

# MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

England & Wales · Charity number 214508

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 1963-03-12

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 182 Goldhurst Terrace  
London  
NW6 3HN

**Phone** 07866808506

**Email** [treasurer@medico-legalsociety.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@medico-legalsociety.org.uk)

**Website** [www.medico-legalsociety.org.uk](http://www.medico-legalsociety.org.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** (1) THE OBJECT OF THE SOCIETY SHALL BE THE PROMOTION OF MEDICO-LEGAL KNOWLEDGE IN ALL ITS ASPECTS. (2) THIS OBJECT SHALL BE ATTAINED BY HOLDING MEETINGS AT WHICH PAPERS SHALL BE PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED; BY PUBLICATION OF THE MEDICO-LEGAL JOURNAL ('THE SOCIETY'S JOURNAL') AND WHICH JOURNAL SHALL INCLUDE PUBLICATION OF THE AFOREMENTIONED PAPERS PRESENTED TO THE SOCIETY; BY THE COLLATION AND ORGANISATION OF RECORDED PRESENTATIONS IN ELECTRONIC FORM TO WHICH MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY SHALL HAVE ACCESS; AND BY SUCH OTHER MEANS AS THE COUNCIL SHALL APPROVE. (3) THE SOCIETY'S JURISDICTION OF OPERATION IS THAT OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

**Activities:** The object of the Society is to promote Medico-Legal knowledge in all its aspects.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NATIONAL
- Throughout England And Wales

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£37,413	£37,381	-	-
2023-12-31	£37,884	£38,428	-	-
2022-12-31	£32,733	£33,195	-	-
2021-12-31	£25,421	£21,057	-	-
2020-12-31	£27,383	£24,143	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Dr Sarah Nichol Galbraith</b>	Chair	2022-06-09
DR TANIA FRANCIS		
Dr James Michael Pattison		2024-06-13
Dr Mark Tarn		2022-06-09
Michael Leslie Owen		2024-06-30
Professor Rachael Mulheron KC Hon		2023-06-08

**MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 214508

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# Accounts

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REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 214508

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024  
FOR  
THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

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	Pages
Report of the Trustees	3 to 9
Report of the Independent Examiner	10
Statement of Financial Activities	11-12
Statement of Financial Position	13-14
Notes to the Financial Statements	15-17

## **THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

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The Medico-Legal Society is an unincorporated registered charity (No. 214508) governed by the Rules of the Society as approved by the Trustees of the Society and by the Council of the Society at meetings on 11 May 2023; adopted by the Society at its Annual General Meeting on 8 June 2023; and approved by the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 24 October 2023. Part 2 of the rules R 13(1)b and R16 (1)c were modified and adopted by the Society on 13 Jun 24.

The Medico-Legal Society's registered address is:  
182 Goldhurst Terrace  
London NW6 3HN

### **TRUSTEES**

The following Council members have served as trustees in 2024:

#### **From January to June 2024:**

Dr Tania Francis

Dr Sarah Galbraith

Professor Rachael Mulheron

Mrs Anne Raikes

Mr Simon Readhead KC

Dr Mark Tarn

#### **From July to December 2024:**

Dr Tania Francis

Dr Sarah Galbraith

Professor Rachael Mulheron KC (Hon)

Mr Michael Owen

Dr James Pattison

Dr Mark Tarn

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

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**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

The following individuals were Council members for the period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024:

Mr Charles Bennett (1 Jan 24 to 30 Jun 24)

Ms Ingrid Bifar (1 Jul 24 to 9 Dec 24)

Ms Skye Blackshaw (1 Jul 24 to 31 Dec 24)

Mrs Diana Brahams

Dr. Gerrard Burnett

Mrs Hazel Cameron (1 Jul 24 to 31 Dec 24)

Dr Tania Francis

Dr Sarah Galbraith

Ms Anjali Keeping (1 Jul 24 to 31 Dec 24)

Ms Linda Lee

Mrs Anne Raikes (1 Jan 24 to 30 Jun 24)

Professor Rachael Mulheron KC (Hon)

Mr Michael Levenstein

Mr Michael Owen (1Jul24-31Dec24)

Ms. Evelyn Palmer (1 Jan 24 to 30 Jun 24)

Dr James Pattison

Dr Katy Peters

Mr Simon Readhead KC

Dr Giuseppe Spoto

Dr Mark Tarn

Dr (Eleanor) Jane Turner

Professor Harry Zeitlin (1 Jan 24 to 30 Jun 24)

## THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2024

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#### OFFICERS

The following Council members have served as Officers in 2024:

**President:** Mr Simon Readhead KC (1 Jan 24- 30 Jun 24); Dr Sarah Galbraith (1 Jul 24 – 31 Dec 24).

**Editor, Medico-Legal Journal:** Mrs Diana Brahams

**Medical Editor, Medico-Legal Journal:** Dr (Eleanor) Jane Turner

**Honorary Treasurer:** Mrs Anne Raikes (1 Jan 24-30 Jun 24); Mr Michael Owen (1 Jul 24-31 Dec 24).

**Honorary Medical Secretary:** Dr Gerrard Burnett (1 Jan 24-30 Jun 24).

**Honorary Legal Secretary:** Ms Evelyn Palmer (1Jan 24-30 Jun24)

**Honorary Secretary** (as per change in Rule 13(b) abolishing Hon Med Sec Officer and renaming Legal Sec Officer) : Mrs Hazel Cameron 1 Jul 24-31 Dec 24

#### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Lawrence Melinek  
7 Helenslea Avenue  
London  
NW11 8NE

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

#### OBJECTIVES

The objective of the society is to promote Medico-Legal knowledge in all its aspects. This is to be achieved by holding meetings at which papers are read and discussed. There have been no material changes in policy since the last report.

## **THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2024**

#### **PUBLIC BENEFIT TEST**

Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 requires charity trustees to have due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission under section 17(1) of that Act in exercising their powers or duties. The trustees confirm that they have referred to this guidance when reviewing the organisation's aims and objectives, in planning future activities and generally in exercising any powers and duties to which the guidance is relevant.

#### **RULES OF THE SOCIETY**

New Rules of the Society were approved by the Trustees of the Society and by the Council of the Society at meetings on 11 May 2023, were adopted by the Society at its Annual General Meeting on 8 June 2023 and were approved by the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 24 October 2023. Rules 13 and 16 in Part 2 of the Rules were then revised in June 2024.

The organisation of the Rules has been re-ordered in Parts 1 and 2 to replicate the division contained in the Model Constitution prepared by the Charity Commission for Charitable Associations (Unincorporated) dated November 2013 and updated in January 2017. The provisions in Part 1 relate to the purposes of the charity and how its money and other property can be used. These provisions can only be changed by a two-thirds majority of members present and voting at a meeting. Part 2 contains those provisions which are administrative in nature. These provisions can be changed by a simple majority of those members.

#### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

## THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2024

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The Board of Trustees is delighted that Lawrence Melinek continues as independent examiner in 2024 and has agreed to continue in 2025.

### REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES BY THE HONORARY SECRETARY

In the year ending 31 December 2024, the Society had a total of 253 members (in 2023, 232 members). There were 69 new members who joined the Society in 2024 across all membership categories Ordinary, Associate, Student and Overseas. The Society held nine meetings during 2024, prior to which the Council met on each occasion. The Society was again fortunate to be addressed by a number of fascinating speakers.

- January 2024** Dr Jonathan Leach OBE, FRCGP GP and Associate Medical Director NHS England: **General Medical Practice: Is there a future?**
- February 2024** Ms Tamzin Cuming FRCS (Gen Surg), Co-Lead, Working Party on Sexual Misconduct in Surgery: **Sexual Misconduct in Surgery. What Can Be Done?**
- March 2024** Dr Michael Powers KC, BSc, MB, BS, DA, FFFLM, LLD (Hon): **Medicine and Law - A view from both sides.**
- April 2024** Prof Rachael Mulheron KC (Hon) B.Com, LLB (Hons), LLM (Advanced) (UQ), D.Phil (Oxon): **Secondary Victims Liability in Medical Negligence: Ring-fenced or Unfenced?**
- May 2024** Mr Philip Havers KC: **Patient confidentiality - existing principles and unusual circumstances.**
- June 2024** Samantha Prosser, Managing Associate of Brahams Dutt Badrick French LLP: **Whistle-blowing in the NHS - how to best protect oneself from the costs and consequences.**
- October 2024** Dr Sarah Galbraith Presidential Address: **A Military Medico Legal Medley**
- November 2024** Dr Joe Brierley, Consultant Critical Care & Director of Paediatric Bioethics: **How disagreements in the care of critically ill children, including the courts, have developed over time**
- December 2024** Professor Alan Silman, FMedSci, Professor of Musculoskeletal Health, Botnar Research Institute and Senior Research Fellow Green Templeton College, University of Oxford: **Eden and Suez – was the botched operation caused by a botched operation?**

## **THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2024**

The Society continues to deliver in-person and remote presentations, the self-help arrangements for 'hybrid' meetings have proved problematic. As a result a venue review report was prepared to look at options. A move is planned to a venue with professional AV support. The Society continues to grow its online presence, and by 31 December 2024, had over 1000 LinkedIn followers.

