

Author Hub

Sweet & Maxwell and W. Green



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Publish with us

Our Global Legal Business

Thomson Reuters Legal is the leading provider of critical information, decision support tools, software and services to legal, compliance, business and government professionals around the world.

We offer a broad range of products and services that utilise our electronic database of legal, regulatory, financial, news and business information. These products and services include print and online publishing, legal research solutions, software-based case management / workflow solutions, compliance solutions, finance / operations technology, knowledge management services and professional development.

Our Purpose

Learn more about Thomson Reuters purpose and social impact [here](#).

United Kingdom

Our branded UK-based legal businesses – Sweet & Maxwell and W. Green (in Scotland) – are, in 2024, celebrating 225 years of heritage and excellence in legal publishing. We are well-recognised for our commitment to quality in the legal industry, both in the UK and globally. We have:

- Industry Expertise
- Track Record and Innovation in Legal Publishing
- Strong Competitive Presence in the Field
- Editorial and Production Quality Assurance
- Robust Sustainability Policies
- Sales and Marketing Excellence

How we ensure our publishing is of the highest quality and in accordance with our purpose

Sweet & Maxwell, with W. Green, is one of the largest legal book, loose-leaf and periodical publishers in Europe, publishing 40 journal titles, 25 law reports and hundreds of book titles across all areas of law, some in partnership with professional organisations.

We have extensive print and online publishing expertise and our internal workflows and procedures ensure a high-quality standard.

As an author you will enjoy the security of working with an experienced and flexible publishing team, the benefits of which include:

- a personal level of attention, provided by a talented team of publishers, editors and production managers that benefits from the support of the world's largest publishing businesses, and
- a responsive, adaptable and problem-solving approach

Your Publisher

Our market-facing Publishers have a deep knowledge of the legal arena and a wealth of publishing experience. They are well-placed to provide feedback on the market and offer advice on content, coverage, approach, project management, layout and text design. Our sustained market share and high profile in this area means that our Publishers have a good understanding of market dynamics and customer needs.

Editorial resource and staff training

Sweet & Maxwell, with W. Green, uses state-of-the-art Editorial and Information Management systems and partners with prestigious printing houses in the UK and Europe.

Throughout the business we have a high level of skill and competence in the areas of editorial, print, CD creation, eBook and of XML-based, media-neutral content processing. Similarly, we are highly experienced in the content analysis, data modelling and CMS development required to output content successfully to different media (online, mobile, eBook, CD and print).

For all our editorial staff both overseas and in the UK there is extensive in-house training (e.g. copyediting, house style, proof reading, etc), tight sign-off procedures and promotion criteria which determine the level of responsibility each member of staff can assume.

Quality Control and Assurance

To ensure that the quality of service of our products is continually improved and issues are quickly resolved, we use the following approaches:

- Ongoing analysis and reporting of management information, e.g. customer feedback, internal audits, progress against performance indicators, adequacy of resources, status of actions from reviews and recommendations for improvement
- Annual management review and audit to ensure continuing effectiveness of our products, services and processes

Physically manufactured print products are manually checked by in-house staff for quality of printing, binding, paper, etc before permission for dispatch is granted. Online products go through rigorous testing regimes.

Timeliness

We publish over 200 new books and new editions per annum and maintain over 100 loose-leaf services, plus online services, to tight schedules. Our periodicals range from weekly to biannual in frequency and some of our online services offer daily e-mail alerts. Our planning procedures and tight controls ensure books, journal and loose-leaf issues are published in a timely fashion so that the Sweet & Maxwell and W. Green brands mean "currency".

We operate service level agreements with all our suppliers.

Sustainability

Sustainability is at the heart of Thomson Reuters and we work hard to ensure our print methods leave as little a mark on our environment as possible. We work closely with our suppliers on a number of environmental initiatives to give our customers and authors the peace of mind that, when using our services and products, they are manufactured and shipped in a sustainable and eco-friendly manner where possible, keeping in mind the specialist nature and needs of our customers.

Our paper is FSC accredited meaning we try to ensure it is sourced from sustainable, well-managed

forests. We endeavour to ensure printers operate a Carbon Balancing policy and print on demand, meaning we only print what we need, keeping energy and waste to a minimum. Our manufacturing and operations are undertaken in the same location ensuring we keep our transport to an absolute minimum. We seek to use compostable, biodegradable materials for our packaging and distribute using electric vehicles.

At Thomson Reuters we are always looking to improve our methods and business practices in order to reduce our mark on the environment. Through continuously making small new changes to our publishing process we can work towards having a positive effect on the planet.

