
The WS Society

The Society of Writers to Her Majesty's Signet

Full membership - Application and notes

The WS Society

The Society of Writers to Her Majesty's Signet

Full membership – Notes

1. The application requirements for membership of The WS Society (the **Society**) are set out in the regulations (the **Regulations**) adopted by a general meeting of the Society in June 2007. A print of the Regulations is included in the application form.
2. By completing and signing this application, you will be accepting the Regulations (as amended from time to time) as governing your membership of the Society.
3. Your application for membership of the Society will require approval by its governing body, the Council, which meets quarterly.
4. At present, the admission of new members takes place at one of the two diets of admission held in May and November every year. The diet of admission is a short ceremony at which new members take an oath and sign the register. Colleagues and family members are welcome. The diets of admission are an opportunity to meet Society office bearers, members and the Society's executive personnel.
5. Your application must be accompanied by evidence of your Scottish legal qualification or registration (e.g., practising certificate or certificate of registration as a foreign lawyer issued by The Law Society of Scotland). Your application must contain full details of your employment or engagement as a lawyer or legal adviser, together with contact details for verification.
6. The application must be signed by you as the applicant on page 7 and 16, and by two full WS members as proposer and seconder on page 5.
7. Your application must be accompanied by payment of the admission fee of £200 (not applicable to affiliate members of the Society becoming full members). After your admission, the Society will notify you of the proportion of the annual subscription of £375 per annum payable from the date of your admission to the next annual renewal. Cheques are payable to "The WS Society".
8. The application form should be completed and returned to:

Membership
The WS Society
The Signet Library
Parliament Square
EDINBURGH
EH1 1RF

DX 549300 EDINBURGH 36
LP 7 EDINBURGH 10

9. Any questions about your application should be referred to Membership on **0131 220 3249** or **membership@wssociety.co.uk**

The WS Society
The Society of Writers to Her Majesty's Signet
Full membership - Application

Please complete in block capitals.

Personal

Surname:

Title (Mr/Ms/Mrs/Miss):

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Forenames *(please underline salutation name):*

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Date of Birth:

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Firm/Organisation:

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Position held:

--

Address:

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Postcode:

DX:

LP:

--	--

E-mail:

Tel:

	Switchboard: Direct:
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Career, professional and academic

EITHER

Completion of requirements to become a solicitor in Scotland (Regulation 37.3 (a) (i)):

Post Diploma Training:

Firm/Organisation:	From:	To:	Contact for verification (email and telephone)

Dates of holding practising certificate (if any):

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University qualifications:

Including Diploma in Legal Practice.

University:	From:	To:	Degree:

Please provide a copy of your Practising Certificate or Diploma in Legal Practice.

OR

Date of registration with the Law Society of Scotland as a registered foreign lawyer Regulation 37.3 (a) (ii):

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Please provide a copy of your certificate of registration issued by the Law Society of Scotland.

Continuous period of not less than three years employment or engagement as a solicitor, lawyer, legal adviser or legal consultant (Regulation 37.3 (b)):

Firm/Organisation and position held:	From:	To:	Contact for verification (email and telephone)

Other employment history:

Firm/Organisation and position held:	From:	To:

Specialist field(s) of practice:

Proposer and seconder

With reference to the application of the following individual for full membership of The Society of Writers to Her Majesty's Signet ('the Society'):

Name of applicant:

Proposer

I, the undersigned, confirm that in my opinion the above named applicant is a fit and proper person to receive a Commission as a full member of the Society.

Name:

Date:

Signature:

Secunder

I, the undersigned, confirm that in my opinion the above named applicant is a fit and proper person to receive a Commission as a full member of the Society.

Name:

Date:

Signature:

Declarations

1. I am not, nor have I ever been, subject to proceedings or other due process in respect of alleged professional misconduct, or provision of inadequate or negligent professional advice or services. *Tick as appropriate.*

True:	Not true:	If 'Not true', detail circumstances here or by covering letter:

2. I am not, nor have I ever been, convicted of any criminal offence other than a minor road traffic offence not involving loss of driving licence. *Tick as appropriate.*

True:	Not true:	If 'Not true', detail circumstances here or by covering letter:

3. I am not undischarged from personal insolvency not have I ever granted a trust deed for creditors or been declared insolvent. *Tick as appropriate.*

True:	Not true:	If 'Not true', detail circumstances here or by covering letter:

4. I have completed all the qualification requirements to become a solicitor in Scotland. *[Delete if not applicable.]*

I am a registered with the Law Society of Scotland as a foreign lawyer.

