

LONDON AND REGIONAL BAR EDITORIAL SUBMISSION REQUEST

We will soon be starting research for the 2022 edition of *The Legal 500 UK*, and invite you to provide us with editorial submissions along the attached guidelines.

Editorial submissions and referee spreadsheets for the Regional Bar should reach us no later than **Friday 19 February 2021**, and by **Friday 16 April 2021** for the London Bar.

If you have any queries, please email the address below, although you may first wish to check the FAQs at:
legal500.com/the-legal-500-submission-information/united-kingdom-the-bar-submissions.

Yours sincerely



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TIMETABLE

REGIONAL BAR:

Client referees deadline:

19 February 2021

Editorial submission deadline:

19 February 2021

Chambers interviews conducted:

8 March - 7 May 2021

LONDON BAR:

Client referees deadline:

16 April 2021

Editorial submission deadline:

16 April March 2021

Chambers interviews conducted:

4 May - 4 June 2021

Details of the researchers responsible for individual practice areas will be posted on our website on Tuesday 4 May 2021 at:

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Submissions by practice area

The editorial of *The Legal 500 UK* is structured by practice area. Within each practice area, there is a list of leading sets. We also rank Queen's Counsel and junior barristers in separate tables.

Chambers are required to use our new submissions template which can be downloaded from **legal500.com/the-legal-500-submission-information/united-kingdom-the-bar-submissions**

Submissions for each practice area should include:

- 1) **Contact details**
- 2) **A list of barristers submitting this year (currently recommended, followed by those seeking a recommendation)**
- 3) **Practice area overview**
- 4) **Information on the clerking of that practice**
- 5) **Feedback on the 2021 edition**
- 6) **Information on arrivals and departures in chambers**
- 7) **Information on individual barristers (silks followed by leading juniors followed by rising stars)**

Detailed submission guidelines follow.

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Rankings defined

Leading sets: Our chambers practice rankings assess the collective strength of a set; its general reputation in the market; the scope of each practice area; the quality of work handled by its members over the past year; the number of its members recommended in the previous edition of The Legal 500; and the seniority/profile of its barristers.

Leading silks: Queen's Counsel ranked in our guide undertake the most complex, high-profile, and high-value work within their respective fields of expertise. They will regularly appear in the higher courts against other leading silks, and be instructed by leading law firms and noteworthy clients. Their skill and expertise are recognised by both clients and peers alike.

New silks: We list all new silks on appointment, by practice area. Our editorial policy is that new silks will not be considered for entry into the leading silks rankings for 24 months following their appointment, other than in exceptional circumstances. We do not automatically move new silks into the leading silks rankings after this 24-month period.

Leading juniors: Barristers ranked within our leading junior guide are able to show a track record of working on complex, high-profile, and high-value instructions, either working unled or as a junior to more senior barristers or Queen's Counsel. Juniors are considered for these rankings once they have passed eight years call. They will regularly appear in the higher courts against other leading silks, and be instructed by leading law firms and noteworthy clients. Their skill and expertise are recognised by both clients and peers alike.

Rising stars: Junior barristers between four and eight years call are considered for our new rising stars ranking. Counsel must demonstrate an early aptitude for undertaking legally complex and challenging cases, either unled, or as a first or second junior to senior counsel. They will be recognised by clients and peers as future leading juniors. We do not automatically move rising stars into the leading juniors rankings once they exceed eight years call.

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Confidentiality

All information provided to us may be published by all The Legal 500 and Legalease Ltd products, unless it is marked as confidential. Please identify clearly any confidential information – whether client names, deal or case values, or other details – by marking that information **CONFIDENTIAL**, in bold red and upper case. **Please use red typeface for all of the confidential information.**

Please avoid putting global confidentiality restrictions at the front of submissions. Please also try to be as clear as possible about what exactly is confidential; is it the case as a whole, the name of the client, or the issue/value at stake?

Detailed submission guidelines

For each individual practice area, please provide the following:

Practice area overview

Please supply a brief practice overview dealing with the key achievements of the set within each practice area over the last 12 months. The overview should indicate the number of barristers who belong to the practice group, or practise in this area, the individual in chambers who leads the practice group, and the clerk most closely associated with its management. Our aim is to assess the collective strength of chambers in each practice area as a whole.

