

Get Involved

Get Involved is the name of a new volunteering strategy which will aim to enable more members to get involved with the work of the national Law Society.

We have found that, currently, less than 1% of our 200,000 members volunteer their time to the organisation and we want every solicitor to have the opportunity to get involved in Law Society activities. By getting involved, you can make a difference in actively promoting, protecting and supporting the profession, the rule of law and access to justice.

As a volunteer, you will gain new skills and insights, build your profile, network with others, be recognised for your contribution and make a real difference. Our volunteers support us by sharing their opinions, time and insights, and working together with members with similar interests. They enable us to carry out our work in support of the profession. For example, by providing advice and expertise on key legal policy issues impacting the profession and the public and developing guidance for our members navigating changes to the legal profession and practice.

Our members have told us they want a variety of ways to get involved that fit with the demands of work and life. As a way for us to keep our members informed on the range of flexible and accessible volunteer opportunities, such as focus groups, surveys, online panels, and many more, we are creating a Member Advisory Forum which will be a virtual pool open to all members who are keen to volunteer their time and expertise. Members will be able to sign up to the forum later in the year.

How the Membership Advisory Forum (MAF) can benefit Local Law Societies

The MAF would help the Law Society to deepen and ease its collaboration with Local Law Societies. It would enable us to monitor where the Law Society is being too 'London-centric', for example, in its events and opportunities, and we'd be able to proactively reach out to regions where they feel they are underrepresented. Some of the opportunities promoted on our MAF would include local ones -opportunities that Local Law Societies have e.g. committee vacancies, needing speakers for certain topics, etc - and this, in its turn, will help to strengthen our relationship with those Societies.

The MAF is due to launch in November 2025, and you can find more information on it and the *Get Involved* strategy **here**.

To help us shape it before it goes live, so we can make sure it reflects the needs of all members, please contact Volunteer Manager: **volunteering@LawSociety.org.uk**

Save the date: For our **hybrid Local Law Society Townhall** which will be held in-person and online at 113 Chancery Lane on **Friday 9 May**. If you have anything you'd like to see incorporated into the agenda, please let beth.quinn@lawsociety.org.uk know as soon as possible.

Please note: **The Local Law Societies Community Group**, led by Nottinghamshire Law Society, meets regularly online to exchange ideas, find inspiration and provide support to one another. The group also holds in-person meet ups. If you would like more information and to get added to their mailing list, please contact <u>michelle.foster@nottslawsoc.org</u>.