



Candidates for Edinburgh

Anderson, Colin

Campbell, Sheana

Carson, Stuart

Malone, Brandon

Murray, Susan

Oswald, Susan

Stephenson, Jim

Tyson, Peter

Webster, Sheila

Whyte, Scott



Candidate Information

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Name: Colin William Anderson

Place(s) of Business: 15 Buckstone Place, Edinburgh EH10 6UB

Professional degrees, Diplomas or qualifications: LLB (Hons) ; Notary Public

Date of Admission as a solicitor: 29 November 1977

Current self-employed/employed/unemployed position (please provide detail):
Retired Solicitor

Service to Local Faculty or Law Society of Scotland or other relevant professional association:

Council Member (since May 2014)

Board Member (since October 2015)

Member of Admissions Sub Committee (since July 2016)

Member of Society Location Project Board (2014-2016)

Member of Society Career Mentoring Scheme

In-House Lawyers Group Committee 1988-2012, with 15 years as Vice-Chairman

Please write a personal statement as to why you wish to stand for the Council.

I have been privileged to serve as a Council Member for Edinburgh for the past 3 years. This has been an interesting and stimulating experience. This has enabled me to give something back to the legal profession. I have an excellent attendance record at Council and Board Meetings and consider I have contributed effectively and positively to the work of the Society. I was a member of the Location Project Board which oversaw the Society's successful move to Atria One. I am a member of 2 Working Parties. I fully support the 2020 Leading Legal Excellence strategy and am keen to continue to work with my fellow Council Members and the Executive in the delivery of this strategy. I would also like to be involved in shaping the Society's response to the independent review of legal services regulation announced by the Scottish Government. Council Members must be aware of and represent the views of their constituents. I have strived to do that over the past 3 years. I welcome Edinburgh Members contacting me on any issues they need help on or matters they would like me to take forward. I have the time available to devote to this important role, including preparing for meetings. I would ask for your support again and, if elected, will continue to work hard on your behalf in carrying out my responsibilities as a Council Member. Thank you for taking the time to read this.



Candidate Information

Name: Sheana Campbell

Place(s) of Business: BBM Solicitors, 27 George Street, Edinburgh

Professional degrees, Diplomas or qualifications:

MA (HONS) – Glasgow University
LLB – Strathclyde University
Diploma – Glasgow Graduate School of Law
Solicitor Advocate

Date of Admission as a solicitor: 6 November 2007

Current self-employed/employed/unemployed position (please provide detail):

Employed
Director of BBM Solicitors

Service to Local Faculty or Law Society of Scotland or other relevant professional association:

None

Please write a personal statement as to why you wish to stand for the Council (up to 250 words).

I suspect that every few years we, as lawyers, collectively conclude that we are in period of unprecedented change to our working practices; increased pressure on our finances and greater scrutiny from the public. I certainly consider that to be the case at the present time and I am keen to get involved in helping to shape the profession's response to the challenges which the next few years hold.

We all know that as solicitors our main purpose is to represent our clients' interests in the issues that matter to them. However, as professionals, we also require someone to represent our interests in the issues that matter to us and impact upon our working lives. I would welcome the opportunity to represent the interests of Edinburgh solicitors (despite the fact that I am from the west coast!) on the Law Society Council.

I have been in practice for 9 years and have worked in both large and small firms. Prior to my traineeship I was a paralegal and I am currently a new partner in a small firm. My career path and my perspective has always been slightly different to that of my contemporaries and I hope that is something which I can bring to a role as a Council member! I am working mum so I understand the pressures that are inherent in juggling a career with a family (and indeed have been involved in some of the Society's research into gender equality in the workplace).



Candidate Information

Name: Stuart Carson

Place(s) of Business: Wilson McLeod, Solicitors, 44 St Mary's Street, Edinburgh

Professional degrees, Diplomas or qualifications: LL.B, DipLP, Notary Public, Solicitor Advocate

Date of Admission as a solicitor: August 1988

Current self-employed/employed/unemployed position (please provide detail):

Self-Employed – Partner, Wilson McLeod Solicitors, Edinburgh

Service to Local Faculty or Law Society of Scotland or other relevant professional association:

1. Committee member Edinburgh Bar Association various years since 1991
2. Advisor to Edinburgh Bar Association re Legal Aid matters since 1992
3. Committee member Society of Solicitor Advocates 2012 to 2015
4. Member of the Criminal Practitioners Forum 2014 – 2015 liaising between Law Society and Edinburgh Bar Association regarding criminal court and legal aid matters

Please write a personal statement as to why you wish to stand for the Council (up to 250 words).

