

Deputy News Editor

Job details	
Directorate:	Membership and External Affairs
Department:	Enter Department Name
Team:	Gazette
Grade:	Specialist A
Reports to:	News Editor (currently Michael Cross)
Line management responsibilities:	No
Location:	London

Role overview

The Deputy News Editor has a key role ensuring that the Law Society Gazette continues with and builds on its sector-leading news coverage. The role will provide regular exclusive stories for the Gazette's daily newsletter and weekly edition, both inside and outside their assigned news beat, as well as diary items and comment/feature articles.

This role requires the ability to make fast informed decisions on legal risks posed by news stories and readers' comments.

Core duties of the role:

The post holder will:

- Develop expertise and contacts in key areas of the Gazette's news beat, such as but not limited to, law firm business and management; the City; civil and criminal justice, and regulation and compliance
- Apply a considered approach to ensuring balanced and well considered stories for the Gazette
- Write well written, accurate, timely and legally sound stories both within and without the assigned news beat
- Ensure consistency with Gazette house style and editorial standards.
- Proactively generate well considered ideas for headlines, illustrations and other page furniture
- Work collaboratively with a broad range of reporters and editors
- Contribute to the continuing development of Gazette products including podcasts.
- Support the News Editor when required, by assigning duties to reporters, assessing and editing their copy and liaising with the editor in chief and web content editor
- Engage effectively with a range of colleagues to assess legal risks and sensitivities posed by news stories and reader's comments
- Apply a proactive approach to supporting a respectful and welcoming environment for all colleagues at the Law Society

Skills and attributes:

Criteria (knowledge, skills and attributes)
• Significant reporting experience on a national newspaper, leading business publication, wire service or specialist news title
• Able to respectfully and effectively challenge threats to independent reporting
• Proven ability to generate agenda-setting exclusive stories in specialist areas
• Ability to cover contemporaneous proceedings in courts, parliament and conferences, preferably with shorthand note
• Numerate understanding of company reports and other financial and statistical resources

• Ability to comprehend specialist technical legal language
• Strong understanding of media law and editorial compliance
• Experience of digital-first publishing
• Ability to build and maintain effective relationships with key contacts at the highest professional and political level
• A proactive and tactful approach to experts and subjects of news reports to ensure fair and accurate reporting
• Strong editorial judgement
• A calm and considered approach during busy and demanding periods of work, whilst meeting deadlines and maintaining high standards of work
• Willingness to work on occasional evenings and weekends, as well as travel when required
• A commitment to accuracy, fairness and clarity
• A good understanding of, and commitment to, equality, diversity and inclusion

Organisational chart

