

**Hall of fame**

To be considered eligible for the Hall of Fame, lawyers must be widely regarded as being at the very top of the profession, and to have been consistently ranked as leading individuals by Legal 500 for a number of years.

**Leading partners**

Leading individuals are defined as true market leaders, with long-established reputations in their sector, lead roles in multiple recent significant matters, and exceptional, widespread recognition and endorsement from peers in the market and clients alike.

**Next generation partners**

These individuals are lawyers with (generally) five years or fewer at partner level, significant recognition from clients and peers in the market, and recent lead roles on multiple matters.

**Leading associates**

This category recognises impressive lawyers below partnership level; while the term 'associate' is used in the name, this category encompasses other non-partner job titles, such as counsel or legal director. To qualify, lawyers should appear frequently on significant matters and be cited by peers and/or clients as having made major contributions to their practice.

**Recommended individuals**

All individuals mentioned in the editorial, either in firm write-ups, client testimonials, as heads of practice or other key lawyer listings, should be regarded as recommended lawyers in Legal 500.