

SHEFFIELD &
DISTRICT LAW
SOCIETY
**BANQUET
& AWARDS
2025**

BANQUET & AWARDS 2025 ENTRY PACK



In partnership with

strikes.
Property & Enforcement Services Group



Nominations for the Sheffield and District Law Society awards are now open

Sheffield & District Law Society's Annual Dinner will be awarding the best and brightest again this year!

Members of the Society will put forward their nominations and these will then be voted on by a panel of judges who are unconnected to the awards.

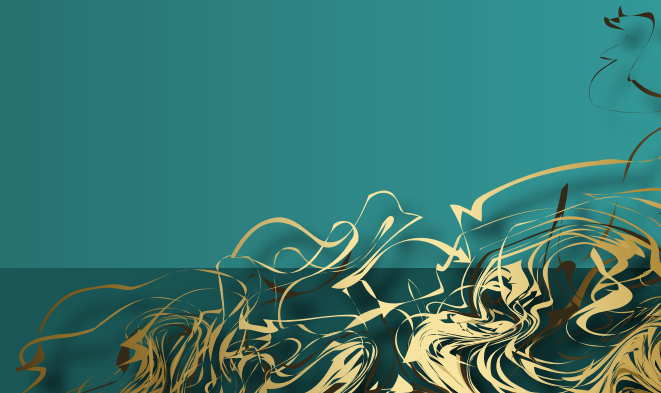
This will be a celebration of Sheffield and its districts, brightest and best lawyers, and their achievements over the past year.

Don't miss out on your chance to put forward your nominations.

HOW TO ENTER

Go to www.sheffieldlawsociety.co.uk

- Ensure you are a member of the Sheffield & District Law Society.
- Read the full list of categories for awards and decide which award you would like to nominate for. You can enter as many awards as you would like.
- Submit relevant information according to the criteria (please see each individual award as the criteria differs for each one).
- Written entries should be between 250 and 1,000 words. Anything submitted below or above these thresholds will not be considered.
- Ensure your award is submitted by Friday 3rd January 2025 at 5pm for last entry.
- Ensure your award is sent to Elizabeth@sheffieldlawsociety.co.uk



PARTNER OF THE YEAR

Open to partners at law firms across Yorkshire. This award will be judged according to the following criteria:

- Evidence of contribution to the success of their practice in the last 12 months, both in fee earning and other areas, such as marketing or setting up new projects which have benefitted the firm.
- Demonstrable expertise in field of work.
- Evidence of a growing reputation or maintaining their standing as a leader in their field.
- Dedication to clients.
- Demonstrable work to help/mentor junior staff.



RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

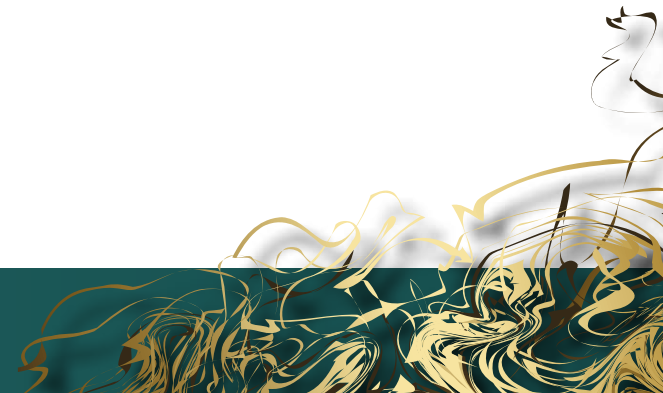
This category is open to individual and team nominations. This award is specifically for those who have a practice in real estate and will be judged according to the following criteria:

- Demonstrable achievement in your area of practice and the capacity in which you were involved.
- Demonstrable dedication to your clients.
- Stand out from colleagues as a lawyer who has made a significant impact, taking into account notable obstacles that you have overcome.
- None fee-earning, but work-related activities, such as marketing, establishing new initiatives and broader contribution to the profession.
- Contribution to the community.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

This category is open to individual and team nominations. This award is specifically for those who have a practice in commercial real estate and will be judged according to the following criteria:

- Demonstrable achievement in your area of practice and the capacity in which you were involved.
- Demonstrable dedication to your clients.
- Stand out from colleagues as a lawyer who has made a significant impact, taking into account notable obstacles that you have overcome.
- Demonstrable appreciation/recognition of your work by clients/colleagues.
- Non-fee earning, but work-related activities, such as marketing, establishing new initiatives and broader contribution to the profession.



