



## MINUTES FINAL

### 43<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Legal Services Regulatory Authority – Minutes (FINAL)

**Date:** 12 September 2024  
**Time:** 16:30 to 18:30  
**Location:** Kildare Street and University Club

#### Attendees:

Authority Members	Executive & Secretariat	Others
Eileen Barrington	Brian Doherty (CEO)	
Éilis Barry	Ultan Ryan (Secretary)	
Angela Black		
Geraldine Clarke		
Joan Crawford		
Shane Galligan		
Dermott Jewell		
Simon Murphy		
Síona Ryan		
Don Thornhill (Chairperson)		

Apologies: Sara Moorhead

The following members attended remotely:  
Éilis Barry, Angela Black, Síona Ryan

## Section 1 – Administration

### 1.0 General

- 1.1 Agenda adopted.
- 1.2 Declaration of Interests on agenda items. None raised.
- 1.3 Minutes of Authority meeting of 20 June 2024 approved.

Matters arising in Minutes dealt with in CEO Report.

## Section 2 – Governance

### **2.0 CEO Report (including update on Risk Register) and Review of Authority 2016-2024**

#### **2.1.1 CEO Report (including update on Risk Register)**

2.1.1 CEO Report provided updates on matters arising from Minutes of 20 June 2024 and highlighted activity and the Risk Register dashboard since the last Authority meeting. The following aspects of the report were discussed at the meeting:

##### **2.1.2 Recruitment and Staffing:**

The CEO provided a summary of staff changes since the last meeting and forthcoming changes. The CEO also flagged to the Authority that a submission on the review of the LSRA workforce would be issued to the Department of Justice and DPENDR once the funding position for the remainder of 2024 and for 2025 was clear.

##### **2.1.3 Anti-Money Laundering:**

The CEO updated the Authority on engagement between the LSRA and the Department of Justice and the Anti-Money Laundering Standing Committee of which the LSRA is an associate member. The Authority discussed the role of the LSRA in respect of AML in the legal sector and is to be kept updated on developments in the area for the next meeting. In terms of the potential impact of AML functions been assigned to the LSRA, the Executive to consider the addition of a risk to the Risk Register in respect of this.

##### **2.1.4 Risk Management:**

Risk Management update provided in CEO report and noted by the Authority. The following risk was discussed at the meeting:

The Risk register is to be reviewed by the Executive in early 2025 and the revised Register to be considered by the FAR Committee and then submitted to the Authority for approval.

2.1.5 Other matters dealt with under separate agenda items.

### **2.2 Review of Authority 2016-2024**

- 2.2.1 The CEO presented an overview of the activities and achievements of the LSRA since its establishment with effect from 1 October 2016 to date.

**3.0 Duly Authorised Register.**

The Authority approved a revision of the functions included in the Duly Authorised Register. These revisions related to staff other than the CEO dealing with matters relating to advertising regulation and the addition of functions in relation to the introduction of the framework for Legal Partnerships. In addition, staff changes since previous meeting were approved as listed in the Duly Authorised Register. The revised Duly Authorised Register was approved by Resolution of the Authority (see Appendix I.

**4.0 Update on FAR Committee.**

The Authority noted that the LSRA's Finance, Audit and Risk Committee (FARC) completed its full term on 12 July 2024. The Chairperson thanked the Authority members on the Committee and the external members for their work, in particular, the Chairperson of the Committee, Angela Black. A new FARC will need to be constituted and this will be a matter for consideration by the reconstituted Authority under its new Chairperson.

**5.0 External Assessment of the Authority's Governance Performance.**

The Authority completed an assessment of its Governance Performance through an external consultant between end 2023 and 2024. The report of the assessment was noted by the Authority and the Executive was tasked with putting an implementation plan in place to address the recommendations arising. An Authority self-assessment will be scheduled in 2025 once the new membership has been in place for a sufficient period of time.

