# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- **Report of the President**
- **Council of the Law Society**
- **Report of the Director General**
- **Parchment ceremonies 2014**
- **Facts about the profession**
- **Reports of the Department Directors**
- **Have I Got News For You**

### Reports of the Law Society Committees

#### Standing Committees
- Complaints and Client Relations Committee
- Coordination Committee
- Education Committee
- Finance Committee
- Money-Laundering Reporting Committee
- Professional Indemnity Insurance Committee
- Regulation of Practice Committee

#### Non-Standing Committees
- Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee
- Business Law Committee
- Conveyancing Committee
- Criminal Law Committee
- Curriculum Development Unit
- Employment and Equality Law Committee
- EU and International Affairs Committee
- Family and Child Law Committee
- Gazette Editorial Board
- Guidance and Ethics Committee
- Human Rights Committee
- In-House and Public Sector Committee
- Intellectual Property Law Committee
- Litigation Committee
- Probate, Administration and Trusts Committee
- Public Relations Committee
- Taxation Committee
- Technology Committee

### Top ten achievements of 2013/2014

### List of committees and members

### Financial statements of the Law Society of Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2013

### Law Society of Ireland Compensation Fund reports and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2013

### Law Society personnel
“The Strategy Statement 2014-2018 brings our vision, mission and values to life in the form of six strategic objectives, with a strapline that states that we are proud of our tradition – and prepared for the future”
I had the good fortune to have the Future of the Law Society Task Force Report to shape my agenda for the past year. The report was based on a survey of the profession that showed that members wanted better representation and better communication.

The report contained 31 recommendations, and I am pleased to say that 29 have been considered and acted upon. The momentum that has built up behind the changes will ensure that the Society continues to become more service orientated in the coming years. The balance between regulation and representation has begun to shift in favour of representation.

We have beefed up our representational role, and the new Policy and Public Affairs Department has, to date, made 24 submissions to Government and other bodies. These submissions are strong, evidence-based, well-researched, and well-argued discussions of the issues they address.

In particular, we made very solid submissions against courthouse closures and proposed significant reform of the judicial appointments process. I am happy to report that we are gaining traction in this area, with the announcement that the Dublin courts reorganisation will not now go ahead. It remains to be seen how effective we will be elsewhere – and in changing the judicial appointments process – but the fight goes on.
Finding our voice

We have explored the use of new forms of communication to improve interaction with our members and the general public. Better communication was a specific requirement of the members’ survey.

To that end, we launched our social media strategy in May. You can now tweet, ‘like’, and follow the Law Society of Ireland online, and I would urge all members to get involved.

One of the main initiatives taken within the Society was led by the Representation and Member Services Department, with the development the ‘tone-of-voice’ guidelines.

This project was intended to ensure that everybody who interacts with the Society would be met with an appropriate tone of voice. To reflect a more service-oriented organisation, the department refreshed the Law Society brand and introduced a new logo. This fresh look and sound more accurately represent the profession and the Society as they truly are – modern, dynamic and forward looking.

The way forward

A Society-wide strategy statement has also been developed to help shape our direction for the next four years. The Strategy Statement 2014-2018 brings our vision, mission and values to life in the form of six strategic objectives, with a strapline that states that we are proud of our tradition – and prepared for the future.

Celebrated social justice campaigner Fr Peter McVerry was the guest speaker at the parchment ceremony on 8 May 2014. He told the newly qualified solicitors: “It is a very important role you have in making this society a more just one. The greatest happiness in life is in giving to others. It is the taking up of the cause of those who are poor and marginalised that will give you the most pleasure.” (From l to r): Mr Justice Michael Peart, Law Society President John P Shaw, Fr Peter McVerry SJ and director general Ken Murphy (pic: Jason Clarke Photography)

“We have explored the use of new forms of communication to improve interaction with our members and the general public”
It also incorporates an annual operational plan for the next 12 months. The performance of the Society will be measured annually against these strategic objectives and will be driven by a new annual plan each year to ensure that there will be no slippage in seeking to achieve the objectives of the strategic plan.

During my term of office, I was lucky to get the opportunity to lead the Society at a time in which many changes have been made. This was done with huge effort and enthusiasm on the part of the staff at Blackhall Place, in particular deputy director general Mary Keane and her team, who provided the wherewithal to make it happen.

Newcomers to the Law Society have been most effective in achieving their brief and have brought us a freshness of approach and a new way of thinking about communications, and I welcome and thank Teri Kelly and her team.

Change can be very threatening, and I am grateful to director general Ken Murphy for keeping a calm head and steering these changes through in the most sensitive way.

Thanks also to my colleagues on the Council who, to a man and woman, were hugely supportive of this change of direction.

I could not have dedicated so much time to the presidency without the support of my partners and colleagues at Michael Houlihan and Partners, Ennis, and I thank them for that.

Last, and by no means least, I am grateful to my wife Mary Nolan and my three daughters Hannah, Ellen and Julie for all their support and encouragement during the year, and for keeping my feet on the ground.

These changes are only beginning, and I have no doubt that our incoming president, Kevin O’Higgins, will pursue the strategic objectives with his usual energy and enthusiasm during his term. I wish him every success in that regard.

JOHN P SHAW,
President
Increased representation has really been the cornerstone of much of your Law Society’s work over the past 12 months. This was called for in the now almost 100% implemented *Report and Recommendations of the Future of the Law Society Task Force*, which was adopted by the Council of the Law Society in mid-2013. That report, in its executive summary (based on a comprehensive survey of opinion in the solicitors’ profession) called for the Society “to defend the profession, promote the public image of the profession, develop the Society’s proactive lobbying and law reform agenda, as well as proactively representing the profession”. It went on to specify how this should be done, and the blueprint of that report has been followed.

It was a perfect symmetry that the chair of that task force, the calm and considerate John P Shaw, served as president this year. He performed an outstanding leadership role in ensuring that the recommendations of the task force were implemented practically and embraced passionately.
As a result, we have completely re-thought and redeveloped the way we represent our members. The establishment of separate departments of Policy and Public Affairs and of Representation and Member Services is just one of the ways we are providing our members with what they want – more and better representation, communication, and promotion of the solicitors’ profession.

**Key commitments**

Representing our members’ interests – and indeed the interests of the public – in the legislation and policymaking arena, the new Policy and Public Affairs Department is producing high-quality submissions on a regular basis.

For example, a substantial number of detailed submissions were made, and meetings held in the course of the year, with two successive Ministers for Justice and their officials in relation to the Legal Services Regulation Bill – a bill that was first published as far back as October 2011. Both of these ministers have publicly welcomed the Society’s constructive engagement, which has led to a great many significant improvements in the bill.

One of the key commitments secured from Government, after a great deal of lobbying at official level and face-to-face with a succession of Ministers for Justice, is the commitment to introduce limited liability partnerships as a model for solicitors’ firms who wish to avail of it. Although the final form of this will only be seen when the drafting is completed and the necessary amendments to the bill introduced (probably in the Seanad), this is a major modernising step for which the Society has been calling formally since 2001.

**Issues of fairness and justice**

Building on the existing levels of media engagement, the Law Society has been to the fore – on air and in print – on issues of fairness and justice, representing the interests of both our members and the general public.

For example, we were first out publicly, on Morning Ireland and elsewhere, on the Courts Service’s plans to close four Dublin courthouses – plans that were unprecedented in their scale and completely unjustifiable, given the enormous number of citizens who would have been negatively affected. We were also first to welcome the announcement that, at least in part due to the Society’s lobbying, the closures will not now go ahead. A decision taken at the September Council meeting to declare ourselves opposed in principle to any further closures reflects our belief that the rationalisation of the Courts Service has now gone beyond the rational and threatens the fabric of the justice system.

“*We have completely re-thought and redeveloped the way we represent our members*”
In April, we learned that telephone conversations to and from a large number of garda stations were taped over a period of decades. Responding immediately, we sought a statutory commission of investigation in a letter to the Taoiseach, including a list of 41 issues for inclusion in the commission’s terms of reference. We now await the conclusion of the Fennelly Commission’s inquiries into this most serious breach of privileged solicitor/client conversations.

**Major breakthrough**

Also involving garda stations, there was a major breakthrough in the protection of the rights of individuals being interrogated in garda custody. In early May 2014, the Director of Public Prosecutions issued a notice to the effect that persons undergoing questioning in garda stations should be allowed have their solicitor present during the questioning, if they so requested. This brought Ireland into line with the practice in many other common law countries, including Britain and the United States, and with emerging jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights. The Society made the concerns of solicitors in relation to the need for fair and economic payments for this new service known to officials of the Department of Justice and to the minister – with a positive result, in that the amount of the scheme eventually decided on by the minister was much improved on what had originally been indicated, as the Department itself acknowledged in writing.

We are continuing the work of ensuring that claimants and their solicitors are not left high and dry in the wake of the collapse of Setanta Insurance. We have also been vocal on the judicial appointments process, again on Morning Ireland and elsewhere, calling for radical reform, including depoliticisation of the process and an end to the glass ceiling for solicitors in appointments to the High Court.

An issue of concern for a number of years has been the delay in the system for taxation of costs, which has very serious and damaging impacts on both parties in litigation and their solicitors. In 2013, the Society wrote to then Minister
Shatter pointing out the seriousness of this problem and requesting the introduction of a third taxing master to alleviate it. The Society continued to lobby for this in 2014 at every level, including face-to-face with Minister for Justice Fitzgerald and, in July 2014, the Society was joined as an amicus curiae in a set of proceedings involving the taxing master, Rowena Mulcahy, so that major concerns affecting the public interest and that of the solicitors’ profession could be brought to the attention of the court when the issues in these proceedings, which include delays in the taxation process, come to trial.

Those are just some examples of the way in which we, as a Society, listened to the concerns and wishes of our members. We have increased our representative capacity and strengthened our lobbying and policy team. Backed up by a complete refresh of the Law Society’s brand and image, this shows the great strides we have taken to ensure that we are ready and able to meet the challenges of the present and the future, while taking pride in the traditions and achievements of our past.

I am proud to be a solicitor. I am sure you are too. We are members of a profession overwhelmingly characterised by excellence and integrity, and with legitimate interests, together with vital public interests, well represented by your Law Society.

Ken Murphy,
Director General
The three amigos: At the parchment ceremony on 8 May 2014 were (l to r): Barry O’Sullivan, Robert Vard and Ronan Lennon (All photos: Jason Clarke Photography)

Wayne Kenny (Malahide, Co Dublin), Anne Harkin (Clonmany, Co Donegal) and John Bollard (Terenure, Dublin) at the parchment ceremony on 26 June 2014.

Hands up for a fab dad: Warren Bolger’s children showed their support for their daddy at his parchment ceremony on 26 June 2014. (From l to r): Fleur (3), Blaise (10 months), Warren and Reuben (5)

In the picture: David Flood (Terenure, Dublin) and Gavin FitzGerald (Blackrock, Co Dublin)
Yes Minister: This group of newly qualified solicitors shared their excitement with Minister for Justice Frances Fitzgerald at their June parchment ceremony.

On the fence: Philippa Mangan, Aisling Carey, Elizabeth Kiely and Claire O’Brien (all from Arthur Cox) at their parchment ceremony on 17 July.

Matheson marvels: Nicola Sammon, Sinéad Kenny and Sandra Moran received their parchments at Blackhall Place on 17 July 2014.

Cecelia Joyce (Arthur Cox) is congratulated by her parents, Maureen and Jimmy Joyce, at the parchment ceremony on 17 July 2014.
### FACTS ABOUT THE PROFESSION

**Gender balance (members)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>5,057</td>
<td>5,184</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>5,184</td>
<td>5,057</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10,241</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Age profile of members**

**Practising status**

- **Law firms**: 7,389
- **Corporate**: 1,447
- **State**: 306
- **Abroad**: 40
- **Not practising**: 1,059

**Gender 20-29**: 741, **30-39**: 3,851, **40-49**: 2,530, **50-59**: 1,850, **60-69**: 885, **70-79**: 175, **80-89**: 58, **90-99**: 2, **n/a**: 149

**Female**: 51%, **Male**: 49%
WHERE ARE WE IN PRACTICE?

Dublin: 5,364
Leinster: 1,010
Munster: 1,634
Connaught: 603
Ulster: 312
Total: 8,923
DIRECTORS’ REPORTS

- Policy and Public Affairs
- Representation and Member Services
- Education
- Regulation
- Finance and Administration
The Policy and Public Affairs Department was established as a stand-alone department from 1 January 2014, arising from a need for a strengthening of the Society’s lobbying, law reform, research, and policy development functions identified in the Report of the Future of the Law Society Task Force.

Recommendation 2 of the report calls on the Society to “develop its proactive lobbying and law reform agenda to encompass matters of interest to the profession and the broader public interest”.

Recommendation 22 urges the Society “to develop its capacity for strategic thinking and thought leadership in-house, in order to (a) provide vital support and information to the Society’s lobbying and law reform functions, (b) enable the provision of enhanced practice notes and guidance for the profession and (c) provide the resources to participate meaningfully in the consultation process for the reports that the Legal Services Regulatory Authority will be statutorily required to complete”.

The new department meets these objectives by:
- Coordinating the Society’s work in the policy and public affairs areas,
- Coordinating the work of the Society’s specialist advisory committees and task forces, with oversight from the Coordination Committee,
- Providing a policy research resource for the Coordination Committee and the Council,
- Providing a lobbying and public affairs resource for the officers, committees and task forces,
- Overseeing the implementation of the recommendations of the Future of the Law Society Task Force, and
- Managing the Society’s eConveyancing Project.

Examples of policy research and development in the first nine months of 2014 include the Society’s submissions on:
- The procedures for the appointment of judges,
- The proposed reorganisation of the Dublin District Courts,
- Preliminary research on the studies to be conducted by the Legal Services Regulatory Authority into unification of the solicitors’ and barristers’ professions and multi-disciplinary practices, and
- Various aspects of the Fourth Anti-Money-Laundering Directive to the CCBE and the Departments of Justice and Finance.

The public affairs function involves relationship-building with Government, NGOs and public servants, advice to committees and task forces on how to maximise the impact of Society submissions, monitoring the Government’s legislative programme, and tracking the effectiveness of Law Society representations. The department also assists with the appearance by Society representatives before Oireachtas committees.

In the first nine months of 2014, Society representatives attended seven Oireachtas hearings, and 24 submissions were made to Government departments and agencies. Continuous updates are provided on the publication of bills, EU developments, parliamentary questions, department publications, and the Oireachtas’s weekly agenda. Contact has been established with the public affairs function in the neighbouring law societies, the research personnel of all political parties, and the EU representative office in Dublin.

In addition, the Society has commissioned an independent economic evaluation of the contribution of the solicitors’ profession to the Irish economy.
This year, the Law Society has been reorienting itself to ensure we give our members what they want from their membership organisation. The Millward Brown ‘Have Your Say’ survey showed that our members want more and better representation, regular communication, and active defence of the profession in the media. The Department of Representation and Member Services was established this year to help do just that. The department comprises the communications functions of the Society, including web and social media, as well as the Gazette, library and Support Services.

The Law Society established a press office in 2014 and has continued to engage with media on both a reactive and proactive basis. We have met challenges to the organisation’s and profession’s reputations head-on, with a strong campaign following the sentencing of Thomas Byrne. We have also sought to represent the profession’s interests, with campaigns against widespread court closures and the garda-station tapes revelations.

We made a big change to the Society’s image in 2014, with a complete refresh of our brand and logo. The new brand was designed to reflect an organisation and profession that is dynamic, respected, and forward looking.

But we didn’t just change the way we look, we also changed the way we sound with the launch of our new ‘tone-of-voice’ guidelines, which were complemented by training. The guidelines will improve the way we write and speak to our members and the public and make all of our communications courteous and respectful, clear and concise, and of service.

We have also developed more and better ways to communicate online. This year, we launched a redesigned website with improved navigation and search. Visitors to the website increased 28% this year, to 490,000 unique visitors and 7.9 million page views.

We entered social media in a big way, with a presence on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. These tools help us engage directly with our members and the public, and we have committed to responding to queries via social media within four working hours.

We have continued to innovate to create member services that are relevant to our members. This year, Support Services established the ‘Resolve’ and ‘Match Up’ initiatives aimed at assisting more senior solicitors, and solicitors in regional areas, gain employment. Also, the library issued its first LawWatch newsletter, which is a weekly service updating members on judgments, legislation and journal articles.

Amid all this change, one thing has stayed the same – the Gazette continues to receive multiple awards and accolades, including this year’s ‘Business to Business Magazine of the Year’ and ‘Cover of the Year’ awards by Magazines Ireland.
For the first time since 2006, the number of trainees starting their professional training with the Law Society has increased. In 2006, a total of 668 new training contracts were registered. This fell to 353 trainees in 2013. For the 2014 PPC1 year, we have enrolled 388 trainees – a 10% increase on 2013. This is the first increase in trainee numbers since 2006. Most of the new training contracts are from firms in the Dublin region.

Highlights of the year included a series of Law Society successes in international legal skills competition. Emma Farrell and Sean O’Connor won the International Client Consultation Competition. A team came third in the International Environmental Moot Court Competition, while our team in the Telders International Law Moot Court Competition got awards for best speaker in the competition (Shane O’Connor) and best written argument. Other teams received awards in the Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition and the International Mediation Competition.

This year has seen the introduction of iPads as a mechanism for delivering course materials for both PPC1 and 2. A number of educational training courses were offered to the 1,500 solicitors who lecture and tutor for us, and more are planned.

The Diploma Centre is flourishing. Over 800 attendees participated in 26 diploma and certificate courses in the year under review. Two free online courses were offered in Social Media and the Law, and an Introduction to Aviation Leasing and Finance. The latter was the first massive open online course (MOOC) offered by an Irish educational institution. Over 900 participants from over 40 countries took part.

Professional training recorded the largest number of solicitors to attend CPD events since 2007. One of the year’s highlights was the series of very successful regional cluster conferences that ran nationwide. These were run in association with the local bar associations. These low-cost events were made possible by the funding obtained from Skillnet.

As a result of these increasing demands, two new large teaching spaces in the Education Centre were completed in late 2013. These new rooms – the James O’Sullivan Room and the Dominic Dowling Room – have been named in honour of these two notable contributors to the Society’s Education Centre. Work is currently under way on the Green Hall to add a moot court room, three large teaching rooms, a study area and ancillary offices.
A strong focus has been put on compliance with the Solicitors Advertising Regulations. Practice notes have been issued. Action is taken against breaches. This can include injunction applications and disciplinary proceedings.

Complaints by financial institutions about undertakings continue, but with a marked decline in frequency. This reinforces the view that this phenomenon is now, to a significant extent, a historical problem.

The Law Society continues to maintain the ‘Find a Firm’ and ‘Find a Solicitor’ online search facilities on its website. These allow public access to firms’ professional indemnity insurance (PII) information. Work to improve the common proposal form continues.

The practice closures section continued its important work of returning clients’ files back to them, or their new solicitors, following the closure of a practice. We only become involved where closure results from regulatory action and alternative arrangements for sale or wind-up are not possible.

Regulatory litigation volumes remain high. In 2013, the Law Society made 137 applications to the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal. A total of 249 orders were made by the High Court under the Solicitors Acts.

For the first time, evidence was given by video-link in Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal proceedings. This was done to accommodate an elderly couple in Co Donegal who could not travel. The arrangement worked very well.

Significant efforts have been made to engage with the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal to change the tribunal rules to reduce avoidable delays. So far, there have been no definitive developments. If appropriate, we will return to this initiative.

There continue to be some reports of fake solicitors’ firms. It is a criminal offence to pretend to be a solicitor. Such matters are reported to An Garda Síochána.

We continue to liaise with the Law Society’s Career Support service to assist solicitors seeking employment. This includes a practising certificate fee waiver scheme.

The Regulation Department has participated enthusiastically in developments initiated by the Future of the Law Society Task Force. This included the rebranding and tone-of-voice projects.

We have commenced a fundamental review of information technology used in the regulatory process. Our objective is to achieve, in time, a major step-up in harnessing the potential benefits of technology.

I addressed the Law Society Annual Conference on ‘Regulation compliance – best practice update’. This focused on everyday issues – mostly matters that affect all firms, including both perennial and topical issues.

A large amount of work is being done to monitor the Legal Services Regulation Bill 2011, which commenced report stage in July 2014. We continue to liaise with, and make submissions to, the Department of Justice and Equality on the bill.
During the past 12 months, the department has focused on providing internal services, infrastructure and support to the departments providing our core business functions of representation, education and regulation. Of course, we also stayed focused on cost reduction, value for money, process improvement, and protecting the Society’s financial assets.