EMPLOYMENT

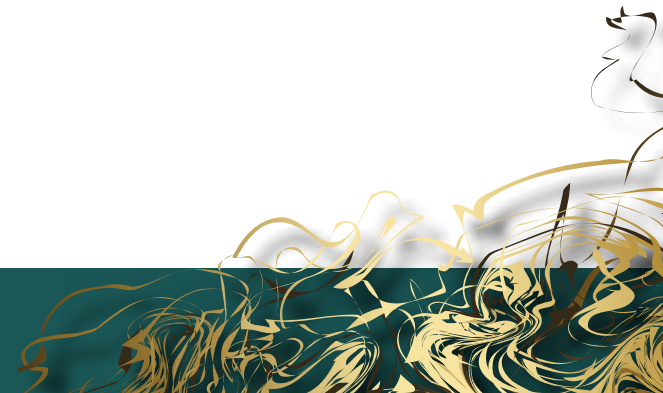
This award is open to all individuals and teams specialising in employment law and will be judged according to the following criteria:

- The quality of legal services offered, both in terms of significant cases and a clear dedication to clients.
- Displaying an innovative and flexible approach to changes in the legal market.
- Examples of how their work has been recognised/ appreciated by the Yorkshire legal and business community.
- Examples of excellence in non-fee earning, but work-related activities – such as marketing, establishing new initiatives and a broader contribution to the profession.

PRIVATE CLIENT

This category is open to individual and team nominations, for those who do legal work for private clients in private practices. The award will be judged according to the following criteria:

- Demonstrable achievement in your area of practice and the capacity in which you were involved.
- Demonstrable dedication to your clients.
- Stand out from colleagues as a lawyer who has made a significant impact, taking into account notable obstacles that you have overcome.
- Demonstrable appreciation/recognition of your work by clients/colleagues.
- Non-fee earning, but work-related activities, such as marketing, establishing new initiatives and broader contribution to the profession.



FAMILY LAW

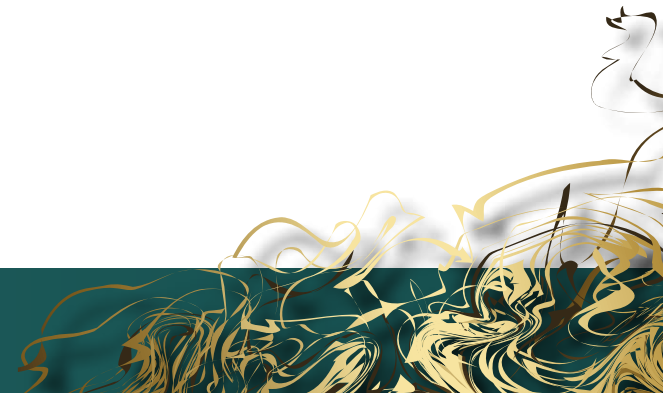
This category is open to individual and team nominations. This award is specifically for those who have a practice in any area of family law. The award will be judged to the following criteria:

- Demonstrable achievement in your area of practice and the capacity in which you were involved.
- Demonstrable dedication to your clients.
- Stand out from colleagues as a lawyer who has made a significant impact, taking into account notable obstacles that you have overcome.
- Demonstrable appreciation/recognition of your work by clients/colleagues.
- Non-fee earning, but work related activities, such as marketing, establishing new initiatives and broader contribution to the profession.

CRIMINAL LAW

This category is open to individual and team nominations. This award is specifically for those who have a practice in any area of criminal law. The award will be judged to the following criteria:

- Demonstrable achievements for clients if a defendant and clear examples of pursuing worthwhile cases if a prosecutor.
- Demonstrable outstanding knowledge of the field which has been recognised by colleagues and peers.
- Innovative working practices to cope with cuts in legal fees, court fees and court closures.
- Extra credit will be given for having made a significant impact in the last 12 months.
- Non-fee earning, but work related activities, such as marketing, establishing new initiatives and broader contribution to the profession.



