



In-house Division Engagement Programme 2016 – 2017





Foreword

Welcome to the Law Society's In-house Division 2016/2017 Engagement Programme.

Our main objective is to promote best practice and address current issues and challenges facing the in-house legal community.

Since the Division was established in 2015, the Committee has been working with the Law Society to ensure the products and services delivered are relevant to our diverse in-house membership.

We have an exciting year ahead as we continue to engage with the wider in-house community, and hear from you, our members, to assist us in shaping your Division.

If you have any thoughts, wish to seek our support or just want to connect, please get in touch at inhouse@lawsociety.org.uk.

Sapna Bedi FitzGerald
Chair, In-house Division Committee



The Law Society

How the Law Society works

Solicitors pay their annual practising certificate fee to the Solicitors Regulation Authority. The Law Society receives around 30 per cent of this fee to support, represent and promote the profession. Other funding comes from commercial activities.

The Law Society Council governs the Law Society's work. Council members are elected to represent members from England and Wales, different demographic groups and parts of the profession. The Law Society harness the knowledge of the Council members and around 300 volunteers to deliver the advice, support and service members want. The Council has 100 seats, 61 for geographical constituencies and 39 for special interest groups and areas of practice.

For more information please visit www.lawsociety.org.uk

 **Law Society In House Division**

113 Chancery Lane London WC2A 1PL Dx 56 Lon/Chancery Ln
t: 020 7242 1222 f: 020 7831 0344 www.lawsociety.org.uk



Our vision

To bring in-house lawyers together to share best practice and address current issues and challenges in a supportive environment.

The Division's engagement programme is created in close consultation with the In-house Division Committee and is aimed at members working in corporate and public sectors, not-for-profit and charities.

The programme will:

- Address leadership and strategy, risk management, regulatory developments and legal management through a series of events, member support activities and research.
- Support, promote and represent in-house lawyers by providing opportunities to share and develop best practice, to exchange ideas and experiences, to learn from peers, and by providing research information .
- Provide opportunities for in-house lawyers to influence the overall direction of the legal sector.
- Promote the in-house profession.
- Help the Law Society to understand and represent in-house lawyers better.

Events

Over the next year the Law Society will host a range of events on issues that matter to in-house lawyers. Events will be held across England and Wales. Details of these events will be published on our website:

www.lawsociety.org.uk/in-house

Managing training contracts - investing in your in-house team

When: Tuesday 31 January 2017, 17:30 – 20:30

Venues: The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL

Cost: Free

With the number of in-house lawyers set to make up over a third of all solicitors by 2020, this seminar hears from organisations who are investing in in-house training contracts to resource their legal teams. Join our panel session seminar to find out how your organisation can benefit from offering training contracts, what supervising a trainee entails and the main hurdles you may face.

Speakers are Emily O'Neill, IP and litigation counsel, Spectris, Suzanne McGibbon, head of litigation, Government Legal Department, Dan Gwyn, head of legal service (property), Travis Perkins plc and Susan Cooper, solicitor, ceo and founder, Accutrainee.

Career progression – finding your path

When: Wednesday 22 February 2017, 17:30 - 20:30

Venues: The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL

Cost: Free

This interactive seminar will provide advice for those considering a change in legal career direction. It will demonstrate that changing direction is possible and will equip you with practical tips to get started. The seminar is aimed at in-house lawyers looking for next steps, portfolio careers or those considering a career change into in-house.

Speakers are Robert Bourns, president, Law Society, Stephanie Boyce, director, Create Positive Possibilities Limited, Professor Sara Chandler QC (Hon), vice president, European Bars Federation, Rachael Williams, senior legal counsel, Financial Ombudsman Service, Sarah Davis, group commercial legal director, Guardian Media Group plc and Pieter de Waal, general counsel, Law Society.

In-house soft skills – top tips for enhancing performance

When: Thursday 9 March 2017, 17:30 – 20:30

Venues: The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL

Cost: From £20 + VAT

This is part of a series of workshops designed specifically for the needs of in-house lawyers. The workshop will examine the challenges faced by in-house lawyers and suggest practical tips for enhanced performance, increased efficiency and greater effectiveness. Further information will be available nearer the time.



The implications of Brexit for in-house lawyers

When: Tuesday 28 March 2017, 17:30 – 20:30
Venues: The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL
Cost: Free

The seminar will consider the international impact of Brexit for in-house teams, as well as on the wider sector, including the effects on commercial contracts and financing documents, jurisdiction and enforcement of judgements and legal privilege. There will also be a focus on privacy and data protection, intellectual property and an update from the Law Society policy team on its Brexit activities.

