

**We will soon be starting research for the 2027 edition of *Legal 500 UK*, and invite you to provide us with editorial submissions according to the attached guidelines.**

Referees and editorial submissions for the Regional Bar and Scottish Bar must reach us no later than **Thursday 12 February 2026**. No referee will be accepted after this date.

Referees and editorial submissions for the London Bar should reach us no later than **Friday 17 April 2026**.

**The following guidelines will help you to prepare a submission.**

Chambers appear in the editorial sections of *Legal 500* free of charge. Any queries regarding directory listings (ie paid-for advertising entries) should be addressed to **Alexander Owen** (email [alexander.owen@legal500.com](mailto:alexander.owen@legal500.com)).

If you have any queries, please contact us via [legal500.com/faqs](https://legal500.com/faqs), although you may first wish to check the Frequently Asked Questions PDF at: [legal500.com/the-legal-500-submission-information/united-kingdom-the-bar-submissions](https://legal500.com/the-legal-500-submission-information/united-kingdom-the-bar-submissions).

Yours sincerely



**Will Tolcher**

Global Bar Editor, Legal 500  
[will.tolcher@legal500.com](mailto:will.tolcher@legal500.com)

#### Timetable

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##### Regional Bar

Referees and submissions should reach us no later than **Thursday 12 February 2026**

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##### Scottish Bar

Referees and submissions should reach us no later than **Thursday 12 February 2026**

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##### London Bar

Referees and submissions should reach us no later than **Friday 17 April 2026**

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Details of the researchers responsible for individual regions will be posted on our website after the deadlines at [legal500.com/the-legal-500-submission-information/united-kingdom-the-bar-submissions](https://legal500.com/the-legal-500-submission-information/united-kingdom-the-bar-submissions)

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## Submissions by practice area

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The editorial of *Legal 500* is structured by practice area.

To submit, chambers should provide a completed submission form and list of referees in a separate Excel document, using the templates available at:

[legal500.com/the-legal-500-submission-information/united-kingdom-the-bar-submissions](https://legal500.com/the-legal-500-submission-information/united-kingdom-the-bar-submissions)

Please remember: this is your opportunity to sell your set and your practice – tell us what makes you unique.

## Confidentiality

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All information provided to us may be published by all 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.** You do not need to write in red in the confidential matter boxes.

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?

## Sending submissions

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- You must only use the Legal 500 Submissions site to send your Word document and accompanying referee spreadsheets to our research team. Please go to <https://submissions.legal500.com/wp-login.php> and login for full instructions.
- You should also send a spreadsheet of referees relating to the practice area in the same format (see page 5). Please note, the deadlines for submitting referees are **12 February (Regions, Scotland) and 17 April (London) 2026**.

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- Please avoid emailing submissions. Emailed documents will be deleted and will not be actioned.
- Please ensure you send your submissions in by the deadline. The timetable for the research will be adhered to rigorously.

### Detailed submission guidelines

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Please provide a separate document for each practice area. For each practice area, please provide the following:

#### Practice area overview

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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.

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 2026 edition

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Do you agree with the ratings the practice received in the editorial and ranking of the 2026 edition? Chambers are encouraged to provide brief feedback, including advising as to a suggested ranking for the forthcoming edition, based on evidence. (Please bear in mind that chambers are ranked alphabetically within tiers).

#### Leading barristers

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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

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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 generally fall within the last 12 months prior to submission as the focus of the research is on recent work. Older work may be included if it is necessary to provide five details cases for reasons such as to one matter consuming a significant amount of time (for instance a three-month trial), in which case this should be set out unambiguously. Work done pro bono can be included if it is one of a barrister's five most interesting cases.

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 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 2027 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 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.

#### Contact details

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Please provide contact details for the person we should contact to arrange to follow up on the submission, ie contact name, position, email address and telephone number.

#### Individual rankings

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Our chambers practice rankings assess the collective strength of a set; its general reputation in the market; the scope of each practice

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area; the quality of work handled by its members over the past year; the number of its members recommended in the previous edition of Legal 500; and the seniority/profile of its barristers/advocates.

**Leading silks:** King'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/advocates or King'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/advocates between four and eight years call are considered for our rising stars tables. 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. Please bear in mind that rising stars are covered in all practice areas, and submissions from junior practitioners in areas in areas where we do not have any rising stars included currently are particularly welcome.

#### Referees (separate document)

Please provide a list of referees we can contact for feedback. All referees will be contacted by email. The list should preferably contain both longstanding referees and more recent client gains.

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Some junior referees can be more responsive than senior figures. 20 referees per practice area is a good minimum guideline, if possible. You may provide as many referees as you wish – we will contact all referees that are submitted on time. We may contact late referees, but we reserve the right to contact them at a much later date (or not at all). If a late referee has already been submitted on time, we will not contact them again.

**Referees MUST be provided by 12 February (Regions, Scotland) and 17 April (London) 2026 in a separate document – please use the referee template at:**  
[legal500.com/the-legal-500-submission-information/united-kingdom-the-bar-submissions/](https://legal500.com/the-legal-500-submission-information/united-kingdom-the-bar-submissions/)

For more information about how to fill in the referee spreadsheets, please read the guideline document at [legal500.com/the-legal-500-submission-information/united-kingdom-the-bar-submissions/](https://legal500.com/the-legal-500-submission-information/united-kingdom-the-bar-submissions/)

#### Want to suggest a new area to cover?

Contact us via [legal500.com/faqs](https://legal500.com/faqs) setting out the case, including the following information:

- the practice area/s you would like to see introduced
- the parameters of the practice area/s as you would see it
- the reasons why you feel these new sections are merited
- 4 or 5 highlights of this type of work which your set has handled in the past 12 months
- a list of other sets which are also active in this practice area (usefully including relevant contact details, in case we wish to contact them for their view too)