

Dear Colleagues

This edition of the bulletin updates you on key news and resources. I'd also like to encourage you to please consider yourself and encourage others to apply to join one of our communities' committees in Property, Private Client, Dispute Resolution, Leadership and Management, Competition Law, In-House Counsel and Small Firms. It's a rewarding role to help staff to design and deliver content for members nationally. Committee meetings are quarterly, with a tight agenda, short and primarily held virtually to minimise committee members' time away from work. We are looking for legal subject matter experts across England and Wales, junior as well as senior, as well as for senior business services leads who support the delivery of legal services in the areas above. If you are interested, please email a CV and a cover letter to membershipengagement@lawsociety.org.uk by **13 January'23**.

I am also delighted to say that from next year we'll be circulating this bulletin to all local JLDs' office holders as well as encouraging them to join the online peer support community where they could interact and learn from you and from each other. The President and I will continue our in-person programme of visits and talks in the regions and Wales. If you haven't had a chance to complete the survey about local law societies' office holders and staff seeing each other in person in London in the spring, please let us know [here](#) by **13 January**. So far the survey's results suggest that people wouldn't travel for a meeting but about half of you may be interested in seeing each other over dinner.

Wishing you and your family a very happy new year.

Valeria

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Topical Updates and News

Corporate strategy and plans

[Corporate Strategy 2022-2025](#)

Please read our new ambitious and member-focused three-year corporate strategy.

Supporting Members' Businesses

[How your firm can survive the great resignation](#)

The numbers show that the great resignation has hit the UK, with record high numbers of employees leaving their jobs. Nikki Alderson shares three ways your law firm can survive.

[Apprenticeships: information for employers](#)

Apprenticeships can serve as a route into the legal profession, provide an upskilling tool for existing staff or help to develop skilled staff in the support services of your firm.

[Junior Solicitors Network](#)

Junior and aspiring lawyers can access a range of resources to progress their careers [here](#).

Public Affairs

[How will the autumn statement 2022 impact solicitors, firms and clients?](#)

Douglas Russell, accounting partner at Armstrong Watson, highlights announcements in the chancellor's autumn statement to help you stay on top of the changes and understand the impact on your clients. He also explores the interaction between the business and personal tax aspects, and how this affects profit extraction planning.

Criminal Justice System



Richard Miller at Justice Select Committee, 15 November 2022



Lubna Shuja, President, on ITV, 29 October 2022



Richard Atkinson, Deputy Vice President, on ITV, 29 October 2022

[Westminster update: Law Society warns MPs about "imploding" criminal legal aid system](#)

Our head of justice, [Richard Miller, gave evidence](#) to the Justice Select Committee on the crisis facing criminal legal aid on Tuesday 15 November.

Dispute Resolution

[Civil Justice Council costs consultation – Law Society response](#)

We've responded to the Civil Justice Council consultation on civil legal costs, advising caution before proposing fundamental reforms

[Increasing use of mediation in the civil justice system – Law Society response](#)

We've responded to government proposals to make mediation compulsory in most civil small claims (up to £10,000). We're concerned that the changes will prevent some parties from accessing justice.

Regulation

[Lack of customer due diligence identified by SRA as main cause of AML breaches](#)

Most solicitors and law firms take their anti-money laundering (AML) obligations seriously, according to the Solicitors Regulation Authority's latest AML report. But a "small minority" aren't yet playing their part in the fight against economic crime.

Get involved

[Join an Advisory Committee](#)

Have you considered joining the advisory committees of the Law Society of England and Wales?

Would you like to be part of our volunteer committees, acting as advisors to the Law Society, to bring expert understanding of your part of the profession to help the Society to develop and deliver high quality and relevant member services?

[Diversity and inclusion framework](#)

Often there is a leap to action on diversity and inclusion (D&I) – a sense of urgency to 'do something'. This can lead to activity that is reactive to immediate pressures, short lived or not properly resourced. This framework encourages you to take a systematic approach and embed D&I in a way that has a lasting impact.

- Get started with the framework now: Read our diversity and inclusion framework and create lasting change in your firm or organisation: <https://www.lawsociety.org.uk/topics/diversity-and-inclusion-framework>.
- Send us feedback: We're continually developing our framework to better suit your needs – let us know how we can make it work even better for you using our [feedback form](#).

- Share your impact story: How are you embedding D&I in your firm? Share what's worked for you in a case study using our [case study submission form](#).

Connect with other Law Societies using LS Connect

LS Connect puts you in contact with your peers in other Law Societies, enabling you to ask questions, start discussions, collaborate and connect; Register your contact details to get started [here](#).

- LS Connect is now available on mobile: See how you can access it on [iphone](#) or [android](#).

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:

Weds 18 Jan - [Confidential information leak – Whodunnit?](#)

W/c 16 Jan - [Family Mediation Week](#)

Thurs 26 Jan - [Acting in probate sales or transactions where the owner lacks mental capacity](#)

Tues 31 Jan - [What's on the regulatory radar for 2023?](#)

Resources

Annual Statistics Report 2021

Our annual statistics report provides a comprehensive picture of how the size and structure of the solicitors' profession has evolved over time. Learn about our 2021 findings.

- [Trends in the solicitors' profession: annual statistics report 2021 \(PDF 1.3 MB\)](#)

Event Recordings

- [Does your document review service save you time and money?](#)
- [How can a Master's in Law enhance your career?](#)
- [South Asian Trailblazers – how important has race legislation been to their success](#)
- [What becoming a Partner means for your finances](#)
- [Legal technology update - making the most of your IT investments](#)
- [Document management: Lessons learned and the evolving role of knowledge management in law firms](#)

Practice notes

- [Social media](#)

- [Closing down your practice: regulatory requirements](#)

Guides

- [Apprenticeships: Information for employers](#)

What's changing

- [Economic Crime Act: what does it mean for law firms?](#)

Q&A

- [We're hiring a solicitor who is closing a firm. What steps do we need to take to acquire its will bank?](#)
- [Can my client use bitcoin to purchase property?](#)
- [My client is a member of a UK political party. Do they count as a politically exposed person?](#)

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