[Delete if not applicable.]

5. I have for a continuous period of not less than three years prior to the date below been employed or engaged in any jurisdiction as a solicitor, lawyer, legal adviser or legal consultant.
6. I authorise the Society to make any enquiries it sees fit to make of any third parties named or referred to in this application form.
7. I unconditionally agree that, so long I am a member of the Society, I shall report to the Society:
- all proceedings or findings in relation to my professional misconduct, or provision of inadequate or negligent professional advice or services; and
 - any convictions of a competent court made against me involving dishonesty or moral character.
8. I undertake to pay the admission and subscription fee due in respect of my membership and agree to be bound by the Regulations, any determinations, decisions or guidelines issued pursuant to them.

9. The details contained in this application are true and complete.
10. I apply for full membership of the Society and understand that, whilst the Society may issue a renewal notice, it will be my responsibility to renew annually.

Signature:

Date:

Please also sign last page of attached print of Regulations.

Data Protection: By completing this form, you agree to your personal data being processed for the purposes of The WS Society. This data is used to process your membership, provide information to you, to enable the Society to carry on its membership activities, and to provide us with management and statistical information.

**The WS Society
Regulations
Adopted by resolution of the Society in general meeting on 5th June 2007.**

Part 1: Definitions

1. In the Regulations:

1.1. The following expressions shall have the meanings respectively set out opposite them:

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| (a) the Act | the Solicitors (Scotland) Act 1980 (as amended and to be amended or re-enacted); |
| (b) Additional Office Bearers | not more than two holders of offices of the Society elected, and with the function(s) determined, pursuant to the Regulations; |
| (c) Admission Fees | a non-refundable contribution to the funds of the Society payable by an Applicant in order to apply to become a Member as fixed by the Council from time to time; |
| (d) Advocate | a member of the Faculty of Advocates in Scotland; |
| (e) Affiliate Member | a Member who has been admitted to the category of Membership known as an Affiliate Writer to the Signet; |
| (f) Applicant | a person who submits an application to become a Member; |
| (g) Associate Member | a Member who has been admitted to the category of Membership known as an Associate Writer to the Signet; |
| (h) Chief Executive | the Society's senior employee and head of the Executive appointed by the Council to manage the affairs of the Society from day to day; |
| (i) Clerk | the holder of the office of Clerk of the Society elected pursuant to the Regulations; |
| (j) Collector | the Collector of the Dependants' Annuity Fund elected in terms of the Writers to the Signet Dependants' Annuity Fund Order Confirmation Act 1982; |
| (k) College of Justice | the College of Justice in Scotland; |
| (l) Commission | a commission subscribed by the Keeper admitting a person to Membership as a WS Member; |
| (m) Council | the body of WS Members of the Society appointed pursuant to the Regulations and with the functions, powers and responsibilities set out in the Regulations; |
| (n) Dependants' Annuity Fund | the WS Dependants' Annuity Fund constituted by the Writers to the Signet Dependants' Annuity Fund Order Confirmation Act 1982; |
| (o) Deputy Keeper | the holder of the office of the Society known as the Deputy Keeper of the Signet; |
| (p) Executive | the employees of the Society, from time to time, organised according to their functions and responsibilities under the management and supervision of the Chief Executive; |
| (q) Extraordinary General Meeting | a General Meeting other than the General Meeting held annually as required by the Regulations; |
| (r) Fellow | a person who has been admitted on an honorary basis to the category of |

