



Law Society
of Ireland

Well Within the Law

FESTIVAL WEST
2026

From **Resilience** to **Adaptability**

Connecting People, Practice and Purpose



14 October 2026



1 – 5pm



Raddison RED Galway



The evening is eligible for 1.5 hours of Professional Development and Solicitor Wellbeing CPD

www.lawsociety.ie/wwtlfestival



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Brought to you by Law Society Solicitor Services, Festival West brings solicitors together for an afternoon of connection, shared experiences and a chance to enjoy something away from the day-to-day.

Join us in Galway for live theatre, Festival Pop-Ups, good food, entertainment and plenty of time to connect with colleagues.

This year's theme, *From Resilience to Adaptability – Connecting People, Practice and Purpose*, comes to life through a bespoke live theatre experience exploring the realities of legal practice today and what it means to adapt and thrive in an evolving profession.

And then it's time to take your pick! Our Festival Pop-Ups offer three short, interactive and fun experiences to choose from. Join a smaller group, try something different, meet others and get a taste of some of the work happening across the Law Society.

With good food, entertainment and plenty of time to catch up and connect along the way, Festival West is an afternoon to experience, explore and enjoy together.

Delivered in collaboration with the Galway Bar Association.

YOUR FESTIVAL WEST JOURNEY



1:00pm | Arrive & Settle In

Join us from 1pm, check in and settle into the afternoon with a two-course *Taste of Galway* buffet lunch before the Festival gets underway.



2:30pm | Welcome to Festival West

We'll officially open Festival West and introduce Solicitor Services, alongside the launch of the latest Practice Essentials resource focused on Regulation.



2:50pm | From Resilience to Adaptability – Live

Our Festival theme comes to life through a bespoke immersive theatre experience, exploring the realities of legal practice today and the challenges and opportunities of adapting in an evolving profession.



3:50pm | A Special Guest – Tommy Tiernan

Settle in for a special comedy performance from one of Ireland's most distinctive voices, **Tommy Tiernan**



4:10pm | Take a Break & Explore

Grab a tea or coffee, continue the conversation and discover more of what's happening across Solicitor Services, the Library and Regulation.



4:25pm | Festival Pop-Ups

Three pop-ups, one choice – take your pick, jump in and get a taste of resources and experiences designed with solicitors in mind.



From 5:00pm | Stay & Connect

Stay with us for music, canapés and time to catch up, connect and enjoy the rest of the evening.



FESTIVAL POP-UPS

Three pop-ups. Take your pick.

Choose from three small-group experiences designed to be interactive, practical and fun. A chance to try something different, meet and connect with others, and get a taste of some of the ideas, resources and services being developed to support solicitors in an evolving profession.



Your Roadmap to Success: Regulatory Support Services:

Put your regulatory know-how to the test in this fun and interactive session. Work through practical challenges, share ideas and explore the supports available to help you navigate practice with confidence.



The Future of Legal Services: Access, Opportunity and New Pathways

What will legal practice across Ireland look like in the years ahead? Explore the challenges facing access to legal services, particularly in smaller and rural communities, and discover how new pathways into the profession and the Small Practice Traineeship Grant could help shape a more sustainable future for legal practice across the country.



What's in the Cards? A Fresh Approach to Career, Practice & Wellbeing

Pick a card and see where the conversation takes you. Expect curveballs, different perspectives and plenty to talk about across career, practice, leadership and wellbeing

From **Resilience** to **Adaptability**

Connecting People, Practice and Purpose

What does it really mean to adapt in a profession where expectations are changing, technology is reshaping how we work and there is often little room to drop the ball?

The centrepiece of the evening is From Resilience to Adaptability, an original, interactive live theatre experience hosted by Michael Walsh and created especially for the profession.

Through a series of live scenes inspired by the realities of legal practice, we will explore what adaptability looks like in the moments that matter – from evolving client expectations and new technology to workload, professional value, wellbeing and knowing when to adapt and when to hold your ground.

But this isn't a performance you'll simply sit and watch. Using live performance, facilitated conversation and collective reflection, the room becomes part of the experience, exploring these questions together.

Created with Thompson Harrison and written and directed by Olivier and Offie Award-winning theatre director Donnacadh O'Briain, the piece brings theatre and professional learning together in a format designed to get the room thinking, talking and involved.

Expect theatre, conversation, a little unpredictability and plenty to think about – with no neat answers required.

THOMPSON HARRISON



BEHIND THE EXPERIENCE

Created with Thompson Harrison

Thompson Harrison creates experiential and creative learning experiences designed to help organisations, teams and leaders perform, innovate and have impact.

Written & directed by Olivier and Offie Award-winning theatre director **Donnacadh O'Briain**.

Olivier and Offie Award-winning theatre director Donnacadh O'Briain has staged productions at the RSC, in the West End, Off-Broadway and internationally. Today, alongside writing and directing entertainment projects, he works in corporate learning, specialising in leadership, communication and storytelling.



TOMMY TIERNAN

Comedian, actor, podcaster and chat show host Tommy Tiernan joins Festival West as our special guest, bringing his unmistakable humour and unique perspective to the festival stage.



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Keep connected: www.lawsociety.ie/wwtlfestival

Email: solicitorservices@lawsociety.ie