## Section 3 – Finance

**6.0 Financial Reports:**

**6.1 Management Accounts for period ended 30 June 2024**

The Authority noted the LSRA Management Accounts at end June 2024.

**6.2 Update on levy**

The Authority noted the update report on the status of the Levy for the 2023 Financial Year.

## Section 4 – LSRA Policy and Implementation

**7.1 Updates on the Performance of the Complaints & Resolutions Department of the LSRA and on the Operation of the LPDT**

The CEO presented update reports, including statistical reports to the Authority in respect of the Complaints & Resolutions Department of the LSRA and on the operation of the LPDT.

**7.1 Update on the Performance of the Complaints & Resolutions Department**

The CEO provided an update to the Authority in relation to the development of a new Case Management System (CMS) for the LSRA Complaints & Resolutions function including engagement with the Project Management Office at the Department of Justice and the process for agreeing scope and costings.

The Authority noted the summary report and statistics in relation to complaints. Improvements in statistics have been achieved through additional resourcing and focused activity within the Complaints & Resolutions Department. The update included reference to activities to promote the use of mediation as early as possible in the process. The Authority noted the positive impact that an emphasis on resources and activity on early resolution of complaints was having. The CEO explained how the use of Case Officers has also proved beneficial in improving the timeliness and quality of decisions on complaints and further case officers will be recruited in due course.

In relation to the Inspections Function, the Authority was provided with an update on progress towards the establishment of an Inspections function, including a protocol and procedures for selection and engagement on inspections.

**7.2 Update on the Operation of the LPDT:**

The Authority was updated by the CEO on the operation of the Legal Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal (LPDT). To date in 2024, 17 applications have been received by the LPDT; nine applications have been received from the Law Society and eight from the LSRA. Inquiry hearing dates were held between June and August 2024 with a total of eight inquiry hearing days. Seventeen cases were considered over these hearing dates.

**8.0 Update on Legal Partnership Regulations and Associated Framework**

The CEO briefed the Authority on progress with the introduction of the framework for Legal Partnerships. The CEO confirmed that the LSRA Executive, with the assistance of Counsel, Fieldfisher and the LSRA's Legal Services, Levy & Registration Department, has developed the following four documents:

- a) a revised set of Legal Partnership Regulations under section 116(1)(a) of the 2015 Act in relation to the operation and management of legal partnerships;
- b) a revised set of Limited Liability Partnership Regulations under section 130 of the 2015 Act in relation to the operation of LLPs which now allows for Legal Partnerships to become LLPs;
- c) a revised set of Professional Indemnity Insurance Regulations under section 47 of the 2015 Act which includes minimum standards for the professional indemnity insurance for practising barristers and practising barristers in Legal Partnerships; and
- d) An updated Code of Practice for Practising Barristers under section 22 of the 2015 Act.

The CEO and Chairperson will sign the necessary regulations on 26 September 2024 and the regulations will come into operation on 26 September 2024.

The LSRA will launch legal partnerships at an event to be held on 8 October 2024.

#### **9.0 Update on the Barriers Report and the Section 16 Education and Training Committee:**

##### **Section 16 Education and Training Committee:**

- 9.1 The CEO explained to the Authority that, as required under section 16 of the Legal Services Regulation Act 2015 (the 2015 Act), a submission to the Minister for Justice has been prepared and submitted, with the approval of the Chairperson, on the fees and allowances payable to members of the section 16 Education and Training Committee.
- 9.2 The CEO further stated that LSRA Executive has engaged with officials from the Department of Justice and understands that the submission is currently being considered by the Minister. As section 16 requires both the approval of the Minister for Justice and the consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure, the submission has also been submitted to DPENDR for consideration.
- 9.3 The CEO explained that in parallel to this activity and in line with the agreed programme of work, two reports which will feed into the Committee have already been completed. The first report is a review (with recommendations) of the existing competency frameworks of the Law Society, the Honorable Society of King's Inns and the Bar of Ireland. The second report is a review of the 2015 Act with recommendations in respect of the Statutory Instrument required to establish the Legal Practitioners Education and Training (LPET) Committee). A further review will be commenced prior to the next Authority meeting in respect of the resources and funding required for the LPET Committee.