Our Sales and Marketing of Your Titles

Our Marketing campaigns and dedicated Sales Teams engage our audience on multiple levels to build awareness and generate interest in the title. We use a combination of the following marketing channels to promote your title, selecting the most cost-effective methods on a title-by-title basis to ensure that your title reaches its potential. For more information, please see [How We Market Your Titles](#). We also encourage you to take an active part in self-promoting your title for more information see [How Can I Promote My Book](#).

Submit your book proposal

We welcome new book proposals in all the major legal practice areas.

What to consider before submitting your book proposal

- When thinking about your book proposal it is important to think about whether your book idea has a unique selling point - an angle on the topic that is new, interesting, innovative and/or compelling.
- Can you demonstrate a market need for your book and is there a clear use case for your book?
- Which market segment is your proposed book aimed at? Which sector or practice area would the book be aimed at? What type of lawyer is it aimed at? For example, is it an in-depth narrative aimed at the Bar, or a practitioner handbook aimed at high street solicitors? Would it appeal to certain Top 100 firms or local government lawyers, for example?
- Is the scope of your book's concept wide enough to be of interest to readers on a global scale or is the work of interest to a particular jurisdiction?
- Can you tell us about your experience, practice work and background and how this makes you the person or team to write this contribution to the literature?

Please find our Proposal Form [here](#). Remember that our Publishers can provide you with help to craft your proposal so don't hesitate to get in touch, especially in the preliminary stages, to discuss your idea.

Publishing Assessment

Your Publisher will assess the strengths of your proposal, the commercial viability of the project (both print and digital form) and how it fits within our publishing portfolio and strategy. Your Publisher will also look at the competitive landscape.

Review

Your book proposal will be sent out for initial review (4-6 weeks). Your publisher will then discuss the reviewer feedback with you and ask you to make revisions and resubmit the proposal if necessary. If the feedback is positive, the proposal will move to the next stage.

Editorial Approval

The internal Editorial Board will make the final decision on approving the book for publication, and digitisation, and will discuss contract terms.

Contract

Your contract will be drafted to include clauses on length of manuscript, royalties and fee arrangements, copyright position, delivery date and terms, and other legal commitments on both the author and publisher side.

Manuscript Writing Phase

Your Publisher will send you detailed author guidelines on house style, style templates, formatting, image specs, permissions. Your Publisher will be available throughout the writing and will arrange regular check-ins to find out how your manuscript is progressing and whether you have any queries or problems. Our Publishers and authors strike up very long and productive collaborations over many years and forge good and trusted relationships working together over multiple editions. Our current House Style Guide can be downloaded [here](#).

Manuscript Delivery

Your Publisher will give you clear guidelines on how to submit your final manuscript and will be responsible for handing over your manuscript to our Production and Editorial team for work to start on the publication process.

Editorial & Production Process

An Editor and Production Editor will be assigned to manage the book through the copyediting and typesetting, proofreading and indexing, collating and correction, and (in conjunction with the Publisher) the cover design process. Production usually takes 3-4 months for an average book. Digitisation of your book to Westlaw UK and / or our ProView eBook platform will take place concurrently.

Book Publication

Our UK and global sales and marketing team works with trade booksellers, universities, membership organisations and other sales partners to ensure your book is promoted and sold to reach the target audience. For more information on how we market your book see [here](#). For more information on how you can self-promote your book please see [here](#).

Publishing guidelines

Your Publisher will send you detailed author guidelines on house style, style templates, formatting, image specs, permissions. Your Publisher will be available throughout the writing process and will arrange regular check-ins to find out how your manuscript is progressing and whether you have any queries or problems. Our Publishers and Authors strike up very long and productive collaborations over many years and forge good and trusted relationships working together over multiple editions.

Please find our short form House Style Guide [here](#).

Marketing

Learn more about the sales and marketing activities we use to promote your book.

We appreciate the time and effort that goes into writing the titles that we're so proud to publish and making sure these titles reach their full market potential is important to us.

Our marketing campaigns engage our audience on multiple levels to build awareness and generate interest in your title. We use a combination of the following marketing channels (see links below) to promote your work, selecting the most cost-effective and appropriate to ensure your title achieves its potential.

Our marketing team will choose from a range of promotional activities and select the most appropriate ones for a particular title. For example, an established title will be promoted differently to a new product and subscription products will be marketed differently to a book.

[Here](#) is an overview of some of the activities that may be used in marketing your title.

[Here](#) is a guide about how to self-promote your book and use your networks to help it reach the right readers.