

**UK – The Law Society (Scotland)
(Introduced in 1993)**

1. Legal basis			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Solicitors (Scotland) Continuing Professional Development (CPD) <u>Regulations</u> 1993 - Regulations dated 29/07/1993 made by the Council of the Law Society of Scotland with the concurrence of the Lord President of the Court of Session under Section 5 of the Solicitors (Scotland) Act 1980 		
2. Training			
2.1. Basic information			
	Extent	- Min. 20 hours annually	
	Exemptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Long term sickness for longer than 10 weeks in any practice year - Reductions on a pro rata basis for maternity or adoption leave and for those admitted part way through the practice year 	
2.2. Activities and methods			
Activities	Courses	✓	(if relevant to practice)
	Language courses	✓	(if relevant to practice)
	Teaching	✓	
	Writing/publishing	✓	
	Foreign training activities	✓	(if relevant to practice)
	Other	✓	
Methods	Availability of e-methods	✓	- Limited availability at present, but there is an expansion of webinar provision; the Law Society of Scotland permits distance learning to count towards CPD
2.3. Course providers			
	Bar/Law Society	✓	A department dedicated to the provision of CPD for the Scottish solicitors' profession
	Accredited provider	NO	
	Other provider (free market providers)	✓	Commercial providers, universities, law centres, large law firms and local groupings (faculties) of solicitors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of providers: ~ 50 - Prior application for a course accreditation: N/A
3. Assessment of training activities			
	- No assessment; however, each solicitor must demonstrate to the Law Society of Scotland that their CPD activity is relevant to their personal, professional and business development.		
4. Supervision			
4.1. Compliance procedure			
	Regular control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Solicitors are required (from 01/11/2011) to plan, undertake and evaluate their CPD activity. It is possible to undertake this planning through their record on the Law Society of Scotland's database, although this is not compulsory. All solicitors certify, when applying for a Practising Certificate, that they have complied with the CPD 	

		requirements.
	Random control	- An annual sample of approximately 5% of solicitors is undertaken. Those selected in the sample are required to produce a full record of CPD undertaken and evidence that they have participated in CPD activity claimed.
4.2. Sanctions		
	Non-disciplinary	- Sanction for first non-compliance is requirement to “make up” missing hours in the following year.
	Disciplinary	- Subsequent failure to comply may be treated as professional misconduct and, if so, will be referred to the Complaints Investigation process.