#### **REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL POSITION BY THE HONORARY TREASURER**

During the year, total income arising from subscriptions and investments was slightly lower than in 2023 but this was more than offset by lower expenditure incurred during 2024. Overall, income exceeded expenditure by £32 in 2024 by comparison with a deficit last year of £544.

The Society had a successful Annual Dinner in June with 72 guests. The trustees are grateful to Sage for their ongoing donations towards this dinner, and for their support of the Society in its other endeavours.

Monthly lectures continue to be available remotely in real time and are also accessible to members on demand via the Society's YouTube channel.

The value of the investment in the BlackRock Charities Growth and Income Fund grew by £4,092 over the year, compared with growth of only £744 in 2023. The Society continues to benefit from a regular quarterly dividend.

Income from the Minty Trust was £4,082 in 2024 compared with £4,540 in 2023,

As a result, total reserves as at 31 December 2024 amounted to £114,328 (2023: £110,204) made up of cash at bank as adjusted for amounts due to and from the Society plus the investment portfolio and the audio-visual equipment.

Details of income and expenses can be found in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 11.

#### **INVESTMENT POWERS**

The constitution of the charity authorises the trustees to make and hold investments, which they see as appropriate using the general funds of the charity.

#### **RESERVES POLICY**

The policy of the charity is to maintain sufficient funds so that over a period of time sufficient income can be generated from the funds held to carry out the functions of the charity.

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**RISK ANALYSIS**

The trustees who are responsible for the charity are implementing risk management as a matter of policy. A review has taken place and it has considered the following main areas of risk.

Investments: Consideration of responsibility of brokers to the trust and stock market performance.

Accounts: Production of annual accounts together with internal management controls.

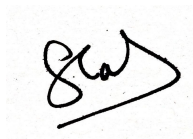
Charitable Objects: Ensuring that the charity funds are used in accordance with the trust's charitable objects.

**RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period that require disclosure.

By order of the trustees on 28 May 2025

Dr Sarah Galbraith      President



Mr Michael Owen      Treasurer



**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Medico-Legal Society for the year ended 31 December 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Medico-Legal Society, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Medico-Legal Society's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: Lawrence Melinek BSc. (Hons) ACMA CGMA

Address: 7 Helenslea Avenue, London NW11 8NE

Date: 28 May 2025

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

			<b>2024</b>		<b>2023</b>
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	1(b)				
Subscriptions			20,067		19,627
Investment income from:					
Managed Investments		3,136		2,930	
Minty bequest		4,082		4,540	
			7,218		7,470
Other income:					
Annual dinner and donations			8,268		8,981
Charitable donations received	3		1,860		1,806
<b>Total incoming resources</b>			<u>37,413</u>		<u>37,884</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	1(c)				
<b>Direct charitable expenditure:</b>					
Expenses of meetings			12,386	10,357	
Journal production			3,958	4,110	
Annual dinner costs			6,680	9,126	
Small IT costs			306	154	
Depreciation of audio-visual equipment	1(d)		1,491	1,491	
Administration expenses			3,334	4,421	
			<u>28,155</u>		29,659
<b>Governance costs</b>					
Honorary		7,250		7,000	
Insurance		948		855	
Website management		306		559	
Sundry expenses			<u>722</u>	355	
			9,226		8,769
<b>Total resources expended</b>			<u>37,381</u>		<u>38,428</u>
<b>Net incoming resources</b>			32		(544)

**Other recognised gains and losses**

Unrealised gain on investments	<u>4,092</u>	<u>744</u>
<b>Total net movement in funds</b>	4,124	200
Fund balances brought forward at 1 January 2024	<u>110,204</u>	<u>110,004</u>
Fund balances carried forward at 31 December 2024	<u>114,328</u>	<u>110,204</u>

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

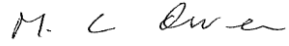
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	Notes	2024	2023
		£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	2	2,982	4,472
Investments	3	<u>92,702</u>	<u>88,610</u>
Total fixed assets		<u>95,684</u>	<u>93,082</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	4	1,784	2,473
Prepayments	4	800	500
Cash at bank	5	<u>22,141</u>	<u>24,866</u>
		<u>24,724</u>	<u>27,739</u>
<b>CREDITORS:</b>			
Subscriptions in advance	6	6,080	10,617
Amounts falling due in one year	6	<u>6,080</u>	<u>10,617</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>18,644</u>	<u>16,622</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u>114,328</u>	<u>110,204</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Income and expenditure account	7	114,328	110,204
Total Reserves		<u>114,328</u>	<u>110,204</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 28 May 2025

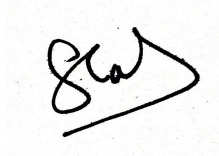
and were signed on its behalf by:

Mr Michael Owen

Handwritten signature of Mr Michael Owen in cursive script.

Treasurer

Dr Sarah Galbraith

Handwritten signature of Dr Sarah Galbraith in cursive script.

President

## THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year end 31 December 2024

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#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

(b) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

(c) Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

(d) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Audio-visual equipment was purchased in 2022 in order to make monthly lecture and Council meetings available remotely. The cost of this equipment will be written off over its expected useful life of five years on a straight-line basis.

(e) Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the statement of financial position date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the realised gains and losses on acquisitions and disposals as well as the unrealised gains and losses throughout the year. The unrealised gains or losses represent the difference between the market value and the book value on the annual accounting date, namely 31 December 2024. Unrealised gains or losses are transferred to the accumulated fund. The actual gain or loss will depend upon the prices ruling at the time of sale. The figure for unrealised gains is therefore only an indication of the position.

(f) Irrecoverable vat

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources for which the related expenditure was incurred.

THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year end 31 December 2024

2.	TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS			
		2024		2023
		Audio-visual equipment	Total	
		£	£	£
	<b>Cost or valuation</b>			
	At 1st January 2024	7,454	7,454	7,454
	Additions	0	0	0
	Disposals	0	0	0
	At 31 December 2024	7,454	7,454	7,454
	<b>Depreciation</b>			
	At 1st January 2024	2,982	2,982	1,491
	Disposals	0	0	0
	Depreciation in year	1,491	1,491	1,491
	At 31 December 2024	4,473	4,473	2,982
	<b>Net book value at 1st January 2024</b>	4,472	4,472	5,963
	<b>Net book value at 31st December 2024</b>	2,982	2,982	4,472
3.	INVESTMENTS			
		2024		2023
		£		£
	<b>Market value at 1 January 2024</b>	88,610		87,866
	Acquisitions	-		-
	Disposals	-		-
	Revaluation	4,092		744
	<b>Market value at 31 December 2024</b>	92,702		88,610
	<b>Investments at market value comprised:</b>			
	BlackRock Charities Growth and Income Fund	92,702		88,610
	<b>Historical cost</b>	<b>85,000</b>		<b>85,000</b>

#### 4 DEBTORS

Other debtors	1,684	1,510
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>1,000</u>	<u>963</u>
	<u>2,684</u>	<u>2,473</u>

#### 5 CASH AT BANK IN HAND

Business account	14,984	17,758
Treasurers account	7,157	7,008
	<u>22,141</u>	<u>24,765</u>

#### 6 CREDITORS

Subscriptions in advance	6,080	10,617
Amounts due within one year	-	-
	<u>6,080</u>	<u>10,617</u>

#### 7 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Balance at 1 January 2024	110,204	110,004
Net outgoing resources	32	-544
Investment gains	<u>4,092</u>	<u>744</u>
Balance at 31 December 2024	<u>114,328</u>	<u>110,204</u>

**MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 214508

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# Accounts

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**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 214508**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
FOR  
THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 31 December 2023**

---

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 5
Report of the Independent Examiner	6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Statement of Financial Position	8
Notes to the Financial Statements	9 - 11

## **THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 December 2023**

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The Medico-Legal Society is an unincorporated registered charity (No. 214508) governed by the Rules of the Society as approved by the Trustees of the Society and by the Council of the Society at meetings on 11 May 2023; adopted by the Society at its Annual General Meeting on 8 June 2023; and approved by the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 24 October 2023.

