

Our approach to publication

Updated 25 November 2019

Many of the regulatory and disciplinary decisions we make about the individuals and <u>firms [https://upgrade.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#firm]</u> we regulate are published here.

We aim to ensure decisions we publish are accurate and up to date. However, this website does not offer a complete picture of an individual's or firm's regulatory record. For example, it is possible that, since publication, a firm has ceased to practice or a <u>solicitor</u> [https://upgrade.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#solicitor] is no longer on the <u>roll of solicitors [https://upgrade.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#roll]</u>.

For more information about the firm or individual, you should first look at our SRA Register. For the most complete, up-to-date information we can offer about an individual's or firm's regulatory record—**especially if you wish to rely on the information for formal purposes**—please <u>contact us [https://upgrade.sra.org.uk/contactus/]</u>.

Most published decisions are removed from our website three years from the date they were published.

We do not publish the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal (SDT)'s judgments; these are published by the SDT itself on its website. Please note that the Tribunal publishes judgments resulting in a strike off, indefinite suspension or revocation of authorisation of a firm indefinitely. Judgments to suspend for a fixed period remain on its website for the duration of the suspension or three years (whichever is the greater). All other judgments remain on its website for three years. If you are unable to find a judgment on the SDT's website please <u>contact us</u> [https://upgrade.sra.org.uk/home/contact-us/].

There are some important factors you should understand when viewing our decisions. Therefore, decisions should be read along with the specific information we provide about <u>types of decision</u> [https://upgrade.sra.org.uk/consumers/solicitor-check/#types] we publish.

Several factors determine whether we publish a decision—including when the decision was made, the type of decision it is and, in some cases, whether it is in the <u>public interest</u>

[https://upgrade.sra.org.uk/consumers/using-solicitor/legal-jargon-explained#publicinterest] to publish it. To find out more about our approach to publication of our decisions, see our <u>guidance on publishing regulatory and disciplinary</u> <u>decisions [https://upgrade.sra.org.uk/sra/decision-making/guidance/disciplinarypublishing-regulatory-disciplinary-decisions/]</u>.



Our decisions can be challenged by appeals or judicial review. Normally, we publish a decision only after the expiry of an appeal period.

In addition to publishing decisions, we sometimes disclose information about individuals directly to other organisations. To learn about how and why we do this, please read our <u>First principles of disclosure</u> [https://upgrade.sra.org.uk/sra/how-we-work/privacy-data-information/disclosure-policy/].

How to access the information we publish

- Learn more about our <u>decision-making_process</u> [<u>https://upgrade.sra.org.uk/sra/decision-making/]</u> and our guidance on publishing regulatory and disciplinary decisions.
- <u>Search for decisions now [https://upgrade.sra.org.uk/consumers/solicitor-check/]</u> or <u>get help with searching</u> [https://upgrade.sra.org.uk/consumers/solicitor-check/help-search-solicitor-record/]
- View our <u>most-recently published decisions</u> [<u>https://upgrade.sra.org.uk/consumers/solicitor-check/recent-decisions/]</u>.
- You can <u>search for decisions [https://upgrade.sra.org.uk/consumers/solicitorcheck/]</u> that we have published from early 2008 onward, although most are removed after three years. To check whether a law firm or an individual is regulated by us, you can search our Solicitor Register or <u>contact us [https://upgrade.sra.org.uk/home/contact-us/]</u>.