While the Society’s income (excluding the compensation fund) in 2013 – at €22.1m – was marginally lower than the previous year, 2014 has brought a significant increase in income due to rising practising certificate numbers (plus 4%) and a 10% increase in PPC1 numbers. General activities account for 62% of income – education the remaining 38%. All of this income is managed to ensure that members receive value for money through a rigorous budgeting process, detailed monitoring throughout the year, and an annual five-year plan review. Notable improvements in the last 12 months include reduced pension costs, an increase in interest and investment returns, and continued improvement in the performance of the Society’s commercial activities.

In April 2014, the sale-and-leaseback arrangement on the Education Centre (put in place in 2000) was successfully terminated, leaving a small excess of funds available for projects that will benefit members and students. A revised investment strategy should improve the return on the Society’s financial assets.

The finance section supported the Finance Committee in carrying out a major strategic review of the Society’s finances, covering general, education, and compensation fund activities, to ensure the availability of resources to support the Society’s Strategy Statement 2014-2018.

The finance area underwent some major changes during the year, including an upgrade of the Society’s finance system, a move to departmental accounting, becoming SEPA-ready, and a move to electronic payments. The department is also playing an important role, insofar as it can, to minimise the set-up and running cost of the proposed Legal Services Regulatory Authority, in order to minimise its impact on the practising certificate fee.

The department put in place a highly competitive financing scheme for tax, pensions, professional indemnity insurance, and practising certificate costs, and there was a very good take-up of the 2013/14 scheme. The Group Life Scheme, which provides cover of €58k, was re-brokered. The redemption of the Blackhall Place Bond Funding Scheme, put in place originally in 1976, is ongoing and will be completed by the end of 2014.

The facilities section has responsibility for maintaining and protecting the historic building that is Blackhall Place. A conservation plan has been commissioned that will provide a blueprint for structured protection of the building over the next ten years.

The Society’s processes are heavily dependent on information technology and the internet. In 2014, the IT section initiated a project with the working title of ‘System 360’, which is designed to replace the existing membership database with a fully integrated member management system. The objective is to make electronic interaction between the Society and its members easier and more user-friendly.
**WELCOME FOR BYRNE VERDICT**

The trial of former solicitor Thomas Byrne, which lasted 27 days, was the largest fraud case in the history of the State. The jury was unanimous in convicting Byrne in November 2013 on all counts, following deliberations of 17½ hours over the course of six days.

The Law Society welcomed the sentence of 12 years’ imprisonment. Director general Ken Murphy said: “The conduct of Thomas Byrne is a direct affront to every value that the solicitors’ profession holds dear. The solicitors’ profession views Thomas Byrne’s crimes as disgraceful and abhorrent. We welcome the sentence handed down today.”

He added: “The Law Society closed Thomas Byrne down faster than any other solicitor in our history.”

---

**MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE**

The reforms proposed by the *Children and Family Relationships Bill* represent “the most significant change in family law in a generation,” according to Dr Geoffrey Shannon.

Speaking at the hearing of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Justice, Defence and Equality in April, Dr Shannon – a member of the Law Society’s Child and Family Law Committee – welcomed the bill as an attempt to reflect “the social reality of contemporary family life in Ireland.”

The Law Society’s submission on the bill contained a number of key recommendations regarding issues such as children’s rights, parentage in assisted reproduction situations, and guardianship, custody and access arrangements.

---

**IMBALANCE IN APPOINTMENTS**

In April, the Law Society drew attention to the low number of solicitors being appointed as judges to the High and Supreme Courts.

The Society said that the statistics reveal that the system of selecting judges is prejudiced against solicitor candidates in favour of barristers and that this represents a shocking imbalance, given that more than 80% of the practising lawyers in Ireland are solicitors.

In fact, that 80% produced just 8% per cent of the senior judicial appointments in the last 12 years.

This prejudice against solicitor candidates for senior judicial office is a relic of the past that operates against the public interest, the Society said.

---

**BRAND NEW**

In the summer, the Society launched its new logo, visual identity, and ‘tone-of-voice guidelines’. Unveiled on 3 July, the logo gives the traditional crest of the Law Society a clean, modern look.

Teri Kelly, director of representation and member services, said: “What struck me is that the old logo of the Law Society didn’t accurately represent what this organisation and this profession are all about. We are forward-looking – not old fashioned. We are inclusive – not exclusive. We are proud of our traditions, but we also embrace change and are prepared for the future. That’s what our new logo needed to convey.”

The traditional crest of the Law Society, which is registered with the heraldic office, will live on, however – for example, on parchments for newly qualified solicitors.

New ‘tone-of-voice’ guidelines were also developed as part of the rebranding, in order to ensure that the Society’s development would focus not only on the visual, but on written and verbal communications as well.
ACCESS TO JUSTICE

The Law Society welcomed the September announcement that the proposed closure of court venues in Swords, Dun Laoghaire, Balbriggan and Tallaght would not go ahead.

“We are delighted that sense has prevailed in this instance. We argued in our submission to the Courts Service on the proposals that closing these courthouses would actually increase costs to the Government as a whole,” said Ken Murphy.

“Every time a local courthouse closes, there are additional costs and burdens placed on the users of the courts. Social workers, HSE employees, and local authority staff must suspend their duties to travel great distances to appear in court. Guards are taken off their local streets to travel to court venues several towns away. Victims of crime, witnesses doing their civic duty and anyone exercising their rights to justice also bear additional expense and burden.”

“With this announcement, justice in Dublin has been saved – but now we must turn our attention to protecting access to justice in rural areas,” Murphy said.

SLASHING TRANSACTION TIMES

The development of a fully electronic conveyancing system would dramatically reduce the total transaction time for buying a house – to as little as five working days in some cases, the Society has said.

It welcomed the Government’s commitment to assessing the steps required to deliver an e-conveyancing system in the Construction 2020 Strategy launched in May.

The Society has been an enthusiastic supporter of e-conveyancing since it was first proposed by the Law Reform Commission in 2006. It has devoted huge resources to redesigning and re-engineering the processes used, in cooperation with the Property Registration Authority, the banks and other players. It has won the acceptance of the solicitors’ profession to these new concepts, and it has identified a technology partner who is prepared to finance the roll-out of this major infrastructural project at no cost to the taxpayer.

SETANTA LIQUIDATION CONCERNS

Law Society President John P Shaw expressed grave concern at the announcement on 16 April 2014 that the Malta-registered insurer Setanta was going into liquidation.

“Confusion over the payment of claims, which are likely to number over a thousand, has left many consumers worried that they will not receive the whole amount of their entitlement. In the case of policyholders, there is a concern they will be personally liable for any successfully made claims,” said Mr Shaw.

The Society received advice that the Motor Insurers Bureau of Ireland would be liable for any shortfall in monies owed to claimants, but is concerned that the MIBI may seek reimbursement of any moneys paid by policyholders who are now effectively uninsured. The Society also sought assurances from the Insurance Compensation Fund that, in those circumstances, policyholders who purchased such policies in good faith would be covered.
LAw SOCIETY COMMITTEES

The Society’s committees are appointed by the Council. Their term of office runs from the November Council meeting each year until the November Council meeting the following year. The incoming president selects the chairman and members of each committee and places their names before the Council for approval. The Council regulations divide the committees into two categories: ‘standing committees’ and ‘non-standing committees’. In addition, various subcommittees, task forces and working groups are established to deal with different legislative and operational matters, as they arise.

Standing Committees
The Solicitors Acts state that the Council exercises the statutory functions of the Society, which are set out in the acts. The Council may delegate the exercise of any of its functions to a committee established for that purpose. This allows the Council to appoint standing committees that exercise statutory functions on its behalf.

Non-Standing Committees
The Law Society’s Council appoints non-standing committees where it believes that these can better assist the Society in carrying out its work. These committees do not perform statutory functions.
STANDING COMMITTEES

- Complaints and Client Relations Committee
- Coordination Committee
- Education Committee
- Finance Committee
- Money-Laundering Reporting Committee
- Professional Indemnity Insurance Committee
- Regulation of Practice Committee
Barry MacCarthy, chair

The first task the committee undertook in 2014 was deciding whether to authorise the issue of practising certificates to solicitors against whom there had been multiple complaints the previous year. Practising certificates were refused in three cases, and conditions were imposed in another 11 cases.

The committee sat on 24 occasions during the year and dealt with 382 new complaints, many of which appeared on the committee’s agenda on more than one occasion. Meetings generally take all day and require a substantial amount of advance reading. The committee’s focus is on resolution, and many complaints are resolved as a result of the committee’s intervention. I would like to take this opportunity to record my appreciation for the diligence and application of my fellow committee members and, in particular, vice-chairmen Richard Hammond and Paul Egan.

There has been a substantial fall in the number of complaints received this year, attributable to the decline in complaints made by financial institutions about undertakings. This continues a downward trend that started last year and suggests that we have turned a corner insofar as this problem is concerned.

The Legal Services Regulation Bill continues its slow progress through the legislative process. It is challenging for the Society’s Regulation Department to plan any strategic improvements or policy changes in such an uncertain environment and, therefore, we wish the current minister well in her endeavours and look forward to the establishment of the new regime as soon as possible.

This year, the Society underwent a major rebrand, central to which is the Society’s vision to be the trusted voice of a respected solicitors’ profession. I believe that the work carried out by the Complaints Committee contributes greatly to that vision.

John P Shaw, chair

Since the start of the Council year under review, the agenda of the Coordination Committee has been dominated by a determination to progress the implementation of the Report and Recommendations of the Future of the Law Society Task Force.

At every meeting, the first item is an update on progress with the 31 recommendations. It is a matter of pride for the committee that every recommendation has been considered and acted upon, with only two recommendations postponed – of necessity – until the enactment of the Legal Services Regulation Bill.

The committee worked with Red Dog Creative Consultants and director of representation Teri Kelly on the Society’s new brand identity and tone-of-voice guidelines, which were launched in July 2014. The Society’s Strategy Statement 2014-2018 and Annual Operational Plan 2014-2015 were also developed in conjunction with Red Dog and the Society’s management team and were issued to all members with the August/September issue of the Gazette. The recommended review of the committee resource has begun and will be progressed in the coming months.

Aside from implementation of the task force report, the Coordination Committee also operates as a link between the Society’s committees and the Council, with an oversight role for the projects undertaken by each of the Society’s committees. In this capacity, it reviews the benefit of committee projects in terms of resources and delivery. It allocates finances within an overall budget determined by the Finance Committee, while ensuring that the direction and priority of projects are appropriate to the Society’s overall objectives.

It also considers issues falling outside the remit of any of the other committees and provides a useful forum for the resolution of operational and procedural matters.
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Simon Murphy, chair

The year proved to be very significant one in the development of the Education Centre and its facilities:

- The buy-back of the Education Centre was completed, meaning that it has now been fully paid for and is owned by the profession.
- A project has recently been completed to provide two new large teaching spaces in the Education Centre, converting what had been a car park into a new floor of the building. Two new rooms in that area were named after our recently deceased colleagues, James O’Sullivan and Dominic Dowling, and we were delighted to have had the opportunity of honouring their memory at a special function, which was attended by their business partners and family members.
- Works are nearing completion on a project to develop a moot courtroom, two new teaching spaces, and associated offices in the Green Hall.

For the first time since 2008, the number of trainees attending PPC1 has increased, which hopefully reflects a sign of better times.

The post-qualification training programmes continue to be popular with the profession – over 800 colleagues attended 26 Diploma Centre courses. Law Society Professional Training also welcomed the largest number of members to training events since the downturn of the economy in 2008.

New regulations were drafted by the committee to provide for a trainee code of conduct. From January 2015, training solicitors and trainee solicitors will be required to sign the code before being permitted to enter into indentures of apprenticeship.

It has also been an extremely busy year for the Education Committee, and I would like to thank my vice-chairman Valerie Peart and members of the committee for their hard work. Very special thanks goes to T P Kennedy (director of education), Geoffrey Shannon (deputy director) and all members of the staff of the Law School and Education Department.

I have discovered in my two years as chairman that the quality of their work is outstanding. The Law Society and the profession are lucky to have people of their calibre.
Michelle Ní Longáin, chair

The financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2013 are at page 56 of this annual report. The stability that returned to the Law Society’s finances in 2012 gave the Finance Committee confidence to set a break-even budget for both general and education activities in 2013. The committee also maintained the practising certificate fee at its 2012 level, despite the reallocation of an additional €60 to the compensation fund contribution, bringing it to €760. Despite the break-even budget, due to significant savings on legal fees and rental costs, the after-tax surplus from operations was €658k (2012: €441k). This included a tax rebate of €98k. This is a surplus of 3.4% of income. Education activities operated very close to their break-even budget. Law Society reserves, including amounts allocated to the litigation, Education Centre and capital reserve funds, increased by €597k (2012: €2.2m). The operating surpluses for the Law Society are incorporated in ‘group’ accounts, which include all Law Society subsidiaries and related undertakings. The Law Society’s group made a surplus of €605k (2012: €2.2m). The operating surpluses for the Law Society’s group made a surplus of €605k (2012: €2.2m) after tax and exceptional items. The exceptional item that created the main variance between the two years was an onerous lease charge of €750k in 2012.

While the group accounts give a full picture of the financial performance and financial position of all Law Society subsidiaries and related undertakings, they can distort the view of the various elements of the operation. The ‘overall results’ table below displays the management accounts results, which show actual operating outcome and the audited group statements for all the activities in question.

**Overall results**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENTITY</th>
<th>MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS</th>
<th>GROUP STATEMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General activities</td>
<td>553,747</td>
<td>651,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds</td>
<td>1,939,077</td>
<td>1,939,077</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education activities</td>
<td>6,277</td>
<td>430,049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impairment</td>
<td>-2,000,000</td>
<td>-2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law Club of Ireland</td>
<td>-22,625</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benburb Street Property Co Ltd</td>
<td>-1,043</td>
<td>-376,478</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellis Quay Property Services Ltd</td>
<td>25,991</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry income</td>
<td>5,999</td>
<td>9,903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restructuring costs</td>
<td>-31,769</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group taxation</td>
<td>97,647</td>
<td>-17,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL SURPLUS</strong></td>
<td><strong>605,070</strong></td>
<td><strong>605,070</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Our income streams**

Total income decreased by 2% to €22,139k (2012: €22,683k). Fees and subscription income – which are primarily practising certificate, membership and admission fees – at €11,971k were 2% lower than in 2012. The allocation of the additional €60 to the compensation fund reduced income by approximately €520k, but this was somewhat offset by an increase in practising certificate numbers. Education income, at €8,323k, was also down by 2%, and income from other sources, at €1,899k (2012: €1,985k), was down by 4%, primarily as a result of a fall in investment gains.

In 2013, there were 8,895 (2012: 8,768) practising certificate holders, an increase on the year of 127, or 1.4%. Over the last four years, the average increase in practising certificate numbers has been 2%. The increased numbers accounted for an income increase of €176k. Membership numbers, at 10,157 (2012: 9,962), increased by 195. The membership number includes 435 solicitors who availed of free membership on the basis of being over 50 years admitted or being unemployed. In 2013, there were 554 (2012: 525) admissions to the Roll. Admissions have stabilised at approximately 500 per annum. Practising certificate fee income totalling €1,765k (2012: €2,244k) was allocated to the litigation fund (€581k) and the capital reserve fund (€1,184k). Education activities income was €8,323k (2012: €8,518k), a fall of 2%. This income can be broken down as €5,912k from professional practice courses, exams and so on, and €2,411k from LSPT seminars, grants, and diploma courses.

There were 353 PPC1 students in September 2013 (2012: 392). This represents a fall of almost 50% from a high of 666 in 2007. FE1 sittings, at 1,565 (2012: 1,599), seem to have stabilised, but are down over 50% from a high of 3,328 in 2007. Diploma courses had another strong year in 2013, increasing by 20% to €1,480k (2012: €1,229k). LSPT, with its Skillnet and Finus programmes, had income of €409k (2012: €460k), and also attracted grants of €400k (2012: €485k).

Other income sources included services, investment returns, and income relating to our subsidiaries, and these yielded €1,899k (2012: €1,985k). Education fund investments earned €87k in interest and a similar amount on investment gains.

**Our expenditure**

Overall expenditure was €19,516k, a drop of 1% on 2012 (€19,694k). On the general activities side, operating charges were marginally below 2012. There were significant cost reductions in legal fees in the regulatory area and rental costs in relation to George’s Court. These were somewhat offset by taking, for the first time, a full year’s depreciation on the refurbished consultation rooms in the Four Courts. All other areas continued to show tight cost control. Educa-
tion activities operating charges increased by €191k, or 3%. Most of this related to additional staff in the diplomas area, which yielded a significant increase in income. Financing costs of €293k were incurred, and these are effectively a rent charge under the sale-and-leaseback arrangement on the Education Centre.

Costs associated with our subsidiaries were €582k (2012: €797k). This reduction reflects the elimination of the rental charge on the Law School’s Cork premises.

Our balance sheet
The net asset position in the balance sheet improved by €605k to €25.2m (2012: €24.6m), despite the exceptional impairment charge of €2m. A total of €15.5m of these reserves are accounted for by fixed assets. The reserves also include two contingency funds for capital expenditure (€2.2m) and litigation (€2.1m). These are reserves maintained to meet costs in these areas as they arise. There were also two ‘sinking’ funds, the Education Centre fund (€7.6m), which was used to buy back the Education Centre in April 2014 under a financing arrangement, and a capital reserve fund (€14.7m) to recover the cost of the Benburb Street site over a ten-year period. The balance of reserves is allocated to the Law Society, which has a deficit of –€4.8m, and the Law School, which has a surplus of €3.4m.

The money raised to date through the SMDF levy (€3.5m) is reflected in the balance sheet as an asset with a matching liability.

Related undertakings
The group structure includes a number of subsidiary entities that are effectively run on a break-even basis. The Law Club of Ireland operates the commercial elements of the Blackhall Place premises and, after subsidies of €80k, made an operational loss of €23k. Benburb Street Property Company Ltd, which owns and manages the Benburb Street site, made an operational loss of €1k (2011: €278), but also absorbed the impairment charge of €2m. Ellis Quay Property Services Ltd, which rents and manages the Law School facilities in Cork, made a surplus of €26k (2012: €595) as a result of a write-off by a creditor.

2014
It is anticipated that there will be an increase of approximately 330 or 4% in practising certificate numbers this year, which is over twice the increase of last year. PPC1 student intake in September also increased by 9%, from 353 to 385. This is the first significant increase since 2008. Both the practising certificate and trainee numbers are very encouraging and mirror the growth being generally experienced in the economy.

To date, all Law Society operations are performing to budget. There was a major provision in the 2014 budget for set-up costs associated with the Legal Services Regulatory Authority but these are now unlikely to be incurred until 2015. Significant additional budgeted costs are being incurred in 2014 on increasing the resources provided to the representative function of the Law Society. This was done without any increase to the practising certificate fee.

The SMDF financial support levy as approved by members has yielded €5.1m to date. As yet, there has been no requirement by the SMDF to draw on these funds. The wind-down of the SMDF is proceeding, and it is being monitored closely by the Law Society.

While there is continued uncertainty in relation to the shape and form of the Legal Services Regulatory Authority, there will be significant set-up costs associated with its establishment in 2015. There will also be an increase in ongoing costs of regulation as a consequence of the establishment of the authority. The Society is working hard to put in place control systems to minimise any increases, and the Finance Committee hopes to finance any associated set-up costs through reserves, without having to place an additional burden on practitioners through practising certificate fee increases.

The sale-and-leaseback arrangement put in place for the Education Centre in 2000 was terminated in April and has generated a surplus of approximately €800k. In 2014, the Society will commence a significant investment programme in IT to ensure that its IT systems effectively support its various roles.

The Finance Committee continues to work to its objective of reducing costs and ensuring that the practising certificate fee and the costs of education to practitioners are kept to a minimum. The committee works to ensure that members get value for money for all operational and capital spending and that the Law Society’s operations are sufficiently resourced to service members in the most efficient and effective manner into the future.