The Medico-Legal Society's registered address is:

89 Elm Bank Gardens  
London  
SW13 0NX

### **TRUSTEES**

The following Council members have served as trustees in 2023:

From January to June 2023:

Dr Tania Francis  
Dr Sarah Galbraith  
Mrs Anne Raikes  
Mr Simon Readhead KC  
Dr Mark Tarn

From July to December 2023:

Dr Tania Francis  
Dr Sarah Galbraith  
Professor Rachael Mulheron KC (Hon)  
Mrs Anne Raikes  
Mr Simon Readhead KC  
Dr Mark Tarn

### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

The following individuals were Council members for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023:

Mr Charles Bennett  
Mrs Diana Brahams  
Dr. Gerrard Burnett  
Dr Tania Francis  
Dr Sarah Galbraith  
Ms Linda Lee  
Advocate Edwina Casebow (January to October 2023)  
Mrs Anne Raikes  
Professor Rachael Mulheron KC (Hon)  
Mr Michael Levenstein  
Ms. Evelyn Palmer  
Dr James Pattison  
Dr Katy Peters  
Mr Simon Readhead KC  
Dr Giuseppe Spoto  
Dr Mark Tarn  
Dr (Eleanor) Jane Turner  
Professor Harry Zeitlin



## **THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2023**

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#### **OFFICERS**

The following Council members have served as Officers in 2023:

President: Mr Simon Readhead KC  
Editor, Medico-Legal Journal: Mrs Diana Brahams  
Medical Editor, Medico-Legal Journal: Dr (Eleanor) Jane Turner  
Honorary Treasurer: Mrs Anne Raikes  
Honorary Medical Secretary: Dr Gerrard Burnett  
Honorary Legal Secretary: Ms Evelyn Palmer

#### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Lawrence Melinek  
7 Helenslea Avenue  
London  
NW11 8NE

## **THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2023**

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The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

#### **OBJECTIVES**

The objective of the society is to promote Medico-Legal knowledge in all its aspects. This is to be achieved by holding meetings at which papers are read and discussed. There have been no material changes in policy since the last report.

#### **PUBLIC BENEFIT TEST**

Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 requires charity trustees to have due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission under section 17(1) of that Act in exercising their powers or duties. The trustees confirm that they have referred to this guidance when reviewing the organisation's aims and objectives, in planning future activities and generally in exercising any powers and duties to which the guidance is relevant.

#### **RULES OF THE SOCIETY**

New Rules of the Society were approved by the Trustees of the Society and by the Council of the Society at meetings on 11 May 2023, were adopted by the Society at its Annual General Meeting on 8 June 2023 and were approved by the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 24 October 2023.

The organisation of the Rules has been re-ordered in Parts 1 and 2 to replicate the division contained in the Model Constitution prepared by the Charity Commission for Charitable Associations (Unincorporated) dated November 2013 and updated in January 2017. The provisions in Part 1 relate to the purposes of the charity and how its money and other property can be used. These provisions can only be changed by a two-thirds majority of members present and voting at a meeting. Part 2 contains those provisions which are administrative in nature. These provisions can be changed by a simple majority of those members.

#### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

## THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2023

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- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The Board of Trustees is delighted that Lawrence Melinek continues as independent examiner in 2023.

#### REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES BY THE HONORARY LEGAL SECRETARY

In the year ending 31 December 2023, the Society had a total of 232 members (in 2022, 207 members). There were 38 new members who joined the Society in 2023 across all membership categories – Ordinary, Associate, Student and Overseas. The Society embarked on a successful recruitment initiative to promote group membership at a reduced rate. In November 2023, the Society welcomed its first group members from a firm of regulatory defence solicitors.

The Society held nine meetings during 2023, prior to which the Council met on each occasion. During 2023 the Society was again fortunate to be addressed by a number of distinguished speakers.

- January 2023: **Professor Neil Greenberg**, Professor of Defence Mental Health – “Adjustment disorder, moral injury and the Case of Marine “A””.
- February 2023: **Dr Gabrielle Pendlebury**, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist – “County Lines”.
- March 2023: **Sir Liam Joseph Donaldson**, FRCSE FRCP FRCPE FMedSci FRCA. Former Chief Medical Officer for England – Vaccines and Geopolitics.
- April 2023: **Professor Mike Tipton** MBE, FTSP, Professor of Human & Applied Physiology – “Extreme environmental physiology in the dock”.
- May 2023: **Baroness Cumberlege** CBE DL – “First do no harm” – “Primodos, sodium valproate and surgical mesh”.
- June 2023: **Dr Christine Tomkins**, BSC(Hons) MBChB (Hons) DO FRCS FRCOphth FRCP MBA. Retired CEO, Medical Defence Union – “Tales of the Unexpected – 36 years of Medical Defence”.
- October 2023: **Dr Simon Wilson**, MA FRCPsych, Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist – “The Fixed Threat Assessment Centre”.
- November 2023: **Dr Vassilios Hurmusiadis** BEng, MA, PhD, and **Mr Kevin Sherman** MA (Cantab) BM BCh (Oxon) FRCS MEd PhD – “Simulation-based training in cardiology | The role of simulation and AI in medical education”.
- December 2023: **Mr. David Sellu** MSc, ChM, FRCS, FRCSEd., former Honorary Consultant Surgeon at St Mark’s Hospital, London – “When Things Go Wrong – Consent, Manslaughter and Gross Clinical Negligence”.

## THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2023

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The Society continues to deliver in-person and remote presentations, and has received positive feedback from remote attendees that the audio-visual equipment purchased in 2022 has made a significant difference. The Society continues to grow its online presence, and by 31 December 2023, had over 720 LinkedIn followers.

#### REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL POSITION BY THE HONORARY TREASURER

There was a small deficit in 2023 of £544 similar to that of £462 in 2022. Higher income from subscriptions and investments offset the greater cost of returning to in-person monthly lectures at Lettsom House.

The Society had a successful Annual Dinner with more guests than in previous years. The trustees are grateful to Sage for their ongoing donations towards this dinner, and for their support of the Society in its other endeavours.

Monthly lectures continue to be available remotely in real time and are also accessible to members on demand via the Society's YouTube channel. The investment in audio-visual equipment in 2022 has enabled this.

2023 was a slightly better year than 2022 as interest rises plateaued and the economic outlook became clearer. The value of the investment in the BlackRock Charities Growth and Income Fund recovered by £744 over the year, after a fall of £12,152 in 2022. The Society continues to benefit from a regular quarterly dividend.

Income from the Minty Trust increased to £4,540 in 2023 compared with £2,770 in 2022 as equities paid better dividends than previous years.

As a result, total reserves as at 31 December 2023 amounted to £110,204 (£110,004 at end 2022) made up of cash at bank as adjusted for amounts due to and from the Society plus the investment portfolio and the audio-visual equipment.

Details of income and expenses can be found in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 7.

#### INVESTMENT POWERS

The constitution of the charity authorises the trustees to make and hold investments, which they see as appropriate using the general funds of the charity.

#### RESERVES POLICY

The policy of the charity is to maintain sufficient funds so that over a period of time sufficient income can be generated from the funds held to carry out the functions of the charity.

#### RISK ANALYSIS

The trustees who are responsible for the charity are implementing risk management as a matter of policy. A review has taken place and it has considered the following main areas of risk.

Investments:	Consideration of responsibility of brokers to the trust and stock market performance.
Accounts:	Production of annual accounts together with internal management controls.
Charitable Objects:	Ensuring that the charity funds are used in accordance with the trust's charitable objects.

#### RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period that require disclosure.

By order of the trustees on June 2024


Mr Simon Readhead KC

President

  
Simon Readhead KC (Jun 11, 2024 09:14 GMT+1)

Mrs Anne Raikes -

Treasurer

  
Anne Raikes (Jun 11, 2024 13:55 GMT+1)

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

---

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Medico-Legal Society for the year ended 31 December 2023.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Medico-Legal Society, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Medico-Legal Society's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Name: Lawrence Melinek BSc. (Hons) ACMA CGMA

Address: 7 Helenslea Avenue, London NW11 8NE

Date:

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2023**

		2023		2022	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	1(b)				
Subscriptions			19,627		18,207
Investment income from:					
Managed Investments		2,930		2,723	
Minty bequest		4,540		2,770	
			7,470		5,493
Other income:					
Annual dinner and donation			8,981		9,032
Donations received	3		1,806		-
<b>Total incoming resources</b>			<b>37,884</b>		<b>32,733</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	1(c)				
Direct charitable expenditure:					
Expenses of meetings		10,357		7,427	
Journal production		4,110		4,380	
Annual dinner costs		9,126		8,661	
Small IT costs		154		567	
Depreciation of audio-visual equipment	1(d)	1,491		1,491	
Administration expenses		4,421		2,669	
			29,659		25,195
<b>Governance costs</b>					
Honorarium		7,000		7,000	
Insurance		855		562	
Website management		559		380	
Sundry		355		58	
			8,769		8,000
<b>Total resources expended</b>			<b>38,428</b>		<b>33,195</b>
<b>Net outgoing resources</b>			<b>(544)</b>		<b>(462)</b>
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>					
Unrealised gain (2022 unrealised loss) on investments			744		(12,152)
<b>Total net movement in funds</b>			<b>200</b>		<b>(12,614)</b>
Fund balances brought forward at 1 January 2023			110,004		122,618
Fund balances carried forward at 31 December 2023			110,204		110,004

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**At 31 December 2023**

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	2	4,472	5,963
Investments	3	88,610	87,866
Total fixed assets		93,082	93,829
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	4	2,473	701
Prepayments	4	500	-
Cash at bank	5	24,866	23,916
		27,739	24,618
<b>CREDITORS:</b>			
Subscriptions in advance	6	10,617	7,693
Amounts falling due in one year	6	-	750
		10,617	8,443
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		16,622	16,175
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		110,204	122,618
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Income and expenditure account	7	110,204	122,618
Total Reserves		110,204	122,618

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 2024  
and were signed on its behalf  
by:

Mrs Anne Raikes - Treasurer

*Anne Raikes*  
Anne Raikes (Jun 11, 2024 13:55 GMT+1)

Mr Simon Readhead KC - President

*Simon Readhead KC*  
Simon Readhead KC (Jun 11, 2024 09:14 GMT+1)

## THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 December 2023

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#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

**(a) Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' EFA, the and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

**(b) Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

**(c) Resources expended**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**(d) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Audio-visual equipment was purchased in 2022 in order to make monthly lecture and Council meetings available remotely. The cost of this equipment will be written off over its expected useful life of five years on a straight-line basis.

**(e) Investments**

Investments are stated at market value at the statement of financial position date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the realised gains and losses on acquisitions and disposals as well as the unrealised gains and losses throughout the year. The unrealised gains or losses represent the difference between the market value and the book value on the annual accounting date, namely 31 December 2023. Unrealised gains or losses are transferred to the accumulated fund. The actual gain or loss will depend upon the prices ruling at the time of sale. The figure for unrealised gains is therefore only an indication of the position.

**(f) Irrecoverable vat**

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources for which the related expenditure was incurred.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
for the year ended 31 December 2023

**2. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	<b>Audio- visual equipment £</b>	<b>Total £</b>	<b>2022 £</b>
<b>Cost or valuation</b>			
At 1st January 2023	7,454	7,454	0
Additions	0	0	7,454
Disposals	0	0	0
At 31 December 2023	<u>7,454</u>	<u>7,454</u>	<u>7,454</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1st January 2023	1,491	1,491	0
Disposals	0	0	0
Depreciation in year	1,491	1,491	1,491
At 31 December 2023	<u>2,982</u>	<u>2,982</u>	<u>1,491</u>
Net book value at 1st January 2023	<u>5,963</u>	<u>5,963</u>	<u>0</u>
Net book value at 31st December 2023	<u>4,472</u>	<u>4,472</u>	<u>5,963</u>

**3. INVESTMENTS**

	<b>2023 £</b>	<b>2022 £</b>
Market value at 1 January 2023	87,866	100,018
Acquisitions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
Revaluation	744	(12,152)
Market value at 31 December 2023	<u>88,610</u>	<u>87,866</u>
Investments at market value comprised:		
BlackRock Charities Growth and Income Fund	88,610	87,866
Historical cost	<u>85,000</u>	<u>85,000</u>

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 31 December 2023**

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	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>4 DEBTORS</b>		
Other debtors	1,510	701
Prepayments and accrued income	963	0
	<u>2,473</u>	<u>701</u>
<b>5 CASH AT BANK IN HAND</b>		
Business account	17,758	16,908
Treasurers account	7,008	7,008
	<u>24,765</u>	<u>23,916</u>
<b>6 CREDITORS</b>		
Amounts due within one year	-	750
Deferred income – subscriptions in advance	10,617	7,693
	<u>10,617</u>	<u>8,443</u>
<b>7 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT</b>		
Balance at 1 January 2023	110,004	122,618
Net outgoing resources	(544)	(462)
Investment gains	744	(12,152)
Balance at 31 December 2023	<u>110,204</u>	<u>110,004</u>

**MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 214508

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# Accounts

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**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 214508**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**FOR  
THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 31 December 2022**

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	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 5
Report of the Independent Examiner	6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Statement of Financial Position	8
Notes to the Financial Statements	9 - 11

## **THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 December 2022**

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The Medico-Legal Society is an unincorporated registered charity (No. 214508) governed by Rules of the Society as updated on 1 October 2019.

The Medico-Legal Society's registered address is:

89 Elm Bank Gardens  
London  
SW13 0NX

#### **TRUSTEES**

The following Council members have served as trustees in 2022:

From January to June 2022:

Dr Tania Francis  
Ms Evelyn Palmer  
Mrs Anne Raikes  
Mr Simon Readhead QC  
Professor Harry Zeitlin

From July to December 2022:

Dr Tania Francis  
Dr Sarah Galbraith  
Mrs Anne Raikes  
Mr Simon Readhead KC  
Dr Mark Tarn

#### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

The following individuals were Council members for the period 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022:

Mr Charles Bennett  
Dr Tania Francis  
Dr Sarah Galbraith  
Ms Linda Lee – Past President  
Mr Bertie Leigh – Past President (January to June 2022)  
Mr Tim Hogman (January to June 2022)  
Dr Chris Martin (January 2022)  
Dr Roy Palmer – Past President (January to June 2022)  
Ms Evelyn Palmer  
Dr James Pattison  
Mr Simon Readhead KC  
Dr Mark Tarn  
Dr (Eleanor) Jane Turner  
Professor Harry Zeitlin

New Council members, appointed at the June 2022 AGM:

(Dr) Edwina Casebow  
Mr Michael Levenstein  
Professor Rachael Mulheron KC (Hon)  
Ms Katy Peters  
Dr Giuseppe Spoto

## **THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2022**

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#### **OFFICERS**

The following Council members have served as Officers in 2022:

President: Professor Harry Zeitlin (January to September 2022)  
President: Simon Readhead KC (October to December 2022)  
Editor, Medico-Legal Journal: Mrs Diana Brahams  
Medical Editor, Medico-Legal Journal: Dr (Eleanor) Jane Turner  
Honorary Treasurer: Mrs Anne Raikes  
Honorary Medical Secretary: Dr Gerrard Burnett  
Honorary Legal Secretary: Ms Evelyn Palmer

#### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Lawrence Melinek  
7 Helenslea Avenue  
London  
NW11 8NE

## **THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2022**

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The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

#### **OBJECTIVES**

The object of the society is to promote Medico-Legal knowledge in all its aspects. This is to be achieved by holding meetings at which papers are read and discussed. There have been no material changes in policy since the last report.

#### **PUBLIC BENEFIT TEST**

Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 requires charity trustees to have due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission under section 17(1) of that Act in exercising their powers or duties. The trustees confirm that they have referred to this guidance when reviewing the organisation's aims and objectives, in planning future activities and generally in exercising any powers and duties to which the guidance is relevant.