I believe the challenges facing criminal defence firms in Scotland are particularly acute at this time. The Criminal Justice (Scotland) act 2016 will bring in sweeping changes to criminal procedure, creating new obligations and additional workload. SLAB have issued a new code of practice which either seeks to wrestle regulation of criminal defence away from the Law Society of Scotland or, results in a further tier of regulation while at the same time imposing a payment rate and structure for police station attendances which is an insult to the profession.

Inevitably SLAB plan further cuts to Legal Aid. Many on the criminal defence side of the profession have seen young Solicitors leave the profession in considerable numbers disillusioned about their career prospects. There is a real and palpable sense of crises now facing firms. I believe I have the necessary experience and skills to be able to advocate strongly on behalf of criminal defence solicitors to ensure that what is to follow will be fair and allow firms to make important and detailed business decisions. It requires an in depth knowledge of procedure and legal aid issues to represent and communicate the interests of solicitors in the Edinburgh area. I hope that solicitors who are engaged in practice in other fields will recognise that at this particular time it is important to have a representative at the Law Society who is able to communicate these concerns and I would ask for the support of such solicitors at this time.



Candidate Information

Name: Brandon Malone

Place(s) of Business:

Brandon Malone & Company Ltd, Kirkhill House, 34 Kirkhill Road, Penicuik, Midlothian.

Professional degrees, Diplomas or qualifications:

LLB, Dip LP, NP, LLM, FCI Arb, FRICS, WS, Solicitor Advocate, Solicitor Arbitrator, Chartered Surveyor

Date of Admission as a solicitor: 16 August 1993

Current self-employed/employed/unemployed position (please provide detail):

Sole Director, Brandon Malone & Company Ltd

Service to Local Faculty or Law Society of Scotland or other relevant professional association

I have served as one of the Society's Directors on Board of Scottish Arbitration Centre from 2011 to date. I have served on the Society's Constitutional Law Subcommittee since 2013. I became a Council Member in 2014 and a member of the Society's Board in 2015.

Please write a personal statement as to why you wish to stand for the Council (up to 250 words).

I first stood for Council because I wanted to contribute to the success of the Scottish profession, and that remains my motivation. I have a particular interest in promoting the profile of the Scottish jurisdiction abroad and bringing international work to Scotland. Through my work in the Scottish Arbitration Centre, I have gained a great deal of experience in promoting Scotland and in dealing with the Scottish and UK Governments, as well as international bodies such as the International Bar Association, the International Chamber of Commerce, and the International Council for Commercial Arbitration (ICCA). Last year, I led Edinburgh's bid to host the ICCA Congress in 2020. The bid was successful against stiff competition from major centres of arbitration like Stockholm and Vienna, and we now have an opportunity to promote the city over the next three years, and to showcase Edinburgh, Scotland and the Scottish profession to around 1,200 of the world's top lawyers in 2020. I want to help make the most of that opportunity. I have been working with the Society to develop a dispute resolution offering to provide a service to and a platform for Society members in the ADR sphere. I believe that by bringing international work to Scotland, we can retain our brightest lawyers and attract new talent. I am also interested in access to justice and I am an active member of the Scottish Civil Justice Council. I would like to continue to work for Edinburgh and the Society by remaining on Council.



Candidate Information

Name: Ms Susan A Murray

Place(s) of Business: National Services Scotland – Scottish Health Service Central Legal Office

Professional degrees, Diplomas or qualifications: LL.B., LL.M (with distinction), Dip.L.P.

Date of Admission as a solicitor: 19th September 1984

Current self-employed/employed/unemployed position (please provide detail):

Employed – Senior Solicitor (Litigation) – Scottish Health Service Central Legal Office (CLO)

Service to Local Faculty or Law Society of Scotland or other relevant professional association:

Panel Member – Specialist Re-accreditation – Medical Negligence Law - Defender

Please write a personal statement as to why you wish to stand for the Council (up to 250 words).

At a time when there are increasing numbers of Law Society members who are employed in house and increasing pressures on Solicitors in private practice, I would value the chance to contribute to the wide range of work that the Society undertakes in support of our profession. I have been employed as a Litigation Solicitor in the Scottish Health Service for many years and am familiar with tackling the challenges involved in representing and promoting the interests of long term clients, while operating under close public scrutiny. In advising such public service clients, including decision making committees, I have knowledge and experience of how committees and boards need to operate in order to be successful. As a longstanding member of the CLQ's Senior Management Team, I am actively involved in the business and strategic planning required to deliver a wide range of legal services to clients, on a national basis. I am now at a stage in my career where I believe that I have a lot to contribute to the Law Society, beyond my current role as a Specialist Accreditation Panel Member for Medical Negligence. As the mother of three children who have studied law, I also have a real interest in working to support new Solicitors and ensuring that the profession has a secure future. I am keen to become a Council Member of the Law Society of Scotland and to work on behalf of Solicitor Members in all areas of practice.