FINANCE
COMMITTEE (GRAPHS)

After tax operating surplus 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>558,355</td>
<td>337,072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>99,316</td>
<td>104,101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Income sources 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fees and subs</th>
<th>Funds</th>
<th>Services and interest</th>
<th>Education</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>10,152,353</td>
<td>1,764,952</td>
<td>1,898,638</td>
<td>8,322,787</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>9,935,519</td>
<td>2,244,291</td>
<td>1,985,213</td>
<td>8,517,758</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Practising certificate holders and members 2008-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PC holders</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>8,895</td>
<td>10,157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>8,768</td>
<td>9,962</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>8,571</td>
<td>9,717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>8,335</td>
<td>9,774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>8,225</td>
<td>9,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>8,231</td>
<td>9,115</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FINANCE COMMITTEE (GRAPHS)

Admissions and courses 2008-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>PPC1</th>
<th>PPC2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>554</td>
<td>353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>729</td>
<td>413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>705</td>
<td>445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>777</td>
<td>595</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Areas of expenditure 2013

- Payroll costs €7.2m 37%
- Administration €2.1m 11%
- Premises €1.2m 6%
- Member services €1.7m 9%
- Regulation €3.7m 19%
- Direct education €1.7m 9%
- Services €1.1m 5%
- Subsidiaries €0.6m 3%
- Financing costs €0.3m 1%
- Restructuring costs €0.03m 0%

Reserves 2013

- Law Society €9.8m 39%
- Law School €3.4m 13%
- Education Centre fund €7.6m 30%
- Litigation fund €2.1m 9%
- Capital expenditure fund €2.2m 9%
- Total €25.1m
The committee, in meeting the Society’s obligations with regard to money laundering and relevant offences reporting, convened on a regular basis throughout the year.

The Society is legally obliged to report to the relevant authorities any suspicions that money laundering, or an offence of financing terrorism, has been committed by a practising solicitor. During the past year, the Society made five such reports.

The Society is also tasked with investigating due compliance with anti-money-laundering obligations by solicitors. It has been noted that, while the majority of practices investigated have written procedures in place, these procedures are not being applied in all relevant cases. There is still a degree of uncertainty on the part of some members of the profession about anti-money-laundering due diligence in relation to client identification in relation to existing clients. The Society issued a practice note on this matter, clarifying that the legislation applies to existing as well as new clients and, as a result, it is hoped that compliance levels in this regard will improve.

The Society must also – where it has information that it knows or believes might be of material assistance in preventing the commission of a relevant offence pursuant to the provisions of section 19 of the Criminal Justice Act 2011 or securing the apprehension, prosecution or conviction of a person for such a relevant offence – report that information as soon as is practicable to An Garda Síochána. During the past year, the Society made nine such reports.

The introduction of a paperless meeting format at the start of the committee year has streamlined the administration work considerably.

I would like to thank my fellow committee members for their guidance and assistance during the year. I also express my thanks to the Society’s senior investigating accountant, Seamus McGrath, and committee secretary Tina Beattie for their work.

Michael Quinlan, chair

The Professional Indemnity Insurance Committee is tasked with dealing with all matters relating to solicitors’ professional indemnity insurance and has met on a regular basis throughout the year. We have endeavoured to ensure that the good work of the 2012/13 indemnity period has continued and that the market works in as smooth and economic a manner as possible.

Through the offices of the Participating Insurers’ Liaison Committee (formerly known as the Qualified Insurers’ Liaison Committee), which comprises representatives of the PII Committee, the insurers’ market, and the Special Purpose Fund manager, we have maintained a regular dialogue while monitoring the regulation of the market, seeking new entrants, and addressing the concerns of current participants.

In addition, the Special Purpose Fund Management Committee, which consists of the PII Committee chairman, the director of regulation, the two participating insurers with the largest market share by premium, and the Special Purpose Fund manager, continues to monitor the Special Purpose Fund, which is made up of the Assigned Risks Pool (for those unable to attain insurance on the open market) and the Run-off Fund (for firms that cease to practise).

The common proposal form remains a success and has been further modified to improve it following feedback from the profession. Continued feedback is welcome through the PII helpline (tel: 01 879 8707 or email: piihelpline@lawsociety.ie).

One of the committee’s main priorities is the importance of financial rating as a consideration when choosing an insurer, which we have continued to impress on the profession.

We will continue to pay the closest attention to the requirements of the profession in this most important area of practice. We are acutely aware that the improvements of the last three renewal periods must be at least maintained – and preferably enhanced.

Many thanks to all of the committee members and, in particular, vice-chairman Michael Quinlan. The committee is deeply indebted to the hard work of Sorcha Hayes and John Elliot, without whom it simply could not function.

Stuart Gilhooly, chair
REGULATION OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Martin Lawlor, Chair

The Regulation of Practice Committee administers the compensation fund, which the Society is required to maintain in order to compensate clients for losses arising due to dishonesty on the part of solicitors or their employees. The committee also polices the profession’s compliance with the Solicitors Accounts Regulations and with aspects of the Solicitors Acts not assigned to other regulatory committees.

Overall Financial Performance

The income and expenditure account of the compensation fund reflects a deficit (representing an excess of expenditure over income) of €360,440 for the year ended 31 December 2013, compared with a surplus of €680,938 for the year ended 31 December 2012. The reason for the deficit in 2013 compared with the surplus in 2012 is attributable to a decrease in 2013 of €1,732,273 in income, offset by a decrease of €681,451 in expenditure, compared with 2012, together with a decrease in taxation amounting to €9,444.

Our Income Streams

The decrease of €1,732,273 in income in 2013 is attributed mainly to a decrease of €1,244,515 in insurance recoveries under the fund’s excess loss insurance policy, together with a decrease of €1,463,376 in recoveries from defaulting solicitors. These decreases have been offset by an increase in contributions receivable of €636,133.

Our Expenditure

The decrease of €681,451 in expenditure as between the two years is substantially attributable to a decrease in the provision for claims of €682,265.

Our Balance Sheet

The net assets of the fund as at 31 December 2013 stood at €16,813,639 compared with €16,193,108 at 31 December 2012. The increase of €620,531 in the net asset position of the fund between the two years’ end is reflected in a decrease of €360,440 in revenue reserves, together with an increase of €980,971 in the revaluation reserve on the fund’s investments. These investments are recognised in the accounts at prevailing market valuations at year end.

The audited accounts can be accessed here.

Developments since December 2013

In the six months ended 30 June 2014, 216 claims were received. Excluding invalid claims refused, these claims amounted to €2,366,133. Payments were made in the sum of €408,991 in respect of claims, and claims amounting to €1,957,142 are still under consideration.

Activities during the Current Year

The committee met 16 times, for 11 scheduled, three emergency, and two special meetings. Arising from these meetings, the committee decided to:

- Refer 13 solicitors to the Solicitors’ Disciplinary Tribunal on foot of findings disclosed in the investigation reports on their practices,
- Refer nine solicitors to the Solicitors’ Disciplinary Tribunal for failure to file reporting accountants’ reports on time,
- Refer one solicitor to the Solicitors’ Disciplinary Tribunal for failure to engage with the committee as directed,
- Apply to the High Court for an order freezing the accounts of six solicitors where dishonesty was discovered,
- Apply to the High Court to suspend the practising certificates of six solicitors,
- Levy contributions amounting to €44,600 towards the cost of investigations,
- Apply to the High Court pursuant to section 18 of the Solicitors (Amendment) Act 2002 in two cases for an order compelling the solicitors to attend committee meetings and to provide certain documentation,
- Appeal a decision of the Solicitors’ Disciplinary Tribunal to the High Court in relation to the sanction imposed by the tribunal,
- Impose conditions on a solicitor’s practising certificate where the solicitor had unsatisfied judgments,
- Impose conditions on a solicitor’s practising certificate where the solicitor had entered into a debt arrangement,
- Appeal a decision of the High Court to refuse an application by the Society to freeze a solicitor’s accounts,
- Refuse an application for a practising certificate in respect of two solicitors.

The team of investigating accountants conducted approximately 400 investigations throughout the year.

In order to distribute the committee’s considerable workload on a more manageable basis, the committee now sits in four divisions (previously three), each chaired by the chairman, or one of the three vice-chairmen, with a lay committee member appointed to each division.

Warnings have been issued that claims on the Law Society Compensation Fund must be received by the Law Society within six months of the loss coming to the attention of the claimant (see Gazette, April 2014, p53).
Responsibility for enforcement of the Solicitors (Advertising) Regulations 2002 has been transferred from the Complaints and Client Relations Committee to the Regulation of Practice Committee. Special focus has been placed on raising awareness in the profession about these regulations, with a view to improving compliance levels and thereby ensuring a level playing field for the profession advertising their services (see Gazette, March, p52; April, p54; May, p53; and June, p52).

A practice note (see Gazette, December 2013, p55) was issued to remind the profession that it is never permissible for a solicitor to deduct fees, prior to completion of a sale, from deposit monies held by the solicitor in trust or as stakeholder, whether or not so authorised by the solicitor’s client.

There has been an increase in solicitors adjudicated bankrupt, having unsatisfied judgments and participating in debt arrangements. Bankrupt solicitors are automatically suspended, but may apply to the Law Society to have the suspension lifted. The committee has issued a practice note on bankruptcy, judgment and debt arrangements (Gazette, November 2013, p53). Such matters are decided by the committee on a case-by-case basis.

From time to time, a solicitor is found to be practising without a practising certificate. It is professional misconduct and a criminal offence for solicitors to provide legal services of any kind – reserved or non-reserved – without holding a practising certificate. Such cases are addressed by the committee and reported to An Garda Síochána.

A practice note was issued to advise that any solicitor, whose practising certificate is dated after the date on which they commenced providing legal services, should make an application to the President of the High Court to have their practising certificate backdated to the date on which they commenced providing legal services (Gazette, July 2014, p53).

In-house solicitors were advised by practice note that they are required to hold a practising certificate, regardless of the areas of law in which they practise (Gazette, July 2014, p53).

As reported in last year’s annual report, consideration of draft new Solicitors Accounts Regulations was adjourned by the Council of the Law Society pending the enactment of the Legal Services Regulation Bill. There have been no further developments on this matter since then.

The Solicitors Accounts (Amendment) Regulations 2013, which came into force on 1 January 2014, ensure that moneys received by a solicitor acting as a personal insolvency practitioner (PIP) are regulated under the Solicitors Accounts Regulations.

Currently, solicitors are required to comply with five different statutory instruments in relation to clients’ moneys:
- Solicitors Accounts Regulations 2001,
- Solicitors (Interest on Clients’ Moneys) Regulations 2004,
- Solicitors Accounts (Amendment) Regulations 2005,
- Solicitors Accounts (Amendment) Regulations 2006,
- Solicitors Accounts (Amendment) Regulations 2013.

Solicitors and reporting accountants find it difficult to follow regulations that are spread over five different statutory instruments, and it is therefore proposed to consolidate the Solicitors Accounts Regulations 2001-2013 in one statutory instrument to make it easier for users to follow the regulations.

The committee continues to support the confidential Practice Advisory Service, provided through Outsource, which gives advice on regulatory compliance, financial management, and future business options through tailored, one-to-one, half-day sessions at firms’ offices.

I take this opportunity to thank my committee vice-chairmen, Martin Crotty, Dara Robinson and Chris Callan, for their commitment and unstinting work throughout the year. I also wish to thank all other committee members, including lay members Frank Bowen, Frank Mee, Richard George and David Martin, for their continued invaluable input.

On behalf of all committee members, I would like to record my thanks to the committee secretary John Elliot (registrar of solicitors and director of regulation) and his team for yet another year’s sterling work.
NON-STANDING COMMITTEES

- Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee
- Business Law Committee
- Conveyancing Committee
- Criminal Law Committee
- Curriculum Development Unit
- Employment and Equality Law Committee
- EU and International Affairs Committee
- Family and Child Law Committee
- Gazette Editorial Board
- Guidance and Ethics Committee
- Human Rights Committee
- In-House and Public Sector Committee
- Intellectual Property Law Committee
- Litigation Committee
- Probate, Administration and Trusts Committee
- Public Relations Committee
- Taxation Committee
- Technology Committee
Larry Fenelon, chair

The committee has been working hard to promote the various forms of alternative dispute resolution to the profession during the year.

On 30 September, alongside Law Society Professional Training and the EU and International Affairs Committee, we hosted a seminar on the new EU Directive on Online Dispute Resolution for Consumer Disputes. This directive heralds a new era of online dispute resolution and offers the opportunity to reach out to other stakeholders. The committee also made a submission on the consumer alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and online dispute resolution (ODR) legislation to the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Employment.

To address qualitative and quantitative issues, the committee reconstituted the Law Society’s Arbitration Panel. All existing and prospective members were required to reapply and follow a formal application and interview process. A new Arbitration Panel has now been established, with over 30 members in place. A clearly defined process was put in place for dealing with future applicants.

This autumn, the committee hosts two seminars focusing on specific areas of ADR: a domestic arbitration catch-up workshop for arbitrators on 5 November, and a roundtable expert determination discussion on 23 November.

We continue to monitor the progress of the Mediation Bill and are liaising with Cormac Ó Culain, the Society’s public affairs executive. In adjudication, we are prepared for the long-awaited commencement of the Construction Contracts Act 2013. We will host an educational seminar for members as soon as it has been introduced. In addition, we are working with Law Society Professional Training to design a planned certificate course for practitioners. Our members have also been working closely with the Diploma Centre on the new Diplomas in Mediation and Arbitration.

The committee continues to promote arbitration and mediation to members through the Gazette. We have published three articles this year, with another two planned in the coming months.

Paul Keane, chair

The Business Law Committee is responsible for representing, informing and assisting the profession over a broad range of topics.

We have organised our responsibilities under five major areas:

- Business organisation (including companies and partnerships),
- Regulation of business (including competition law),
- Financial service/securities,
- Commercial law (including contracts and consumer law), and
- Insolvency.

The committee has been active under each of these headings. It has made six submissions on various legislative proposals, issued four practice notes, and published a number of articles for the Gazette on the Companies Bill, the rights of residential mortgage holders, and the reform of consumer law.

The committee met with Helen Dixon, chief executive of the Companies Registration Office (CRO), in relation to the practical implementation of the Companies Bill and has provided feedback on relevant CRO forms and leaflets.

The enormous output of the committee in terms of submissions, practice notes, articles and representation is only possible because of the commitment and enthusiasm of the committee members.

The Companies Bill is likely to be enacted before the end of this year and will come into effect next year. This is both a major challenge and an opportunity for the profession. Company law is one of the pillars of commercial practice. It is essential that the profession maintains and expands its activity in this area. A major programme of education, advice and support will be required for members of the profession to ensure that they are sufficiently familiar with the new regime.

I wish to thank the members of the committee who have given generously of their time and expertise, as well as Robert Heron (vice-chairman) and Joanne Cox (committee secretary) for their diligent work.
Suzanne Bainton, chair

The Conveyancing Committee sees its role as assisting and guiding solicitors in conveyancing practice. It is a resource provided very much by solicitors, for solicitors. It carries out this role by responding to queries from members, by issuing practice notes to the profession, and by representing solicitors’ interests in its engagement with Government bodies and departments. Services provided this year included the following:

- A total of 25 practice notes were published in the Gazette, while three electronic circulars were issued to the profession,
- The committee secretary dealt with 1,334 telephone enquiries to the committee’s conveyancing helpline. This is similar to the amount dealt with last year, which represented a 30% increase on the average calls over the previous five years,
- In all, 70 new matters were considered by the committee at its monthly meetings, and written responses were issued on these matters.

Practice notes were issued on matters connected with lending institutions, property registration, the Multi-Unit Developments Act 2011, distressed sales, the new building regulations, and issues regarding property taxes.

Matters to do with lending institutions and the residential certificate-of-title system still account for most queries. Notwithstanding that the committee finds it increasingly difficult to get the Banking & Payments Federation Ireland (formerly the IBF)/Irish Mortgage Council to engage with it on matters to do with the residential certificate-of-title system and other matters, it continues to make representations on behalf of practitioners.

Solicitors continue to experience issues regarding e-stamping. The linkup between the local property tax and e-stamping – which was introduced with a very short lead-in time – resulted in much work at short notice in trying to address issues of concern with the Revenue, and in dealing with enquiries on the issue from the profession. Another major topic arose with local property tax during the period November/December 2013, due to the difference in the liability and payment dates for the tax. Despite these difficulties being well publicised in the media, the position remains the same. Hopefully, it will be less of a practical issue for solicitors into the future.

There is ongoing liaison with the Society’s Taxation Committee, the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee, the Business Law Committee, and the eConveyancing Task Force on matters of mutual interest.

Achievements and notable areas of activity during the year include:

- The publication of a new edition of the requisitions on title, which is imminent.
- A number of precedents have already been issued to deal with the conveyancing implications of the Multi-Unit Developments Act 2011. This precedent suite of documentation is to be added to and completed shortly.
- A review of the new Building Regulations, engagement with relevant other professions, and the issue of appropriate guidance to the profession.
- Meetings (in conjunction with other Society committees) with Revenue on the local property tax and e-stamping.
- Liaison with the Department of the Environment and local authorities on the Non-Principal Private Residence Charge and household charge.
- Meetings with the HSE and its legal representatives on nursing-home charges under the Fair Deal Scheme.

The committee’s ongoing projects and activities ensure that another very busy year is anticipated. These include the following:

- A task force within the committee is carrying out an extensive review of residential landlord and tenant law, with a view to the committee making a submission to the Department of Justice in the context of that department’s own review and proposed new legislation in this area. The task force recently had a very productive meeting with the department.
- Ongoing liaison with lending institutions on behalf of the profession.
- Ongoing review of the certificate of title system and the banks’ adherence to it.
- Ongoing review of the Personal Insolvency Act 2012 and its impact on conveyancing practice.
- Interaction with the Property Registration Authority on a wide range of practice matters to do with registered and unregistered title, including the new rules, issues surrounding mapping (including the report of the Inter-Professional Task Force on Property Boundaries), and the registration of easements.

Sincere thanks are due to all the committee members, vice-chairman Joe Thomas, and our secretary Catherine O’Flaherty for their time, hard work and support throughout the year.
This was a very busy year for the Criminal Law Committee. We contributed to the Law Society’s vision to be the trusted voice of a respected solicitors’ profession by, among other things, responding to the overnight decision to allow solicitors to attend garda station interviews (including work on legal-aid arrangements, the garda code, solicitor training, and guidance). A strong emphasis was placed on communicating with the profession in a timely manner.

You can read the president’s eBulletins for more information about the committee’s work on this topic:
- Garda Station Legal Aid Revised Scheme and Fennelly Commission (30 July 2014),
- Solicitors can now attend interviews in garda stations (20 May 2014), and
- Solicitors can now attend interviews in garda stations (8 May 2014).

The committee also drafted 41 recommendations for the terms of reference for an inquiry into recording of telephone conversations in places of detention, which were approved by the Council and forwarded to the Taoiseach by President Shaw.

We continue to liaise with the Fennelly Commission and the Inspector of Prisons regarding their inquiries into recording of telephone conversations. You can read the president’s eBulletin and our news release about the 41 recommendations below:
- Law Society responds to garda tape revelations (27 March 2014), and
- 41 questions that must be answered (4 April 2014).

The committee researched and drafted numerous submissions on law reform in the criminal justice area (the DNA Database Bill, the Community Sanctions Bill, restorative justice, community courts, search warrants, independent policing authority, and so on).

Members of the committee appeared at two Oireachtas committee hearings on community courts and the Community Sanctions Bill, which involved delivering opening statements and contributing to questions and answers.

We also hosted a successful seminar in May on giving advice in garda stations in conjunction with Law Society Professional Training, and we continue to represent criminal law practitioners’ needs with various State bodies on a daily basis, including various prisons, the Legal Aid Board, the Courts Service, and the Department of Justice.
The Curriculum Development Unit (CDU) meets to review curricula and materials provided to trainee solicitors and students of the continuing legal education, diploma, and certificate courses. The Law Society is the premier provider of continuing legal training in Ireland, continuously updating courses to keep abreast of developments in order to assist solicitors to provide the best possible advisory services to the public. The CDU makes suggestions on how courses might be improved and on topics for new courses, for consideration and adoption through the Education Committee.

This year, we reviewed the progress of the e-delivery of material by iPads distributed to students and solicitors on certain continuing legal education courses, and through pre-recordings that allow participants to access lectures online. The new system operates very satisfactorily and brings education by the Law Society squarely into the 21st century.

The CDU reviewed the PPC2 electives, diploma courses and various elements of the PPC1 course. We considered the training review published in England and Wales and its proposed plans for the future. We also looked at the operation of the Certificate in Teaching, Learning and Assessment and the master’s programme run in conjunction with DIT.

In May, the CDU visited Queen’s University Belfast, meeting the new director of the School of Law and his colleagues to discuss their course for training solicitors and barristers, even though the two streams operate separately once qualified. This was interesting, given the proposals outlined in the Legal Services Regulation Bill. It gave the CDU food for thought as to how we might operate were the two professional arms to be merged.

Thanks are due to each CDU member for their contribution, to Dr Geoffrey Shannon (deputy director of education) for his unerring secretarial support, and to the dedicated managers and tutors of the Law Society School, CPD and diploma courses.