#### **RULES OF THE SOCIETY**

New Rules of the Society, following a full review by the Council during 2019 and as adopted at the AGM on 13 June 2019, came into force from 1 October 2019. The main new provisions of these were:

- 1) to appoint a Board of Trustees of no more than five Ordinary Members of the Society to be responsible for:
  - (a) ensuring that the Society's activities further its objectives
  - (b) the proper stewardship of the Society's finances and assets
  - (c) the Society's compliance with the requirements of the Charities Act.
  - (d) facilitating the arrangements made by the Council of the Society for the furtherance of the Society's objects in so far as those arrangements are in accordance with the Rules of the Society
- 2) to limit the number of members appointed to the Council to nine members of the Society together with the Board of Trustees and the Honorary Officers.
- 3) to enable the Financial statements to be subjected to an audit or an independent examination.

#### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

## THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2022

---

- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The Board of Trustees is delighted that Lawrence Melinek continues as independent examiner in 2022

#### REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES BY THE HONORARY LEGAL SECRETARY

In the year ending the 31 December 2022, there were [xx] new members, including [xx] full members, [xx] associate members, and [xx] student members. This was slightly higher than 2021, when there were 41 new members, including 31 full members, two associate members, and eight student members.

The Society held nine meetings during 2022, prior to which the Council met on each occasion. During 2022 the Society was again fortunate to be addressed by a number of distinguished speakers.

January 2022:	Baron Neuberger of Abbotsbury GBS PC Hon FRS President of the Supreme Court from 2012 to 2017 Personal autonomy: a blessing or a curse.
February 2022:	Andrew Hoyle MBBS Barrister LLM MRCGP FRAeS Hon FFFLM Cyber warfare – does it have a legal basis? Can the UK lawfully protect healthcare from an overseas cyber attack?
March 2022:	Dr Philip Barlow H.M. Assistant Coroner for Inner South London What power the inquisition? Do coroners really make a difference?
April 2022:	Nicola Mundy, Solicitor, Senior Coroner, SE Yorkshire Deaths and the Smart (or not so Smart?) Motorways.
May 2022:	Mrs Justice Lambert The Hillsborough Inquest 2014-2016.
June 2022:	Mr Matthew Izett-Kay BMBS MD MRCOG, Consultant Gynaecologist and Subspecialist Urogynaecologist, John Radcliffe, Oxford Urogynaecology and Mesh: Who, why, and where doctors go wrong.
October 2022:	Simon Readhead K.C., M.A., B.C.L President's address: Medicine and Law – Little Territory in Common.
November 2022:	Dr Derek Tracy, Medical Director, West London NHS Trust Senior Lecturer, King's College London & University College London Malingering: are doctors exceeding the evidence?
December 2022:	Professor Marian Knight MA, MBChB, MPH, DPhil, FFPH, FRCPE Professor of Maternal and Child Population Health Excess maternal mortality BAME women

## **THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2022**

---

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on 9 June 2022. The Society has continued to develop its online presence on LinkedIn and Twitter. By 31 December 2022 the Society had 483 followers on LinkedIn and had attracted nearly 400 followers on Twitter. The Society has also developed its own YouTube channel.

#### **REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL POSITION BY THE HONORARY TREASURER**

There was a deficit in 2022 of £462 compared with a surplus of £4,364 in 2021. The primary reason for this deficit in 2022 was the higher cost of meetings now we are reverting to in-person events. Happily, the Society was able to hold its Annual Dinner once again, after a gap of two years. The trustees are grateful to Sage for their ongoing donations towards this dinner, and for their support of the Society in its other endeavours. In 2021, we had the benefit of this donation which was put towards other costs.

Audio-visual equipment was purchased during the year to enable presentations to the Society to be seen and heard remotely in real time and subsequently, to be accessible to members on demand via the Society's YouTube channel. Thus presentations can be enjoyed by all members, wherever they may be. The trustees believe that this easy access will help to encourage new members to join the Society and so improve subscription income. The equipment has been capitalised and will be written off over the next five years.

2022 was a difficult year for investments, mainly because of the effect of growing global inflation and higher interest rates. The value of the investment in the BlackRock Charities Growth and Income Fund fell £12,152 over the year, after an increase of £7,679 in 2021. The Society continues to benefit from a regular quarterly dividend.

As a result, total reserves as at 31 December 2022 amounted to £110,004 (£122,618 at end 2021) made up of cash at bank as adjusted for amounts due to and from the Society plus the investment portfolio and the audio-visual equipment.

Details of income and expenses can be found in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 7.

#### **INVESTMENT POWERS**

The constitution of the charity authorises the trustees to make and hold investments, which they see as appropriate using the general funds of the charity.

#### **RESERVES POLICY**

The policy of the charity is to maintain sufficient funds so that over a period of time sufficient income can be generated from the funds held to carry out the functions of the charity.

#### **RISK ANALYSIS**

The trustees who are responsible for the charity are implementing risk management as a matter of policy. A review has taken place and it has considered the following main areas of risk.

Investments:	Consideration of responsibility of brokers to the trust and stock market performance.
Accounts:	Production of annual accounts together with internal management controls.
Charitable Objects:	Ensuring that the charity funds are used in accordance with the trust's charitable objects.

#### **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period that require disclosure.

By order of the trustees on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Mr Simon Readhead KC

President

Mrs Anne Raikes -

Treasurer

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

---

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Medico-Legal Society for the year ended 31 December 2022.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Medico-Legal Society, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Medico-Legal Society's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Name: Lawrence Melinek BSc. (Hons) ACMA CGMA

Address: 7 Helenslea Avenue, London NW11 8NE

Date:

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

		2022		2021	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	1(b)				
Subscriptions			18,207		16,570
Investment income from:					
Managed Investments		2,723		2,529	
Minty bequest		<u>2,770</u>		<u>2,918</u>	
			5,493		5,447
Other income:					
Annual dinner and donation			9,032		3,404
Charitable donations received	3				
<b>Total incoming resources</b>			<u>32,733</u>		<u>25,421</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	1(c)				
Direct charitable expenditure:					
Expenses of meetings		7,427		5,343	
Journal production		4,380		4,264	
Annual dinner costs		8,661		-	
Small IT costs		567		-	
Depreciation of audio-visual equipment	1(d)	1,491		-	
Administration expenses		<u>2,669</u>		<u>2,188</u>	
			25,195		11,794
<b>Governance costs</b>					
Honorarium		7,000		7,250	
Insurance		562		544	
Website management		380		196	
Investment management charges		-		961	
Sundry		<u>58</u>		<u>312</u>	
			8,001		9,263
<b>Total resources expended</b>			<u>33,195</u>		<u>21,057</u>
<b>Net outgoing (2021 incoming) resources</b>			(462)		4,364
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>					
Realised loss (2019 gain) on investments			-		
Unrealised loss on investments			<u>(12,152)</u>		<u>7,679</u>
			(12,152)		7,679
<b>Total net movement in funds</b>			(12,614)		12,043
Fund balances brought forward at 1 January 2021			<u>122,618</u>		<u>110,575</u>
Fund balances carried forward at 31 December 2022			<u>110,004</u>		<u>122,618</u>

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

**At 31 December 2022**

	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2022</b> <b>£</b>	<b>2021</b> <b>£</b>
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible fixed assets	2	5,963	0
Investments	3	<u>87,866</u>	<u>100,018</u>
Total fixed assets		<u>93,829</u>	<u>100,018</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	4	701	578
Prepayments	4	-	600
Cash at bank	5	<u>23,916</u>	<u>30,668</u>
		<u>24,618</u>	<u>31,845</u>
<b>CREDITORS:</b>			
Subscriptions in advance	6	7,693	7,900
Amounts falling due in one year	6	<u>750</u>	<u>1,345</u>
		<u>8,443</u>	<u>9,245</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>16,175</u>	<u>22,600</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u>110,004</u>	<u>122,618</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Income and expenditure account	7	110,004	122,618
Total Reserves		<u>110,004</u>	<u>122,618</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 2023  
and were signed on its behalf  
by:

Mrs Anne Raikes - Treasurer

Mr Simon Readhead KC - President

## THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 December 2022

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#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

**(a) Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' EFA, the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

**(b) Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

**(c) Resources expended**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**(d) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Audio-visual equipment was purchased in 2022 in order to make monthly lecture and Council meetings available remotely. The cost of this equipment will be written off over its expected useful life of five years on a straight-line basis.