		Membership known as Fellow of the Society of Writers to the Signet;
(s)	Fiscal	the holder of the office of Fiscal of the Society elected pursuant to the Regulations;
(t)	General Meeting	a general meeting of the Society;
(u)	Keeper	the holder of the office of the Keeper of the Signet in Scotland;
(v)	Management Group	a group comprising the Deputy Keeper, Office Bearers and Clerk, together with such members of the Executive as the Deputy Keeper, Office Bearers and Clerk may determine from time to time;
(w)	Member	a person who is member of the Society;
(x)	Membership	membership of the Society;
(y)	Membership Benefits	the privileges, benefits and services available to Members as determined by the Council from time to time;
(z)	Oath de Fideli	an <i>oath de fideli</i> in the form prescribed by the Council from time to time and to be sworn or affirmed by an Applicant in person or in writing;
(aa)	Office Bearers	the Treasurer, the Fiscal, the Collector and the Additional Office Bearers;
(bb)	Part	a part of the Regulations, each of which may be referred to by number;
(cc)	Practising Certificate	a practising certificate within the meaning of section 4 (c) of the Act;
(dd)	Registered Foreign Lawyer	a registered foreign lawyer as defined in the Act;
(ee)	Regulations	these regulations, each of which may be referred to by number, as amended from time to time;
(ff)	Society	The Society of Writers to Her Majesty's Signet, a body corporate under the laws of Scotland owned by its voting WS Members;
(gg)	Solicitor	any person enrolled or deemed to have been enrolled as a solicitor pursuant to the Act;
(hh)	Student Member	a Member who has been admitted to the category of Membership known as a Student Member of the Society;
(ii)	Subscription Fees	a non-refundable contribution to the funds of the Society payable annually by a Member in order to maintain Membership;
(jj)	Treasurer	the holder of the office of Treasurer of the Society elected pursuant to the Regulations;
(kk)	Trustees	the Deputy Keeper and Office Bearers from time to time as trustees for and on behalf of the Society;
(ll)	WS Member	a Member who has been admitted to the category of Membership known as a Writer to the Signet and who has received a Commission.

- 1.2. The masculine shall include the feminine and *vice versa* and the singular shall include the plural and *vice versa*.
- 1.3. The headings are for guidance only and shall not affect interpretation.
- 1.4. Where the words "include(s)" or "including" are used, they are deemed to have the words "without limitation" after them.

Part 2: Property and funds

Trustees

2. The property and funds of the Society shall vest in and be managed by the Trustees.

Trustees' powers

3. In addition to the usual powers of investment available to trustees in Scotland, the Trustees shall have power to invest the funds from time to time under their charge in the purchase or on the security of such heritable or real property, corporeal moveables, investments, stocks, shares (including partly paid shares), deposits and securities (including bonds or securities payable to bearer) whether within the United Kingdom or abroad as the Trustees in their sole discretion think fit, all to the same extent as if they were the absolute owners of the funds.
4. The Trustees may appoint and remunerate professional fund managers to manage the investments of the Society and delegate to them power at the discretion of such fund managers to take the same in the name of any nominee company or bank and to buy and sell investments and to deposit or otherwise deal with uninvested cash all within a general investment policy decided by the Trustees from time to time always provided that the fund managers shall be required to report regularly to the Trustees on their transactions.
5. The Trustees shall not have the power to sell, lease or otherwise alienate or dispose of any part of the Society's heritable property except with the approval of not less than 75% of the WS Members present in person or by proxy at a General Meeting convened for the purpose of considering such a disposal or alienation.

Part 3: Office holders and functions

Functions

6. The following are the officers of the Society with their respective individual functions set out opposite them (as the same may be supplemented by the Regulations as a whole):
- (a) **The Additional Office Bearers** As specified by the Council for each office.
 - (b) **The Clerk** The officer charged with the formal regulation of the Society, including, without limitation, the calling of meetings and the admission, suspension and expulsion of

Members in accordance with the Regulations.

- (c) **The Collector** General adviser and liaison with the Dependants' Annuity Fund.
- (d) **The Deputy Keeper of the Signet** Chairman of meetings of the Council, Trustees, Office Bearers and Clerk, and Management Group.
- (e) **The Fiscal** Legal adviser to the Society.
- (f) **The Treasurer** Superintendent of the Society's financial affairs and the officer charged with the preparation and submission of the Society's accounts.