This has been another busy year for employment and equality law practitioners.

The Government’s reform agenda in relation to the system for adjudication of workplace disputes has taken more concrete form, with the publication in July of the Workplace Relations Bill 2014. Intended to streamline and replace the current adjudication bodies with a centralised Workplace Relations Commission, this legislation represents a radical overhaul of the current system and presents significant challenges for clients and their advisors. Having previously taken part in the general consultation process initiated by the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, the committee will be actively reviewing and seeking to influence the form of the legislation as it goes through the next stages.

Separately, and as an aid to practitioners, we have updated and published the Guide to Employment Legislation on the members’ area of the website. We have established a subgroup to review and report to the committee on the issue of workplace bullying and the possible need for a standalone forum to adjudicate on such disputes.

Members of the committee will contribute to the Society’s annual Employment Law Update seminar.

I warmly acknowledge and thank the committee members for their enthusiastic engagement in projects during the year.
EU AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Mary Casey, chair

The Law Society maintained its representation in EU and international organisations during the year, including:

- Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (Eva Massa and James MacGuill),
- International Bar Association (John D Shaw),
- American Bar Association (Eva Massa),
- Union Internationale du Notariat (Mary Casey),
- German-Irish Lawyers’ and Business Association (Niamh Connery).

Committee members continue to submit articles for publication in the ‘Eurlegal’ section of the Gazette, for which I thank all contributors, including TP Kennedy.

The Leonardo Da Vinci Programme ceased to operate for Irish exchanges abroad this year; however, the committee continued to work with lawyers from Spain. Two such lawyers remained on in new jobs in Dublin after the expiry of their stage.

On 21 March, the committee welcomed seven international delegates to a very successful roundtable discussion, attended by deputy director general Mary Keane and committee members.

On 4 April, the committee cooperated with the Institute of International and European Affairs on a talk on the International Criminal Court, delivered by James Stuart, deputy prosecutor of the ICC, and chaired by Nora Owen.

On 29 May, a seminar was organised on the Fourth Anti-Money-Laundering Directive, with speakers Paula Reid, Cormac Little and Brendan Nagle from the Central Bank. It was an excellent opportunity for an exchange of views between solicitors and the panel of expert speakers.

The final event of this year, on 30 September 2014, was a seminar hosted jointly with the European Consumers Centre on the implementation of the new EU Directive 213/11 on alternative dispute resolution.

I would like to thank all committee members for their contributions over the two years of my chairmanship and, in particular, the secretary and convener, Eva Massa.

FAMILY AND CHILD LAW COMMITTEE

Carol Anne Coolican, chair

The Family and Child Law Committee continued to update and inform the profession on developments in this area of law by regular contributions of articles, practice notes and guidance in the Gazette. In partnership with the Law Society Professional Training, our annual conference highlighted recent developments in family and child law and the implications for practice and procedures.

The proposed Children and Family Relationships Bill will result in the most significant change in family law in decades. We made a written and oral submission to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Justice, Defence and Equality, identifying technical and legal issues, highlighting inconsistencies and making positive proposals for amendments. The submissions were commended by the joint Oireachtas committee. We made a significant and substantial contribution to the development of this new legislation.

We have representatives on relevant external agencies and organisations. We reviewed and made recommendations on the proposed Solicitors Accredited Practitioner Regulations. We engaged with the Family Lawyers Association in resisting the proposed move of the High Court family law courts to Blanchardstown.

We hope to review the Family Law Handbook and resume our information sessions for the profession next year.

I would like to thank the committee members, vice-chairman Donagh McGowan, and our secretaries Colleen Farrell and Jane Moffatt, for their drive, input, good humour and enthusiasm, which resulted in the achievement of our objective to help shape the law reform agenda in our area of expertise.
EDiTORiAL bOARD

Michael Kealey, chair

The editorial board meets bi-monthly to provide guidance and advice to the Gazette’s editorial team on potential articles and contributors. Members of the board include experienced and younger solicitors from a wide variety of practice areas. This mix is important, ensuring that the board functions effectively and that a broad range of practice areas are covered by the magazine.

The Gazette’s goal is to provide comprehensive coverage of the most important legal issues of the day, delivering information in a timely and relevant fashion. It continues to focus on legislative changes, which are regarded as priority information for members and a vital support service. It also aims to give its readers accessible articles on issues of importance to daily practice, from both a professional and business perspective.

The magazine is regarded by members of the profession as one of the Law Society’s most significant communication channels, evidenced by the report by the Future of the Law Society Task Force, in which all respondents indicated that they read the Gazette. It received the highest ranking as a ‘good’ or ‘excellent’ means of contact for members with the Society.

The popularity of the magazine among the members was reinforced externally when it won the ‘Best Business-to-Business Magazine of the Year’ and ‘Cover of the Year’ awards at the annual Magazines Ireland awards in December 2013.

The Gazette continues to feel the effects of the recession – mirroring the impact being felt by other print and broadcast media. It has been difficult to generate advertising revenue for the past number of years, particularly due to the decline in recruitment advertising. There is evidence, however, that advertising revenue is beginning to show signs of recovery, albeit on a very gradual basis. The Gazette is seeking to take advantage of the move to online advertising and is developing a microsite that will facilitate such advertising. This is expected to launch in the new year.

In January 2014, the Gazette unveiled its interactive digital edition, which is published each month in tandem with the magazine’s hard copy. Through links, readers can access a significant amount of online information referred to in articles, including legislation, case law, judgments and literature. The digital edition has led to savings in printing and distribution costs, with all trainees now benefiting from access to the Gazette on their iPads.

I extend my thanks to my editorial board colleagues for their dedication and valuable input in the year under review. I wish to congratulate the Gazette team, led by editor Mark McDermott. Their national awards are tribute to their creativity and hard work in producing a magazine that focuses so relevantly on fulfilling the knowledge and information needs of the Society’s members.
Guidance and Ethics Committee

Brendan Dillon, chair

The third edition of the Guide to Good Professional Conduct for Solicitors was published in October 2013. A copy was sent to every practising solicitor. It is an essential manual to help solicitors identify where their professional duties lie, in any particular situation.

The committee has been working with the National Consumer Association on a project that will encourage solicitors to make it easier for individuals to obtain online quotations when they wish to instruct a solicitor’s firm. Questionnaires will help the solicitor elicit whether the transaction is likely to be a straightforward one. Outlines of the solicitors’ work will help clients understand the work solicitors do for the fees they earn.

Our ongoing practice management series of ‘ten steps’ practice notes, published in the Gazette, has been very well received.

The committee continues to promote the use by all firms of the solicitors’ terms and conditions of business document.

Existing and new projects to support collegiality among members of the profession are very important for the committee. Our annual workshop for members of the Panel to Assist Solicitors in Difficulty with the Law Society raises the awareness of that panel. Our ‘Meet Your Colleagues’ event brings collegiality to a local level, which in turn can have a ripple effect within the communities in which solicitors practice.

The Guidance and Ethics Committee Helpline gives guidance to individual members when needed. The service is available to all colleagues.

My thanks to vice-chairman Fergus Mullen and the all committee members, who have worked assiduously on the many projects in progress during the year. Thanks also to our committee secretary, Therese Clarke, whose tireless work behind the scenes makes us all look good!

Human Rights Committee

Michael Finucane, chair

The Human Rights Committee this year continued with its busy programme of activities, promoting the law and practice of human rights, inside and outside the profession.

We hosted the Annual Human Rights Conference 2014 on 11 October (in conjunction with the Irish Human Rights Commission). It focused on the challenges that exist within the Irish criminal justice system to advance towards a state of increased compliance with modern standards of human rights law.

The committee also hosted the Annual Human Rights Lecture, which was delivered by the deputy president of the UK Supreme Court, Lady Brenda Hale, and was chaired by Mr Justice Donal O’Donnell. The topic, ‘Freedom of religion and belief’ provided a stimulating and thought-provoking analysis of a topic around which the law continues to evolve.

The committee is currently working on a study of the impact on Irish law of both the European Convention on Human Rights Act 2003 and the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights (jointly sponsored by the Dublin Solicitors’ Bar Association), due to be published by the end of 2014. The committee also made a submission, in conjunction with the Criminal Law Committee, on the Criminal Justice (Forensic Evidence and DNA Database System) Bill 2013.

The committee also continued its educational initiatives with the annual Human Rights Essay Competition, and regular contributions to the ‘Human rights watch’ page of the Gazette and the eZine.

I would like to thank vice-chair Gráinne Brophy and all committee members for giving so generously of their time, interest and expertise. In particular, my sincere thanks go to Helen Kehoe and Joyce Mortimer for their assistance and support as secretaries to the committee.
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW COMMITTEE

Patricia McGovern, chair

A decision by the Government to opt not to host a local division of the proposed Unified Patent Court (UPC) would have consequences for Ireland’s intellectual property (IP) community and the economy. Hence, the committee submitted a further submission to the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation in which the concerns were highlighted. Committee members met with Ministers Sherlock and Perry, department officials, and representatives from commerce, including Enterprise Ireland, IBEC, the American Chamber of Commerce Ireland, Intertrust Ireland, and the Irish Technology Transfer and Innovation Group. Committee members also informed practitioners of the issues at the annual In-House Practitioners’ Conference in 2013, and through the Law Society eZine and Gazette.

The committee has made four other submissions, relating to the protection of business and research know-how, draft procedural rules of the UPC, the Government’s IP protocol, and the IP consequences of the proposed plain packaging legislation.

The committee views the building of alliances with professional bodies and public representatives as a major role. Members have met with representatives from Revenue, the gardaí, the Patent Office, and a delegation from the Legislative Affairs Committee of the People’s Republic of China.

The committee is currently engaging with the Courts Service to carry out an ongoing review of the Rules of the Superior Courts.

I would like to thank all the committee members and secretary for their hard work and enthusiasm.

IN-HOUSE AND PUBLIC SECTOR COMMITTEE

James Kinch, chair

On 20 November 2013, the committee held its annual conference, which focused on data protection.

On 21 March 2014, the committee launched a new initiative, consisting of a focus group meeting with in-house solicitors from the private and public sectors, with a view to identifying particular needs.

On 14 May 2014, the committee held a panel discussion: ‘The in-house lawyer – how to get value and be viewed as valuable by your client’. Law Society President John P Shaw gave the welcoming address. The director general also attended.

On 24 July 2014, the chairman and committee representatives met the president and director general to discuss how the Society could continue to support the in-house sector.

The committee hosted a meeting in October of representatives from the in-house committees/divisions from the four law societies of Ireland, England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Our 2014 annual conference, ‘Enhancing value – sourcing and managing legal services’, is being held on 7 November.

The committee continued to represent the Society at board meetings of the European Company Lawyers’ Association.

It continued to provide guidance to members of the profession through the Society’s website and the Gazette. Its Guide for Solicitors Employed in the Corporate and Public Sectors provides key information.

I would like to thank all committee members for their contribution this year, with special thanks to vice-chairman Brian Connolly and our secretary, Louise Campbell.
Eamon Harrington, chair

This was a particularly busy year due to the major changes in jurisdiction in civil matters, substantial changes to the District Court civil procedures, and the introduction of the Recoverable Benefits Scheme. These changes required intense activity from the committee, including preparing submissions, meeting with the Department of Social Protection, and issuing guidance to the profession.

The area of taxation of costs generally continues to raise issues for solicitors, and the Law Society applied to be joined as amicus curiae in recent judicial review proceedings.

The committee prepared a submission for the review of the operation of the Personal Injuries Assessment Board Act 2003 and the Injuries Board, which is being conducted by the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation.

Members of the committee met with various groups and bodies, including the Medical Council and the Injuries Board User Group. The committee continued to collaborate with the Society’s representatives on the Court Rules Committees.

The committee sought to inform the profession on a wide variety of issues of concern to it. The committee and its members published articles and guidance via the eZine, the Gazette and the Law Society’s website on a variety of topics, including the new civil jurisdictions, the changes to solatium, the solicitor’s lien, getting affidavits right for filing, new court fees, and the new District Court Rules. In addition, the committee provided input on a draft protocol regarding the payment of barristers’ fees.

The committee continues project work on matters including:

- Protecting the infant litigator,
- Updating committee publications, including Medico Legal Recommendations, the Compendium of Frequently Asked Litigation Questions, and Guidelines for Solicitors Dealing with Injuries Board Claims,
- Issues concerning the instructing of expert witnesses, expert reports, attendance at court and related fees, and
- Monitoring the Legal Services Regulation Bill 2011 as it affects civil litigation.

I would like to thank my vice-chairman, Ronan O’Neill, for his support and commitment and also each member of the committee for their valued contributions. We are all enormously indebted to our excellent committee secretary, Colette Reid.

Margaret Walsh, chair

The committee dealt with a variety of issues during the year. The single most significant matter was the proposed Fourth Anti-Money-Laundering Directive and the compulsory registration of all private trusts, including will trusts. This involved lobbying through the Law Society at national and EU level alongside STEP Ireland and STEP UK.

The committee participated in shaping the Assisted Decision Making (Capacity) Bill. The regulations and guidelines that will flow from the bill will, in due course, contribute to the maintenance of the Society as the trusted voice of a respected solicitors’ profession.

In addition, the committee dealt with the correction (through TALC) of an erroneous interpretation of the taxation of discretionary trusts where the beneficiary is living with a disability; questionnaires and quotations in relation to will drafting and administration of estates prepared by the Guidance and Ethics Committee and the National Consumer Agency; and the Society’s budget submission.

The committee successfully lobbied for no change to CAT file-and-pay deadlines.

The committee continues to engage with the CAT ROS Users Group, the Probate Office Users Group, the TALC Capital Taxes Ad Hoc Committee, and other fora where stakeholders, including committee members representing the Law Society, meet with representatives of ITI, STEP and Accountancy Ireland, the Revenue Commissioners and the Probate Office to deal with areas of mutual concern, including the Probate Office €40 re-submission fee.

The committee continues to provide assistance to colleagues who contact it in relation to particular areas of the law and practice relating to probate and trusts.

Several articles were published by the committee and its members on EU succession planning, preparing administration accounts, and the extension of the deadline for payment of CAT online.

Committee members continue to speak at Law Society and other seminars throughout the country, too numerous to mention.

My thanks to all the committee members for their hard work over the year.
Maura Derivan, chair

The Public Relations Committee plays an important role in assisting the Law Society with formulating and developing its public relations policy. That policy includes promoting the Society’s vision of being the trusted voice of the solicitors’ profession. The committee also consults on public relations issues that arise throughout the year.

In the year under review, the PR Committee hosted the annual Justice Media Awards and a highly successful Communications Day in June for bar association presidents and PROs. The committee also developed the radio advertising campaign to promote the profession at both local and national levels.

The Justice Media Awards assist in promoting the Law Society within the print and broadcast media. The popularity of the event continues to grow, with the Society receiving the largest ever number of entries from journalists and broadcasters in 2014.

In recent years, the committee has undertaken a series of radio advertising campaigns that have promoted the profession as one that members of the public can trust to protect their interests. The focus has been on the solicitor as someone who is in your corner, available to provide sound advice, and who ensures that clients are provided with access to justice. The goal is to promote awareness of the services provided by solicitors to the public and to promote good relations between the Law Society and its members by raising the profile of solicitors.

In meeting its role of enhancing the reputation of the profession, the PR Committee focuses, not just on building the national image of the profession, but also its image at local level. To this end, it hosted a highly successful communications day for presidents and PROs in June that encouraged bar associations to engage with their local newspapers and radio stations. A practical communications workshop for bar association representatives will follow in due course.

Projects currently being developed by the committee include:

- Communications workshops at Blackhall Place, which will include media expertise,
- Promoting good relations between the Law Society and its members by implementing practical help and assistance through Gazette articles and other communications channels,
- Reviewing the radio advertising campaign, taking into account developments in social media, and
- Fostering good and necessary relationships with the media, which includes organising and hosting the annual Justice Media Awards.

I extend my appreciation to the members of the committee (especially vice-chairman Michael Kealey) for their dedication and hard work during the year. I am grateful, too, to outgoing committee secretary Mark McDermott and his team for their hard work and creativity in developing the committee’s various programmes during the past nine years, and I look forward to working with the incoming secretary Kathy McKenna. It is also appropriate to recognise and thank the Justice Media Awards judging panel for the hard work it carried out this year.
James Somerville, chair

The Taxation Committee has had another busy year. It has represented the Society and its members in interaction with the Revenue Commissioners and other tax advisors. This occurs chiefly through its continued active participation in the Tax Administration Liaison Committee (TALC) and its relevant subcommittees dealing with direct taxes, indirect taxes, capital taxes, audit, technical tax issues, and collection tax issues. It also continued to liaise with the Revenue Commissioners in relation to e-stamping and local property tax issues.

As usual, the committee prepared a detailed pre-budget submission, which was submitted to the Minister for Finance.

It also reviewed (to the extent appropriate) and commented on the provisions of the Finance Act 2014 as it passed through the legislative process, summarising its relevant consequences in the annual Tax Guide published and distributed to members.

We continued to issue practice notes and advisories throughout the year.

The committee was involved in two additional work streams in the year under review. We made a detailed written and oral submission to the OECD in the context of its Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) Project, insofar as it related to the application of double tax treaties. In this, we robustly represented Ireland’s interests in the context of the discussion draft published on this, which contained proposals that could adversely affect small economies dependent on international investment. We also made a submission to the Minister for Finance on the reform of the tax appeal system and attended the follow-up consultations.

I have been ably assisted in my role by my vice-chairman, Justin McGettigan, and the committee’s secretary Rachel Hession, and I thank them for their support and assistance throughout the year.

Raymond Smith, chair

The main functions of the Technology Committee are to monitor developments in technology that are relevant to the solicitors’ profession, promote the use of technology as a business resource to improve efficiency and profitability, and facilitate an organised and consistent approach to risk management and reduction through the use of technology.

The committee also monitors and comments on other bodies’ – particularly State agencies – use of technology, insofar as it affects our profession and clients and, where possible, assists individual members of the profession with technology-related difficulties.

At the start of the year, a list of projects was drawn up by the committee, and members took on responsibility for different areas. The categories of projects include:

- Use of practice management systems,
- Government online services,
- Communications and seminars, and
- Emerging technologies.

This structured approach has borne fruit and, hopefully, will continue to do so as projects are brought to a conclusion and new projects begin.

The repeat seminar on ‘New ways to work’, which was held in December 2013 in Tipperary, was very well attended. The seminar focused on the impact of the cloud on a legal office, the legal aspects of cloud computing, and the practical aspects of implementing cloud-based solutions. Another seminar is planned for November 2014 on data-sharing and the use of ‘deal rooms’ by the profession.

The committee submitted a report to the Coordination Committee in February, recommending that the Society define and document its policies in relation to e-government systems. The committee believes that having a consistent approach to e-government and the types of problems that arise across most e-government projects will strengthen the Law Society’s performance and importance as an e-government stakeholder, to the benefit of practitioners.

The committee also submitted a report to the Coordination Committee proposing the use of a knowledge and document-management system across all committees. It
is hoped that the insights contained in the report and the demonstrations of available technologies will be of use to the Society in its approach to knowledge management.

Special thanks are due to Neil Butler for all his hard work in compiling this report.

The committee participates with the Conveyancing Committee, the Taxation Committee and the Probate, Administration and Trusts Committee in making submissions and representations to Revenue in relation to proposed changes to e-stamping.

The committee published two brief practice notes on online interaction with Government (Jan/Feb Gazette) and the cessation of support for Windows XP (April Gazette).

With the Conveyancing Committee and Taxation Committee, the committee also assisted the Society in publishing an urgent note to assist practitioners to deal with problems with e-stamping using the ROS offline application in the days before Christmas.

Through its representative, John Furlong, the committee has continued to monitor EU level developments that may affect the profession. The committee assisted the Society in dealing with the CCBE and the EU Commission in relation to technical aspects of the commission’s ‘find-a-lawyer’ project.

The committee published a note on E-Day (19 September 2014) and the impact these changes may have on the way in which practitioners conduct business and interact with Government departments and agencies, including the Courts Service, the Property Registration Authority, Ordnance Survey and the Companies Registration Office.

I wish to thank all the members of the committee for their productivity and conscientious commitment throughout the year, despite the time pressures and demands that all practitioners are subject to. I would especially like to thank Veronica Donnelly, secretary to the committee, for her extraordinary commitment, assistance, support and good advice, and to thank vice-chairman Greg Ryan for his valued support. Lastly, I wish my successor as chairman all the best in the busy year ahead.
TOP TEN ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2013/2014

1. ACTION ON 29 RECOMMENDATIONS
Out of a total of 31 recommendations listed in the *Future of the Law Society Task Force Report*, 29 have been considered and acted upon. The remaining two have been postponed until the *Legal Services Regulation Bill* has been enacted. One of the most significant of those recommendations concerned the implementation of a four-year *Strategy Statement 2014-2018* and an annual operational plan – both approved by the Council on 11 July 2014. The strategy statement is a formal expression of the Society’s determination to strengthen the Society’s representative role and establish a stronger relationship between the Society and its members.