**(e) Investments**

Investments are stated at market value at the statement of financial position date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the realised gains and losses on acquisitions and disposals as well as the unrealised gains and losses throughout the year. The unrealised gains or losses represent the difference between the market value and the book value on the annual accounting date, namely 31 December 2019. Unrealised gains or losses are transferred to the accumulated fund. The actual gain or loss will depend upon the prices ruling at the time of sale. The figure for unrealised gains is therefore only an indication of the position.

**(f) Irrecoverable vat**

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources for which the related expenditure was incurred.

THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 31 December 2022

2. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Audio-visual equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>		
At 1st January 2022	0	0
Additions	7,454	7,454
Disposals	0	0
At 31 December 2022	<u>7,454</u>	<u>7,454</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At 1st January 2022	0	0
Disposals	0	0
Depreciation	1,491	1,491
At 31 December 2022	<u>1,491</u>	<u>1,491</u>
Net book value at 1st January 2022	0	0
Net book value at 31st December 2022	<u>5,963</u>	<u>5,963</u>

3. INVESTMENTS

	2022 £	2021 £
Market value at 1 January 2021	100,018	94,832
Acquisitions	-	60,000
Disposals	-	(62,494)
Revaluation	(12,152)	7,679
Market value at 31 December 2022	<u>87,866</u>	<u>100,018</u>
Investments at market value comprised:		
BlackRock Charities Growth and Income Fund	87,866	100,018
Historical cost	<u>85,000</u>	<u>85,000</u>

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2022**

---

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>4 DEBTORS</b>		
Other debtors	701	578
Prepayments and accrued income	0	600
	<u>701</u>	<u>1,178</u>
<b>5 CASH AT BANK IN HAND</b>		
Business account	16,908	23,660
Treasurers account	7,008	7,008
	<u>23,916</u>	<u>30,667</u>
<b>6 CREDITORS</b>		
Amounts due within one year	750	595
Deferred income – subscriptions in advance	7,693	7,900
	<u>8,443</u>	<u>8,495</u>
<b>7 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT</b>		
Balance at 1 January 2021	122,618	110,575
Net outgoing resources (2021 incoming)	(462)	4,364
Investment gains	(12,152)	7,679
Balance at 31 December 2022	<u>110,004</u>	<u>122,618</u>

**MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 214508

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# Accounts

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**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 214508**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**FOR  
THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**  
**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2021**

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	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 4
Report of the Independent Examiner	5
Statement of Financial Activities	6
Statement of Financial Position	7
Notes to the Financial Statements	8 to 10

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY  
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

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The Medico-Legal Society is an unincorporated registered charity (No. 214508) governed by Rules of the Society as updated on 1 October 2019.

The Medico-Legal Society's registered address is:

89 Elm Bank Gardens  
London  
SW13 0NX

**TRUSTEES**

The following Council members have served as trustees throughout 2021:

Dr Tania Francis  
Ms Evelyn Palmer  
Mrs Anne Raikes  
Mr Simon Readhead QC  
Professor Harry Zeitlin

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

The following individuals were Council members for the period 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021:

From January 2021

Dr Daniel Haines – Past President (until June 2020)  
Dr Roy Palmer – Past President  
Mr Bertie Leigh – Past President  
Ms Linda Lee – Past President  
Mr Charles Bennett  
Dr Tania Francis  
Dr Sarah Galbraith  
Mr Tim Hogman  
Dr Chris Martin  
Ms Evelyn Palmer  
Dr James Pattison  
Mr Simon Readhead QC  
Professor Harry Zeitlin

New Council members, appointed June 2021:

Dr Mark Tarn  
Dr Eleanor Jane Turner

**OFFICERS**

The following Council members have served as Officers throughout 2021:

President: Professor Harry Zeitlin  
Honorary Treasurer: Mrs Anne Raikes  
Editor – Medico Legal Journal: Mrs Diana Brahams  
Honorary Medical Secretary: Dr Gerrard Burnett  
Honorary Legal Secretary: Ms Sandra Marcantonio

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY  
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED  
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Lawrence Melinek  
7 Helenslea Avenue  
London  
NW11 8NE

**DETAILED REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

**OBJECTIVES**

The object of the society is to promote Medico-Legal knowledge in all its aspects. This is to be attained by holding meetings at which papers are read and discussed and by such other means as the Council shall approve. There have been no material changes in policy since the last report.

**PUBLIC BENEFIT TEST**

Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 requires charity trustees to have due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission under section 17(1) of that Act in exercising their powers or duties. The trustees confirm that they have referred to this guidance when reviewing the organisation's aims and objectives, in planning future activities and generally in exercising any powers and duties to which the guidance is relevant.

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY  
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED  
for the year ended 31 December 2021**

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The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

The Board of Trustees is delighted that Lawrence Melinek continues as independent examiner in 2021.

**REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES BY THE HONORARY LEGAL SECRETARY**

In the year ending the 31st December 2021, there were 41 new members, including 31 full members, two associate members, and eight student members. This was slightly higher than 2020, when there were 36 new members - 32 full members and four student members.

The Society held nine meetings during 2021, prior to which the Council met on each occasion.

During 2021 the Society was again fortunate to be addressed by a number of distinguished speakers.

January 2021:	Medical Legal Considerations in Premier League Football, Dr Gary O’Driscoll, Head of Sports Medicine, Arsenal Football Club
February 2021:	What is a Pandemic? Dr Nathalie MacDermott, NIHR Academic Clinical Lecturer, King’s College London
March 2021:	Managing pandemics – What we have to learn from the work of Austin Bradford Hill, Professor Sir Anthony Newman Taylor, President’s Envoy for Health at Imperial College London and former Director of Research and Development for the National Heart and Lung Institute
April 2021:	Rumours, Myths and Realities, Jeremy Chipperfield, HM Coroner for County Durham & Darlington
May 2021:	The Medicolegal Implications of Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (CRPS), Dr Christopher A. Jenner MB BS, FRCA, FFPMRCA, Consultant in Pain Medicine, Imperial Healthcare NHS Trust
June 2021:	The Importance of a transparently independent & professional investigation when things have gone wrong or accusations made, Tom Kark QC, QEB Hollis Whitman Chambers
October 2021:	The Forensic Physician – A dying profession? Dr Margaret Stark President, Faculty of Forensic & Legal Medicine, Royal College of Physicians
November 2021:	The Value of Life – in law and in practice, Lord Sumption, Justice of the Supreme Court between 2012 and 2018
December 2021:	Forensic Dentistry and Why Not Bite Marks? Colonel James Hardy, Forensic Odontologist

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on 10 June 2021.

The Society has continued to develop its online presence on LinkedIn and Twitter. By 31 December 2021 the Society had 302 followers on LinkedIn and had attracted over 300 followers on Twitter.

## **REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL POSITION BY THE HONORARY TREASURER**

Income exceeded expenses by £4364 in 2021 compared with a surplus of £3,240 in 2020. This higher result continued to come substantially from the moving of lectures online rather than holding them in central London.

2021 was a good year for investments, following the effect of the pandemic in the early part of 2020 and the value as at end December showed an overall increase of £7,679 over that at the end of 2020. In 2020, the value increased by £1,549.

A further £60,000 was invested in BlackRock Charities Growth and Income Fund in January 2021 following the liquidation of the remaining investments managed by J M Finn. By the end of 2021, the total investment in this Fund was valued at £100,018.

The value of investments managed by J M Finn has fallen to a level that no longer made financial sense to be managed in a segregated portfolio. The decision was taken to transfer the remaining monies into the BlackRock Fund in early 2021. £60,000 was invested in January 2021

As a result, total reserves as at 31 December 2021 amounted to £122,618 made up of cash at bank as adjusted for amounts due to and from the Society plus the investment portfolio.

Details of income and expenses can be found in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 8.

## **INVESTMENT POWERS**

The constitution of the charity authorises the trustees to make and hold investments, which they see as appropriate using the general funds of the charity.

## **RESERVES POLICY**

The policy of the charity is to maintain sufficient funds so that over a period of time sufficient income can be generated from the funds held to carry out the functions of the charity.

## **RISK ANALYSIS**

The trustees who are responsible for the charity are implementing risk management as a matter of policy. A review has taken place and it has considered the following main areas of risk.