Deputy Keeper

7. The Deputy Keeper is a WS Member appointed by the Keeper.

Office Bearers and Clerk

8. No Member of the Society shall be eligible for election as an Office Bearer or as Clerk unless he or she is a WS Member.
9. The Collector shall be an Office Bearer *ex officio* and the other Office Bearers shall be:
- 9.1. elected annually at a General Meeting; and
 - 9.2. eligible for re-election yearly until the General Meeting next following the dates on which they have respectively been Office Bearers of the Society for ten years or have earlier attained the age of sixty five years.
10. The rules as to election and term of office applicable to the Collector are contained in the Act regulating the Dependants' Annuity Fund.
11. On the death or resignation of an Office Bearer, other than the Collector, or on any of them becoming ineligible for re-election when a new appointment falls to be made, notice calling for nominations shall be sent by the Clerk to each WS Member not less than one month before the meeting of the Society at which the election will take place. On the death or resignation of the Collector, or on his or her becoming ineligible for re-election under the Act regulating the Dependants' Annuity Fund when a new appointment falls to be made, a similar notice shall be sent by the Clerk to each contributor to the Dependants' Annuity Fund not less than one month before the meeting of the contributors to the Dependants' Annuity Fund at which the election will take place.

12. Nominations of candidates for the office of an Office Bearer shall be signed by two WS Members, as proposer and seconder, and sent to the Clerk not less than two weeks before the date of the meeting. The names of the candidates and their proposers and seconders shall be appended to the notice sent out to summon the General Meeting for the election and, in any case where there are two or more candidates, postal voting slips in such form as the Council may prescribe shall accompany the notice for use by WS Members or contributors in recording their votes.
13. The Clerk shall be
 - 13.1. elected annually at a General Meeting of the Society;
 - 13.2. eligible for re-election until the General Meeting next following the date on which he has held office for twenty years or has earlier attained the age of sixty five years.
14. The rules applicable to the election on the death or resignation of an Office Bearer, or on an Office Bearer becoming ineligible for re-election, shall also apply to the election on the death or resignation of the Clerk, or his or her becoming ineligible for re-election.
15. If there are two candidates for the appointment of an Office Bearer or Clerk, the voting at the General Meeting shall be by ballot of the WS Members or contributors as the case may be present and voting by post. The candidate with the larger number of votes shall be elected.
16. If there are more than two candidates for the office of Office Bearer or Clerk then, if the candidate having the most votes shall secure a majority of the votes cast, he or she shall be elected. If he or she shall not secure such a majority of the votes cast, the candidate having the fewest votes shall retire, and further ballots shall be taken until one candidate shall secure a clear majority of the votes cast.

Council

17. The Council shall consist of the Deputy Keeper, Office Bearers and the Clerk and twenty-one elected WS Members of the Society, with power to co-opt additional WS Members (and other Members on a non-voting basis), if so desired, either generally or *ad hoc*, and three WS Members shall form a quorum. The Deputy Keeper, whom failing, one of the Office Bearers, whom failing, the Clerk, shall chair all meetings and the chairman shall have a deliberative as well as a casting vote.
18. At a General Meeting in each year, seven of the members of Council shall retire in rotation in accordance with the seniority of their election and shall not be eligible for re-election until the lapse

of one year. At the General Meeting, new members of Council shall be elected in place of those retiring of whom at least three shall be members of the Society of not less than ten years' standing and at least one shall be engaged in legal work outwith the boundaries of the City of Edinburgh.

