

**Minimum Criteria for Full Membership of the Law Centres Federation**  
**(Amended by Special Resolution on 20 November 2015)**

A Law Centre® must:

1. Operate as a not for profit legal entity.
2. Serve a defined geographical community or community of interest.
3. Implement community accountability mechanisms that ensure organisational decision making is, wherever possible, independent and in the interests of the communities served, usually through elected management committees.
4. Implement policies, procedures and practices that demonstrate a commitment to equality, social justice and human rights.
5. Implement the Law Centre model of practice which
  - identifies it as an independent organisation that operates in the community interest; AND
  - delivers a core service of legal advice, casework and representation through to higher courts without charging the client for its services (excluding costs required by law or third party charges and as permitted by the Solicitors Regulation Authority) and that targets low-income, disadvantaged, oppressed or marginalised groups; AND
  - provides public legal education working with or for these target groups to make them aware of their rights and how they can be enforced to improve their lives; AND
  - undertakes social policy and law reform activity to combat deprivation, discrimination and social, legal and administrative injustice; AND
  - undertakes advocacy on behalf of its clients and campaigns for social change in the interest of its clients.
6. Employ at least two solicitors, of which at least one is a Senior Solicitor (having three years of post-qualification experience) with a current practising certificate as well as having the capacity at all times to provide deputised cover for said Senior Solicitors; and comply with the relevant requirements as set out by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and other appropriate regulatory bodies.
7. Commit to working in collaboration with other Law Centres.
8. Commit to and abide by the LCF Membership Agreement.