



April 2022 Roundup - Law Society Representation & Members Services

Assistance for Ukrainian Solicitors and Legal Professionals

Working with members from around the country, the Law Society is launching an initiative to provide assistance to Ukrainian lawyers who relocated to Ireland. We are making contact with you to ask that you circulate details of this initiative to your membership.

The idea is that solicitors' firms countrywide will provide a desk and internet access to Ukrainian lawyers who have been relocated to their area. This will assist those lawyers in continuing their legal work while in Ireland or in assisting their legal colleagues who may have remained at home in Ukraine. It is important to note that this will not involve employing these lawyers but would allow Ukrainian legal professionals the opportunity and dignity of continuing to work and/or assist their colleagues at home.

The Law Society will provide a platform where solicitors' firms can 'advertise' this support on the Law Society's website. Ukrainian solicitors and legal professionals can then reply to take up this offer through the website facility.

Next Steps

If you are in a position to assist:

- Log in Law Society's [website](#)
- Access the specialist area to [pledge your support](#)
- Complete the relevant details including contact details, location, and facilities (e.g. a computer and monitor, or desk only for internet purposes).
- A list of participating firms will be published on the website on or before 16 May 2022.
- Entries will be updated on a weekly basis and searchable by county.

For any further information, please contact MemberServices@lawsociety.ie

Law Society Women in Leadership Mentoring Programme – Applications now Open!

The Law Society is committed to promoting gender equality, diversity and inclusion within the solicitors' profession. As part of our commitment, we are proud to offer this programme with the aim of supporting women who wish to advance their careers to a senior level.

We are now accepting applications from female mentees and mentors (male and female) for the Law Society of Ireland and Law Society Skillnet Women in Leadership Mentoring programme which will commence in September 2022 – For full details – visit the webpage – Deadline for applications is Thursday 30 June 2022: www.lawsociety.ie/womeninleadership

Spring Series (CPD) – from the Younger Members Committee

The Younger Members Committee Spring Series 2022 continues on Tuesday 03 May with David Perry BL speaking about the current legislation on cannabis.

Each session will be 30 minutes in duration and is **eligible for CPD**. All solicitors are welcome to attend. Booking details are available on the [Law Society website](#). Topics include:

- **3 May:** Current legislation on cannabis - An overview of the decriminalisation and regulation of the production and sale of cannabis (**David Perry BL**)
- **17 May:** Ethics (**Cian Moriarty**)
- **31 May:** Pro Bono Work/Public Interest Law (**Eithne Lynch**)
- **7 June:** Awareness: Workplace bullying, harassment and sexual harassment
- **21 June:** Prevention and intervention: Workplace bullying, harassment and sexual harassment.

For the full list of speakers and to register for this year YMC Spring Series 2022 click [here](#).

Registration open for Practice Support Sessions during May

- **May:** Thinking of Hiring - Hear about New PPC Hybrid Course (4 May): [Register online](#)
 - Bullying, harassment and sexual harassment: The Law and what an employer needs to know (11 May): [Register online](#)
 - Bullying, harassment and sexual harassment: Prevention is better than the cure (18 May): [Register online](#)
 - Bullying, harassment and sexual harassment: Intervention once a complaint is raised (25 May): [Register online](#)

You can listen back to previous information sessions - www.lawsociety.ie/supportwebinars
If you have ideas for speakers, content for 2022, please do get in touch – j.purcell@lawsociety.ie

Annual Human Rights Lecture

The Human Rights & Equality Committee is working on our Annual Human Rights lecture. The lecture will be delivered by Mark Little on 'The Complex Relationship Between Digital Misinformation and Fundamental Human Rights'. Registration is available [here](#). Wednesday 18 May from 6 - 7pm.

New PPC launching in September

The [new Professional Practice Course \(PPC\)](#), which commences in September 2022, will represent the most significant change to the system of training in this jurisdiction in over a generation. The new PPC is a unitary course which brings together into one academic year the entire taught elements of the solicitor training, thus providing significant logistical and practical advantages to trainees and firms. The course is built around our four pillars of professional development, namely legal knowledge and analytical thinking; skills; professional responsibility; and psychological development and is designed specifically to equip trainee solicitors with extensive future-focused legal knowledge, innovation and technical skills.

