**CRITERIA TO BE APPLIED (Birmingham Law Society Pro Bono Award):**

**Summary:**

Individuals, firms, teams and organisations that have made an outstanding contribution to pro bono during the last year may be nominated for this category. The contribution to pro bono may include work done on a specific case, evidence of a general commitment to pro bono and/or work done via a pro bono project or clinic. Nominations for collaborative pro bono initiatives are also welcome. Pro bono work is any work that meets the definition contained in the Joint Pro Bono Protocol, which is ‘legal advice or representation provided by lawyers in the public interest including to individuals, charities and community groups who cannot afford to pay for that advice or representation and where public and alternative means of funding are not available’. This would include pro bono work undertaken by any university pro bono initiative.

**Instructions on preparing your application.**

1. Do not exceed the word limit. Any words over the stipulated limit will not be read/or considered.
2. Do not supply any additional information/material as it will not be considered.
3. Your application will only be assessed on the text you provide so please do take time and care when preparing your text. The marking criteria for this award are available on the Birmingham Law Society website. We recommend that you are mindful of the criteria when preparing your submission.
4. Please provide your application typed up on an A4 size paper ensuring at the top of the document you have inserted:

* Name of the nominee
* Where the nominee is an individual, please provide the name of your Firm/Chambers/Organisation. Where the nominee is a collaborative initiative, please provide the names of all Firms/Chambers/Organisations involved.
* Your Nominated Category

1. Please ensure that you, as the nominated candidate, prepare this document.
2. The shortlist will be announced mid December 2025. If you are shortlisted, you will be invited to attend a 20-minute interview week commencing 19th January 2026. A date and time will be allocated in December/January. **(Due to a very tight schedule, please note the interview time allocated will be fixed and therefore no alterations to the allocated slot can be requested.)**

**Please in no more than 1200 words, outline why you should be considered for this category in line with the summary above. You might like to consider some or all of the following:**

* Outline your involvement in pro bono during 2025.
* You may wish to give details about a specific pro bono matter or initiative you have been involved in which you believe will set you apart from the other nominees.
* Provide details of the impact of your pro bono contribution on the client(s) you have assisted. You may wish to include case studies, statistics and quotations evidencing the impact on the client(s).

**Please include the total word count at the end of your submission, together with the declaration below.**

**DECLARATION:**

I confirm that I believe the contents and word counts detailed within this application are true.

**Date: Signature:**