#### **Update on the “Barriers” Report**

- 9.4 The Authority noted that the LSRA Chairperson received correspondence from the Minister for Justice on 29 August 2024 accepting the recommendations made in the “Barriers” report and requesting that the LSRA prepare an implementation plan for the recommendations in the Report.
- 9.5 The CEO informed the Authority that the LSRA Executive has commenced work on the implementation plan which will be submitted to the Department prior to the 30<sup>th</sup> of September. The LSRA Executive understands that the Minister brought a Memorandum to Government on the “Barriers” report at the Government Meeting of 10 September 2024. The LSRA are engaging with the Department on the timing of the report being laid before the Houses and published shortly thereafter. The LSRA Executive intends to engage with key stakeholders including the professional bodies on the implementation plan and the publication of the report.

#### **10.0 Section 6 Review Report**

The Authority noted the update on the Section 6 review of the operation of the 2015 Act and agreed to the proposal that the Review Report will be circulated by email to Authority Members for approval prior to submission to the Minister.

#### **11.0 Closed Session**

The Secretary left the meeting for the closed session of the Authority.

#### **12.0 AOB**

No matters arising.

Action Points – Meeting of 12 September 2024	
Agenda Item	Action
1.3	<u>Minutes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes of 20 June 2024 approved.</li> <li>Secretary to arrange upload to LSRA website.</li> </ul>
2.1	<u>CEO Report:</u> <u>Standing Updates for next meeting on:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1.2 Recruitment and Staffing</li> <li>2.1.3 Anti-Money Laundering</li> <li>2.1.4 Update on Risk Register</li> </ul>
3.0	<u>Duly Authorised Register:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated Duly Authorised Register will be circulated prior to next Authority Meeting to reflect staff changes.</li> </ul>
4.0	<u>FAR Committee:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selection of new FARC. A matter for the new Authority to decide.</li> </ul>
5.0	<u>External Assessments of the Authority's Governance Performance:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Executive to update Authority on implementation plan arising from recommendations in the approved report.</li> </ul>
6.0	<u>Financial Reports:</u> Up to date Financial Reports to be provided for next Authority meeting. This to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Latest Management Accounts</li> <li>Update on Levy</li> </ul>
6.1	<u>Management Accounts:</u> Up to date Management Accounts to be presented to the Authority at its next meeting.
6.2	<u>Update on Levy Financial Position:</u> For inclusion as separate item or in CEO Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update on Levy process in 2024</li> <li>Update on Financial Position in 2024</li> </ul>
7.1	<u>Update on performance of Complaints and Resolutions Department:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update Authority on Complaints statistics and processing;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on performance activities for Complaints Department;</li> <li>• Update Authority on Advertising Regulation activities.</li> </ul>
7.2	<u>Update on the Performance of the LPDT</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on operation of the LPDT including Inquiries.</li> </ul>
8.0	<u>Legal Partnership Regulations and Codes:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on progress including commencement, implementation and launch.</li> </ul>
9.0	<u>Update on Barriers Report and the Section 16 Education and Training Committee:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on implementation plan for Barriers Report;</li> <li>• Update on establishment of Section 16 Education and Training Committee and LPET Committee.</li> </ul>
10.	<u>Section 6 Review of the Operation of the 2015 Act:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CEO to circulate draft Section 6 Report for approval of the Authority by email.</li> </ul>



**FINAL Minutes Signed**



**06/02/2025**

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Ultan Ryan, Secretary

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Date



**06/02/2025**

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Tom Boland, Chairperson

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Date

## **Appendix I**

### **Resolution of the Authority on revisions to the LSRA's Duly Authorised Register in respect of Advertising Regulation and the framework for Legal Partnerships**

Following a review of the LSRA's Duly Authorised Register and the Statement of Authorisations, the Executive has revised the text of the document to include specific detail on LSRA functions relating to Advertising Regulation and the introduction of Legal Partnerships.

