

LONDON CRIMINAL COURTS SOLICITORS' ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEE MEMBER SPECIFICATION

About the LCCSA

The London Criminal Courts Solicitors' Association (LCCSA) is the representative organisation for criminal lawyers practising in and around London. Founded in 1948, the LCCSA has a proud 78-year history of representing and supporting those working in the criminal courts.

The Association exists to promote the highest standards of advocacy and practice, represent the interests of criminal practitioners, contribute to discussions about developments in the criminal justice system, and support the education and professional development of those working in criminal law.

The LCCSA plays an important role in giving criminal practitioners a collective voice. Through engagement with Government, Parliament, the judiciary, HMCTS, the Legal Aid Agency, the Law Society, the police and other stakeholders, the Association seeks to influence policy and practice and to protect the interests of those working at the frontline of the criminal justice system.

Being a Committee member is an opportunity to play an active part in that work.

Core Commitments

Committee membership is an active role. Members are expected to contribute their time, experience and professional judgement to the work of the Association.

As a Committee member, you will be expected to:

- Attend and participate in Committee meetings, with an expectation of attending at least 8 of the 11 annual meetings, save in exceptional circumstances.
- Read papers and consider matters in advance of meetings, to contribute constructively to discussions and decision-making.
- Take an active role in the work of the Association, including through sub-committees, working groups, consultations, campaigns, training or other projects.
- Take responsibility for agreed actions and see them through within the agreed timeframe.
- Bring the experience and concerns of criminal practitioners to the Committee, helping to ensure that the Association remains responsive to the membership.

- Contribute ideas and initiatives and be willing to take the lead on matters where appropriate.
 - Support the Association's external engagement, including with Government, Parliament, the judiciary, courts, the Legal Aid Agency, the Law Society and other relevant organisations.
 - Support the Association's events, training and communications where appropriate.
 - Work collaboratively with fellow Committee members and the Officers in furtherance of the Association's objectives.
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Time Commitment

Committee membership involves more than attending monthly meetings.

Members should expect to devote time between meetings to the work of the Association. The precise commitment will vary depending upon the member's particular responsibilities and areas of interest, but may include:

- reviewing papers and correspondence;
- attending external meetings or events on behalf of the Association;
- contributing to consultations, submissions and representations;
- participating in working groups or sub-committees;
- assisting with training, conferences and other LCCSA events;
- contributing to the Association's communications and publications;
- responding to issues affecting members, sometimes at short notice; and
- progressing actions agreed at Committee meetings.

We recognise that Committee members are busy practising lawyers. The expectation is not that every member will be available for every issue, but that each member will make a genuine and consistent contribution to the collective work of the Committee.