

What is the timetable for the next edition?

The deadline for submissions for the 2027 edition is 12th February 2026 for the Regions and Scotland; and 17th April 2026 for London. See editorial submission guidelines for details of the follow-up research.

When do you publish the details of the researchers for the next edition?

We publish details of which researcher is covering which area, along with contact details, after the relevant submission deadline has passed. They will be posted at legal500.com/the-legal-500-submission-information/united-kingdom-the-bar-submissions.

We believe we warrant a recommendation. What should we do next?

The editorial research is based on chambers' written editorial submissions, and follow-up research with chambers and their referees. The first step is therefore to provide us with a written editorial submission. If the submission deadline has passed, see question below relating to late submissions.

Please refer to the editorial submission guidelines for details of the information we ask for. You should provide a separate submission for each practice area for which you believe your set warrants a recommendation.

Do you accept submissions from individual barristers?

Our preference is for a practice-wide submission to be made by a chambers, set or stable, including details of the work of individual barristers. Where a set does not make a submission, we are happy to accept submissions by practice area from individuals in relation to individual rankings.

What is the difference between editorial and sales?

The task of the editorial team is to research the legal market, practice area by practice area; to assign rankings to chambers' practices; and to write accompanying editorial. There is no cost associated with making an editorial submission.

The sales side of Legal 500 relates to the paid-for set and barrister profiles. The profiles are written by the sets, not by Legal 500.

The editorial and sales sides operate independently. Some sets pay for profiles but are not recommended in the editorial. Others are recommended but choose not to take profiles.

If you have any queries regarding sales, you should contact Alexander Owen: alexander.owen@legal500.com

Does a chambers have to be a certain size before it is eligible to be editorially recommended?

No, although the size of the team, and its strength in depth, particularly the position of silks and juniors in the individual rankings, are among the factors which the editorial researcher will take into account when assessing a set against its competitors. Others include the quality of work handled, the calibre of instructing solicitors, referee feedback, and the reputation of individual practitioners.

If we create chambers and barrister profiles, do we also need to send an editorial submission?

Yes. Editorial researchers do not use the profiles provided by chambers. The editorial research is independent of the sales process.

We are not going to be able to meet the editorial submission deadline. Do you accept late submissions?

Legal 500 receives thousands of submissions every year, and researchers are under tight deadlines to research practice areas. It is in chambers' own interests for their submissions to have been fully reviewed by the researchers as part of their preparation for their follow-up research. Our overriding aim is to produce editorial which is as accurate as possible, but firms should be aware that submissions delivered late may not be given as full consideration as submissions received on time.

Do the researchers interview all chambers who provide a submission for a particular practice area? Do we need to do anything to ensure a follow-up interview?

We do our best to present a fair and accurate picture of the market, but we do not undertake to speak to all chambers across all practice areas for which they have submitted. In some cases the researcher will have sufficient information from the written submission and references. If not, the researcher will make contact with the set to arrange a follow-up interview. If you feel strongly that you want a follow-up interview, then you should (once the submission deadline has passed) email the relevant researcher to request one.

What form does your research with referees take?

All referees are emailed. They provide feedback with their answers to our questions. All feedback is given on a confidential, non-attributable basis. A referee may be a client, an introducer or referrer of work, or counsel.

Do you accept updates to submissions?

The researchers are primarily looking to update the editorial based on an annual review of the practice, for the year ending just prior to the submission deadline. However, so that the editorial is as accurate as possible, chambers are encouraged to update major developments occurring after the submission deadline.

We have an active practice in an area that is not currently a Legal 500 category. Should we provide a submission for it anyway?

No. The list of sections has been finalised for the 2027 edition, and no additional sections will be added without notifying all firms potentially affected. Chambers are advised to look at the published list of categories, and include the information as part of a submission for the category which closest fits the practice concerned.

We think you should introduce a new editorial category. Do you accept suggestions, and if so who should we contact?

We aim to structure the editorial in a way that reflects the market, and do keep the editorial categories under review. The list of sections has been finalised for the 2027 edition, but if you have suggestions for editions thereafter you should contact us via legal500.com/faqs; the list of sections for the 2028 edition will be finalised by December 2026.

Who should I contact for more information?

Please contact us via legal500.com/faqs