19. Meetings of the Council of the Society shall be held on such dates as the Council may decide.
20. The Deputy Keeper on his or her own initiative may, and at the request in writing of five members of Council shall, instruct the Clerk to call additional meetings. Requests for, and notices of, such additional meetings shall specify the subjects for discussion, and discussion at such additional meetings shall be limited accordingly.
21. All matters of discipline affecting the Members shall be the responsibility of the Council. Without prejudice to the generality of the Council's powers with respect to discipline it shall have the power to expel a Member from Membership, or suspend a Member's Membership, on the grounds of:
 - 21.1. a Member's misconduct, or provision of inadequate or negligent professional advice or services, as determined by any competent court, tribunal, commission or other authority; or
 - 21.2. a Member being subject to proceedings or other due process in respect of any alleged misconduct, or provision of inadequate or negligent professional advice or services (provided that the Council may revoke or suspend the Membership of a Member only during the period until such proceedings or other due process have been brought to a conclusion); or
 - 21.3. the suspension or revocation or imposition of conditions by the Law Society of Scotland, or equivalent authority, in relation to his or her Practising Certificate, or equivalent licence; or
 - 21.4. a Member is convicted of a criminal offence of such a nature as in the opinion of the Council is liable to bring the Society into disrepute; or
 - 21.5. a Member engaging in conduct which in the opinion of the Council is likely to bring the Society into disrepute; or
 - 21.6. failure to comply with the Regulations as they apply from time to time.
22. The Council shall have overall responsibility and authority in relation to the Society's business and activities, including the Society's buildings and contents, and generally for all matters of business

affecting the Society or its Members. There shall be reserved from the matters which the Council may finally decide:

- 22.1. the various appointments which at present are made by (a) the Keeper, (b) the Society, or (c) the contributors to the Dependants' Annuity Fund;
 - 22.2. all matters within the powers of the Trustees in terms of Part 2;
 - 22.3. all matters affecting the relation of the Society to other societies;
 - 22.4. all matters affecting the constitution of the Society; and
 - 22.5. all matters of such special or important nature as in the view of the majority of the Council should be reported to the Society before any decision is made.
23. The Council shall have power to create such *ad hoc* or standing committees of Members as it sees fit, the members of which need not be members of the Council, provided that the chairs of such committees shall, if not already elected members of the Council, be co-opted members thereof during the periods of their chairmanship.

Commissioners

24. All references to "Commissioners" of the Society in any deeds, documents or other writings shall be construed prospectively as references to the members of the Council from time to time.

Management authority

25. Subject to Regulation 22, the Council shall have authority in relation to
- 25.1. strategic management of the Society's business and activities, including the Society's buildings and contents; and
 - 25.2. delegating to, and supervising, the Management Group in relation to operational matters, with full power to instruct, and reverse, the decisions of, the Management Group and Executive.
26. Subject to Regulation 22, and subject to the Council's authority in relation to strategic management, delegation and supervision as above, the Management Group shall have authority in relation to
- 26.1. operational management of the Society's business and activities, including the Society's building and contents; and

- 26.2. delegating to, and supervising, the Chief Executive in relation to operational matters, with full power to instruct, and reverse, the decisions of, the Chief Executive.

Part 4: General meetings

27. There shall be at least one General Meeting of the Society held in each calendar year.
28. The Deputy Keeper on his or her own initiative may, and at the request in writing of any twenty WS Members shall, instruct the Clerk to call an Extraordinary General Meeting. Requests for, and notices calling, Extraordinary General Meetings shall specify the motions and subjects for discussion, and discussion at these meetings shall be limited accordingly.
29. The Clerk shall give not less than one week's notice of all General Meetings.
30. The Deputy Keeper, or in his or her absence one of the Office Bearers, shall take the Chair at all meetings of the Society, and the Chairman shall have a deliberative as well as a casting vote.
31. The quorum for a General Meeting of the Society shall be ten WS Members.

Part 5: Membership

Membership categories

32. The Council may admit a person to one of the following categories of Membership in accordance with the Regulations:
- 32.1. Writer to the Signet (with the post nominal "WS"); or
 - 32.2. Affiliate Writer to the Signet (with the post nominal "AffWS"); or
 - 32.3. Associate Writer to the Signet (with the post nominal "AWS"); or
 - 32.4. Fellow of the Society of Writers to the Signet (with the post nominal "FWS"); or
 - 32.5. Student Member of the Society of Writers to the Signet.
33. The criteria, requirements and procedures for admission to each category of Membership are set out in this Part 5.
34. The Admission Fees and Subscription Fees applicable to each category of Membership shall be fixed annually at a General Meeting. All Admission Fees and Subscription Fees shall be payable within the time periods stipulated by the Council from time to time.