The Authority by Resolution, approves the revised version of the Duly Authorised Register (and the staff as set out in the staff list as duly authorised under section 13(7) to perform the listed functions of the Authority).

**Proposed:** Dermott Jewell

**Seconded:** Geraldine Clarke

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ultan Ryan', with a stylized, cursive script.

**Signed by Secretary** Ultan Ryan

**Resolution passed on** 12 September 2024



An tÚdarás Rialála  
Seirbhísi Dlí  
Legal Services  
Regulatory Authority

**Duly Authorised Register**  
**Duly Authorising Members of Staff of the Authority to Carry out Functions on their Behalf**

*Pursuant to section 13 (7) and section 24(8) of the Legal Services Regulation Act 2015, and without prejudice to the resolution dated 15 November 2018 authorising the carrying out of certain of its functions by the Chief Executive Officer, the Legal Services Regulatory Authority has duly authorised the carrying out of the following functions assigned to the Authority under the Act to members of staff of the Authority in the Schedule below:*

<b>Section of the Act</b>	<b>Function</b>
Section 13(2)(e) Section 13(2)(j)	<p><i>Receive and investigate complaints under Part 6</i></p> <p><i>To perform any other functions conferred on it by this Act or by regulations made under it.</i></p> <p><i>*This includes any matters/functions arising under the Legal Services Regulation Act 2015 (Complaints Procedures) Regulations 2019, S.I. No. 573 of 2019.</i></p>
Section 13(2)(c) Section 13(2)(j)	<p><i>Specify the nature and minimum levels of professional indemnity insurance in accordance with sections 46 and 47</i></p> <p><i>To perform any other functions conferred on it by this Act or by regulations made under it.</i></p> <p>This includes any matters/functions arising under:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• S.I. No 572/2019 – Legal Services Regulation Act 2015 (Professional Indemnity Insurance) Regulations 2019, and/or</li> <li>• Legal Services Regulation Act 2015 (Professional Indemnity Insurance for Barristers) Regulations 2024 once made.</li> </ul>
Section 13(2)(j)	<p><i>To perform any other functions conferred on it by this Act or by regulations made under it.</i></p> <p>To perform any matters/functions arising under the <i>Legal Services Regulation Act 2015 (Advertising) Regulations 2020, S.I. No. 644 of 2020</i> which include the functions pursuant to Regulation 12 and Regulation 15 as follows:</p> <p>12.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) <i>The Authority may, whether following receipt of a complaint</i></p>

Section of the Act	Function
	<p><i>or on the Authority's own initiative, carry out an investigation in relation to any matter referred to in these Regulations, and in carrying out such an investigation shall consider whether, in its opinion, any particular advertisement published or caused to be published by a legal practitioner is in contravention of section 218 of the Act of 2015 or these Regulations.</i></p> <p><i>(b) Subject to subclause (i) and (ii) below, in conducting an investigation pursuant to clause (a) of this Regulation the Authority shall first notify the legal practitioner by letter (or letters) of the particulars of the matter to be investigated and any possible contravention and invite the legal practitioner to respond in writing, with their observations, to such letter (or letters) -</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>(i) in cases which the Authority considers urgent within 3 working days or such further or other period as the Authority may determine as appropriate in the circumstances; and</i></li> <li><i>(ii) in all other cases within ten working days or such further or other period as the Authority may determine as appropriate in the circumstances.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>(c) Following consideration of any response in writing by or on behalf of the legal practitioner concerned, or failing receipt of any such response within the timeframe specified or such further period as the Authority may allow, the Authority may decide to do one or more than one the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>(i) request further particulars from the legal practitioner;</i></li> <li><i>(ii) give notification in writing to the legal practitioner requesting the production or delivery to any person appointed by the Authority, at a time and place to be fixed by the Authority, of the documents referred to in Regulation 11(f);</i></li> <li><i>(iii) convene a meeting with the legal practitioner concerned to consider whether there has been a contravention of section 218 of the Act of 2015 or these Regulations;</i></li> </ul>