Investments:	Consideration of responsibility of brokers to the trust and stock market performance.
Accounts:	Production of annual accounts together with internal management controls.
Charitable Objects:	Ensuring that the charity funds are used in accordance with the trust's charitable objects.

## **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period that require disclosure.

By order of the trustees on	2022
Professor Harry Zeitlin	President
Mrs Anne Raikes	Treasurer

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Medico-Legal Society for the year ended 31 December 2021.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Medico-Legal Society, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Medico-Legal Society's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Name: Lawrence Melinek BSc. (Hons) ACMA CGMA

Address: 7 Helenslea Avenue, London NW11 8NE

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2021**

		2021		2020	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	1(b)				
Subscriptions			16,570		16,523
Investment income from:					
Managed Investments		2,529		3,980	
Minty bequest		2,918		3,493	
			5,447		7,473
Other income:					
Annual dinner and donation			3,404		3,387
<b>Total incoming resources</b>			<u>25,421</u>		<u>27,383</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	1(c)				
Direct charitable expenditure:					
Expenses of meetings		5,343		6,297	
Journal production		4,264		4,618	
Annual dinner costs		-		-	
Administration expenses		2,188		4,349	
			11,794		15,265
<b>Governance costs</b>					
Honorarium		7,250		6,000	
Insurance		544		1,443	
Website management		196		246	
Investment management charges		961		900	
Sundry expenses		312		290	
			9,263		8,879
<b>Total resources expended</b>			<u>21,057</u>		<u>24,143</u>
<b>Net incoming resources</b>			4,364		3,240
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>					
2020 Realised loss on investments			-		-665
Unrealised gain on investments			7,679		1,549
			7,679		883
Total net movement in funds			12,043		4,123
Fund balances brought forward at 1 January 2021			110,575		106,452
Fund balances carried forward at 31 December 2021			<u>122,618</u>		<u>110,575</u>

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2021**

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Investments	2	100,018	94,832
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	3	578	1,408
Prepayments	3	600	600
Cash at bank	5	30,668	22,800
		31,845	24,808
<b>CREDITORS:</b>			
Subscriptions in advance	4	7,900	7,900
Amounts falling due in one year	4	1,345	1,166
		9,245	9,066
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		22,600	15,743
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		122,618	110,575
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Income and expenditure account	6	122,618	110,575
Total Reserves		122,618	110,575

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

Professor Harry Zeitlin -

Mrs Anne Raikes -

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**(a) Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' EFA, the and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

**(b) Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

**(c) Resources expended**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**(d) Independent Examiner**

Following the adoption of the Charity's new Constitution on 13 June 2019, it was possible to appoint an independent examiner in place of the auditors, Thorne Lancaster Parker.

**(e) Investments**

Investments are stated at market value at the statement of financial position date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the realised gains and losses on acquisitions and disposals as well as the unrealised gains and losses throughout the year. The unrealised gains or losses represent the difference between the market value and the book value on the annual accounting date, namely 31 December 2020. Unrealised gains or losses are transferred to the accumulated fund. The actual gain or loss will depend upon the prices ruling at the time of sale. The figure for unrealised gains is therefore only an indication of the position.

**(f) Irrecoverable VAT**

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources for which the related expenditure was incurred.

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2021**

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**2. INVESTMENTS**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Market value at 1 January 2021	94,832	77,514
Acquisitions	60,000	25,000
Disposals	(62,494)	(8,565)
Revaluation	7,679	883
Market value at 31 December 2021	<u>100,018</u>	<u>94,832</u>
Investments at market value comprised:		
BlackRock Charities Growth and Income Fund	100,018	32652
Bond funds		3,710
Real estate investments trusts		5700
Preference shares		6,420
UK equities		22,739
Global		-
Asia ex Japan		9,444
Property		9,168
Alternative Strategies		5,000
Cash		
	<u>100,018</u>	<u>94,832</u>
Historical cost	<u>85,000</u>	<u>82,342</u>

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2021**

	<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>3) DEBTORS</b>		
Other debtors	578	1,408
Prepayments and accrued income	600	600
	<u>1,178</u>	<u>2,008</u>
<b>4) CASH AT BANK IN HAND</b>		
Business account	23,660	15,793
Treasurers account	7,008	7,007
	<u>30,668</u>	<u>22,800</u>
<b>5) CREDITORS</b>		
Amounts due within one year	1,345	1,166
Deferred income – subscriptions in advance	7,900	7,900
	<u>9,245</u>	<u>9,066</u>
<b>6) INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT</b>		
Balance at 1 January 2021	110,575	106,452
Net incoming resources	4,364	3,240
Investment gains	7,769	883
Balance at 31 December 2021	<u>122,708</u>	<u>110,575</u>

**MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

England & Wales - Charity number 214508

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# Accounts

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**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 214508**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020  
FOR  
THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 31 December 2020**

---

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 5
Report of the Independent Examiner	6
Statement of Financial Activities	7
Statement of Financial Position	8
Notes to the Financial Statements	9 - 11

## **THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 December 2020**

---

The Medico-Legal Society is an unincorporated registered charity (No. 214508) governed by Rules of the Society as updated on 1 October 2019.

The Medico-Legal Society's registered address is:

89 Elm Bank Gardens  
London  
SW13 0NX

#### **TRUSTEES**

The following Council members have served as trustees throughout 2020

Sir Robert Francis QC  
Dr Tania Francis  
Mrs Anne Raikes  
Mr Simon Readhead QC  
Professor Harry Zeitlin

#### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

The following individuals were council members for the period 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020:

Mr Daniel Haines - Past President  
Dr Roy Palmer – Past President  
Mr Bertie Leigh – Past President  
Dr Tania Francis  
Mr Charles Bennett  
Dr James Pattison  
Dr Sarah Galbraith  
Dr Chris Martin  
Ms Evelyn Palmer  
Mr Simon Readhead QC  
Mr Tim Hogman  
Professor Harry Zeitlin

President:  
Honorary Treasurer:  
Editor – Medico Legal Journal:  
Honorary Medical Secretary:  
Honorary Legal Secretary

Professor Harry Zeitlin  
Mrs Anne Raikes  
Mrs Diana Brahams  
Dr Gerrard Burnett  
Ms Sandra Marcantonio

There were no changes in Council members in 2020.

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2020**

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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Lawrence Melinek  
7 Helenslea Avenue  
London  
NW11 8NE

## **THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2020**

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The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

#### **OBJECTIVES**

The object of the society is to promote Medico-Legal knowledge in all its aspects. This is to be achieved by holding meetings at which papers are read and discussed. There have been no material changes in policy since the last report.

#### **PUBLIC BENEFIT TEST**

Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 requires charity trustees to have due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission under section 17(1) of that Act in exercising their powers or duties. The trustees confirm that they have referred to this guidance when reviewing the organisation's aims and objectives, in planning future activities and generally in exercising any powers and duties to which the guidance is relevant.

#### **RULES OF THE SOCIETY**

New Rules of the Society, following a full review by the Council during 2019 and as adopted at the AGM on 13 June 2019, came into force from 1 October 2019. The main new provisions of these were:

- 1) to appoint a Board of Trustees of no more than five Ordinary Members of the Society to be responsible for:
  - (a) ensuring that the Society's activities further its objectives
  - (b) the proper stewardship of the Society's finances and assets
  - (c) the Society's compliance with the requirements of the Charities Act.
  - (d) facilitating the arrangements made by the Council of the Society for the furtherance of the Society's objects in so far as those arrangements are in accordance with the Rules of the Society
- 2) to limit the number of members appointed to the Council to nine members of the Society together with the Board of Trustees and the Honorary Officers.
- 3) to enable the Financial statements to be subjected to an audit or an independent examination.

#### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

## **THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2020**

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- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

The Board of Trustees is delighted that Lawrence Melinek continues as independent examiner in 2020

#### **REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES BY THE HONORARY LEGAL SECRETARY**

In the year ending the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020, there were 36 new membership applications, 32 full memberships and four student memberships. This was slightly lower than 2019, when there were 39 new members, 36 full and three student members.

The Society held nine meetings during 2020, prior to which the Council met on each occasion. The April meeting was held slightly later than planned. Unfortunately due to Covid and the ‘lockdown’ the Society was unable to hold its usual programme of events in April and May. It was, however, able to put together a panel discussion in time for the June event and the annual general meeting of the Society.

The autumn programme continued as planned but meetings were held remotely.