35. The Membership Benefits applicable to each category of Membership shall be determined by resolution of the Council from time to time.
36. Each Member shall be entitled, so long as he or she remains a Member, to design himself or herself using the name or post nominal of the category in which he or she is a Member (as set in Regulation 32).

WS Members

37. Subject to the provisions of this Regulation, an Applicant shall not be admitted to Membership as a WS Member unless the Applicant has satisfied the Council that the Applicant:
 - 37.1. has completed and returned to the Clerk an application in the form prescribed by the Council from time to time which shall be signed by the Applicant and by one proposer and one seconder, each of whom shall be WS Members;
 - 37.2. is a fit and proper person to receive a Commission;
 - 37.3. has
 - (a) either
 - (i) completed all the qualification requirements to become a Solicitor, whether or not they are at the time of application for Membership, or have ever been, a Solicitor, and is not at the time of the Applicant's application an Advocate, or
 - (ii) become, and remains at the date of the Applicant's application for Membership, a Registered Foreign Lawyer; and
 - (b) for a continuous period of at least three years prior to the date of the Applicant's application for Membership, been employed or engaged in any jurisdiction in the capacity of
 - (i) a Solicitor or equivalent, or
 - (ii) a lawyer, legal adviser, or legal consultant; and
 - 37.4. has paid, or given a binding undertaking to the Society to pay, the applicable Admission Fees and Subscription Fees.
38. The Applicant's details shall be circulated by the Clerk to the members of the Council for comment.

39. If the Council is satisfied as to the suitability and fitness of the Applicant to be a WS Member, the Deputy Keeper shall recommend to the Keeper that a Commission should be granted to the Applicant.
40. Should the Council reach the opinion that the Applicant is for any reason unsuitable for admission as a WS Member, the Clerk shall inform the Applicant that the Applicant's application has been refused. No reason for such refusal shall be given unless the Deputy Keeper so instructs, but any Admission Fees or Subscription Fees paid by the Applicant shall be refunded without interest.
41. An Applicant shall be admitted as a WS Member by the Keeper or the Deputy Keeper (or his or her nominee) upon the Applicant taking the Oath de Fidei and subscribing to the Regulations in such manner as the Council may prescribe from time to time.
42. A WS Member (except whilst an Advocate) shall be entitled to attend and vote at any General Meeting of the Society.

WS firms

43. The post nominal initials or abbreviation "WS" and the designation "Writer to the Signet" or "Writers to the Signet" may only be used by or appear on any written or printed material after the name of a law firm or legal practice of which a majority in number of the partners or, if a limited liability partnership, the members are WS Members, save that, in the case of a firm of a law firm or legal practice of two partners or members, both partners or members shall be WS Members.
44. If a law firm or legal practice which previously was entitled to the use of such post nominal or designation ceases for any reason to be so entitled, that law firm or legal practice may continue to use such suffix or designation from its written or printed material until the expiry of a period of one year from the date on which it ceased to be so entitled without having taken steps to restore the entitlement.

Affiliate Members

45. Subject to the provisions of this Regulation, an Applicant shall not be admitted to Membership as an Affiliate Member unless the Applicant has satisfied the Office Bearers that the Applicant
 - 45.1. has completed and returned to the Clerk an application in the form prescribed by the Council from time to time which shall be signed by the Applicant and by a law firm partner, or law firm limited liability partnership member, or senior lawyer, to whom the Applicant is known in a professional capacity;