Section of the Act	Function
	<p>(iv) <i>proceed to determine whether, in the opinion of the Authority, there has been a contravention of section 218 of the Act of 2015 or these Regulations.</i></p> <p>(d) <i>Where the Authority proceeds to determine whether there has been a contravention of section 218 of the Act of 2015 or these Regulations, the Authority shall have regard, in particular, to:</i></p> <p>(i) <i>the response or responses (if any) of the legal practitioner whether provided in writing or at a meeting convened by the Authority (or both); and</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>any guidelines published by the Authority pursuant to the Regulations and which were in force at the time of publication.</i></p> <p>(e) <i>The Authority shall notify a legal practitioner where it forms the opinion that an advertisement is in contravention of section 218 of the Act of 2015 or these Regulations.</i></p> <p>(f) <i>The Authority shall give the legal practitioner such specified period of time as the Authority considers reasonable within which to restrict the publication of the advertisement or to take such further consequential or ancillary steps as the Authority may direct.</i></p> <p>(g) <i>Nothing in this Regulation shall prevent a legal practitioner where appropriate and reasonable in the particular circumstances to mitigate any contravention or alleged contravention of section 218 of the Act of 2015 or these Regulations by giving an undertaking in writing to the Authority that he or she will forthwith desist from such contravention or alleged contravention and not repeat it in the future.</i></p> <p>(h) <i>Where the Authority considers it necessary the Authority may make any application to the High Court as provided for by section 35 of the Act of 2015. In considering whether it is so necessary to apply the Authority may consider whether a legal practitioner:</i></p> <p>(i) <i>has complied with a notification given pursuant to clause (f) of this Regulation; or</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>has given an undertaking pursuant to clause (g) of</i></p>

Section of the Act	Function
	<p><i>this Regulation.</i></p> <p>(i) <i>For the avoidance of doubt, the Authority shall have the right to exercise its powers to make an application to the High Court pursuant to section 35 of the Act of 2015 at any time it considers necessary, otherwise than in strict accordance with the procedures set out in this Regulation.</i></p> <p>(j) <i>Where a letter or notification is required to be sent to a legal practitioner by or under these Regulations, it shall be in writing and shall be addressed to the legal practitioner concerned by name and, at the option of the Authority, shall be sent to the legal practitioner in one of the following ways:</i></p> <p>(i) <i>by sending it by means of electronic mail to the legal practitioner's electronic mail address, including an electronic mail address provided in the advertisement concerned; or</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>by sending it by ordinary pre-paid post to the address at which the legal practitioner ordinarily resides or carries on business or, in a case in which an address for correspondence has been provided, whether in the advertisement concerned or otherwise, to that address.</i></p> <p>15.</p> <p><i>The Authority may from time to time, as appropriate, publish guidelines for the guidance of legal practitioners in relation to the publication of advertisements.</i></p> <p><i>*The function of the Authority under Regulations 12 of the Legal Services Regulation Act 2015 (Advertising) Regulations 2020, S.I. No. 644 of 2020, will be performed by the CEO by -</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>any Complaint and Resolution Officer ('CRO'),</i></li> <li>• <i>the Head of the Complaints and Resolutions Unit,</i></li> <li>• <i>the Head of the Complaints, Investigations and Resolutions Department, or</i></li> <li>• <i>any Case Officers -</i></li> </ul> <p><i>from time to time appointed. For the avoidance of any doubt, where the CEO performs the function under Regulation 12 he may be assisted in his performance of this function by any member of staff in the Schedule attached.</i></p>