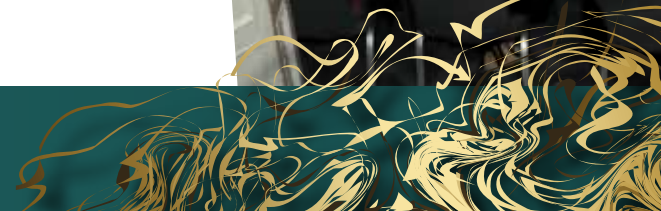
LEGAL AID

Access to justice is a fundamental right and legal aid performs a crucial role in providing fair and equal access to those most at risk of being excluded from our legal system.

Many people are finding it more difficult to access legal representation because of the growing gaps in the provision of services, so this award celebrates the teams, firms and organisations of legal aid providers and others who go above and beyond to combat this issue.

The judges want to see evidence of:

- A proactive approach to tackling access to justice issues.
- Identifying needs and demonstrating benefits to clients.
- Demonstrable achievement in your area of practice and the capacity in which you were involved.
- Demonstrable dedication to your clients.
- Notable obstacles that you have overcome.
- None fee-earning, but work-related activities, such as marketing, establishing new initiatives and broader contribution to the profession.
- Contribution to the community.



COSTS

This award is open to all individuals and teams specialising in costs law and will be judged according to the following criteria:

- In what ways does the person/team/department bring innovation to bear in their provision of legal services in this practice area?
- How is the person/team/department making a positive difference in the firm?
- What recognition has the person/team/department received from third parties?
- Displaying an innovative and flexible approach to changes in use of technology- communication.

LITIGATION & DISPUTE RESOLUTION

This award is open to all individuals and teams specialising in Litigation and Dispute Resolution and will be judged according to the following criteria:

- Outline recent cases (maximum three) that best demonstrate the capabilities, commitment, and calibre of the person/team/department.
- How does the person/team/department demonstrate high levels of dedication to clients?
- In what ways does the person/team/department bring innovation to bear in their provision of legal services in this practice area?
- How is the person/team/department making a positive difference in the wider community?
- What recognition has the person/team/department received from third parties?
- Examples of excellence in non-fee earning, but work-related activities – such as marketing, establishing new initiatives and a broader contribution to the profession.



NICHE LAW FIRM

This award is open to law firms that practice in a clearly identifiable niche area of the law and will be judged according to the following criteria:

- Demonstrable appreciation or recognition by clients.
- Dedication to development and welfare of staff.
- Client initiatives that you feel have set you apart from the rest.
- Contribution to the legal community.
- Recognition received from other firms.



RIISING STAR OF THE YEAR

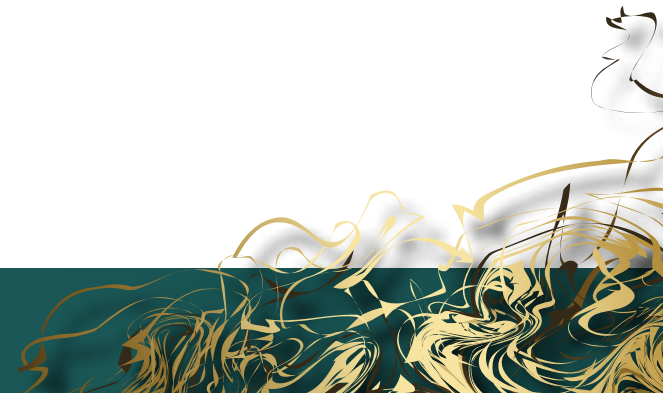
This award will be judged according to the following criteria:

- In initial stages of legal career.
- Demonstrable involvement in interesting, challenging or new areas of law and the capacity in which you were involved.
- Demonstrable dedication to your clients.
- Stand out from colleagues as a lawyer who has made significant impact, taking into account the time you have been practicing and any notable obstacles that you have overcome.
- Non-fee earning, but work related activities, such as marketing, establishing new initiatives and broader contribution to the profession.