The overview should also reflect, for example, standout cases in which more than one barrister within the set has been instructed, including any teams of barristers which have been deployed on a particular case. In particular, we are interested in cases in which members of chambers have been instructed on both sides, or for multiple defendants, including both as leaders and juniors.

Annexes: if chambers maintains an office off-circuit, then a separate submission for the circuit in which the office is based should be made, including all those members who are resident or spend a substantial proportion of time working from that office.

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Please do not send us copies of the chambers' website, CVs (unless as indicated) or brochures, or repeat this information in the submission

Feedback on the 2021 edition

Chambers' feedback on the market as a whole is important. Please include a brief section in your submission indicating whether you agree with the editorial and rankings of the current edition.

This is the starting point for the research, so you are encouraged to provide feedback, including advising as to suggested rankings for the 2022 edition. (Please bear in mind that sets and individuals are ranked alphabetically within tiers.)

Leading barristers

This subsection should list individual barristers in the practice area group, who are currently ranked, or who you feel deserve ranking, whether silks, juniors, or rising stars. It should include their call year and, if applicable, their silk year; an introduction to their practice; and five detailed cases per barrister which illustrate the nature and calibre of their practice. Matters should be cases of legal significance (including ongoing or appellate appearances) and/or of factual complexity, high public profile, or commercial importance, or an example of service quality.

Cases should ideally fall within the last 12 months prior to submission as the focus of the research is on recent work. However, due to the impact of **Covid-19**, chambers can provide work over the last 18 months where members' practices have been particularly impacted by the pandemic. This impact should be explained in the submission.

As always, if you think older work is significant – or would help us better to understand the nature of a practice – then please include it in the historical cases section of individuals' submissions and explain why it is of interest. Chambers are warned against overloading the submission with details unlikely to assist researchers.

Please mention if the case involved other leading or junior counsel, as well as the names and chambers of any opposing counsel, and details of any pending appeal. Cases or arbitrations

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which ultimately resulted in settlement can be mentioned subject to the requirements of client confidentiality. Positive judicial comment as to counsel's assistance (as reported) is also useful.

New entries: If there are silks or juniors who you believe should be included in the 2022 edition but are not included in the current edition, please let us know, setting out the case for their inclusion, subject to our policy on new silks above. You should specifically indicate why you believe the individual should be included and supply referees, together with an indication of any work done against their peers who have been previously ranked in *The Legal 500 UK*.

If a barrister's practice has changed in nature and their current ranking is no longer appropriate, please indicate this and the area to which their ranking should now apply, if any.

References

Please provide details of referees whom we can contact for feedback. There is **no limit** on the number of referees you can send.

Referees should have instructed counsel within the last 12-18 months. Greater weight will be given to work carried out recently than to historic cases, and to the views of instructing solicitors and clients. You are asked to specify the category into which each referee falls (Instructing solicitor; or Other), to enable us to tailor our reference requests appropriately. If you fail to do this then our researchers may not receive all the market feedback they need to assess practices and chambers as a whole.

Details of referees must be provided in a separate document, as a spreadsheet in the prescribed format. The templates can be found at **legal500.com/the-legal-500-submission-information/united-kingdom-the-bar-submissions**.

For detailed notes about how to complete a referee spreadsheet, see the 'Bar referees explained' document,, at **legal500.com/the-legal-500-submission-information/united-kingdom-the-bar-submissions**.

A sample spreadsheet is also available, on the same page.

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To clarify how the referee spreadsheets are used, referees will be contacted by email shortly after the start of the research period, asking them for feedback in relation to the barrister in question. They will also receive an email upon publication of *The Legal 500 UK* in September 2021, stating that the results of the research are available to view, free of charge. Referees will **not** be put on any marketing lists.

The Legal 500 series contacted approximately 30,000 referees for the UK Bar research alone in 2020. To ensure referees are not repeatedly contacted, it takes time to process and deduplicate the spreadsheets. The referee deadline must be adhered to. We cannot guarantee to contact referees in spreadsheets delivered late.