Section of the Act	Function
	<p>The function of the Authority under Regulation 15 of the <i>Legal Services Regulation Act 2015 (Advertising) Regulations 2020, S.I. No. 644 of 2020</i>, will be performed by the CEO only unless or until such time as the Authority decides otherwise. For the avoidance of any doubt, the CEO may be assisted in his performance of this functions by any member of staff in the Schedule attached.</p>
Section 35	<p><i>(1) Where, on the application of the Authority, it is shown to the satisfaction of the High Court –</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>(a) that a legal practitioner or any other person has contravened, is contravening or is likely to contravene any provision of this Act or regulations made under it, or</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>(b) that a legal practitioner who is a solicitor, or any other person has contravened, is contravening or is likely to contravene any provision of the Solicitors Acts 1954 to 2015 or regulations made under those Acts,</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>the Court may by order prohibit the legal practitioner or other person concerned from contravening that provision, notwithstanding that any such contravention may constitute an offence.</i></p> <p><i>(2) An order under subsection (1) may contain such provisions of a consequential nature as the Court considers appropriate.</i></p> <p><i>*Any decision to apply to Court for an Order under section 35 of the Act will be made by the CEO only unless or until such time as the Authority decides otherwise.</i></p>
Section 51(4)	<p><i>An officer of the Authority, having considered an interim report or a report of an inspector under Part 3, may make a complaint under sub-section (2) in respect of the legal practitioner concerned</i></p>
Section 54 Withdrawal of complaint under Part 6	<p><i>(1) Where a complaint made in accordance with this Part is withdrawn, the Authority may, notwithstanding the withdrawal, where it considers it to be in the public interest to do so, proceed or, as the case may be, continue to deal with the complaint in accordance with this Part.</i></p> <p><i>(2) The Authority shall notify the complainant and the legal practitioner concerned where it decides under subsection (1) to continue or proceed to deal with a complaint.</i></p>
Section 57	<p><i>(1) Where the Authority receives a complaint under this Part, it shall conduct a preliminary review of the complaint to determine whether or not the complaint is admissible.</i></p>

<b>Section of the Act</b>	<b>Function</b>
<i>Preliminary Review of complaints.</i>	<p>(2) <i>The Authority, for the purpose of its preliminary review under subsection (1), shall notify the legal practitioner concerned of the complaint, which notification shall request the legal practitioner to respond to the Authority, within such reasonable period as is specified in the notification, with his or her observations on the complaint.</i></p> <p>(3) <i>A notification under subsection (2) shall be accompanied by a copy of the complaint and any documents relating to the complaint that are submitted by the complainant.</i></p> <p>(4) <i>The Authority, for the purpose of determining whether a complaint is admissible under section 58, may request from the complainant or the legal practitioner further information relating to the complaint.</i></p> <p>(5) <i>The Authority, having considered the response (if any) of the legal practitioner to the notification under subsection (2) and any information received under subsection (4), shall, in accordance with section 58, determine that the complaint is—</i>  <i>(a) admissible,</i>  <i>(b) inadmissible, or</i>  <i>(c) one to which section 58(6) applies.</i></p> <p>(6) <i>The Authority shall notify the complainant and the legal practitioner concerned of its determination under this section and of the reasons for its determination.</i></p> <p>(7) <i>Where the Authority makes a determination referred to in subsection (5)(b), it shall take no further action under this Part in relation to the complaint.</i></p>
<i>Section 58 Admissibility of complaints</i>	<p><b>58.</b> (1) <i>This section applies to a preliminary review conducted under section 57 by the Authority to determine whether or not a complaint is admissible.</i></p> <p>(2) <i>The Authority shall determine a complaint to be inadmissible, if in the opinion of the Authority the complaint is—</i>  <i>(a) frivolous or vexatious, or</i>  <i>(b) without substance or foundation.</i></p> <p>(3) <i>The Authority shall determine a complaint to be inadmissible where it is satisfied that the act or omission to which the complaint relates is the same or substantially the same act or omission as that which was the subject matter of a complaint in respect of that legal practitioner which was previously determined under this Act.</i></p>



