**Birmingham Law Society Legal Awards 2026 - Marking grids**

**Paralegal of the Year**

This award will be given to a person who exemplifies the value that a Paralegal can bring to their department, team or wider organisation.  The judges are looking for someone who has made a contribution both in respect of their client based contribution but also on the wider stage, whether in CSR, business development, training, involvement within the Birmingham legal community or otherwise. The winner of this award will demonstrate commitment to their organisation, clients and their professional and personal development. This award is open to all Paralegals in Birmingham and the surrounding area regardless of whether they are employed in a large or small firm or in-house.

At each stage marks are out of 100 but this will be converted for an overall score. Shortlisting will be 30% of overall mark with 70% being

awarded after interview.

Emphasis is on **activity over the last 12 months**

Judges are asked to please provide a summary of comments on the category and why the winner wins e.g. outstanding contribution/quality of work which may be used at the awards evening.

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| **Name of candidate** | **Contribution**  **Within firm**    **/40** | **Contribution to Birmingham**  **organisations e.g. BLS, BPS etc**  **/25** | **Contribution to**  **voluntary/charitable activities of own initiative**  **/10** | **Positive impact on reputation of legal profession and future plans**  **/25** | **Final score** |
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**Summary:**