2. NEW DEPARTMENT DRIVES REFORM
The new Policy and Public Affairs Department was established on 1 January 2014. It has strengthened the Law Society’s lobbying, law reform, research, and policy development functions. The department monitors the Government’s legislative programme and tracks the effectiveness of Law Society representations. To date, it has made 24 submissions on behalf of the Law Society to Government departments and agencies.

3. IDENTITY PARADE
A second new department – Representation and Member Services (RMS) – was established following recommendations made in the *Future of the Law Society Task Force Report*. RMS led the development of a new logo and visual identity, which was launched by the Law Society in July 2014. The logo gives the traditional crest a clean and modern look. The logo is part of a complete rebranding exercise carried out by Irish design agency Red Dog, which has included the development of ‘tone-of-voice’ guidelines that direct all communications by the Law Society to be courteous, respectful, clear, concise, and of service.

4. SOCIAL GETS PERSONAL
It was a case of ‘refresh your page’ when the Law Society launched its new website and social media campaign in early summer. The new-look website has introduced many interactive and user-friendly features and now supports mobile and tablet devices. Social media sharing buttons are a useful feature. The Society also embraced the brave new world of social media when it embraced Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and Google+ in order to share news, events and useful information with its members. It has promised a four-hour response time (working hours) to social media queries.

5. PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT – GET THE GUIDE!
The third edition of *A Guide to Good Professional Conduct for Solicitors* was launched on 4 November 2013. The then Minister for Justice Alan Shatter said that the guide was “about ensuring that individual members of the profession behave in a manner that ensures the profession is in good standing with the general public, that people feel that they can approach their solicitor with a sense of trust and confidence, and a sense that their lawyer will give them, not just the right advice, but will always act in their best interests”. The chairman of the Guidance and Ethics Committee, Brendan Dillon, added that the guide stood as a reminder to the profession about the standards and ethics that should govern how solicitors carry out their duties.
TOP TENTH ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2013/2014

TOP MARKS FOR EDUCATION CENTRE
The Education Centre received a welcome boost with the news of a 10% increase in the number of trainees who enrolled in its PPC1 courses in 2014, compared with the previous year. This is the first increase in trainee numbers since 2006, when 668 new training contracts were registered. The Diploma Centre has enjoyed a resurgence in take-up of its post-qualification courses. It continues to lead the way with innovative online courses. For instance, over 900 participants from over 40 countries took part in the Diploma Centre’s ‘massive open online course’ (MOOC) – the first such programme to be offered by an Irish educational institution.

TAKING THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE BY STORM
Law Society trainees boasted a number of successes in several renowned international legal skills competitions. Emma Farrell and Sean O’Connor won the International Client Consultation Competition. A team came third in the International Environmental Moot Court Competition, while our team in the Telders International Law Moot Court Competition received awards for best speaker in the competition (Shane O’Connor) and best written argument. Other Law Society teams took the laurels in the Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition and the International Mediation Competition.

MARKED DECLINE IN UNDERTAKINGS COMPLAINTS
There was a marked decline in the number of complaints by financial institutions over solicitors’ undertakings – reinforcing the view that this phenomenon is now, to a significant extent, a historical problem.

IMPROVEMENTS BY DEGREES
The Society initiated a project, with the working title of ‘System 360’, to replace the existing membership database with a fully integrated member management system. The end result will make electronic interaction between the Society and its members easier and more user-friendly. Further improvements are being made to the practising certificate application process. From 2015, it will be possible for members to complete and pay for their practising certificates online. The Society has invested significantly in new PCs, software, server, Wi-Fi and other network upgrades.

ADVERTISING WATERSHED
The Regulation Department has been closely monitoring compliance with the Solicitors Advertising Regulations. Actions, including injunction applications and disciplinary proceedings, can be taken against those who breach them.
## STANDING COMMITTEES

### COMPLAINTS AND CLIENT RELATIONS
**Chair:** Barry MacCarthy  
**Vice-Chairs:** Paul Egan, Richard Hammond  
**Solicitor Members:** William Aylmer, Bernadette Cahill, James Cahill, Gerard Flynn, Geraldine Kelly, Michael Quinlan  
**Lay Members:** Dan Murphy, Brian Callanan, Michael Carr, Ullan Courtney, Frank Cunneen, Noirin Greene, Vera Hogan, Michael Lynch, John McDonnell, Peter McLeone, Lenore Mrkwicka  
**Secretary:** Linda Kirwan

### FINANCE
**Chair:** Michelle Ní Longáin  
**Vice-Chair:** Stuart Gilhooly  
**Solicitor Members:** Gerard Doherty, Patrick Dorgan, Eamon Harrington, Martin Lawlor, James McCourt, Simon Murphy, Owen O’Connell, Valerie Peart, Michael Quinlan, Austin Slattery  
**EX OFFICIO Members:** John P Shaw, Kevin O’Higgins  
**Secretary:** Cillian MacDomhnaill

### ADMINISTRATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCE
**Chair:** John P Shaw  
**Solicitor Members:** Kevin O’Higgins, Michael Quinlan, James McCourt, Michelle Ní Longáin, Ken Murphy  
**EX OFFICIO Members:** John P Shaw, Kevin O’Higgins  
**Secretary:** Ken Murphy

### LITIGATION MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE
**Chair:** Michael Quinlan  
**Solicitor Members:** Liam Kennedy, James McCourt, Conor McDonnell, Ken Murphy, Brendan Twomey  
**Lay Member:** Jim O’Mahoney  
**Secretary:** Belinda O’Keeffe

### MONEY-LAUNDERING REPORTING
**Chair:** Michael Quinlan  
**Solicitor Members:** John Elliot, Martin Lawlor, Dara Robinson  
**Lay Member:** Frank Beattie  
**Secretary:** Tina Beattie

### PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE
**Chair:** Stuart Gilhooly  
**Vice-Chair:** Michael Quinlan  
**Solicitor Members:** Martin Crotty, John Elliot, Alan Gannon, Peter Groarke, Michele O’Boyle, Valerie Peart, Brendan Twomey  
**Lay Member:** Jim O’Mahoney  
**Secretary:** Sorcha Hayes

### REGULATION OF PRACTICE
**Chair:** Martin Lawlor  
**Vice-Chairs:** Chris Callan, Martin Crotty, Dara Robinson  
**Solicitor Members:** Conall Bergin, Gerard Carroll, Garry Clarke, Michael Cullen, Brendan Cunningham, Maura Derivan, Frank Gearty, David Higgins, Mary C Keane, David Lavelle, Terry Leggett, Rosemarie Loftus, Jonathan Lynch, Shane McCarthy, Katherine McMahon, Patrick McNeice, Dan O’Connor, John G O’Malley, Eugene O’Sullivan, Imelda Reynolds, Eamonn Shannon  
**Lay Members:** Frank Bowen, Richard George, David Martin, Frank Mee  
**Secretary:** John Elliot

### COORDINATION
**Chair:** John P Shaw  
**Solicitor Members:** Kevin O’Higgins, Michael Quinlan, James McCourt, Simon Murphy, Stuart Gilhooly, Ken Murphy, Mary Keane  
**Secretary:** Mary Keane

### EDUCATION
**Chair:** Simon Murphy  
**Vice-Chair:** Valerie Peart  
**Solicitor Members:** Chris Callan, Colm Costello, Paul Egan, Kevin O’Higgins, Carol Plunkett, Brendan Twomey  
**Consultants:** John P Shaw, Michael Quinlan  
**Secretary:** Paula Sheedy
NON-STANDING COMMITTEES

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION
Chair: Larry Fenelon
Vice-Chair: James Kinch
William Aylmer
Michael Carrigan
Eamon Harrington
Anthony Hussey
Helen Kilroy
Orlaith McCarthy
James McCourt
David Phelan
CONSULTANTS
Bernard Gogarty
Anthony Hussey
Helen Kilroy
Orlaith McCarthy
James McCourt
David Phelan
Secretary:
Colleen Farrell

BUSINESS LAW
Chair: Paul Keane
Vice-Chair: Robert Heron
Philip Andrews
Joy Compton
Maire Cunningham
Eleanor Daly
Philip Daly
Mark Homan
Mark Kavanagh
Neil Keenan
Conor Lupton
Colm McGuire
Seán Nolan
Jack O’Farrell
John Olden
Daragh O’Shea
Deirdre O’Sullivan
Mark Pery-Knox-Gore
Alvin Price
Noelleen Redmond
Paul Robinson
Mark Ryan
Seán Ryan
Lorcan Tiernan
CONSULTANTS
Paul Egan
Patricia McGovern
Secretary: Joanne Cox

CONVEYANCING
Chair: Suzanne Bainton
Vice-Chair: Joseph Thomas
Gabriel Brennan
Orla Coyne
Majella Egan
Deirdre Fox
Joyce Good Hammond
Fergus Hennessy
Geraldine Kelly
Morette Kinsella
Barry MacCarthy
Eleanor McKiernan
Sandra Murphy
Dermot O’Dwyer
Stephen O’Riordan
Patrick Sweetman
CONSULTANTS
John F Buckley
Patrick Dorgan
Brian Gallagher
Rory O’Donnell
Secretary: Catherine O’Flaherty

CRIMINAL LAW
Chair: Shalom Binchy
Vice-Chair: Darach McCarthy
Yvonne Bambury
Conal Boyce
Alan Cannon
Aisling Kelly
Shane McCarthy
Margaret McEvilly
James MacGuill
Peter Mullan
Joan O’Brien
John O’Doherty
Emer O’Sullivan
Robert Purcell
Mairéad Quigley
Hugh Sheridan
David Waters
CONSULTANTS
Dara Robinson
Michael Staines
Secretary: Joyce Mortimer

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT UNIT
Chair: Carol Plunkett
Vice-Chair: Jill Callanan
Bernadette Cahill
Colm Costello
Ruth Craig
Emma Crowley
Freda Grealy
T P Kennedy
Andrew McGovern
Gemma Neylon
Rory O’Boyle
Bernard O’Neill
Fiona Ormond
Aideen Ryan
Deborah Spence
Secretary: Geoffrey Shannon

EMPLOYMENT AND EQUALITY LAW
Chair: Maura Connolly
Vice-Chair: Joanne Hyde
Susan Battye
Conall Bergin
Jennifer Cashman
Andrew Cody
Helen Coughlan
Áine Curran
Loughlin Deegan
John Dunne
Carol Fawsitt
Geraldine Hynes
Mary Kelleher
Michael Kennedy
Deirdre Malone
Ronnie Neville
Catherine O’Flynn
Emma O’Neill
Hugh O’Neill
Terence O’Sullivan
Michael Shanley
Barry Walsh
Secretary: Deirdre Flynn

PENSIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
Chair: Deborah McHugh
James Campbell
Maura Connolly
Declan Drislane
Grace Guy
Sonia McIntee
Tommy Nielsen
Fiona Thornton
Keith Walsh

EU AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
Chair: Mary Casey
Vice-Chair: Louise Carpendale
Diane Balding
Martin Cooney
Marco Hickey
Niamh Hodnett
Richard Kelly
T P Kennedy
Cormac Little
James MacGuill
Ross McMahon
John D Shaw
Secretary: Eva Massa
NON-STANDING COMMITTEES

FAMILY AND CHILD LAW
(\textit{with responsibility also for civil legal aid})
\textbf{Chair}: Carol Anne Coolican
\textbf{Vice-Chair}: Donagh McGowan
David Bergin
Noeline Blackwell
Betty Dinneen
Marie Keane
Sinead Kearney
Geraldine Keehan
Josepha Madigan
Joan O’Mahony
Moya Quinlan
Aidan Reynolds
Justin Spain
Geoffrey Shannon
Keith Walsh
\textbf{Consultant}
Rosemary Horgan
\textbf{Secretary}: Colleen Farrell

FINUAS NETWORK
\textbf{Chair}: Simon Murphy
Kate Browne
Maura Kelly
T P Kennedy
Kevin Lavin
Attracta O’Regan
Aisling Scully
\textbf{Secretary}: Michelle Nolan

GAZETTE EDITORIAL BOARD
\textbf{Chair}: Michael Kealey
Mairead Cashman
Paul Egan
Hilary Forde
Richard Hammond
Mary Keane
Teri Kelly
Aisling Kelly
Tracy Lyne
Patrick J McGonagle
Aisling Meehan
Heather Murphy
Ken Murphy
Andrew Sheridan
\textbf{Secretary}: Mark McDermott

GUIDANCE AND ETHICS
(\textit{with responsibility also for guidance on practice management})
\textbf{Chair}: Brendan Dillon
\textbf{Vice-Chair}: Fergus Mullen
Justine Carty
Caroline Crowley

GUS Cullen
Liz Dowling
Graham Farrell
John Glynn
Peter Groarke
Rachael Leahy
Michael Moran
Michele O’Boyle
Brian Sherry
\textbf{Consultant}
Brendan Twomey
\textbf{Secretary}: Therese Clarke

HUMAN RIGHTS
\textbf{Chair}: Michael Finucane
\textbf{Vice-Chair}: Grainne Brophy
Hilkka Becker
Noeline Blackwell
Justine Carty
Alma Clissmann
Kieran Cummins
Siobhan Cummiskey
Beto Farrell
\textbf{Consultant}
Rose Wall
\textbf{Consultant}
Colin Daly
\textbf{Secretary}: Joyce Mortimer

IN-HOUSE AND PUBLIC SECTOR
\textbf{Chair}: James Kinch
\textbf{Vice-Chair}: Brian Connolly
Patrick Ambrose
Darragh Byrne
Caroline Dee-Brown
Fiona Conroy
Mary Cummins
John Healy
Eleanor Keogan
Aoife Marrinan
Andrew McGovern
Sylvia McNeece
Mary O’Connor
James O’Rourke
Deirdre O’Sullivan
Maureen Synnott
Catherine Tarrant
\textbf{Secretary}: Louise Campbell

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW
\textbf{Chair}: Patricia McGovern
\textbf{Vice-Chair}: Ann Henry
Mary Bleahene
Peter Bolger
John Cahir
Maureen Daly
David Hackett
Deirdre Kilroy
Fred Logue
Elaine McGrath
David McMunn
Aoife Murphy
Fiona O’Beirne
Alistair Payne
Maurice Regan
Colin Rooney
Laura Scott
\textbf{Consultant}
Tara MacMahon
\textbf{Secretary}: Katherine Kane

LITIGATION
\textbf{Chair}: Eamon Harrington
\textbf{Vice-Chair}: Ronan O’Neill
Michael Boylan
Lisa Carty
Andrew Cody
Jonathan Cullen
Fiona Duffy
Derek Elliott
Ciara Farrell
Áine Hynes
Mike Kavanagh
Liam Kennedy
Felix McTiernan
Karen McDonnell
David Martin
Sonya Morrissy Murphy
Patrice O’Keefe
Damien Tansey
Catherine Tarrant
Frances Twomey
\textbf{Consultants}
Joseph Deane
Stuart Gilhooly
\textbf{Secretary}: Colette Reid
NON-STANDING COMMITTEES

PROBATE, ADMINISTRATION AND TRUSTS
Chair: Margaret Walsh
Vice-Chair: Richard Hammond
Pat Bradley
Mary Condell
Georgina Drum
Aileen Keogan
Siobhán Laighléis
Nora Lillis
Madeleine Loughrey-Grant
Kevin Martin
Tom Martyn
Tracey O'Donnell
Des Rooney
Anne Stephenson
Brendan Twomey
Consultant
Justin McKenna
Secretary: Padraic Courtney

Gavin McGuire
Ruairi Mulrean
Michael O'Connor
Andrew Quinn
Anthony Smyth
Petrina Smyth
Consultant
Brian Bohan
Secretary: Rachael Hession

PUBLIC RELATIONS
Chair: Maura Derivan
Vice-Chair: Michael Kealey
John Glynn
David Lavelle
Barry Lyons
Sonia McEntee
Ken Murphy
Eamonn Shannon
Secretary: Mark McDermott

TECHNOLOGY
Chair: Reamonn Smith
Vice-Chair: John Dallas
William Aylmer
Anthony Brady
Neil Butler
John Furlong
Jim Heney
David Higgins
Brian Horkan
Joe Kane
Eamonn Keenan
Patrick Madigan Jnr
Peter McKenna
Michael Monahan
John O'Connor
Greg Ryan
Secretary: Veronica Donnelly

SKILLNET
Chair: Simon Murphy
Garry Clarke
Anthony Ensor
Deirdre Fox
T P Kennedy
Conor MacGuill
Attracta O’Regan
Secretary: Michelle Nolan

TAXATION
Chair: James Somerville
Vice-Chair: Justin McGettigan
Pat Bradley
John Cuddigan
Caroline Devlin
Maura Dineen
Ruth Higgins
Jeanne Kelly
Donal Kennedy
David Lawless
Tom Martyn
Sonia McEntee
REPORTS AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 December 2013
THE LAW SOCIETY OF IRELAND

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee is responsible for ensuring that financial statements are prepared each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the group and the Society and of the group's surplus for that period. In preparing those financial statements the Finance Committee:-

- selects suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- makes judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepares the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Society will continue in business.

The Finance Committee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society. The Finance Committee is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS’ REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LAW SOCIETY OF IRELAND

We have audited the financial statements of the Law Society of Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2013 which comprise the Consolidated Income and Expenditure Account, the Consolidated Balance Sheet, the Society Balance Sheet, the Consolidated Cash Flow Statement, the Statement of Accounting Policies and the related notes 1 to 23. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council and promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland (Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland).

This report is made solely to the Society’s members, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Society’s members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors’ report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Society and the Society’s members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Finance Committee and auditors
As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities of the Finance Committee, the Finance Committee are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements giving a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board’s Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements
An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the group and the Society’s circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Finance Committee; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Reports and Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2013 to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements
In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, of the state of the affairs of the group and the Society as at 31 December 2013 and of the surplus of the group for the year then ended.

Deloitte & Touche
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm
Dublin

15 May 2014
THE LAW SOCIETY OF IRELAND

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting standards generally accepted in Ireland. Accounting standards generally accepted in preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view are those published by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland and issued by the Financial Reporting Council.

ACCOUNTING CONVENTION

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of development land.

BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION

The Society consolidates its interests in subsidiary undertakings as detailed in note 21 and its interest in a related undertaking, the Law Club of Ireland, which it controls, all of which make up financial statements to 31 December 2013.

INCOME

Income is recognised in the income and expenditure account in the year to which it relates. Course fee income received in advance of course participation is deferred and disclosed as deferred income in the balance sheet.

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION

Development land, which is included in tangible fixed assets, is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value based on annual revaluations. Where the valuation indicates a permanent diminution in the value of the development land, to a value below cost, the permanent diminution is charged to the profit and loss account. All other fluctuations are transferred to a revaluation reserve.

All other fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation.

Depreciation is provided on a straight line basis at the rates shown below which are estimated to reduce the assets to their residual values by the end of their expected useful lives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset Type</th>
<th>Depreciation Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Premises</td>
<td>2% per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture, fittings and equipment</td>
<td>20% per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer equipment</td>
<td>20% per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor vehicles</td>
<td>25% per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leasehold improvements</td>
<td>20% per annum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FINANCING TRANSACTIONS

Assets acquired under financing arrangements are accounted for as assets in the financial statements of the Society, in accordance with the substance of the transactions, where the Society is exposed to the risks and entitled to the benefits associated with the asset, in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 5. The financing costs are taken to the income and expenditure account over the term of the transaction.

CURRENT ASSET INVESTMENTS

Current asset investments are stated at cost less any provision for permanent diminution in value.
PUBLICATIONS

Costs relating to the purchase or creation of publications, including books, electronic information and library additions are written off in the year in which they are incurred.

PENSION COSTS

The Society operates a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme and a hybrid scheme. Contributions are charged in the income and expenditure account over the anticipated working lives of employee members currently in service.

TAXATION

Taxation is provided on taxable profits at current rates.

The Society is chargeable to taxation on bank and other interest, gains, and on net surpluses arising from certain activities, such as publishing and courses, to the extent that they relate to transactions with non-members.

Deferred tax is accounted for on a full provision basis on all timing differences that have originated but not reversed by the balance sheet date. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that they are regarded as more likely than not to be recoverable.