Section of the Act	Function
	<p>(4) <i>The Authority shall determine a complaint that is made in respect of a solicitor to be inadmissible where it is satisfied that the act or omission to which the complaint relates is—</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>(a) the same or substantially the same act or omission as that which was the subject matter of a complaint in respect of that solicitor which was previously determined under the Solicitors Acts 1954 to 2015—</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>(i) by the High Court, or</i></li> <li><i>(ii) by the Law Society or any of its Committees or Tribunals, or</i></li> </ul> </li> <li><i>(b) the same or substantially the same act or omission as that which was the subject of civil proceedings or criminal proceedings in respect of which a final determination of the issues has been made by the court in those proceedings in favour of the solicitor concerned.</i></li> </ul> <p>(5) <i>The Authority shall determine a complaint that is made in respect of a barrister to be inadmissible where it is satisfied that the act or omission to which the complaint relates is—</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>(a) the same or substantially the same act or omission as that which was the subject matter of a complaint in respect of that barrister which was previously determined by the Barristers’ Professional Conduct Tribunal or the Honorable Society of King’s Inns, or</i></li> <li><i>(b) the same or substantially the same act or omission as that which was the subject of civil proceedings or criminal proceedings in respect of which a final determination of the issues has been made by the court in those proceedings in favour of the barrister concerned.</i></li> </ul> <p>(6) <i>(a) Where the Authority is satisfied that the act or omission to which a complaint relates is the subject of civil proceedings or criminal proceedings in respect of which a final determination of the issues has not been made by the court in those proceedings, the Authority may defer consideration under this Part of the complaint until the proceedings have been finally determined.</i></p> <p><i>(b) Where the Authority is satisfied that the act or omission to which a complaint relates has been investigated by a court in civil proceedings or criminal proceedings and that a final determination of the issues which are, in substance, the issues involved in the complaint has been made by the court in those proceedings in favour of the legal practitioner concerned, the Authority may decide to take no action or no further action in relation to the complaint.</i></p>

Section of the Act	Function
	<p><i>(c) Proceedings shall not be regarded as finally determined for the purposes of paragraph (a) or (b) until any appeal, rehearing or retrial in relation to those proceedings has been determined.</i></p> <p><i>(7) The Authority shall determine a complaint under section 51(1) to be inadmissible where it is satisfied that the complaint was made more than 3 years after the later of the following:</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>(a) the date on which the legal services concerned were provided or the bill of costs concerned was issued; or</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>(b) the date on which the client first became aware, or ought reasonably to have become aware, that it would be reasonable to consider that paragraph (a) or (b) of section 51(1) applied in respect of the legal practitioner concerned.</i></p> <p><i>(8) In reckoning any period of time for the purposes of the limitation period under subsection (7), the period between the date of receipt of a complaint by the body referred to in subsection (1) or (2) of section 52 and the making, on invitation by the Authority under section 52(3), of a complaint under section 51 in respect of the act or omission concerned, shall be disregarded.</i></p> <p><i>(9) Where the Authority does not determine a complaint to be inadmissible under this section, it shall determine the complaint to be admissible.</i></p> <p><i>(10) In this section, “Barristers’ Professional Conduct Tribunal” means the body of that name constituted in accordance with the Disciplinary Code for the Bar of Ireland.</i></p>
<p><i>Section 59</i>  <i>Authority may request Law Society to investigate matter relevant to complaint</i></p>	<p><i>Authority may request the Law Society to carry out an investigation under the Solicitor Acts 1954 to 2015 into any matter that is relevant to the complaint</i></p>
<p><i>Section 60</i>  <i>Authority to facilitate resolution of complaints made under this Part relating to</i></p>	<p><i>The Authority to facilitate resolution of a s. 51(1)(a) complaint made under this part relating to inadequate services</i></p>

