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| APPLICATION FOR SILK 2025REFERENCE PROVIDED BY :      ON BEHALF OF :       |
| Advocacy |       |
| Legal Ability and Experience |       |
| Professional Qualities |       |

**Maximum 200 words per section**

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| Criteria for Recommendation (Taken from Applicants Guide 2025) |

Successful applicants are required to demonstrate that they meet the criteria outlined below and to a standard that marks them out as leaders of their profession.

### **Advocacy**

* 1. A successful applicant is expected to have demonstrated an ability to present complex, difficult, and novel cases in court both clearly and cogently.

### **Legal Ability and Experience**

* 1. An applicant is expected to have sound intellectual ability and a thorough, comprehensive and up to date knowledge of legal principle and the relevant rules of law and procedure. They should have a high quality practice which will include demanding cases. The applicant must have e experience in advocacy at first instance and appellate level. Other relevant factors will include wide experience over a broad range of subjects, or a high degree of specialisation in a specific subject area, and a recent record of contributions to legal literature. Reported cases in which the applicant has appeared will be taken into account. Particular significance will be attached to cases in the official (Session and Justiciary Cases) reports. It is recognised that some applicants may have had limited experience of advocacy in the Civil Divisions of the Court of Session because of the nature of their practices and the absence of opportunities to appear at that level. Applicants in that category should provide a brief account of their experience in that regard.

**Professional Qualities**

* 1. Successful applicants are expected to be of the highest professional standing, with the respect of the Bench and the profession; a history of honesty, discretion and plain-dealing with professional colleagues, lay and professional clients and the courts; independence of mind and moral courage; and maturity of judgment and balance.

It is essential that there is nothing in the conduct, affairs or circumstances of an applicant which would make their appointment inappropriate. A problem in this respect may be a barrier to appointment, either indefinitely or at least until the matter is resolved.