STOCKS

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost includes all expenditure that has been incurred in the normal course of business in bringing them to their present location and condition.

Net realisable value is the actual or estimated selling price net of trade discounts, less further costs to completion and all costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

GRANTS

Revenue based grants are credited to the profit and loss account in the period in which the grant is receivable to match income and expenditure.
### CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees and subscriptions</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11,917,305</td>
<td>12,179,810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education activities</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8,322,787</td>
<td>8,517,758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>264,269</td>
<td>267,932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Courts rooms</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>767,457</td>
<td>740,581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest and investment income</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>583,961</td>
<td>529,298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain on investments</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>87,415</td>
<td>205,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>205,632</td>
<td>178,949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry income</td>
<td></td>
<td>9,903</td>
<td>63,128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>22,138,729</td>
<td>22,882,786</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **EXPENDITURE** |       |           |           |
| Operating charges: |       |           |           |
| - General activities | 4     | (11,009,590) | (11,086,198) |
| - Education activities | 5     | (7,599,695)  | (7,408,522)  |
| Financing costs      | 5     | (293,043)   | (287,528)   |
| Other expenditure    | 7     | (582,110)   | (797,212)   |
| Redundancy costs     | 3     | (31,769)    | (114,908)   |
| **Total**            |       | (19,516,207) | (19,694,364) |

| **SURPLUS FOR YEAR BEFORE EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS AND TAXATION** |       | 2,622,622 | 2,988,422 |
| Exceptional items    | 8     | (2,000,000) | (750,000) |
| **SURPLUS BEFORE TAXATION** |       | 622,622 | 2,238,422 |
| Taxation             | 9     | (17,452)   | 597        |
| **SURPLUS AFTER TAXATION** |       | 605,070 | 2,239,019 |

All income arose from continuing operations and all recognised gains and losses are included in the income and expenditure account.

The financial statements were approved by the Finance Committee on 15 May 2014 and signed on its behalf by:

Michelle Ni Longáin  
Chairman of the Finance Committee

John P. Shaw  
President of Law Society of Ireland
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIXED ASSETS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tangible fixed assets</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>15,456,806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRENT ASSETS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11,730,737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stocks</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>73,819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debtors</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>2,033,248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at bank and in hand</td>
<td></td>
<td>11,579,382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25,417,186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CREDITORS: (Amounts falling due within one year)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>(16,699,480)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET CURRENT ASSETS</td>
<td></td>
<td>9,717,706</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</td>
<td></td>
<td>25,174,512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CREDITORS: (Amounts falling due after more than one year)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET ASSETS</td>
<td></td>
<td>25,174,512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESERVES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated reserves</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>25,174,512</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The financial statements were approved by the Finance Committee on 15 May 2014 and signed on its behalf by:

Michelle Ni Longáin
Chairman of the Finance Committee

John P. Shaw
President of Law Society of Ireland
### THE LAW SOCIETY OF IRELAND
### SOCIETY BALANCE SHEET
### AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2013 €</th>
<th>2012 €</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FIXED ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tangible fixed assets</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12,440,298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11,730,737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stocks</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>57,799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debtors</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>5,197,649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at bank and in hand</td>
<td></td>
<td>11,388,202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>28,384,387</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CREDITORS: (Amounts falling due within one year)</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>(15,740,076)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>12,644,311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>25,084,609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RESERVES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated reserves</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>25,084,609</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The financial statements were approved by the Finance Committee on 15 May 2014 and signed on its behalf by:

Michelle Ní Longáin  
Chairman of the Finance Committee

John P. Shaw  
President of Law Society of Ireland
# Consolidated Cash Flow Statement

**For the Year Ended 31 December 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>4,717,835</td>
<td>3,788,583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Returns on Investments and Servicing of Finance</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest received</td>
<td>562,811</td>
<td>549,447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Taxation</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation tax refund</td>
<td>125,634</td>
<td>19,234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capital Expenditure</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of tangible fixed assets</td>
<td>(1,246,755)</td>
<td>(1,330,702)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Management of Liquid Resources</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of investments</td>
<td>(7,500,000)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposal of investments</td>
<td>1,329,266</td>
<td>914,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(6,170,734)</td>
<td>914,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>(Decrease) / Increase in Net Cash</strong></td>
<td>18</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>(2,011,209)</td>
<td>3,940,642</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE LAW SOCIETY OF IRELAND

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

1. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The consolidated financial statements include the financial statements of the Law Society of Ireland and the financial statements of its subsidiary undertakings as detailed in note 21.

The financial statements of the Law Society of Ireland include the general and education activities of the Society.

Separate financial statements are prepared for the Law Society of Ireland Compensation Fund, the Law Society of Ireland Scholarship Funds and Irish Rule of Law International.

2. SURPLUS BEFORE TAXATION

The surplus before taxation is stated after charging:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>1,146,367</td>
<td>1,064,004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditors’ remuneration</td>
<td>26,371</td>
<td>26,371</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance costs</td>
<td>293,043</td>
<td>287,528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance lease interest</td>
<td>5,996</td>
<td>12,884</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and after crediting:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deposit interest</td>
<td>563,961</td>
<td>529,298</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. STAFF COSTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>activities</td>
<td>activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and wages</td>
<td>4,686,587</td>
<td>3,047,937</td>
<td>76,404</td>
<td>7,810,928</td>
<td>7,650,000</td>
<td>7,650,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRSI</td>
<td>500,223</td>
<td>322,194</td>
<td>8,009</td>
<td>830,426</td>
<td>807,790</td>
<td>807,790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pension costs</td>
<td>717,127</td>
<td>397,725</td>
<td>7,724</td>
<td>1,122,576</td>
<td>1,141,986</td>
<td>1,141,986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redundancy costs</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>31,769</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>31,769</td>
<td>114,906</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5,903,937</td>
<td>3,799,625</td>
<td>92,137</td>
<td>9,795,699</td>
<td>9,714,682</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The average aggregate number of employees during 2013 was 132 (2012: 129).
### 4. GENERAL ACTIVITIES (including funds)

**INCOME**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fees and subscriptions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practising certificates</td>
<td>9,216,087</td>
<td>9,040,223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members' subscriptions</td>
<td>770,356</td>
<td>736,603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admission fees</td>
<td>165,900</td>
<td>158,653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund Contributions:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Capital reserve fund</td>
<td>1,183,929</td>
<td>1,960,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Litigation fund</td>
<td>581,023</td>
<td>283,911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td>11,917,305</td>
<td>12,179,810</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Services and Interest</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
<td>264,269</td>
<td>267,932</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Courts rooms</td>
<td>767,457</td>
<td>740,581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest (note 6)</td>
<td>563,981</td>
<td>529,298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td>13,512,992</td>
<td>13,717,621</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**OPERATING CHARGES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General activities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pay and related expenditure</td>
<td>3,324,709</td>
<td>3,280,864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration expenditure</td>
<td>640,352</td>
<td>681,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premises expenditure</td>
<td>594,208</td>
<td>531,891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members' services expenditure</td>
<td>1,663,009</td>
<td>1,648,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulation expenditure</td>
<td>3,719,844</td>
<td>4,007,507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admission expenditure</td>
<td>12,890</td>
<td>16,019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Services</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
<td>660,810</td>
<td>654,717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four Courts rooms</td>
<td>393,768</td>
<td>285,243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total operating charges</strong></td>
<td>11,009,590</td>
<td>11,086,196</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gain on investments (note 6)</td>
<td>87,415</td>
<td>205,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Surplus</strong></td>
<td>2,690,817</td>
<td>2,836,755</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 5. EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional Practice Course 1 fees</td>
<td>€3,109,236</td>
<td>€3,369,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Practice Course 2 fees</td>
<td>€1,883,529</td>
<td>€1,911,728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indentures and registration</td>
<td>€290,675</td>
<td>€326,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination fees</td>
<td>€620,164</td>
<td>€668,256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma courses</td>
<td>€1,479,822</td>
<td>€1,228,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuing professional development</td>
<td>€408,610</td>
<td>€459,601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous income</td>
<td>€522,931</td>
<td>€553,655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td>€8,322,787</td>
<td>€8,517,758</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### OPERATING CHARGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pay and related expenditure</td>
<td>€3,919,882</td>
<td>€3,742,734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration expenditure</td>
<td>€1,408,765</td>
<td>€1,380,142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct expenditure</td>
<td>€1,706,694</td>
<td>€1,658,583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premises expenditure</td>
<td>€564,354</td>
<td>€627,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total operating charges</strong></td>
<td>€7,599,695</td>
<td>€7,408,522</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing costs</td>
<td>€293,043</td>
<td>€287,528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Surplus</strong></td>
<td>€430,049</td>
<td>€821,708</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 6. INTEREST AND INVESTMENT GAINS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interest – Society</td>
<td>€477,251</td>
<td>€434,048</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest – Education Centre Fund</td>
<td>€86,710</td>
<td>€95,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Interest</strong></td>
<td>€563,961</td>
<td>€529,298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain on disposal of investments</td>
<td>€35,100</td>
<td>€174,981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Release of provision for impairment of investments</td>
<td>€52,315</td>
<td>€30,349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gain on investments</strong></td>
<td>€87,415</td>
<td>€205,330</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. OTHER INCOME/EXPENDITURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar and catering</td>
<td>155,916</td>
<td>138,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bed and breakfast</td>
<td>32,588</td>
<td>25,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Functions and</td>
<td>15,545</td>
<td>13,123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>consultation room</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental income</td>
<td>1,463</td>
<td>1,804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry income</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>205,632</td>
<td>178,949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditure</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar and catering</td>
<td>431,220</td>
<td>337,633</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cost of sales</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bed and breakfast</td>
<td>4,684</td>
<td>9,182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cost of sales</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rental expenditure</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>283,886</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Premises expenditure</td>
<td>3,942</td>
<td>4,494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional fees</td>
<td>10,931</td>
<td>10,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other administration</td>
<td>123,876</td>
<td>145,387</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>expenditure</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry expenses</td>
<td>7,457</td>
<td>5,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenditure</strong></td>
<td>582,110</td>
<td>797,212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deficit</td>
<td>(376,478)</td>
<td>(618,263)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. EXCEPTIONAL ITEM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Impairment of development land</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onerous lease provision</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Exceptional Item</strong></td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>750,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The unrealised loss arises on the revaluation of development land in Dublin 7.

The onerous lease provision in 2012 relates to a leased education premises which is no longer used by the Society. The Society is currently seeking a tenant.
9. **TAXATION CHARGE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Based on the surplus for the year:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxation charge/ (credit)</td>
<td>115,099</td>
<td>(597)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prior year overprovision</td>
<td>(97,647)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>17,452</td>
<td>(597)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The effective tax rate for the year is lower than the standard rate of corporation tax in Ireland, which is 12.5%. The differences are explained below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus for year before taxation</td>
<td>622,522</td>
<td>2,238,422</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Surplus for year multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax of 12.5% (2012: 12.5%)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus for year multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax of 12.5% (2012: 12.5%)</td>
<td>77,815</td>
<td>279,803</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Effects of:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income not subject to taxation</td>
<td>(217,533)</td>
<td>(145,489)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Expenses deductible)/not deductible for tax purposes</td>
<td>232,189</td>
<td>(14,426)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital allowances/depreciation for year in excess</td>
<td>(8,824)</td>
<td>(2,385)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher tax rates on interest and rental income</td>
<td>81,018</td>
<td>88,777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retention tax paid</td>
<td>(49,566)</td>
<td>(204,878)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>115,099</td>
<td>(597)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Society is chargeable to taxation on bank and other interest, gains, and on net surpluses arising from certain activities, such as publishing and courses, to the extent that they relate to transactions with non-members.
### 10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Premises</th>
<th>Development</th>
<th>Leasehold</th>
<th>Furniture</th>
<th>Computer</th>
<th>Motor</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>Land €</td>
<td>Improvements €</td>
<td>Equipment €</td>
<td>Equipment €</td>
<td>Vehicles €</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost/Valuation:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 1/1/2013</td>
<td>14,957,551</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>2,237,441</td>
<td>8,893,127</td>
<td>5,515,185</td>
<td>59,875</td>
<td>36,663,179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additions</td>
<td>436,733</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>45,810</td>
<td>619,597</td>
<td>144,615</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,245,755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impairment</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(2,000,000)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(2,000,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposals</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(4,532,529)</td>
<td>(2,954,990)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(7,487,519)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 31/12/2013</td>
<td>16,394,284</td>
<td>3,000,000</td>
<td>2,283,251</td>
<td>4,980,196</td>
<td>2,794,810</td>
<td>59,875</td>
<td>28,422,415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 1/1/2013</td>
<td>4,638,013</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,016,343</td>
<td>8,470,976</td>
<td>5,121,554</td>
<td>59,875</td>
<td>19,305,761</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charge for year</td>
<td>295,815</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>440,325</td>
<td>203,495</td>
<td>206,632</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,146,367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposals</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(4,532,529)</td>
<td>(2,954,990)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(7,487,519)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 31/12/2013</td>
<td>4,933,928</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,456,668</td>
<td>4,141,942</td>
<td>2,373,196</td>
<td>59,875</td>
<td>12,965,609</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Net book value**

| At 31/12/2013 | 10,480,356 | 3,000,000 | 826,583 | 838,253 | 331,614 | - | 15,456,806 |
| At 31/12/2012 | 10,319,538 | 5,000,000 | 1,221,098 | 422,151 | 393,831 | - | 17,359,418 |

The development land was valued by qualified external valuers Mason Owen & Lyons on a market value basis at 14 March 2014. The original cost of the development land when purchased was €21,716,881.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Society</th>
<th>Premises €</th>
<th>Leasehold Improvements €</th>
<th>Furniture, Fittings &amp; Equipment €</th>
<th>Computer Equipment €</th>
<th>Motor Vehicles €</th>
<th>Total €</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 1/1/2013</td>
<td>14,813,266</td>
<td>2,222,943</td>
<td>8,602,189</td>
<td>5,515,184</td>
<td>59,875</td>
<td>31,213,456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additions</td>
<td>436,733</td>
<td>46,810</td>
<td>617,710</td>
<td>144,616</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,244,869</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposals</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(4,532,529)</td>
<td>(2,954,990)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(7,487,519)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 31/12/2013</td>
<td>15,249,998</td>
<td>2,268,753</td>
<td>4,687,370</td>
<td>2,704,810</td>
<td>59,875</td>
<td>24,970,806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 1/1/2013</td>
<td>4,511,000</td>
<td>1,001,545</td>
<td>8,191,986</td>
<td>5,116,849</td>
<td>59,875</td>
<td>18,881,258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charge for year</td>
<td>295,915</td>
<td>440,325</td>
<td>193,897</td>
<td>206,632</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,136,769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposals</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(4,532,529)</td>
<td>(2,954,990)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(7,487,519)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 31/12/2013</td>
<td>4,806,915</td>
<td>1,441,870</td>
<td>3,853,357</td>
<td>2,368,491</td>
<td>59,875</td>
<td>12,530,508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net book value:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 31/12/2013</td>
<td>10,443,083</td>
<td>826,883</td>
<td>834,013</td>
<td>338,319</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12,440,298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At 31/12/2012</td>
<td>10,302,266</td>
<td>1,221,388</td>
<td>410,200</td>
<td>398,335</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12,332,198</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Group and Society**

The net book amount includes the following amount relating to assets held under finance leases:


The total additions include the following amounts relating to assets under construction:
- Premises: €436,733 and Furniture and equipment: €466,868

---

70 Law Society of Ireland Annual Report and Accounts 2013/2014
10. **TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (CONTINUED)**

*Group and Society*

Included in the above are assets relating to education activities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cost (€)</th>
<th>Accumulated Depreciation (€)</th>
<th>Net Book Value (€)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Premises</td>
<td>6,295,435</td>
<td>1,549,570</td>
<td>4,745,865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture, fittings and equipment</td>
<td>3,781,089</td>
<td>3,181,419</td>
<td>599,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer equipment</td>
<td>2,452,902</td>
<td>2,339,829</td>
<td>113,073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>12,529,426</td>
<td>7,070,818</td>
<td>5,458,608</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. **ASSETS FINANCED BY FINANCING ARRANGEMENT**

*Group and Society*

Included in tangible fixed assets are the following assets which are the subject of a financing arrangement:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cost (€)</th>
<th>Accumulated Depreciation (€)</th>
<th>Net Book Value (€)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education Centre premises</td>
<td>5,858,702</td>
<td>1,549,670</td>
<td>4,309,132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education furniture, fittings and equipment</td>
<td>53,767</td>
<td>53,767</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>5,912,469</td>
<td>1,603,337</td>
<td>4,309,132</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Society financed the development of the Education Centre by means of a sale and leaseback arrangement with a consortium of investors. The substance of this transaction is that the risk and rewards associated with the Education Centre remain with the Society. Accordingly, the Education Centre is carried within tangible fixed assets, with a liability, which is included in creditors falling due less than one year, established as being the liability to repurchase the assets from the consortium of investors.

The principal features of the arrangement are that the Society sold the assets to the consortium for €6.6 million and has the option to repurchase the assets in 2014, being the conclusion of the arrangement, for a fixed price of €7.21 million. The cost of the transaction has been treated as a financing cost and spread over the term of the transaction.
THE LAW SOCIETY OF IRELAND

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

12. INVESTMENTS

Group and Society

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>€</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 1 January 2013</td>
<td>5,471,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposals at cost</td>
<td>(1,294,166)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additions at cost</td>
<td>7,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Release of provision for impairment</td>
<td>52,315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other movement - Interest</td>
<td>1,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 31 December 2013</td>
<td>11,730,737</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The investments are comprised of the following:

(a) With-Profit Bond ("Policy");
(b) TAM Property Fund Investment ("TAM");
(c) Global Absolute Return Strategy Fund ("GARS");
(d) Deposit Fund ("Deposit Fund") and
(e) Deposit Bond ("Deposit Bond")
(f) Diversified Absolute Return Fund ("DARF")
(g) Global Equity Fund ("GEF")

The Policy and Deposit Bond carry 100% capital protection on maturity. TAM, GARS, Deposit Fund, DARF and GEF do not carry capital protection. The Policy, GARS and DARF have a low risk profile while GEF is fully exposed to volatility in equity markets. The Society has provided for a permanent diminution in the value of its investments of €54,056 (31 December 2012: €108,831).

The equity investment by the Society in subsidiary undertakings is carried at €NIL (2012 €NIL).

13. STOCKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stocks in trade</td>
<td>73,819</td>
<td>25,447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Society</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stocks in trade</td>
<td>57,799</td>
<td>14,892</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The replacement cost of stock is not significantly different from the above stated cost.
### DEBTORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Group</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts falling due within one year:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debtors and prepayments</td>
<td>1,204,792</td>
<td>1,364,746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts due from Law Society Compensation Fund</td>
<td>814,473</td>
<td>1,162,916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts due from Law Society of Ireland Scholarship Fund</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>92,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation tax</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>27,985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAT</td>
<td>13,983</td>
<td>95,533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>2,033,248</td>
<td>2,743,335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Society</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts falling due within one year:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debtors and prepayments</td>
<td>1,151,455</td>
<td>1,299,007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts due from Law Society Compensation Fund</td>
<td>814,473</td>
<td>1,162,916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts due from Law Society of Ireland Scholarship Fund</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>92,855</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts due from subsidiary undertakings:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- The Law Club of Ireland</td>
<td>160,162</td>
<td>87,465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Benburb Street Property Company Limited</td>
<td>3,020,000</td>
<td>5,010,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Ellis Quay Property Services Limited</td>
<td>51,559</td>
<td>77,309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation taxation</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>27,985</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAT</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>85,909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>5,197,649</td>
<td>7,843,246</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

**For the Year Ended 31 December 2013**

### 15. Creditors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Amounts falling due within one year</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank overdrafts</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3,838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creditors and accruals</td>
<td>2,008,934</td>
<td>2,416,249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts due to Law Society of Ireland Scholarship Fund</td>
<td>22,373</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts due under financial support commitment</td>
<td>3,464,997</td>
<td>1,716,607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bond Funding Scheme</td>
<td>85,463</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Centre</td>
<td>7,216,087</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred income*</td>
<td>1,786,581</td>
<td>1,890,981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAYE / PRSI</td>
<td>481,727</td>
<td>446,271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAT</td>
<td>34,868</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance lease</td>
<td>12,469</td>
<td>68,327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onerous lease provision</td>
<td>470,892</td>
<td>750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation taxation</td>
<td>115,099</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>15,699,480</td>
<td>7,292,273</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Society

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Amounts falling due within one year</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creditors and accruals</td>
<td>1,928,977</td>
<td>2,355,230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts due under financial support commitment</td>
<td>3,464,997</td>
<td>1,716,607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts due to Law Society of Ireland Scholarship Fund</td>
<td>22,373</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bond Funding Scheme</td>
<td>85,463</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Centre</td>
<td>7,216,087</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred income*</td>
<td>1,786,581</td>
<td>1,890,981</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts due to subsidiary undertakings:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- The Law Club of Ireland</td>
<td>120,553</td>
<td>87,054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAYE / PRSI</td>
<td>481,727</td>
<td>446,271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAT</td>
<td>34,868</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance lease</td>
<td>12,469</td>
<td>68,327</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Onerous lease provision</td>
<td>470,892</td>
<td>750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation taxation</td>
<td>115,099</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>15,740,076</td>
<td>7,314,470</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Deferred income represents fees for the 2014 financial year received in the year to 31 December 2013.

