

MANAGING PARTNER IRELAND, HEAD OF PUBLIC AND
REGULATORY/PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL

JP McDowell

I am a Partner in the Public and Regulatory/Planning and Environmental Law Department of Fieldfisher, based in our Dublin office. I am also the Managing Partner of Fieldfisher in Ireland. I have specialised in the area of public and regulatory law for 20+ years, having advised a host of major public sector clients who are accountable to ministers and government departments, on all aspects of their statutory functions.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL

PUBLIC AND REGULATORY

 Dublin, Ireland

+353 (0)1 828 0630

 JP.McDowell@fieldfisher.com

 Connect on LinkedIn

LOCATIONS

[Ireland](#)



I lead the Public and Regulatory/Planning and Environmental Department, comprising a specialised team of 28 solicitors, who provide a host of legal services to statutory, regulatory and licensing bodies operating across a range of sectors, including health and social care, education, charities, finance, planning, environmental and professional services.

I provide high level strategic advice in relation to policy, governance and statutory interpretation. I have extensive experience in advising start-up regulators in respect of their requirements and have particular experience in the drafting of regulations. I have overseen the management of hundreds of fitness to practise/disciplinary investigations and Inquiries, in addition to having extensive litigation experience. I have been involved in many of the seminal legal cases in the regulatory sphere and regularly represent statutory bodies in defending judicial reviews and statutory appeals in the Superior Courts. I am an experienced advocate, regularly appearing

before Councils/Committees, Appeals Boards, Committees of Investigation, tribunals, the District Court and the Superior Courts for oral hearings and submissions.

I advise planning and environmental licensing authorities on all aspects of the interpretation of their governing legislation, including advising on legal issues arising in respect of licensing applications and enforcement of licences.

I quickly understand the challenges faced by clients and provide solution focussed and tailored strategic advice, thereby supporting clients in the minimisation of legal risk.

I regularly address national and international conferences, and host seminars devoted to legal developments in the area of Public and Regulatory Law/Planning and Environmental Law. I co-authored the only legal text book in the area of Public and Regulatory law in this jurisdiction entitled "Disciplinary Procedures in the Statutory Professions" (published by Bloomsbury in 2011).

I am ranked as a 'Band 1' Lawyer in Chambers Europe for Dispute Resolution: Professional Discipline in Ireland.

I am also recommended in Legal500 EMEA 2021 for Public Sector and Planning and Environmental.

What others say...

“He has really carved out a niche and a really strong reputation in the area,” states one source. “He’s hands-on, proactive and very committed,” reports another interviewee, going on to say: “He gets to the point and has a knack of looking over the horizon to see where a particular issue may go.” ”

Chambers Europe 2021

“JP McDowell is the leading specialist lawyer in Ireland in the area of professional regulation. The quality of service is superb and the fees charged represent excellent value for money ”

Legal500 EMEA 2021

“J.P. McDowell is “very thorough, responsive and skilful at advocacy in the High Court. ” He assists clients with complex disciplinary and regulatory proceedings. One interviewee notes that “his strategic advice and intelligence on emerging issues is fantastic, ” while another states: “He has experience dealing with professional regulatory issues across a

whole range of professions, which brings added value.” ”

Chambers Europe 2020