



Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Masterclass

Date	7 March, 2024 (onsite) and 21 March 2024 (live Zoom session)
Time	3.00pm to 6.00pm (7 March) 10.00am to 11.30am (21 March)
Venue	Law Society of Ireland and online via Moodle and live Zoom
Fee	€375
Discounted Fee	€350*
CPD Hours	6 general 3.5 professional development and solicitor wellbeing Total 9.5 hours (6 by eLearning, 3.5 by group study)
Event Code	S2402

**This Law Society Skillnet discount is applicable to all practicing solicitors working in the private sector. The standard fee for this course is €325*

Aim and objectives

This hybrid ESG masterclass is aimed at all practitioners both in-house and in private practice. Our masterclass format includes a workshop element to gain a practical and applied understanding of this developing area of law. The topics covered reflect the practical implications of this complex and emerging practice area. The presenters and workshop facilitators are experts in this field.

This masterclass will be hosted on an online learning platform (Moodle). There will be two live in-person lectures and five pre-recorded lectures. One interactive workshop will be held onsite in-person and one will be live online via Zoom. Materials and other resources will be uploaded to Moodle.

Topics and Issues to be covered

- Lawyers and ESG
- **Lecture 1: ESG - The Law**
 - What is ESG
 - What is ESG Due Diligence
 - What is ESG Materiality
 - What is ESG Stakeholder Engagement

- **Lecture 2: ESG Corporate Governance**
 - ESG Steering Committee
 - ESG Corporate Reporting
- **Workshop 1: ESG in legal practice**
 - Mergers and Acquisitions
 - HR and Employment
 - Supply Chains
 - Commercial Leases
 - Tendering and Procurement
 - Construction Law
- **Lecture 3: ESG in Business**
 - ESG for Large Companies
 - ESG for SME's
 - ESG for Public Sector
- **Lecture 4: ESG: Policies**
 - What to cover
 - Benefits
 - Capacity and Culture Building
- **Lecture 5: ESG in Financial Services**
- **Lecture 6: ESG: on the way**
 - Planned legal developments
 - ESG Preparations
- **Workshop 2**

Learning Outcomes

At the end of masterclass participants will have gained an understanding of the concepts and processes listed above and demonstrate an understanding of these in applying the knowledge gained to practical scenarios in the workshops.

Speakers/workshop facilitators

Richard Lee, Principal, Lee Solicitors

Richard Lee is principal of Lee Solicitors and has been a practising solicitor for over 30 years and holds a Master of Laws in Advanced Legal Practice from the University of Northumbria. Throughout his professional life Richard has been interpreting and applying the law as it affects business and individuals in a practical context. Richard is currently finalising his doctorate relating to ESG/Corporate Sustainability Impact and Planning and will be drawing on the latest research and law.

Marion O'Donnell, Sustainable Investing Advisor

Marion has been working in sustainability for over 10 years, most recently for a large global asset manager where she was a senior member of the Sustainable Investing Team and focused on ESG integration, sustainable fund construction, and policy development. She has expertise in corporate engagement focusing on global sustainability best practice and regulatory reporting. Marion also worked as a portfolio advisor and was directly involved in investment decisions on sustainable funds with specific expertise on climate change, diversity and modern slavery. Marion currently advises boards and independent non-executive directors on global sustainability regulations and reporting requirements.

Andrew Farmer, Director, KPMG Sustainable Futures

Andrew has nearly two decades of deep experiential knowledge of the business of institutional investment management, global fund structuring and specialized innovation and leads the Investment Management and Private Equity service offerings of KPMG Sustainable Futures. Over his career, Andrew has served in senior roles within hedge funds, long-only managers, venture capital and institutional investment consulting firms. Andrew has significant experience in serving on a variety of Boards, such as OWL ESG, EARNEST Partners Global Funds, plc., IslePoniLo, and Pratt & Co. Capital (Cayman) Ltd.

Anikó Kraft, Associate Director, KPMG Sustainable Futures

Anikó has been providing Sustainability services to KPMG clients in Ireland, the UK and Hungary for 12 years. She brings extensive experience in Sustainability strategy and reporting, measuring and target setting, including in line with the Science Based Target Initiative (SBTi), developing climate action plans and conducting ESG due diligence reviews, working across organisations in both the public and private sectors. Anikó works closely with sustainability practitioners to enhance their approaches to ESG / Sustainability, engage stakeholders, cut costs, increase efficiency and improve reputation.

John MacNamara, Head of Corporate Sustainability, Bord na Móna

John MacNamara is currently leading Bord na Móna's Corporate Sustainability team, as the company transitions from a fossil fuel company to becoming a provider of Climate Solutions across low carbon renewable energy, the circular economy and land use management/ecosystem services. John is developing and co-ordinating the implementation of Bord na Móna's new Sustainability strategy which also includes embedding ESG considerations across all activities in the organisation. He holds a PhD in Chemistry, an LLB in Irish Law, and a diploma in Finance. John is company secretary for the Electricity Association of Ireland; was previously chair of Wind Energy Ireland's (WEI) Markets Committee and a member of the Brussels based Eurelectric's Markets & Investment Committee. John was formerly employed with the EPA as a senior scientist, as well as holding positions in the private environmental sector and latterly in Bord na Móna's Renewable Energy division.

Jane Pittaway, Executive Chair at General Counsel Sustainability Leaders

Jane Pittaway has a unique insight into the challenges and opportunities facing both businesses and law firms regarding climate and wider ESG issues. She is Executive Chair of General Counsel Sustainability Leaders (GCSL), which until Sept '23 was known as Lawyers for Net Zero. For 20 years prior she was a partner in high profile corporate practices, in the UK and abroad leading large teams and delivering complex and significant deals. GCSL works with global GCs from organisations such as Rolls Royce, WPP, Centrica, Specsavers and BUPA via its highly rated Leaders Programme, which currently has 40 high profile participants. Jane also supports clients on how to manage and mitigate their sustainability risks and build resilience. She's passionate about enabling good ESG governance and enabling contracts to be instruments of change.

Georgina Barrett, Solicitor, AIB Specialised Lending

Georgina Barrett qualified as a solicitor in 2005. She worked in the Real Estate department of Arthur Cox for a number of years and joined AIB in 2011. Georgina has worked in various in-house roles in AIB in the area of corporate lending and supports the Sustainability Legal team in the Bank which advances the AIB sustainability agenda. Georgina has acted as a director of a not for profit sustainability company which planted trees offsetting co2 and contributing to re-forestation. Georgina has also completed the Institute of Bankers Certificate in Responsible and Sustainable Finance.

IMPORTANT

- Unless otherwise indicated, our Zoom webinars and meetings are held live and are not recorded. If you miss the live webinar/meeting, you cannot play back the event. You also may not avail of your CPD hours for that event.
- Attendance at live, online webinars and meetings is tracked and logged for CPD compliance purposes. This information will be shared with the Law Society CPD Scheme at their request.
- Please see www.lawsociety.ie/Solicitors/rules-legislation/CPD-Scheme for the CPD hours required to be fulfilled in any given year.
- For full programme details download the [Brochure](#).
- View our [Privacy Statement](#).
- If you have technical or other queries, contact the Law Society Skillnet team on lawsocietyskillnet@lawsociety.ie

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