The Bonds of €685,453, which are interest free, are redeemable at the request of the bond holders and are subject to a prize fund draw will be redeemed by 31 December 2014.

The amount due in respect of the Education Centre represents the liability under the financing arrangement (note 11).
THE LAW SOCIETY OF IRELAND

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

16. ACCUMULATED RESERVES

Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Society Accumulated Reserve</th>
<th>Law School Accumulated Reserve</th>
<th>Education Centre Fund</th>
<th>Litigation Fund</th>
<th>Capital Expenditure Fund</th>
<th>Capital Reserve Fund</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 1/1/2013</td>
<td>24,569,442</td>
<td>(3,548,374)</td>
<td>3,244,861</td>
<td>7,410,114</td>
<td>1,791,559</td>
<td>2,196,883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/(deficit) for year</td>
<td>605,070</td>
<td>(1,433,324)</td>
<td>99,316</td>
<td>174,125</td>
<td>581,024</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>239,104</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(239,104)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 31/12/2013</td>
<td>25,174,512</td>
<td>(4,742,594)</td>
<td>3,344,177</td>
<td>7,584,239</td>
<td>2,133,479</td>
<td>2,196,883</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Society

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Society Accumulated Reserve</th>
<th>Law School Accumulated Reserve</th>
<th>Education Centre Fund</th>
<th>Litigation Fund</th>
<th>Capital Expenditure Fund</th>
<th>Capital Reserve Fund</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 1/1/2013</td>
<td>24,481,865</td>
<td>(3,651,064)</td>
<td>3,250,974</td>
<td>7,410,114</td>
<td>1,791,559</td>
<td>2,196,883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus for year</td>
<td>602,744</td>
<td>(1,435,650)</td>
<td>99,316</td>
<td>174,125</td>
<td>581,024</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>239,104</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(239,104)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 31/12/2013</td>
<td>25,084,609</td>
<td>(4,847,810)</td>
<td>3,359,290</td>
<td>7,584,239</td>
<td>2,133,479</td>
<td>2,196,883</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Group and Society

The Finance Committee established the above funds to make prudent allocation of reserves for anticipated expenditure in these areas. On an annual basis, monies from fees and subscriptions, income and interest income are allocated to these funds. Transfers between the funds represent internal transfers for projects and other income and expenditure identified by the Finance Committee as being more appropriate to particular funds.

Reconciliation of surplus per consolidated income and expenditure account to surplus for the year per accumulated reserves:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total €</th>
<th>General Activities €</th>
<th>Education Activities €</th>
<th>Education Centre Fund €</th>
<th>Litigation Fund €</th>
<th>Capital Reserve Fund €</th>
<th>Other €</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surplus before tax (note 4 &amp; 5)</td>
<td>3,020,866</td>
<td>2,590,817</td>
<td>430,049</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(376,478)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deficit before tax (note 7)</td>
<td>(376,478)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry income</td>
<td>9,903</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceptional item (Note 8)</td>
<td>(2,000,000)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restructuring (Note 3)</td>
<td>(31,769)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxation (note 9)</td>
<td>(17,452)</td>
<td>(110,491)</td>
<td>93,039</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/(deficit) after tax</td>
<td>605,070</td>
<td>2,490,229</td>
<td>491,319</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(2,378,478)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income allocated to specific fund</td>
<td>(1,933,078)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>174,125</td>
<td>581,024</td>
<td>1,183,929</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceptional item</td>
<td>(2,000,000)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inter group trading</td>
<td>15,525</td>
<td>(392,003)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>376,478</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus per group accumulated reserves</td>
<td>605,070</td>
<td>(1,433,324)</td>
<td>99,316</td>
<td>174,125</td>
<td>581,024</td>
<td>1,183,929</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
17. **RECONCILIATION OF SURPLUS BEFORE TAXATION TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surplus before taxation</td>
<td>622,522</td>
<td>2,238,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation charge</td>
<td>1,146,367</td>
<td>1,064,004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest received</td>
<td>(563,961)</td>
<td>(528,298)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceptional item</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>750,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain on investments</td>
<td>(87,415)</td>
<td>(205,330)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss on disposal of fixed assets</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3,809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in stock</td>
<td>(48,372)</td>
<td>(8,114)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease/Increase in debtors</td>
<td>682,602</td>
<td>(1,141,264)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in creditors including finance leases</td>
<td>966,092</td>
<td>1,616,354</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**  
4,717,835  
3,788,583

18. (a) **ANALYSIS OF NET DEBT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>1/1/2013</th>
<th>Cash flow</th>
<th>31/12/2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and bank balances</td>
<td>13,594,429</td>
<td>(2,015,047)</td>
<td>11,579,382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank overdrafts</td>
<td>(3,838)</td>
<td>3,838</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13,590,591</td>
<td>(2,011,209)</td>
<td>11,579,382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt due within one year</td>
<td>(7,329,852)</td>
<td>28,312</td>
<td>(7,301,540)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6,260,739</td>
<td>(1,982,897)</td>
<td>4,277,842</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(b) **ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net debt at 1 January</td>
<td>6,260,739</td>
<td>2,317,684</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Decrease)/increase in cash during the year</td>
<td>(2,015,047)</td>
<td>3,944,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease/(Increase) in bank overdrafts during the year</td>
<td>3,838</td>
<td>(3,838)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease in debt during the year</td>
<td>28,312</td>
<td>2,413</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NET DEBT AT 31 DECEMBER**  
4,277,842  
6,260,739
19. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Law Society Compensation Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>€</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opening balance</td>
<td>1,182,918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charges</td>
<td>3,999,366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipts</td>
<td>(4,347,809)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Closing balance</strong></td>
<td><strong>814,473</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Law Society of Ireland Scholarship Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>€</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opening balance</td>
<td>92,655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipts</td>
<td>(115,028)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Closing balance</strong></td>
<td><strong>(22,373)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Irish Rule of Law International

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>€</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Opening balance</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipts</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Closing balance</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The related undertakings are controlled by the Law Society of Ireland.

20. PENSIONS

The Society and the Law Society of Ireland Compensation Fund are the participants in a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme, operated by the Society. It is not practicable to separate the assets and liabilities of the scheme, and accordingly, the Society has availed of an exemption under Financial Reporting Standard 17 from making the disclosures required under the standard.

The scheme provides benefits based on final pensionable pay. Contributions to the scheme are charged to the income and expenditure account so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives. The contributions are determined by a qualified actuary on the basis of valuations every three years, using the prospective benefits method. The most recent valuation was completed as at 31 December 2012. The assumptions which have the most significant effect on the results of the valuation are those relating to the discount rate, the rates of increase in salaries and the rate of increase in pensions in payment. In preparing that valuation, it was assumed that the discount rate would be 5.5% per annum pre retirement and 3.5% per annum post retirement, that future salary increases would average 3% per annum, and that pensions in payment will increase at 1.75% per annum on average. In effect, this means that the investment return pre retirement would be 2.5% higher per annum than future salary increases and the investment return post retirement would be 1.75% higher per annum than pension increases.
20. PENSIONS (CONTINUED)

The Trustees obtain the consent of the Society to, on a discretionary basis, index pensions in payment on an annual basis. Increases are the lesser of the CPI increase or 3%. Increases of 1.2% were awarded in 2013. Members of the Scheme who wish to be considered for this indexation pay a higher contribution rate of 8% of pensionable salary.

The last actuarial valuation was at 31 December 2012 and it indicated that the market value of the assets of the scheme was €20,857,000 and that the assets were sufficient to cover 95% of the benefits that had accrued to members, after allowing for expected future increases in pensionable salaries and increases to pensions in payment which are discretionary. It was recommended that the Society's annual contribution be 20% of pensionable salaries and the recommendation will be implemented in 2014. The contribution rate remained at 25% of Pensionable Salaries for 2013. The defined benefit section has been closed to new entrants since 30 September 2009 and was replaced by a hybrid arrangement with the defined benefit element capped at a salary of €45,500 (2012: €48,000).

The actuary carries out an annual update of the Minimum Funding Standard position of the Scheme. The Scheme met the Minimum Funding Standard at 31 December 2013.

The next actuarial valuation of the Scheme will be carried out as at 31 December 2015.

The pension charge for the year was €1,122,576 (2012: €1,141,986).

21. SUBSIDIARY AND RELATED UNDERTAKINGS

The Society holds investments in subsidiaries and controls related undertakings as follows:

Subsidiary undertakings:

- Benburb Street Property Company Limited
- Ellis Quay Property Services Limited
- Law Club of Ireland*.

*The Law Club of Ireland is considered a subsidiary, as it is controlled by the Law Society of Ireland.

On 24 February 2013, Friary Property Services Limited was voluntarily struck off and dissolved. Results of this company to date of cessation have been included in the consolidated results.

Related undertakings:

- Law Society of Ireland Compensation Fund
- Law Society of Ireland Scholarship Fund
- Irish Rule of Law International.
22. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

At the end of the year, the following expenditure had been authorised by the Finance Committee:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contracted for</td>
<td>43,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not contracted for</td>
<td>708,800</td>
<td>754,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>751,800</td>
<td>754,725</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

23. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Society is from time to time, a party to legal proceedings and claims, which arise in the ordinary course of its activities. The Finance Committee is satisfied that there are no additional claims that require provision by the Society at 31 December 2013. Legal costs incurred by the Society to 31 December 2013, in connection with these matters, have been charged to the Income and Expenditure Account.

In June 2011, members of the Society, through a postal ballot, resolved to provide financial support on a conditional basis to Solicitors Mutual Defence Fund Limited up to a maximum of €16 million, to be funded by way of an equal payment from every practising solicitor over a period of ten years and to be collected through the practising certificate fee commencing on 1 January 2012. No payments have been made by the Society in respect of this commitment since its inception. In 2013, €3,464,997 (2012: €1,716,607) of practising certificate fee income was allocated to the Solicitors Mutual Defence Fund Levy and an equivalent liability has been recognised in the financial statements.
LAW SOCIETY OF IRELAND COMPENSATION FUND

for the year ended 31 December 2013
LAW SOCIETY OF IRELAND COMPENSATION FUND

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE REGULATION OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE

The Regulation of Practice Committee is responsible for ensuring that financial statements are prepared each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Law Society of Ireland Compensation Fund and of its results for that period. In preparing those financial statements the Regulation of Practice Committee is required to:-

- select suitable accounting policies for the financial statements and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The Regulation of Practice Committee is responsible for keeping proper books of account which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Compensation Fund. The Regulation of Practice Committee is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Compensation Fund and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS’ REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
LAW SOCIETY OF IRELAND COMPENSATION FUND

We have audited the financial statements of the Law Society of Ireland Compensation Fund for the year ended 31 December 2013 which comprise the Statement of Accounting Policies, the Income and Expenditure Account, the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes 1 to 18. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

This report is made solely to the Compensation Fund’s members, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Compensation Fund’s members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor’s report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Compensation Fund and the Compensation Fund’s members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the Regulation of Practice Committee and auditors
As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities, the Regulation of Practice Committee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view of the results and state of affairs of the Compensation Fund. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with Irish law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the APB’s Ethical Standards for Auditors.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Compensation Fund as at 31 December 2013 and of its result for the year then ended.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements
An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Compensation Fund’s circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Regulation of Practice Committee; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2013 to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion
In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Compensation Fund as at 31 December 2013 and of its deficit for the year then ended.

Deloitte & Touche
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm
Dublin

15 May 2014
BASIS OF PREPARATION
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out below.

ACCOUNTING CONVENTION
The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of investments.

REVENUE RECOGNITION
Recoveries from defaulting solicitors, disciplinary fines and levies imposed on solicitors are recognised when received. Contribution income and all miscellaneous income is recognised on a receivable basis.
Recoveries from stop loss insurance policies are recognised when notification of payment has been received.

INVESTMENTS
Investments are shown at market value. The difference between cost and market value is taken to a revaluation reserve and to the income and expenditure account to the extent that market value is below cost.

CLAIMS
Provisions are made in respect of notified claims and related expenses, where the Regulation of Practice Committee considers it likely that the Compensation Fund is liable for such claims and expenses.

TAXATION
Taxation is provided on taxable results at current rates.
Deferred tax is accounted for, on a full provision basis, on all timing differences that have originated but have not reversed by the balance sheet date. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that they are regarded as more likely than not to be recoverable.
Deferred tax is recognised on timing differences arising on revaluation of investments to the extent that the Compensation Fund has, at the balance sheet date, entered into a binding agreement to sell the revalued investments.

PENSION COSTS
The Society operates a multi employer defined benefit pension scheme and a hybrid scheme. Contributions are charged in the income and expenditure account over the anticipated working lives of employee members currently in service.
## LAW SOCIETY OF IRELAND COMPENSATION FUND

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions receivable</td>
<td>6,587,248</td>
<td>5,951,115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>income and returns on investments</td>
<td>686,811</td>
<td>375,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recoveries from defaulting solicitors</td>
<td>499,303</td>
<td>1,982,679</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disciplinary fines and investigation levies</td>
<td>126,875</td>
<td>98,625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance recovery</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,244,515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>7,900,237</td>
<td>9,632,510</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|       |           |            |
| **EXPENDITURE** |           |            |
| Provision for claims | 2,901,032 | 3,583,297  |
| Insurance | 875,328 | 932,587    |
| Overheads allocated from the Law Society of Ireland | 1,249,767 | 1,321,492 |
| Financial regulation staff costs | 2,190,925 | 2,216,455 |
| Practice closure staff costs | 641,475 | 635,860    |
| Legal and other professional fees | 315,472 | 210,002    |
| Other expenditure | 62,798 | 18,555     |
| **Total Expenditure** | 8,236,797 | 8,918,248  |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(€)</td>
<td>(€)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS BEFORE TAXATION</strong></td>
<td>(336,560)</td>
<td>714,262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxation</td>
<td>(23,880)</td>
<td>(33,324)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS AFTER TAXATION</strong></td>
<td>(360,440)</td>
<td>680,938</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All recognised gains and losses arose from continuing activities.

The financial statements were approved by the Regulation of Practice Committee on 15 May 2014 and signed on its behalf by:

**Martin Crotty**
Vice Chairman of the Regulation of Practice Committee

**John P. Shaw**
President of Law Society of Ireland
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retained (deficit)/surplus for the financial year</td>
<td>(360,440)</td>
<td>680,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement in unrealised surplus arising on revaluation of investments</td>
<td>980,971</td>
<td>2,551,259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total recognised gains for the year</td>
<td>620,531</td>
<td>3,232,197</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LAW SOCIETY OF IRELAND COMPENSATION FUND

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIXED ASSETS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial assets</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>22,740,208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CURRENT ASSETS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debtors</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>91,002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at bank and in hand</td>
<td></td>
<td>64,238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>155,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CREDITORS: (Amounts falling due within one year)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>(2,624,559)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET CURRENT LIABILITIES</td>
<td></td>
<td>(2,469,319)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</td>
<td></td>
<td>20,270,889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>(3,457,250)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET ASSETS</td>
<td></td>
<td>16,813,639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REVENUE RESERVES</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11,042,449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REVALUATION RESERVE</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5,771,190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16,813,639</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The financial statements were approved by the Regulation of Practice Committee on 15 May 2014 and signed on its behalf by:

Martin Crotty  
Vice Chairman of the Regulation of Practice Committee

John P. Shaw  
President of Law Society of Ireland
# LAW SOCIETY OF IRELAND COMPENSATION FUND

## CASH FLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>€</td>
<td>€</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>76,650</td>
<td>(180,980)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RETURNS ON INVESTMENTS AND SERVICING OF FINANCE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends and interest received</td>
<td>119,242</td>
<td>176,976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TAXATION</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxation paid</td>
<td>(23,180)</td>
<td>(36,153)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MANAGEMENT OF LIQUID RESOURCES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purchase of investments</td>
<td>(3,694,663)</td>
<td>(1,307,234)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposal of investments</td>
<td>3,532,911</td>
<td>1,089,702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(161,752)</td>
<td>(217,532)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DECREASE/(INCREASE) IN CASH</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10,960</td>
<td>(257,689)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. GOING CONCERN

The Compensation Fund had a deficit before taxation for the year of €336,560 and had net current liabilities of €2,469,319 at the balance sheet date.

The Compensation Fund has however €22,740,208 of financial assets at its disposal that are readily convertible to cash. Therefore, the Regulation of Practice Committee considers it appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

The financial statements do not include any adjustments to the carrying amount and classification of assets and liabilities that may arise if the Compensation Fund was unable to continue as a going concern.

2. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements cover the activities of the Law Society of Ireland Compensation Fund. Separate financial statements are prepared in respect of the other activities of Law Society of Ireland.

3. STAFF COSTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and wages</td>
<td>2,002,239</td>
<td>2,005,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRSI</td>
<td>213,557</td>
<td>220,461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pension</td>
<td>299,042</td>
<td>304,557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,514,838</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,530,326</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. SURPLUS ON SALE OF INVESTMENTS AND RETURNS ON INVESTMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Surplus on sale of investments</td>
<td>567,569</td>
<td>198,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends and interest receivable</td>
<td>119,242</td>
<td>176,976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>686,811</strong></td>
<td><strong>375,776</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. **NET COST OF CLAIMS AFTER RECOVERIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provision for claims</td>
<td>€2,901,032</td>
<td>€3,583,297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(note 11)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recoveries from</td>
<td>(€489,303)</td>
<td>(€1,962,679)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>defaulting solicitors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cost of claims</td>
<td>€2,401,729</td>
<td>€1,620,618</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Compensation Fund has stop loss insurance policies in place which are subject to an excess of €5,000,000 in any year. No insurance recoveries apply in respect of the 2013 or 2012 claim years.

In 2008, the net cost of claims exceeded €5,000,000 and the excess was claimable under the stop loss policies. Claims have been made in accordance with the policies and in 2013 €NIL (2012: €1,244,515) was recovered. The Regulation of Practice Committee has estimated the maximum recoveries remaining at €30,000. The precise amount and timing of such recoveries are uncertain, however, it is estimated that there will be a claim recoverable from the insurers in 2014 for this amount.

