshop](#)

Regulation

- [The cybercriminal ecosystem: evolution and extortion](#)
- [Your AML questions answered](#)
- [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Bill](#)

HR and Management

- ["Trust and respect are fundamental to women's careers"](#)
- [Gender pay gap reporting: setting the standard for the profession](#)
- [Toxic productivity and how to tackle it in the workplace](#)
- [Travelling to the EU on business after Brexit](#)

Diversity & Inclusion

- [See the latest pay gap statistics in our gender pay gap report 2022](#)



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