Speakers to be confirmed.

Progress in technology and the in-house lawyer

When: May 2017, Time 17:30 – 20:30
Venues: The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL
Cost: Free

The seminar will focus on the future of the profession and the skill set needed for in-house lawyers. It will explore some of the technologies that in-house lawyers will need to understand and work with from business, operational and legal perspectives, such as AI and smart contracts.

Learn more about the impacts for the in-house community and how the role of the in-house lawyer is changing.

Speakers to be confirmed.

In-house soft skills – top tips for enhancing performance

When: Thursday 8 June 2017, 17:30 – 20:30
Venues: The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL
Cost: From £20 + VAT

This is part of a series of workshops designed specifically for the needs of in-house lawyers. The workshop will examine the challenges faced by in-house lawyers and suggest practical tips for enhanced performance, increased efficiency and greater effectiveness. Further information will be available nearer the time.

In-house annual conference

When: Wednesday 21 June 2017
Venues: The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL
Cost: TBC

This is the Division's flagship event. If you want to gain practical advice, network and connect with the best of in-house, then join us and book your place. The in-house annual conference brings together the top in-house legal talent. Don't miss the opportunity to participate in plenary and break-out sessions on the issues facing in-house lawyers and how to get the most out of your in-house career.

Save the date - further details will be available on our website soon.

Ethical challenges

When: September 2017, 17:30 – 20:30
Venues: The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL
Cost: Free

Learn about practical ways to deal with unique ethical issues in-house lawyers face. More details to follow.

Speakers to be confirmed

In-house soft skills – top tips for enhancing performance

When: September 2017, 17:30 – 20:30
Venues: The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL
Cost: From £20 + VAT

This is part of a series of workshops designed specifically for the needs of in-house lawyers. The workshop will examine the challenges faced by in-house lawyers and suggest practical tips for enhanced performance, increased efficiency and greater effectiveness. Further information will be available nearer the time.

Excellence in corporate governance

When: October 2017, 17:30 – 20:30
Venues: The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL
Cost: Free

More details to follow.

Speakers to be confirmed.

In-house soft skills – top tips for enhancing performance

When: Thursday 14 December 2017, 17:30 – 20:30
Venues: The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL
Cost: From £20 + VAT

This is part of a series of workshops designed specifically for the needs of in-house lawyers. The workshop will examine the challenges faced by in-house lawyers and suggest practical tips for enhanced performance, increased efficiency and greater effectiveness. Further information will be available nearer the time.



Webinars

Register for our topical webinars throughout the year and join us on the day or view them on demand.

www.lawsociety.org.uk/in-house

GDPR and how it effects organisations

When: 2 March 2017

Cost: £45 + VAT

Stephen McCartney, director of information governance and data protection officer at the Royal Mail Group will focus on the changes to data protection law across Europe that will impact your organisation. He will offer guidance on preparations you can start making in the run up to Brexit and beyond, as well as detailing what the Royal Mail Group are doing already. More details to follow.

Legal professional privilege

When: May 2017

Cost: £45 + VAT

Colin Passmore, senior partner at Simmons & Simmons will speak on the updates to legal professional privilege, tying in with the publication of the Law Society's practice note.

Regulatory framework – risk and regulatory burdens

When: June 2017

Cost: £45 + VAT

The latest updates for in-house lawyers. More details to follow.

SRA regulatory update

When: September 2017

Cost: £45 + VAT

More details to follow.

Member Offer

Consultations

The Law Society develops policy on proposals to change the law and ensures the voice of the in-house legal community is heard with key decision-makers. The Society seeks input from a variety of sources, including in-house lawyers, government departments and non-governmental organisations to provide robust and evidence-based consultation responses. The Division, with the support of the committee, will be the voice of the in-house sector in this process.

E-newsletter – In-house forum

The Law Society has a dedicated e-newsletter for lawyers working in-house. It includes updates on the In-house Division, news, features, events and activities relevant to our in-house members. Issues will be available and emailed to members in December 2016, February, April, June and September 2017.

InsideOut Magazine

The In-house Division's e-magazine, InsideOut is available online four times a year. It features hot topics affecting in-house members working across the public, corporate and not-for-profit sectors. It provides practical information and guidance on issues such as leadership, ethics, technology, demonstrating value, risk and how to plan a successful in-house career. Issues published in January, April, July and October 2017.

Member introductions

The Law Society has a wide range of member communities and can facilitate commercial introductions between members. Members interested in connecting with others are encouraged to get in contact via inhouse@lawsociety.org.uk.

