LPDT
Legal Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal
An Binse Araíonachta Dlí-Chleachtóirí

CALL FOR INTEREST

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Legal Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal ("**LPDT**") was established under Section 74 of the Legal Services Regulation Act 2015 ("**2015 Act**") to consider complaints of misconduct against legal practitioners (solicitors and barristers). LPDT has up to 33 members, with the majority being non-legal members along with solicitor and barrister members. Applications regarding the alleged misconduct of a legal practitioner can be received by LPDT from the Law Society of Ireland or the Legal Services Regulatory Authority, depending on the matter at issue. The LPDT has the same rights and powers as the High Court regarding the enforcement of the attendance of witnesses and the production and the discovery of documents. Witnesses may be subpoenaed to attend and give evidence on oath or affirmation and be subject to cross-examination. For more details regarding the LPDT and its procedures, please refer to the 2015 Act and the Legal Practitioners Disciplinary Tribunal Regulations 2021 (SI No. 786 of 2021).

2 SCOPE OF APPOINTMENT

2.1 LPDT is seeking expressions of interest from applicants ("**Applicants**") for appointment to a panel of legal assessors ("**Panel**") for the provision of legal advisory services to LPDT, in accordance with the Specification, Operational Procedures and Principles set out in the Appendix hereto and with the established principles and law relating to the role and function of legal assessors generally, including (in outline):

(a) advising and assisting LPDT on legal matters which may arise during hearings;

(b) advising and assisting LPDT during deliberations;

(c) disclosing any advice given to LPDT members to the parties to an inquiry; and

(d) assisting LPDT with the preparation of any determinations and any associated documents, if requested to do so.

("**Services**").

2.2 If successful, Applicants will be invited to enter into the Terms and Conditions of Appointment governing the provision of the Services ("**Terms of Appointment**"). The Terms of Appointment will be for an initial period of one year which may, at LPDT's sole discretion, be extended for a further period of one year (the "**Term**").

3 OPERATION OF THE PANEL

3.1 LPDT will award work to members of the Panel ("**Panel Members**") in its absolute discretion. Without prejudice to its general discretion, LPDT may have regard, amongst other things, to any:

3.1.1 specialist knowledge/expertise or particular level of experience required or desirable for the particular Services;

3.1.2 similarity to previous inquiries in respect of which the Panel Member was engaged;

3.1.3 any urgency as regards the Services; and/or

3.1.4 actual or potential conflict of interest on the part of a particular Panel Member.

3.2 While there is no limit on the number of Panel Members that may be appointed, LPDT envisages that between 8 and 12 Panel Members will be appointed.

3.3 Applicants should note that continued participation on the Panel and/or the awarding of work to Panel Members may be contingent on satisfactory performance reviews during the Term.

4 RATES

4.1 The chargeable rate will be €2,250 (exclusive of applicable VAT) per full hearing day (this being a hearing day lasting 1 hour or more, and lasting for whatever period after that hour, until the hearing concludes on that day) and €1,125 (exclusive of applicable VAT) for a hearing half day (this being a hearing day lasting less than 1 hour), and shall be inclusive of all costs and expenditure incurred by the Panel Member during the course of the inquiry, including any preparatory work or pre-reading, (as well as, if required, the drafting of a report or recommendation to the High Court following a particular inquiry) . It is envisaged that a majority of the inquiry hearings will not exceed one day (and on average will conclude by 1pm). However, inquiries may vary in duration. Panel Members will not be entitled to any additional charges if a given inquiry hearing day runs past 1pm.

4.2 The Legal Assessor may from time to time be requested to provide their services in respect of an inquiry that has already partially heard and in respect of which the Legal Assessor was not previously involved. In the event that reading into such an inquiry reasonably requires eight (8) hours or longer, the Legal Assessor may charge an additional €2,250 (exclusive of applicable VAT), provided that the Legal Assessor has provided reasonable advance notice to the LPDT Registrar of such additional cost and the LPDT Registrar has not objected.

5 CRITERIA FOR APPOINTMENT

5.1 In order to be appointed to the Panel, Applicants must have:

(a) ten years post-qualification experience as a solicitor or barrister;

(b) demonstrated experience acting in the role of legal assessor in a professional regulatory context;

(c) at a minimum, the level of professional indemnity insurance prescribed or required by law or by the professional regulations or code applying to the Applicant.

(d) proof of tax clearance status as declared by the Irish Revenue Commissioners.

5.2 Applicants should provide an up-to-date CV demonstrating that they satisfy (a) and (b) above. Applicants should also provide a letter of recommendation or reference from a previous body for which he/she acted in the role of legal assessor in a professional regulatory context ("**Referee**"). LPDT reserves the right to contact an Applicant's Referee and to exclude an Applicant from further consideration on the basis of any feedback from such Referee that it considers justifies such exclusion.

5.3 Applicants may, at application stage, provide confirmations that they either have or will have in place at contract stage (c) and (d) above, which confirmation will be subject to verification by LPDT at contract stage.

6 GENERAL

6.1 Applications should be submitted to general-lpdt@lpdt.ie by close of business on 3 October 2025. Applicants should also submit any queries or clarifications to this email address.

6.2 Applicants should note that LPDT is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and the European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment Regulations) 2007 to 2014, and, accordingly, information provided by Applicants or relating to Applicants may potentially be released to the public on foot of a request bringing same within its scope. Applicants are asked to consider if any of the information supplied by them in response to this Call for Interest should not be disclosed because of its sensitivity. If this is the case, Applicants should specify the information that is sensitive and the reasons for its sensitivity. LPDT cannot guarantee that any information provided by Applicants, either in response to this Call for Interest, or in the course of any appointment on foot of it, will not be released pursuant to LPDT's obligations under law, including the Freedom of Information Act 2014. LPDT accepts no liability whatsoever in respect of any information provided which is subsequently released or in respect of any consequential damage suffered as a result of such disclosure.

6.3 Applicants are responsible for ensuring that no actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest (collectively and individually a "conflict of interest") exist. Any conflict of interest must be fully disclosed to LPDT as soon as the conflict of interest becomes apparent to the Applicant. Any Applicant who fails to comply with this obligation may be disqualified from further participation in the appointment process. In the event of any conflict of interest, LPDT shall, at its absolute discretion, decide on the appropriate course of action.

6.4 Nothing in this Call for Interest shall be construed as implying any form of warranty, undertaking or other commitment on the part of LPDT to consider any applications, enter into a contract with any Applicants, or in any other respect. LPDT reserves the right, in its sole discretion and without any obligation to provide reasons, to: reject in whole or in part any or all applications received, or any portions thereof, at any time; to request more information in relation to this Call for Interest; to check information provided in relation to this Call for Interest; to cancel this Call for Interest (including without evaluating any applications); to change any aspect of the process; to award a contract to any person outside of this or another formal process; and/or to solicit new or fresh applications under a new or existing process. LPDT is not responsible for any costs and expenses incurred by Applicants (directly or indirectly) in connection with their applications or participation in this or any substituted process. By participating in the process, Applicants accept and agree to the terms of this Call for Interest and Terms and Conditions document.

6.5 For the avoidance of doubt, this Call for Interest does not fall within the scope of the European Union (Award of Public Authority Contracts) Regulations 2016.