



Law Society
of Ireland



The **Council** is the governing body of the Law Society of Ireland. It includes elected and nominated members of the profession. By serving on the Council, members can play an important role in shaping and developing the future of the profession.



The Council of the Law Society

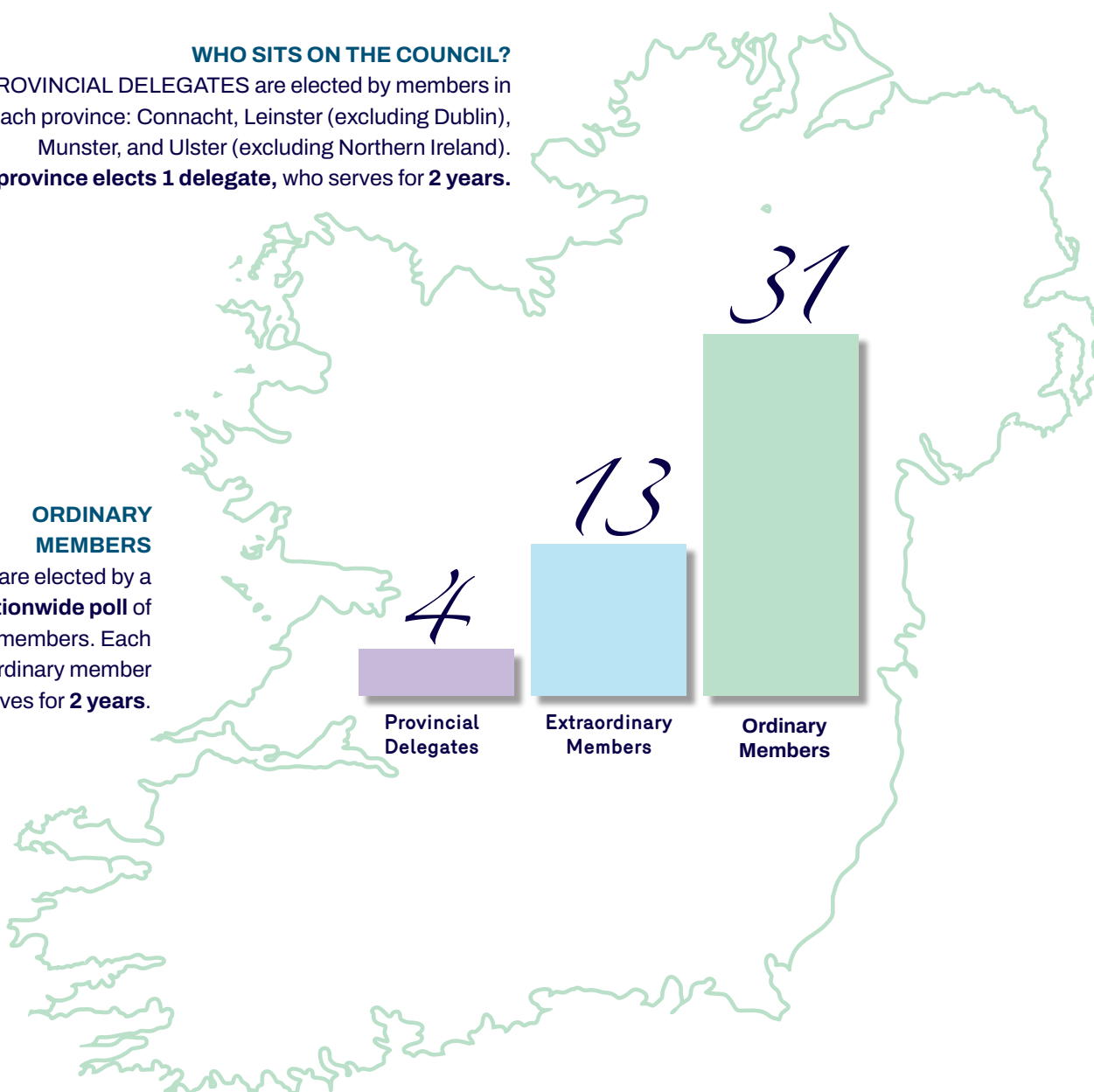
WHO SITS ON THE COUNCIL?

PROVINCIAL DELEGATES are elected by members in each province: Connacht, Leinster (excluding Dublin), Munster, and Ulster (excluding Northern Ireland).

Each province elects 1 delegate, who serves for 2 years.

ORDINARY MEMBERS

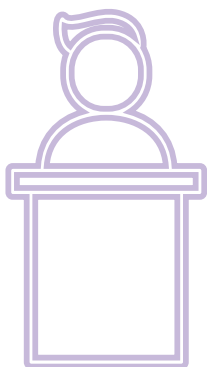
are elected by a **nationwide poll** of members. Each ordinary member serves for **2 years**.



EXTRAORDINARY MEMBERS are nominated by 3 organisations

- The Law Society of Northern Ireland nominates 5 members.
- The Southern Law Association nominates 5 members.
- The Dublin Solicitors Bar Association nominates 3 members.

Extraordinary members serve for **1 year**.



THE PRESIDENT

The Council elects a **President** and Vice-Presidents from among its ordinary members each year. The President is **the public face of the profession**, representing the Law Society around the country and in the media.

For more information on the President's role, visit www.lawsociety.ie/president



COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Council usually **meets 8 times per year**. It discusses important issues facing the profession, including practice issues and the work of the Law Society. Occasionally, special Council meetings are held to deal with urgent matters.



COMMITTEES

The Council has certain powers under law which it delegates to 'standing committees'. These include **Education, Finance, Professional Indemnity Insurance, Regulation of Practice** and **Audit and Risk**.

The Council also **appoints advisory committees** to monitor issues in various practice areas such as conveyancing or family law, and advise members on best practice.

Visit www.lawsociety.ie/committees

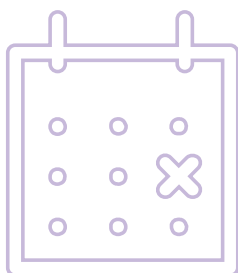
TASK FORCES

The Council may appoint task forces to consider and advise on important issues, including major legislation.



THE COUNCIL ELECTION

The council election is held every year. 15 or 16 ordinary members, and 2 provincial delegates who hold Law Society membership are elected to serve for a **2 year period**. For council election rules, visit www.lawsociety.ie/elections



TYPICAL ELECTION TIMETABLE

In May, the Council confirms the nomination and polling dates for that year's election. Nominations open in August for submission on lawsociety.ie. Candidates need the support of 2 members. In late August and early September candidates can canvass their colleagues and voting takes place in October through the electronic voting system (solicitor login required). The results of the election are confirmed to candidates in October and formally at the Law Society AGM in November. If you have any questions about the election process, email councilelections@lawsociety.ie