- 45.2. is a fit and proper person to become an Affiliate Member;
- 45.3. has
- (a) either
 - (i) become, and remains at the date of the Applicant's application for Membership, employed under a training contract as a trainee Solicitor, or
 - (ii) has completed all the qualification requirements to become a Solicitor, whether or not they are at the time of application for Membership, or have ever been, a Solicitor, or
 - (iii) become, and remains at the date of the Applicant's application for Membership, a Registered Foreign Lawyer; and
 - (b) been, and remains at is at the date of the Applicant's application for Membership, employed or engaged in any jurisdiction in the capacity of
 - (i) a trainee Solicitor, Solicitor or equivalent, or
 - (ii) a lawyer, legal adviser, or legal consultant (other than an Advocate); and
- 45.4. has paid, or given a binding undertaking to the Society to pay, the applicable Admission Fees and Subscription Fees.
46. The Applicant's details shall be circulated by the Clerk to the Office Bearers for comment.
47. If the Office Bearers are satisfied as to the suitability and fitness of the Applicant to be an Affiliate Member, the Applicant shall forthwith be admitted to Membership as an Affiliate Member.
48. Should the Office Bearers reach the opinion that the Applicant is for any reason unsuitable for admission as an Affiliate Member, the Clerk shall inform the Applicant that the Applicant's application has been refused. No reason for such refusal shall be given unless the Deputy Keeper so instructs, but any Admission Fees or Subscription Fees paid by the Applicant shall be refunded without interest.
49. No one eligible for admission to Membership as a WS Member shall be admitted as an Affiliate Member and, if an Affiliate Member becomes eligible for Membership as a WS Member, his or her Membership as an Affiliate Member shall automatically terminate one year thereafter or, if sooner, on his or her becoming a WS Member.
50. Membership as an Affiliate Member shall not of itself confer or imply membership of the College of Justice.
51. An Affiliate Member shall not
- 51.1. be entitled to hold himself or herself out in any manner to be a WS Member; or
 - 51.2. be entitled to attend or vote at any General Meeting of the Society; or
 - 51.3. have any right or interest in the property and assets of the Society.
- Associate Members**
52. Subject to the provisions of this Regulation, an Applicant shall not be admitted to Membership as an Associate Member unless the Applicant has satisfied the Office Bearers that the Applicant
- 52.1. has completed and returned to the Clerk an application in the form prescribed by the Council from time to time which shall be signed by one proposer who shall be a WS Member;
 - 52.2. the Applicant is a fit and proper person to become an Associate Member;
 - 52.3. is either
 - (a) a lawyer, legal adviser, or legal consultant qualified in a jurisdiction other than Scotland, or
 - (b) an Advocate, or
 - (c) the holder of a law degree in any jurisdiction, or
 - (d) an academic employed in the law school or law faculty of a university or equivalent in any jurisdiction; and
 - 52.4. has paid, or given a binding undertaking to the Society to pay, the applicable Admission Fees and Subscription Fees.
53. The Applicant's details shall be circulated by the Clerk to the members of the Council for comment.
54. If the Office Bearers are satisfied as to the suitability and fitness of the Applicant to be an Associate Member, the Applicant shall forthwith be admitted to Membership as an Associate Member.

55. Should the Office Bearers reach the opinion that the Applicant is for any reason unsuitable for admission as an Associate Member, the Clerk shall inform the Applicant that the Applicant's application has been refused. No reason for such refusal shall be given unless the Deputy Keeper so instructs, but any Admission Fees or Subscription Fees paid by the Applicant shall be refunded without interest.
56. No one eligible for admission to Membership as a WS Member shall be admitted as an Associate Member and, if an Associate Member becomes eligible for Membership as a WS Member, his or her Membership as an Associate Member shall automatically terminate one year thereafter or, if sooner, on his or her becoming a WS Member.
57. Membership as an Associate Member shall not of itself confer or imply membership of the College of Justice.
58. An Associate Member shall not
 - 58.1. be entitled to hold himself or herself out in any manner to be a WS Member; or
 - 58.2. be entitled to attend or vote at any General Meeting of the Society; or
 - 58.3. have any right or interest in the property and assets of the Society.

Fellows

59. The Council may invite a person of distinction to become a Fellow.
60. Senators of the College of Justice shall *ex officio* be Fellows.
61. Membership as a Fellow shall not of itself confer or imply membership of the College of Justice.
62. A Fellow shall not
 - 62.1. be entitled to hold himself or herself out in any manner to be a WS Member; or
 - 62.2. be entitled to attend or vote at any General Meeting of the Society; or
 - 62.3. have any right or interest in the property and assets of the Society.