During 2020 the Society was again fortunate to be addressed by a number of distinguished speakers:

January 2020: Clem Maddock Consultant Psychiatrist, ‘Capacity Conflict and Compensation’

February 2020: Frances Crook, Chief Executive of The Howard League for Penal Reform ‘The Penal System- a Suitable Case for Treatment’

March 2020: Bahar Ata, Director of Public Law and Immigration Law, Duncan Lewis Solicitors ‘The Importance of the Medico-Legal Relationship in Immigration Law’

June 2020: Dr Rachel Clarke, Palliative Care Doctor, Nageena Khaliq Q.C. and Dr Kathleen Liddell, Director of the Centre for Law, Medicine and Life Sciences at the University of Cambridge.

From October 2020, when the new programme of events started, the following presentations were made remotely:

October 2020: Presidential Address Professor Harry Zeitlin, ‘Expert Witnesses, Past, Present and Future’

November 2020: Dr Margaret Brearley, ‘The Consequences of Torture’

December 2020: Professor Robin Ferner, Honorary Consultant Physician and Clinical Pharmacologist ‘Medicines and Murder’

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on 11 June 2020.

## **THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES – CONTINUED for the year ended 31 December 2020**

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In May 2020 the Society launched a new and improved website and also developed an online presence which by 31 December 2020 had attracted 53 followers.

#### **REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL POSITION BY THE HONORARY TREASURER**

Income exceeded expenses by £3,240 in 2020 compared with deficit of £7,494 in 2019. This turnaround was a direct result of the pandemic in 2020 and in moving lectures online rather than holding them in central London.

The Council had been aware of a continuing trend of operating losses and has taken steps to reduce costs and encourage new members to join in order to counter this.

2020 was a difficult year for investments, mainly the effect of the pandemic but the value as at end December showed an overall increase of £1,549 over that at the end of 2019. In 2019, the value increased by £9,647.

The Society was fortunate to receive £28,850 from the Clinical Disputes Forum in 2019. £25,000 of this was invested in March 2020, after most of the pandemic-related fall in markets, in BlackRock Charities Growth and Income Fund. By the end of 2020, this investment was valued at £32,652.

The value of investments managed by J M Finn has fallen to a level that no longer makes financial sense to be managed in a segregated portfolio. The decision was taken to transfer these monies into the same BlackRock Fund. This was carried out in early 2021.

As a result, total reserves as at 31 December 2020 amounted to £110,575 made up of cash at bank as adjusted for amounts due to and from the Society plus the investment portfolio.

Details of income and expenses can be found in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 7.

#### **INVESTMENT POWERS**

The constitution of the charity authorises the trustees to make and hold investments, which they see as appropriate using the general funds of the charity.

#### **RESERVES POLICY**

The policy of the charity is to maintain sufficient funds so that over a period of time sufficient income can be generated from the funds held to carry out the functions of the charity.

#### **RISK ANALYSIS**

The trustees who are responsible for the charity are implementing risk management as a matter of policy. A review has taken place and it has considered the following main areas of risk.

Investments:	Consideration of responsibility of brokers to the trust and stock market performance.
Accounts:	Production of annual accounts together with internal management controls.
Charitable Objects:	Ensuring that the charity funds are used in accordance with the trust's charitable objects.

#### **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period that require disclosure.

By order of the trustees on                      2021

Professor Harry Zeitlin

President

Mrs Anne Raikes -

Treasurer  
Page 5

## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Medico-Legal Society for the year ended 31 December 2020.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Medico-Legal Society, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Medico-Legal Society's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Name: Lawrence Melinek BSc. (Hons) ACMA CGMA

Address: 7 Helenslea Avenue, London NW11 8NE

Date:

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL**  
**ACTIVITIES**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2020**

		2020	2019
	Notes	£	£
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	1(b)		
Subscriptions		16,523	14,685
Investment income from:			
Managed Investments		3,980	3,522
Minty bequest		3,493	4,966
		7,473	8,488
Other income:			
Annual dinner and donation		3,387	8,316
Charitable donations received	3		28,850
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		27,383	60,340
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	1(c)		
Direct charitable expenditure:			
Expenses of meetings		6,297	12,076
Journal production		4,618	5,122
Annual dinner costs		-	8,356
Administration expenses		4,349	5,145
		15,265	30,698
<b>Governance costs</b>			
Honorarium		6,000	6,000
Insurance		1,443	2,396
Auditors' remuneration	1(d)	-	(240)
Website management		246	221
Investment management charges		900	834
Sundry expenses		290	
		8,879	9,293
<b>Total resources expended</b>		24,143	39,991
<b>Net incoming resources</b>		3,240	20,348
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>			
Realised loss (2019 gain) on investments		(665)	393
Unrealised gain on investments		1,549	9,254
		883	9,647
Total net movement in funds		4,123	29,996
Fund balances brought forward at 1 January 2020		106,452	76,456
Fund balances carried forward at 31 December 2020		110,575	106,452

**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
At 31 December 2020**

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	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Investments	2	<u>94,832</u>	<u>77,514</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	4	1,408	216
Prepayments	4	600	3,661
Cash at bank	5	<u>22,800</u>	<u>32,187</u>
		<u>24,808</u>	<u>36,063</u>
<b>CREDITORS:</b>			
Subscriptions in advance	6	7,900	5,125
Amounts falling due in one year	6	<u>1,166</u>	<u>2,000</u>
		<u>9,066</u>	<u>7,125</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>15,743</u>	<u>28,938</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<u>110,575</u>	<u>106,452</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Income and expenditure account	7	110,575	106,452
Total Reserves		<u>110,575</u>	<u>106,452</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mrs Anne Raikes - Treasurer

Professor Harry Zeitlin - President

The notes form part of these financial statements

## THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 December 2020

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#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

**(a) Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' EFA, the and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

**(b) Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

**(c) Resources expended**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**(d) Independent Examiner**

Following the adoption of the Charity's new Constitution on 13 June 2019, it was possible to appoint an independent examiner in place of the auditors, Thorne Lancaster Parker. The credit of £240 represents the excess of the amount reserved for auditors' fees in 2018 over the final amount charged.

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

**(e) Investments**

Investments are stated at market value at the statement of financial position date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the realised gains and losses on acquisitions and disposals as well as the unrealised gains and losses throughout the year. The unrealised gains or losses represent the difference between the market value and the book value on the annual accounting date, namely 31 December 2019. Unrealised gains or losses are transferred to the accumulated fund. The actual gain or loss will depend upon the prices ruling at the time of sale. The figure for unrealised gains is therefore only an indication of the position.

**(f) Irrecoverable vat**

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources for which the related expenditure was incurred.

## THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 December 2020

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#### 2. INVESTMENTS

	2020 £	2019 £
Market value at 1 January 2020	77,514	68,874
Acquisitions	25,000	11,108
Disposals	(8,565)	(12,116)
Revaluation	883	9,648
	<u>94,832</u>	<u>77,514</u>
Investments at market value comprised:		
BlackRock Charities Growth and Income Fund	32,652	-
Bond funds	3,710	3,902
Real estate investments trusts	5700	6100
Preference shares	6,420	7,850
UK equities	22,739	27,483
Global	-	7,660
Asia ex Japan	9,444	9,344
Property	9,168	9,600
Alternative Strategies	5,000	5,575
Cash	<u>94,832</u>	<u>77,514</u>
	<u>82,342</u>	<u>63,517</u>

#### 3. DONATION OF FUNDS

Transfer of funds on the winding up of Clinical Disputes Forum	-	28,850
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**THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
for the year ended 31 December 2020**

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	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>4. DEBTORS</b>		
Other debtors	1,408	216
Prepayments and accrued income	600	3,661
	<u>2,008</u>	<u>3,876</u>
<b>5. CASH AT BANK IN HAND</b>		
Business account	15,793	7,187
Treasurers account	7,007	25,000
Treasurers account (private)	-	-
	<u>22,800</u>	<u>32,187</u>
<b>6. CREDITORS</b>		
Amounts due within one year	1,166	2,000
Deferred income – subscriptions in advance	7,900	5,125
	<u>9,066</u>	<u>7,125</u>
<b>7. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT</b>		
Balance at 1 January 2020	106,452	76,456
Net incoming resources	3,240	20,348
Investment gains	883	9,647
Balance at 31 December 2020	<u>110,575</u>	<u>106,452</u>