6. **(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS BEFORE TAXATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The (deficit)/surplus</td>
<td>€4,800</td>
<td>€4,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>before taxation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>is stated after</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>charging:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auditor's remuneration</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. TAXATION

The Compensation Fund is liable to income tax on investment income and gains.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income tax</td>
<td>33,324</td>
<td>33,324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred tax credit</td>
<td>(9,444)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>23,880</td>
<td>33,324</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The effective tax rate for the year is different to the standard rate of income tax, which is 20%. The differences are explained as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Deficit)/surplus before taxation</td>
<td>(336,560)</td>
<td>714,262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Deficit)/surplus multiplied by standard rate of income tax of 20%</td>
<td>(67,312)</td>
<td>142,852</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Effects of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income not subject to taxation</td>
<td>(1,603,927)</td>
<td>(1,959,826)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses not deductible for tax purposes</td>
<td>1,647,369</td>
<td>1,783,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>23,880</td>
<td>33,324</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. FINANCIAL ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Listed investments – at market value</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Market value at end of year</td>
<td>22,740,208</td>
<td>21,087,714</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At 31 December 2013, the market value of investments exceeded cost by €5,771,190 (2012: €4,790,219)
### DEBTORS: (Amounts falling due within one year)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other debtors</td>
<td>91,002</td>
<td>94,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation tax recoverable</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance recovery receivable</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,244,515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>91,002</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,341,915</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CREDITORS: (Amounts falling due within one year)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accruals and other creditors</td>
<td>268,893</td>
<td>277,969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solicitors funds held</td>
<td>1,538,087</td>
<td>1,437,469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amounts due to the Law Society of Ireland</td>
<td>310,344</td>
<td>1,168,789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporation tax</td>
<td>7,236</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,624,559</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,874,227</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES AND CHARGES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provision for claims:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At beginning of year</td>
<td>3,400,395</td>
<td>4,134,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision made</td>
<td>2,801,032</td>
<td>3,583,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claims paid</td>
<td>(2,851,827)</td>
<td>(4,317,580)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>At end of year</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,449,600</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,400,395</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Deferred tax:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At beginning of year</td>
<td>17,094</td>
<td>17,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit for the year</td>
<td>(9,444)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>At end of year</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,650</strong></td>
<td><strong>17,094</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>At end of year</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,457,250</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,417,489</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The entire deferred tax provision at 31 December 2013 and 2012 related to investment income, which is not taxed until received.
12. **RECONCILIATION OF REVENUE RESERVES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated surplus at beginning of year</td>
<td>11,402,889</td>
<td>10,721,951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Deficit)/surplus for year</td>
<td>(360,440)</td>
<td>650,836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated surplus at end of year</td>
<td>11,042,449</td>
<td>11,402,889</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13. **REVALUATION RESERVE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrealised surplus on investments:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At beginning of year</td>
<td>4,790,219</td>
<td>2,238,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement during year</td>
<td>980,971</td>
<td>2,551,259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At end of year</td>
<td>5,771,190</td>
<td>4,790,219</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. **RECONCILIATION OF (DEFICIT)/SURPLUS BEFORE TAXATION TO NET CASH OUTFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Deficit)/surplus before taxation</td>
<td>(336,560)</td>
<td>714,262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends/interest received</td>
<td>(119,242)</td>
<td>(176,976)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus on disposal of investments</td>
<td>(567,569)</td>
<td>(198,600)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease/(increase) in debtors</td>
<td>1,247,963</td>
<td>(1,247,574)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Decrease)/increase in creditors</td>
<td>(147,932)</td>
<td>727,908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</strong></td>
<td>76,650</td>
<td>(180,980)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15. (a) **ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Movement in cash during the year</td>
<td>(10,960)</td>
<td>(257,689)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net funds at 1 January</td>
<td>75,195</td>
<td>332,884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net funds at 31 December</strong></td>
<td>64,235</td>
<td>75,185</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(b) **ANALYSIS OF NET FUNDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>At 1/1/2013</th>
<th>Cash flow</th>
<th>At 31/12/2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and bank balances</td>
<td>75,195</td>
<td>(10,960)</td>
<td>64,235</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
16. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year the expenditure of the Compensation Fund included expenses and payroll costs totalling €4,000,019 (2012: €4,118,838), which were recharged to it by the Law Society of Ireland. The amount due to the Law Society of Ireland at the year end is shown at note 10.

17. CONTINGENT ASSET

A contingent asset exists in relation to claims under an insurance policy in respect of 2008. Full details are set out at note 5.

18. PENSIONS

The Society and the Law Society of Ireland Compensation Fund are the participants in a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme, operated by the Society. It is not practicable to separate the assets and liabilities of the scheme, and accordingly, the Society has availed of an exemption under Financial Reporting Standard 17 from making the disclosures required under the standard.

The scheme provides benefits based on final pensionable pay. Contributions to the scheme are charged to the income and expenditure account so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees’ working lives. The contributions are determined by a qualified actuary on the basis of valuations every three years, using the prospective benefits method. The most recent valuation was completed as at 31 December 2012. The assumptions which have the most significant effect on the results of the valuation are those relating to the discount rate, the rates of increase in salaries and the rate of increase in pensions in payment. In preparing that valuation, it was assumed that the discount rate would be 5.5% per annum pre-retirement and 3.5% per annum post-retirement, that future salary increases would average 3% per annum, and that pensions in payment will increase at 1.75% per annum on average. In effect, this means that the investment return pre-retirement would be 2.5% higher per annum than future salary increases and the investment return post-retirement would be 1.75% higher per annum than pension increases.

The Trustees obtain the consent of the Society to, on a discretionary basis, index pensions in payment on an annual basis. Increases are the lesser of the CPI increase or 3%. Increases of 1.2% were awarded in 2013. Members of the Scheme who wish to be considered for this indexation pay a higher contribution rate of 8% of pensionable salary.

The last actuarial valuation was at 31 December 2012 and it indicated that the market value of the assets of the scheme was €20,857,000 and that the assets were sufficient to cover 95% of the benefits that had accrued to members, after allowing for expected future increases in pensionable salaries and increases to pensions in payment which are discretionary. It was recommended that the Society’s annual contribution be 20% of pensionable salaries and the recommendation will be implemented in 2014. The contribution rate remained at 25% of Pensionable Salaries for 2013. The defined benefit section has been closed to new entrants since 30 September 2009 and was replaced by a hybrid arrangement with the defined benefit element capped at a salary of €45,000 (now €45,500).

The actuary carries out an annual update of the Minimum Funding Standard position of the Scheme. The Scheme met the Minimum Funding Standard at 31 December 2013.

An actuarial valuation of the Scheme will be carried out as at 31 December 2015.

The pension charge for the Compensation Fund for the year was €299,043 (2012: €304,557).
**STAFF LIST**

**DIRECTOR GENERAL**  
*Ken Murphy*

**HUMAN RESOURCES**  
*Maureen Seabrook, Human Resources Manager*

**POLICY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS**  
*Mary Keane, Deputy Director General and Director of Policy and Public Affairs*  
*Patricia Doolan, Personal Secretary (Director General)*  
*Maria Hoey, Personal Secretary (President and Deputy Director General)*  
*Gayle Ralph, Administrative Assistant (part-time)*  
*Louise Campbell, Policy Development Executive*  
*HeLEN Kehoe, Policy Development Executive*  
*JoyCE Mortimer, Policy Development Executive (part-time)*  
*Emma Jane Williams, Policy Development Executive*  
*Cormac O’Culain, Public Affairs Executive*  
*Colleen Farrell, Committee Executive*  
*Liam Barrett, eConveyancing Project Manager*

**REPRESENTATION AND MEMBER SERVICES**  
*Teri Kelly, Director of Representation and Member Services*  
*Kathy McKenna, PR Coordinator*

**Gazette**  
*Mark McDermott, Editor, Gazette*  
*Catherine Dunne/Valerie Farrell (J/S) Secretary (Editor, Gazette)*

**Library**  
*Mary Gaynor, Head of Library and Information Services*  
*Mairead O’Sullivan, Deputy Librarian*  
*Eddie Mackey, Executive Assistant Librarian*  
*MARGARET Byrne, Librarian (part-time)*  
*Clare Tarpey, Assistant Librarian*  
*Judith Tedders, Library Assistant (part-time)*  
*Ryan Platts, Library Assistant (part-time)*

**Support Services**  
*Keith O’Malley, Head of Support Services*  
*Sinead Travers, Career Support Executive*  
*Tereza Sokolic, Career Support Executive (part-time)*  
*Malgorzata Rola, Employer Support Administrator*  
*Paul Manley, Practitioner Support Administrator*  
*Web and Social Media*  
*Carol O’ Mahony, Web Editor*  
*Liam Kreegan, Web and Social Media Coordinator*  
*Peter Maxwell, IT Web Support*  
*Enda Naughton, Web Developer*

**REGULATION DEPARTMENT**  
*John Elliot, Registrar of Solicitors and Director of Regulation*  
*Lesley Butler, Personal Secretary (Registrar of Solicitors and Director of Regulation)*  
*Practice Regulation (Practising Certificates and Professional Indemnity Insurance)*  
*Sorcha Hayes, Practice Regulation Manager*  
*Lorraine O’Donoghue, Practice Regulation Executive*  
*Eamonn Maguire, Advertising Regulations Executive*  
*Nicola Kelly, Practice Regulation Administrator*  
*Linda Dolan, Administration Assistant*  
*Colette Higginbotham, Secretary*  
*Rebecca Noonan, Secretary*

**Financial Regulation**  
*Seamus McGrath, Senior Investigating Accountant*  
*Tina Beattie, Financial Regulation Executive (part-time)*  
*Tim Bolger, Investigating Accountant*  
*Damen Colton, Investigating Accountant*  
*Mary Devereux, Investigating Accountant*  
*Colm Dunne, Investigating Accountant*  
*Kara Groarke, Financial Regulation Executive*  
*Noreen McCarthy, Investigating Accountant*  
*Andrew O’Brien, Claims Administrator*  
*Niamh O’Connell, Investigating Accountant*  
*Jim O’Dowd, Investigating Accountant*  
*Rory O’Neill, Investigating Accountant*  
*Jim Ryan, Investigating Accountant*  
*Edward Sheehan, Investigating Accountant*  
*Darren Smith, Claims Administrator*  
*fIONA STANLEY, Investigating Accountant*  
*amy Callan, Secretary*  
*Christina D’Arcy, Secretary*  
*Yvonne McMahon, Secretary*  
*Darren Magnier, Administration Assistant*  
*Complaints and Client Relations*  
*Linda Kirwan, Head of Complaints and Client Relations*  
*Tony Watson, Deputy Head of Complaints and Client Relations*  
*Helene Blayney, Solicitor (part-time)*  
*Daragh Buckley, Solicitor (part-time)*  
*Eleanor Carmody, Solicitor*  
*Martin Clohessy, Complaints Executive*  
*Kay Lynch, Solicitor*  
*Cathay O’Brien, Solicitor (part-time)*  
*Catrina O’Mara, Solicitor (part-time)*  
*Olaithe Gallagher/Helen Mountaine, (J/S) Office Manager*  
*Deborah Finn, Secretary*  
*Doreen Fitzsimons/Ursula Lynch, (J/S) Secretary*  
*Rita Hogan/Carmel Molloy, (J/S) Secretary*  
*Yvonne McGarvey/Colette O’Leary, (J/S) Secretary*  
*PAMELA Connolly, Secretary (part-time)*  
*Maura O’Connell, Secretary*  
*Regulatory Litigation*  
*Joan O’Neill, Senior Solicitor*  
*Mary Fenelon, Solicitor (part-time)*  
*David Irwin, Solicitor*  
*Anne Molloy, Solicitor (part-time)*  
*Susan Murray, Administrator and Secretary (part-time)*  
*Jean O’Gulinn, Secretary (part-time)*  
*Simon Treanor, Secretary*

**Staff List**

**Director General**  
*Ken Murphy*

**Human Resources**  
*Maureen Seabrook, Human Resources Manager*

**Policy and Public Affairs**  
*Mary Keane, Deputy Director General and Director of Policy and Public Affairs*  
*Patricia Doolan, Personal Secretary (Director General)*  
*Maria Hoey, Personal Secretary (President and Deputy Director General)*  
*Gayle Ralph, Administrative Assistant (part-time)*  
*Louise Campbell, Policy Development Executive*  
*HeLEN Kehoe, Policy Development Executive*  
*JoyCE Mortimer, Policy Development Executive (part-time)*  
*Emma Jane Williams, Policy Development Executive*  
*Cormac O’Culain, Public Affairs Executive*  
*Colleen Farrell, Committee Executive*  
*Liam Barrett, eConveyancing Project Manager*

**Representation and Member Services**  
*Teri Kelly, Director of Representation and Member Services*  
*Kathy McKenna, PR Coordinator*

**Gazette**  
*Mark McDermott, Editor, Gazette*  
*Catherine Dunne/Valerie Farrell (J/S) Secretary (Editor, Gazette)*

**Library**  
*Mary Gaynor, Head of Library and Information Services*  
*Mairead O’Sullivan, Deputy Librarian*  
*Eddie Mackey, Executive Assistant Librarian*  
*MARGARET Byrne, Librarian (part-time)*  
*Clare Tarpey, Assistant Librarian*  
*Judith Tedders, Library Assistant (part-time)*  
*Ryan Platts, Library Assistant (part-time)*

**Support Services**  
*Keith O’Malley, Head of Support Services*  
*Sinead Travers, Career Support Executive*  
*Tereza Sokolic, Career Support Executive (part-time)*  
*Malgorzata Rola, Employer Support Administrator*  
*Paul Manley, Practitioner Support Administrator*  
*Web and Social Media*  
*Carol O’ Mahony, Web Editor*  
*Liam Kreegan, Web and Social Media Coordinator*  
*Peter Maxwell, IT Web Support*  
*Enda Naughton, Web Developer*

**Regulation Department**  
*John Elliot, Registrar of Solicitors and Director of Regulation*  
*Lesley Butler, Personal Secretary (Registrar of Solicitors and Director of Regulation)*  
*Practice Regulation (Practising Certificates and Professional Indemnity Insurance)*  
*Sorcha Hayes, Practice Regulation Manager*  
*Lorraine O’Donoghue, Practice Regulation Executive*  
*Eamonn Maguire, Advertising Regulations Executive*  
*Nicola Kelly, Practice Regulation Administrator*  
*Linda Dolan, Administration Assistant*  
*Colette Higginbotham, Secretary*  
*Rebecca Noonan, Secretary*

**Financial Regulation**  
*Seamus McGrath, Senior Investigating Accountant*  
*Tina Beattie, Financial Regulation Executive (part-time)*  
*Tim Bolger, Investigating Accountant*  
*Damen Colton, Investigating Accountant*  
*Mary Devereux, Investigating Accountant*  
*Colm Dunne, Investigating Accountant*  
*Kara Groarke, Financial Regulation Executive*  
*Noreen McCarthy, Investigating Accountant*  
*Andrew O’Brien, Claims Administrator*  
*Niamh O’Connell, Investigating Accountant*  
*Jim O’Dowd, Investigating Accountant*  
*Rory O’Neill, Investigating Accountant*  
*Jim Ryan, Investigating Accountant*  
*Edward Sheehan, Investigating Accountant*  
*Darren Smith, Claims Administrator*  
*fIONA STANLEY, Investigating Accountant*  
*amy Callan, Secretary*  
*Christina D’Arcy, Secretary*  
*Yvonne McMahon, Secretary*  
*Darren Magnier, Administration Assistant*  
*Complaints and Client Relations*  
*Linda Kirwan, Head of Complaints and Client Relations*  
*Tony Watson, Deputy Head of Complaints and Client Relations*  
*Helene Blayney, Solicitor (part-time)*  
*Daragh Buckley, Solicitor (part-time)*  
*Eleanor Carmody, Solicitor*  
*Martin Clohessy, Complaints Executive*  
*Kay Lynch, Solicitor*  
*Cathay O’Brien, Solicitor (part-time)*  
*Catrina O’Mara, Solicitor (part-time)*  
*Olaithe Gallagher/Helen Mountaine, (J/S) Office Manager*  
*Deborah Finn, Secretary*  
*Doreen Fitzsimons/Ursula Lynch, (J/S) Secretary*  
*Rita Hogan/Carmel Molloy, (J/S) Secretary*  
*Yvonne McGarvey/Colette O’Leary, (J/S) Secretary*  
*PAMELA Connolly, Secretary (part-time)*  
*Maura O’Connell, Secretary*  
*Regulatory Litigation*  
*Joan O’Neill, Senior Solicitor*  
*Mary Fenelon, Solicitor (part-time)*  
*David Irwin, Solicitor*  
*Anne Molloy, Solicitor (part-time)*  
*Susan Murray, Administrator and Secretary (part-time)*  
*Jean O’Gulinn, Secretary (part-time)*  
*Simon Treanor, Secretary*
Practice Closures
THERSE CLARKE, Senior Solicitor
NIAMH KIRK, Solicitor (part-time)
DAVID MULVYHILL, Solicitor
CATHERINE O’FLAHERTY, Solicitor
CLARE O’SULLIVAN, Solicitor (part-time)
SHEILA O’SULLIVAN, Solicitor (part-time)
TRACEY BUTLER, Secretary
SUZANNE CHESNEY, Secretary
DECLAN COSTELLO, Administration Assistant
SHANE FARRELL, Administration Assistant
CAROL GRAY, Secretary
GERALD HARTY, Administration Assistant
AUDREY MANNING, Administration Assistant
GERALDINE MOLLOY, Secretary (part-time)

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
T P KENNEDY, Director of Education
LYNDA SHEANE, Deputy Director of Education
GEOFFREY SHANNON, Deputy Director of Education
TARA CAFFREY, Personal Secretary
PAULA SHERIDAN, Education Officer
CARMEL KEARNEY, Secretary
FIONA O’FLAHERTY, Secretary (part-time)
JOAN DUNNE, Receptionist
DONNA O’REILLY, Receptionist
PHILOMENA WHYTE, Secretary/Admissions Administrator
CATHERINE BYRNE, Secretary/Administrator (part-time)
MARITTA MORAN, Secretary
KATHERINE KANE, Education Executive

Traineeship
FIONNA FOX, Training Executive
MARY WALKER, Secretary
BRENDA MURPHY, Secretary (part-time)

Professional Training
ATTRACTA O’REGAN, Head of Professional Training
DENISE HOPE, Secretary
PAULINE SMYTH, Secretary
MICHELLE NOLAN, Professional Training Manager

CPD
ANTHEA COLL, CPD Executive
SHARON BOGGANS, Secretary

Diplomas
FREDA GREALLY, Diplomas Manager
DEIRDRE FLYNN, Diploma Centre Coordinator
YVONNE KEATING, Senior Diploma Executive
JOHN LUNNEY, Diploma Executive (part-time)
CAROLINE FOLEY, Diploma Course Administrator
HAZEL BRADLEY, Diploma Course Administrator
REBECCA RAFTERY, Diploma Course Administrator
EMER NOLAN, Diploma Course Administrator
ELAINE RYAN, Diploma Course Administrator
CHERYL COONEY, Diploma Course Administrator

PPC 1 and 2
ANNE WALSH, Development Executive
MAURA BUTLER, Course Manager
GABRIEL BRENNAN, Course Manager
PADRAIC COURTNEY, Course Manager
RACHEL HESSON, Course Manager (part-time)
COLETTE REID, Course Manager
EVA MASSA, Course Manager
JOANNE COX, Course Manager
JANE MOFFATT, Course Manager
ROBERT LOWNEY, Secretary, ZOE DONELLY, Secretary
TINA DWYER, Secretary
IRENE O’REILLY, Secretary
ANTOINETTE MORAIRTY, Course Manager/Student Counsellor
EMMA COOPER, Student Development Advisor (part-time)

FINANCE DEPARTMENT
CILLIAN MACDOMHNAILL, Director of Finance and Administration
YVONNE BURKE, Personal Secretary
BELINDA O’KEEFE, Executive Assistant

Accounts
PAUL BALLY, Finance Manager
VACANT, Accountant
DONNA LYNCH, Accounts Assistant
BRIGID PENDER, Accounts Assistant
BRENDA MURPHY, Accounts Assistant
DENISE MCCOURT, Accounts Assistant
PEGGY RYAN, Payroll Clerk (part-time)

Information Technology
TOM BLENNERHASSETT, IT Manager
VERONICA DONNELLY, Computer Services Manager

DAMIENT CARR, IT Support
LINDA CASH, IT Support (part-time)
PATRICIA FAULKNER, IT Support (part-time)
CAROLINE KENNEDY, IT Systems Administrator – Education Centre
PAUL MOONEY, Technical Support – Education Centre
AARON DUGGAN, IT Support – Education Centre

Four Courts Office
PADDY CAULFIELD, Manager
MARY MCLoughLIN
DOLORES MAGUIRE (part-time)

Facilities/Internal Services
TONY MORGAN, Facilities Manager
CATHERINE MONAGHAN, Secretary
CAROL O’RIORDAN, Head Receptionist (part-time)
DEIRDRE GILHOOLY, Receptionist
KAY BYRNE, Receptionist (part-time)
THELMA GORMAN, Receptionist (George’s Court)
ROBERT DOLNY, Printing/Post/Facilities
DESMOND WHITE, Printing/Post
PAUL KIBERD, Head of Security
EAMONN CLINCH, Facilities Supervisor
CHRISTY CAULFIELD, Security/Porter/Maintenance
CHARLES MULVEY, Security/Porter/Maintenance
ANTHONY CASEY, Security/Porter/Maintenance
ANN MURPHY, Cleaning
PAUL CONNOLLY, Cleaning (part-time)
EILEEN BRENNAN, Cleaning (part-time)
JOAN MCKEEVER, Cleaning
VACANT, Security
JOHN LEONARD, Security (part-time)
MICHAEL TROY, Security (part-time)
PATRICK LEAHY, Security (part-time)
JOHN SMYTH, Security (part-time)
JIM BYRNE, Security (part-time)
HENRY PEYTON, Security (part-time)
TOM FLANAGAN, Security (part-time)
ANTONELA TIU, Security (part-time)

Law Club of Ireland
ALAN GREENE, Bar Manager
GRAHAM HELPS, Bar and Hospitality Assistant