Student Members

63. Subject to the provisions of this Regulation, an Applicant shall not be admitted to Membership as a Student Member unless the Applicant has satisfied the Office Bearers that the Applicant
 - 63.1. has completed and returned to the Clerk an application in the form prescribed by the Council from time to time;

- 63.2. the Applicant is a fit and proper person to become a Student Member;
- 63.3. is an undergraduate or postgraduate enrolled at a Scottish university or institution of higher education studying Scottish law; and
- 63.4. has paid, or given a binding undertaking to the Society to pay, the applicable Admission Fees and Subscription Fees.
64. The Applicant's details shall be circulated by the Clerk to the members of the Council for comment.
65. If the Council is satisfied as to the suitability and fitness of the Applicant to be a Student Member, the Applicant shall forthwith be admitted to Membership as a Student Member.
66. Should the Council reach the opinion that the Applicant is for any reason unsuitable for admission as a Student Member, the Clerk shall inform the Applicant that the Applicant's application has been refused. No reason for such refusal shall be given unless the Deputy Keeper so instructs, but any Admission Fees or Subscription Fees paid by the Applicant shall be refunded without interest.
67. No one eligible for admission to any other category of Membership shall be admitted as a Student Member and, if a Student Member becomes eligible for admission to another category of Membership, his or her Membership as a Student Member shall automatically terminate forthwith.
68. Membership as a Student Membership shall not of itself confer or imply membership of the College of Justice.
69. A Student Member shall not
 - 69.1. be entitled to hold himself or herself out in any manner to be a WS Member; or
 - 69.2. be entitled to attend or vote at any General Meeting of the Society; or
 - 69.3. have any right or interest in the property and assets of the Society.

Part 6: General

Alterations and amendments

70. The Society shall have power by simple majority vote at a General Meeting to alter the Regulations or any other regulations of the Society.
71. If an alteration is proposed by a WS Member or WS Members, notice shall be given to the Clerk

one month before the meeting at which such alteration is to be proposed, and the terms of such proposed alteration shall be sent along with the notice calling the meeting.

72. If an alteration is recommended by the Council, it shall be sufficient if the terms thereof are sent along with the notice calling the meeting.

Accounts

73. The Treasurer shall procure the preparation of accounts for the Society to such date in each year as the Council shall determine. The accounts shall be audited and an abstract shall be sent to each Member and the accounts shall be submitted for approval at a General Meeting in each year.
74. The Auditor shall be appointed annually by WS Members at a General Meeting.

Subscription of documents

75. All deeds and documents shall be validly executed by the Society if subscribed by
- 75.1. any two of the Deputy Keeper, the Clerk and the Office Bearers in the presence of one witness, or
 - 75.2. if so authorised by a document subscribed by any two of the Deputy Keeper, the Clerk and the Office Bearers in the presence of one witness, by a member of the Executive in the presence of one witness.

Legal effect

76. If any provision in the Regulations is invalid or unenforceable, the Regulations as a whole shall not be invalidated or rendered unenforceable but shall have effect to the full lawful extent possible, disregarding the invalid or unenforceable provision.

Prospective effect

77. Nothing in the Regulations shall affect or detract from the voting rights held by any WS Member admitted to Membership prior to 5th June 2007.

**Appendix:
Guidelines for the appointment of the Deputy Keeper**

This appendix does not form part of the regulations on the preceding pages.

1. The retiring Deputy Keeper shall convene a committee for the purpose of recommending his or successor, comprising the Deputy Keeper as chairman, the Treasurer, the Fiscal, two Council members and two other members of the Society, the last four to be appointed by the Council.
2. The retiring Deputy Keeper shall submit a short list of full WS members for possible appointment as his or her successor to the committee for its consideration and the committee shall select one of these persons for recommendation to the Keeper as his or her future Deputy.
3. The incoming Deputy Keeper should be invited on his or her acceptance of appointment to sign an informal undertaking to demit office after serving a ten year term, or on attaining age sixty five years, or if he or she should cease to be a full WS member for any reason.
4. In the event of the Deputy Keeper's death or mental or physical incapacity, his or her functions and duties shall be performed by the Treasurer until a successor to the Deputy Keeper has been appointed in terms of these guidelines.

These are the Regulations referred to in the foregoing application form.

Signature
Date