Candidate Information

Name: Susan Oswald

Place(s) of Business: SKO Family Law Specialists, Forsyth House, 93 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 3ES

Professional degrees, Diplomas or qualifications:

1983 University of Edinburgh – MA Sociology (2:1)
1993 University of Edinburgh – LLB
1994 University of Edinburgh – DIP LEG

Date of Admission as a solicitor: 1995

Current self-employed/employed/unemployed position (please provide detail):

Director of SKO Family Law Specialists since its inception in 2008.

Service to Local Faculty or Law Society of Scotland or other relevant professional association:

Committee member of the Family Law Association since 2013.

Please write a personal statement as to why you wish to stand for the Council (up to 250 words).

I am an experienced solicitor and have been in practice for over 20 years. I am accredited by the Law Society of Scotland as a specialist in Child Law. I was previously a partner at Erskine MacAskill and in 2008 I, together with Wendy Sheehan and Rachael Kelsey, founded SKO Family Law Specialists, Scotland's largest niche family law practice. Prior to my legal career, I was employed as a lecturer in Zimbabwe and in Scotland.

I consider that I would be able to make a positive contribution to the work of the Law Society of Scotland and play an active part in our governing body's decision making processes. We are clearly in the midst of a period of change to our profession which comes with challenges and opportunities. I am keen to be able to use my expertise and judgement to help ensure that our profession responds to this and continues to be fit for purpose in the 21st century.

I would be privileged to become more involved with the work of the Law Society of Scotland and by doing so play some small part in promoting the interests of fellow solicitors.



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Candidate Information

Name: James Patrick STEPHENSON

Place(s) of Business: Thorley Stephenson SSC
51 South Bridge
Edinburgh
EH1 1LL

Professional degrees, Diplomas or qualifications:
LLB, Dip LP, Solicitor Advocate.

Date of Admission as a solicitor: 08/08/1989

Current self-employed/employed/unemployed position (please provide detail):
Director.

Service to Local Faculty or Law Society of Scotland or other relevant professional association
Member of Law Society Public Policy Committee,
Member of Law Society Legal Aid Committee.

Please write a personal statement as to why you wish to stand for the Council (up to 250 words).

“With a broad and comprehensive experience of the legal process and the parties and organisations who work with, support and challenge the professional body, I believe I have the background, knowledge, contacts, experience and drive to be a valued and productive member of the Council.

From my beginnings as a trainee solicitor through to my current position as Solicitor Advocate, director and founding partner of my firm, I have always strived to understand the client needs and to play my part in influencing a fairer society while upholding the standards and ethics of my profession, values I believe reflect and enhance the Council’s stance.

Having entered into negotiations with a number of parties aligned to the Society, over a number of years, I believe I have built relationships and trust with all concerned while helping to drive the need for a cohesive, forward-thinking strategy of such a world-class body aiming for legal excellence and greater inclusivity. This is illustrated by my contribution to Law Society recommendation papers – specifically the recent *Legal Assistance in Scotland – Fit for the 21st Century* – and my work as a member of the Public Policy Committee with relation to creating policy and working up strategies.

As the driving force of a well-respected capital legal practice, I believe my all-round skills, understanding and enthusiasm ensure I would be an ideal fit for the position.”



Candidate Information

Name: Peter Tyson

Place(s) of Business: 30 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH1 2DH

Professional degrees, Diplomas or qualifications:

LLB(Hons), Dip LP, NP, MBA

Date of Admission as a solicitor: 17 September 1999

Current self-employed/employed/unemployed position (please provide detail):

Employed (Standard Life Employee Services Limited)

Service to Local Faculty or Law Society of Scotland or other relevant professional association

N/A

Please write a personal statement as to why you wish to stand for the Council (up to 250 words).

The legal profession in Scotland is going through a period of unprecedented change, and it would appear that constant change is the 'new norm'. The external environment in which we operate continues to change, and we remain in a period of political and economic uncertainty. Given this, it is vital that we continue to adapt, change and innovate to satisfy the ever-changing (and increasing) demands of our stakeholders. I truly believe that your Council is well-placed to support the profession through this period of uncertainty, and to support the Society in its objective of leading legal excellence as a world-class professional body. Having served on your Council for the last eighteen months or so, I have been able to see first-hand that the role of a Council member is a real opportunity to help and support your Council in its work to represent members of the profession, to help make a difference to solicitors in the Edinburgh constituency, and to support the Society. If re-elected, I would continue to bring my enthusiasm, interpersonal skills and business knowledge gained from over seventeen years in practice in Edinburgh, both in-house and in private practice. I am very keen to contribute to your Council's, the Society's and the profession's success. I would also be very keen if re-elected to help influence and shape the agenda of your Council's work and ultimately to represent the views and values of solicitors in the Edinburgh constituency going forward.