Lexology and Westlaw UK updates

The Law Society, partnering with Lexology, distributes an innovative daily newsfeed, providing corporate members with essential, global market intelligence. The In-house Division newsstand is specifically tailored to reflect industry practice areas, along with other relevant work areas identified by our Research team. You can personalise your subscription to reflect your industry, sector and/or other interests, and define how often you receive it.

The Law Society, partnering with Westlaw UK, provides a fortnightly bulletin, available to download from the In-house Division website, with news and commentary on topical issues aimed at the public, not-for-profit and charity sectors.

LinkedIn

Please join the Law Society In house Division group at www.linkedin.com/groups/8500034 to find out more about news, events and other relevant activities. We encourage you to increase your in-house legal network and join.

Website

The In-house Division website www.lawsociety.org.uk/in-house is a one-stop portal of information for in-house lawyers. It contains practical guidance, news, research and event details, whatever type of law or sector your work in. We want it to remain relevant and useful, so get in touch at inhouse@lawsociety.org.uk if there is something missing or if you have any feedback.



Committee

Thank you to our committee members

This programme of engagement was created in close consultation with the In-house Division committee to ensure it is relevant and timely.

Committee members are scheduled to meet up four times a year to discuss the key issues facing the in-house community. The committee advises how the Law Society can best support its members who work as in-house lawyers.

The Law Society thanks all the committee members, whose details are included below, for their time, commitment and contribution. For more information on the Law Society, please visit www.lawsociety.org.uk.

Committee Member	Organisation	Role
Clare Belcher	Travelex	Head of Legal, Global Business Development & EMEA Region
Peter Clark	Oxfordshire County Council	County Solicitor and Monitoring Officer
Sue Dauncey	Avon and Somerset Constabulary	Director of Legal Services and General Counsel
Sapna Bedi FitzGerald	LSL Property Services plc	General Counsel and Company Secretary (chair)
Trevor Goodman	Legg Mason	Head of Legal EMEA
Dennis Hall	Gateshead Council	Commercial Manager and Solicitor
Donna Harris	Aviva plc	General Counsel, Real Estate
Matthew Heath	Fidelity Worldwide Investment	Head of UK Legal Services
Stephen O'Brien	Government Legal Department	Lawyer, Employment Group (vice chair)
Emily O'Neill	Spectris	IP and Litigation Counsel
Dominic Pickersgill	Institute of Engineering & Technology	General Counsel
Kavita Savani	Financial Ombudsman Service	Legal Counsel
Helen Shay	University of York	In-house Solicitor
Richard Sommerville	Electricity North West	Head of Legal

About the Law Society

The Law Society exists to represent, promote and support all solicitors, so they in turn can help their clients.

We also work to ensure that no-one is above the law and to protect everyone's right to have access to justice. We promote England and Wales as the jurisdiction of choice and the vital role legal services play in our economy. We work internationally to open up markets to our members and to defend human rights while supporting our members with opportunities in the domestic market.

The Law Society helps members by:

- representing solicitors by speaking out for justice and on legal issues
- promoting solicitors through publicising the value of using a solicitor at home and abroad
- supporting solicitors by helping them develop their expertise and their business, respective of whether they work for themselves, in-house or for a law firm

The Law Society represents the profession by:



- campaigning on the rule of law, human rights, access to justice and regulation. This includes lobbying in Brussels, Westminster and Cardiff and in the media.
- working with international legal bodies to position the Law Society as a thought-leader on global issues
- intervening in cases where solicitors and the law are under threat in the UK and abroad
- helping our members to represent key issues impacting the profession to their MP, AM or MEP
- using the law to challenge changes which will impact negatively on the profession and society
- championing and facilitating pro bono work

The Law Society promotes the profession by:



- internationally working to open and grow markets for English and Welsh law such as inward visits of foreign lawyers and trade missions
- providing and increasing awareness of Find a Solicitor – our website enabling consumers and businesses to find a solicitor who can meet their needs
- hosting our annual Excellence Awards which highlight and celebrate outstanding contributions across the profession
- recognising the contribution solicitors make to civil society and communities
- publicising the value of legal services to the UK economy

The Law Society supports the profession by:



- identifying issues and market trends affecting solicitors to help them prepare for the future
- developing a comprehensive and cohesive education and training offer
- providing practice notes and guidance on issues important to members
- giving advice through our library and helplines
- running accreditation schemes to support and demonstrate effective practice
- creating communities of members based on who you are and what you do
- supporting those who find it difficult to enter the profession through our Diversity Access Scheme
- offering consultancy services for members who want more detailed help
- assisting members who wish to practice abroad