The core curriculum will run from September 2022 to April/May 2023 (inclusive of examinations) and will include a continued focus on such skills as negotiations, research, drafting, advocacy, interviewing and advising and presentation skills, together with an enhanced focus on more general skills such as leadership, project management, office and legal technology, and finance skills. Professional responsibility, including enhanced coverage of legal ethics, solicitors' accounts and rules of professional conduct and law firm life, will also form an integral part of the core curriculum. These are in addition to courses, such as business law, dispute resolution, land law, probate, family law and taxation. Psychology of a lawyer and legal practice Irish will continue to be part of the core curriculum.

Trainees will be required to complete four advanced electives, but may elect to complete more than this minimum requirement. A programme of advanced electives will be provided (i) by the Law Society, (ii) some will be co-provided and (iii) external advanced electives will also be accredited. The timeline for the Society's advanced electives will be from May 2023 to June/July 2023. The two years (24 months) of in-office training continues as a vital and essential vocational component of the overall training to become a solicitor. For further information, please see attached brochure.

If you have any queries about the programme, contact Education Standards Manager Rory O'Boyle: R.OBoyle@LawSociety.ie

Upcoming CPD events in May

Law Society Complex-Case Trauma Impact Summit

- The Law Society will shortly host *Working with Complex Clients*, a first-of its-kind summit to address vicarious trauma in the solicitors' profession, on Thursday 5 May from 10am-2.45pm.
- Development of the summit was led by Dr Geoffrey Shannon SC (Law Society deputy director of education) and Antoinette Moriarty (psychotherapist and head of psychological services at Law Society).
- This summit is part of the Law Society's ongoing programme of actions to protect mental health, physical health and wellbeing in the solicitors' profession.

For additional information and for those who wish to attend can [register online](#).

Further CPD events include:

- IMRO and Law Society Annual Copyright Lecture 2022 (04 May): [Book here](#)
- Working with Complex Clients Developing the Skills to recognise & Respond to Trauma in your practice (05 May): [Book here](#)
- Probate Practice Masterclass (06 May): [Book here](#)
- Effective Advocacy for Young People (10 May): [Book here](#)
- Negotiation Skills for Lawyers (11 May): [Book here](#)
- Essential Solicitor Update 2022 (12 May): [Book here](#)
- The Complex Relationship Between Digital Misinformation and Fundamental Human Rights (18 May): [Book here](#)
- ESG and the In house Solicitor 2022 (19 May): [Book here](#)
- Midlands General Practice Update 2022 (19 May): [Book here](#)

For the full list of CPD training events including all CPD Cluster events visit www.lawsociety.ie/CPD

Professional Wellbeing Update

Dignity Matters Project: Starting on **11, 18 and 25 May** there will be a three-part series of [Small Practice Business Information sessions](#) on Dignity at Work issues. This series will cover what an employer should know about the law in relation to bullying, harassment and sexual harassment, how we can prevent this type of behaviour from taking place in the workplace and, finally, what interventions an employer should make once a complaint is made. Register for this series of short lunch-time talks [here](#).

In addition to this, on **19 May**, at the [Midlands General Practice Update 2022](#) Caroline Reidy (HR expert, adjudicator in WRC and mediator) will be offering a one-hour presentation to provide insights to attendees on dignity and respect in the workplace.

LegalMind – Watch this short interview with Clinical Excellence Lead, Emelina Ellis of LegalMind. Emelina explains who is behind the mental health service for solicitors, what happens when you call the LegalMind number, how personal information is treated, how much it costs, and what you can expect from the service.

Ask an Expert – Get expert advice on any interpersonal or wellbeing problems that you are facing or read about others' problems and what experts advise them.

Free CPD – Access **free CPD wellbeing** webinars. If you missed last year's Business of Wellbeing Summit with guest speaker Louise O'Neill, you can catch it online [here](#) and claim 2.5 Management and Professional Development Skills CPD hours.

Professional Wellbeing Charter – Join the 50+ signatories to the Professional Wellbeing Charter and show your firm's commitment to promoting and enabling professional wellbeing at all levels in your workplace.

Exclusive Member Supports and Benefits

- **Small Practice Hub** - The Small Practice Business Hub provides information, templates, precedents and tools to help you build a more successful and sustainable business.
- **Financial Benefits** – this includes details on the Law Society's retirement trust scheme, group life assurance and a finance scheme to fund PC fees.
- **Client Care Leaflets** - a series of multi-lingual information leaflets on a range of legal topics – **free** to download and distribute to your clients
- **Practising Solicitor logo** – **free** to download to your website/stationary and emails – we also have window stickers available with the practising solicitor logo – contact me if you would like to order these.

If I can be of assistance to you and your members, please email or call me.

Kind regards

Michelle

Michelle Nolan

[Head of Member Services](#)

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