PI/CLINICAL NEGLIGENCE

This category is open to individual and team nominations. This award is specifically for those who have a practice in Personal Injury or Clinical Negligence and will be judged according to the following criteria:

- Demonstrable achievement in your area of practice and the capacity in which you were involved.
- Demonstrable dedication to your clients.
- Stand out from colleagues as a lawyer who has made a significant impact, taking into account notable obstacles that you have overcome.
- Demonstrable appreciation/recognition of your work by clients/colleagues.
- Non-fee earning, but work related activities, such as marketing, establishing new initiatives and broader contribution to the profession.



EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION CHAMPION AWARD (EDI)

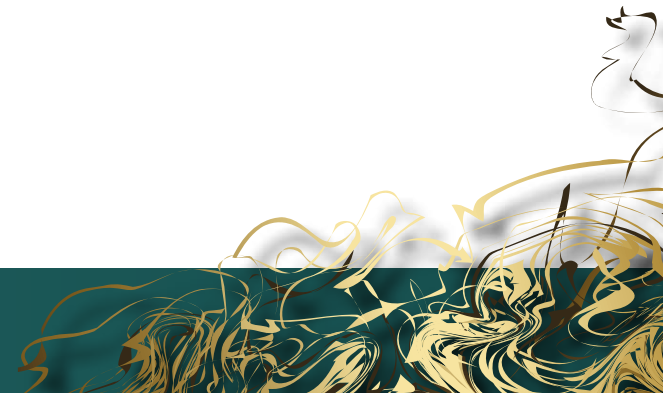
This category is to recognise and celebrate those individuals, teams and/or firms that are championing diversity and inclusion – whether through steps taken within the firm, in relation to those they work with and/or the wider community. This category is open to individual, team, or firm nominations. The award will be judged to the following criteria:

- Extent of contribution and commitment to the promotion of EDI initiatives at an organisational and/or wider level
- Demonstration of key actions, interventions and impact in relation to EDI
- Evidence of community engagement, including examples
- Engagement with industry initiatives and/or events that promote EDI in the sector
- Acting as a role model in building an inclusive culture for all, with honesty, integrity, impartiality and objectivity

PRO-BONO AWARD

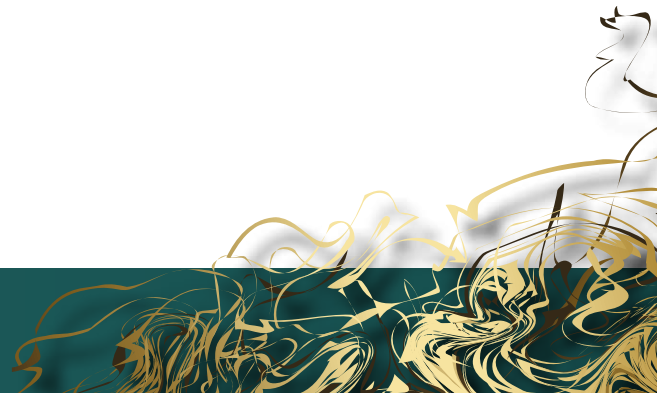
This category is open to individual and team nominations. The award will be judged to the following criteria:

- Demonstratable evidence of the firm promoting its pro-bono initiative.
- Evidence of raising awareness of what is available locally.
- Evidence of promoting pro-bono work giving an examples.
- Evidence of collaboration with other pro-bono providers.
- A proactive approach to tackling access to justice issues.
- Demonstrable dedication to your clients.
- Notable obstacles that you have overcome.



SUMMARY OF ALL AWARDS CATEGORIES

- Partner of the Year
 - Residential Property - Team or individual of the year
 - Commercial Property – Team or individual the Year
 - Employment – Team or individual of the year
 - Private Client – Team or individual of the year
 - Family Law – Team or individual of the Year
 - Criminal Law – Team or individual of the Year
 - Legal Aid – Team or individual of the Year
- Litigation & Dispute resolution – Team or individual of the year.
 - Costs – lawyer or team of the year
 - Niche Law Firm of the year
 - Rising Star of the Year
 - PI/Clinical Negligence – Team or individual of the Year
 - Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Champion Award (EDI)
 - Pro-Bono Award





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Also follow us on our social media for exciting updates about our upcoming events.



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