<b>Section of the Act</b>	<b>Function</b>
<i>inadequate services</i>	
<i>Section 61 Authority to facilitate resolution of complaints made under this Part relating to excessive costs</i>	<i>Authority to facilitate resolution of a s. 51(1)(b) complaint made under this part relating to excessive costs</i>
<i>Section 64 Authority to offer assistance in resolving matter in dispute where it appears that conduct could constitute misconduct</i>	<i>Authority to offer assistance in resolving a matter in dispute where it appears that the conduct could constitute misconduct, within the meaning of 50(1) (b).</i>
<i>Section 68 Authority to refer complaints relating to misconduct to Complaints Committee</i>	<i>The Authority shall refer a complaint under section 51(2) to the Complaints Committee where the client and legal practitioner concerned do not succeed in resolving a matter in accordance with section 64.</i>
<i>Section 117 Authority to maintain register of legal partnerships and multi-disciplinary practices</i>  <i>Section 13(2)(j)</i>	<p><b>(1)</b> <i>The Authority shall maintain a register of –</i>  <i>(a) Legal partnerships that have notified it in accordance with section 104(1)(a)...</i></p> <p><b>(2)</b> <i>Where a legal partnership.... referred to in subsection (1) notifies the Authority in accordance with section 104(2)(a)... the Authority shall remove the name of that legal partnership.... from the register referred to in that subsection.</i></p> <p><i>To perform any other functions conferred on it by this Act or by regulations made under it.</i></p>

<b>Section of the Act</b>	<b>Function</b>
	<i>*This includes any matters/functions arising under the Legal Services Regulation Act 2015 (Legal Partnership) Regulations 2024 once made.</i>
Section 126 Authority to maintain register of limited liability partnerships	<p><i>(1) The Authority shall establish and maintain a register (in this section referred to as the “register”) of limited liability partnerships</i></p> <p><i>To perform any other functions conferred on it by this Act or by regulations made under it.</i></p> <p><i>*This includes any matters/functions arising under:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Legal Services Regulation Act 2015 (Limited Liability Partnerships) (Section 130) Regulations 2019 (S.I. No. 519/2019) and</i></li> <li><i>• Legal Services Regulation Act 2015 (Limited Liability Partnerships) Regulations 2024 once made.</i></li> </ul>
Section 133. Roll of practising barristers	<p><b>(1)</b> <i>The Authority shall—</i></p> <p><i>(a) set up and maintain a roll of practising barristers (in this Part referred to as the “roll”), and</i></p> <p><i>(b) within six months of the commencement date, enter on the roll the name of, and additional information in respect of, every person who is, on the commencement date, a practising barrister.</i></p> <p><b>(2)</b> <i>The Authority shall make a copy of the roll available at its principal office during normal working hours to members of the public for inspection free of charge.</i></p> <p><b>(5)</b> <i>The Authority may, having regard to the objectives specified in section 13(4), prescribe additional information in relation to the professional qualifications and areas of expertise of the practising barrister concerned that is to be contained in an entry on the roll.</i></p>
Section 135. Variation of entry on roll	<p><b>(1)</b> <i>The Authority shall remove the name of a person from the roll—</i></p> <p><b>(a)</b> <i>where the High Court makes an order under section 85(7)(e) that the person’s name be struck off the roll, where section 96(3) applies in respect of that person,</i></p> <p><b>(b)</b> <i>on application to it under subsection (3) by the person concerned,</i></p> <p><b>(c)</b> <i>on the death of that person, where the Authority has received a certified copy, referred to in subsection (4), of the entry in the register of deaths concerning that person.</i></p>

**12 September 2024**