Candidate Information

Name: Mrs Sheila Mairead Webster

Place(s) of Business: Davidson Chalmers LLP, 12-16 Hope Street, Edinburgh EH2 4DB

Professional degrees, Diplomas or qualifications:

LLB (HONS) University of Aberdeen, 1988)

DipLP (University of Aberdeen, 1989)

MBA (University of Manchester, 2002)

Date of Admission as a solicitor: 4 January 1991

Current self-employed/employed/unemployed position (please provide detail):

I am presently a Partner and Head of the Dispute Resolution team at Davidson Chalmers LLP, having joined the firm in that role in 2009.

Service to Local Faculty or Law Society of Scotland or other relevant professional association:

I have spoken for Update and for the Law Society's Edinburgh Sole Practitioners' Group.

I have been a committee member for the Commercial Litigation stream for the WS Society's Signet Accreditation Scheme since its inception.

I am a committee member (and former chair) of the Scottish group of the UK wide Property Litigation Association, and have been actively involved in the running of the Scottish group for more than 15 years.

Please write a personal statement as to why you wish to stand for the Council (up to 250 words).

I am proud of our profession and its values. I believe that Scottish solicitors have a huge amount to offer our community and its businesses, and working to stand up for, protect and support the future of our profession is something close to my heart. I have a long held interest in training and development from trainee stage, through CPD for all solicitors, to expert accreditation programmes, and I am keen to contribute to that aspect of the Law Society's work. I have a particular interest in the regulation of the profession, including the operation of the SLCC and am keen to see a complaints system which works for both consumers and the profession – something I do not believe is presently achieved. Like many, I have concerns about the continuing increases in SLCC contributions and the cumbersome, frustrating and expensive nature of the complaints process. I believe it can and should be improved and contributing to that is another aim. I am passionate too about our justice system and development of it so that it is accessible and operates efficiently for all who use it, and about the development of dispute resolution methods for all kinds of disputes. I've worked in both big firms and small, and enjoy the opportunity to contribute what I can to discussions about the challenges and the future for Scottish law firms. I am now keen to increase my contribution to the profession through election to Council and work with the Law Society's various committees.



Candidate Information

Name: SCOTT DONALD DAVID WHYTE

Place(s) of Business:

WATERMANS SOLICITORS LTD, THE OVAL OFFICE, 83 SHORE, EDINBURGH,
EH6 6RG

Professional degrees, Diplomas or qualifications:

LLB (Hons) University of Dundee 2004

Dip LP University of Dundee 2007

Date of Admission as a solicitor: 22 APRIL 2009

Current self-employed/employed/unemployed position (please provide detail):

OWNER AND MANAGING DIRECTOR OF WATERMANS SOLICITORS LIMITED

Service to Local Faculty or Law Society of Scotland or other relevant professional association

ACCREDITED SPECIALIST IN PERSONAL INJURY LAW

MEMBER OF ASSOCIATION OF PERSONAL INJURY LAWYERS (APIL)

MEMBER OF MOTOR ACCIDENT SOLICITOR SOCIETY (MASS)

MEMBER OF INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS

MEMBER OF EDINBURGH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Please write a personal statement as to why you wish to stand for the Council (up to 250 words).

I seek election to the Council as I believe that I can bring the strong leadership and drive that our Law Society needs in order to assist the profession in facing both the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

As one of Scotland's youngest practice owners and Managing Director, I have led my company to considerable growth and success in recent years. My track record has been recognised with awards from the Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce (Young Leader of the Year 2017) and the Institute of Directors (Emerging Director of the Year 2015). This success has come through a willingness to challenge the norm and deliver on our promises.

The past few years have been turbulent for our profession. A combination of bad press, unjust Court and Legal Aid reform, and a SLCC who have become a law unto themselves are just a few examples. I have not always been supportive of the Society's response to these matters & in some cases have been a very vocal critic. I now want to play my part in ensuring that our Law Society deals with issues like these in a better and more proactive manner.

As your elected Council member, I will be steadfast in my commitment to our profession and help ensure that, whatever challenges we may face, the Law Society can and will respond effectively with the best interests of its members as the primary focus.