

The logo consists of three vertical lines of varying lengths on the left side, with the text 'THE LAW SOCIETY CHARITY' stacked to their right.

THE LAW SOCIETY CHARITY

putting ideals into action

THE LAW SOCIETY CHARITY

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 268736

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Trustee: The Law Society Trustees Limited (the "Trustee")

Board The following persons served as Board members during the year:

I	Bond
A	Caplen (resigned 25 June 2024)
SJM	Chandler
R	Chumber
JB	Egan (resigned 23 September 2025)
A	Fisher
MG	Fowler
C	Hughes (appointed 26 March 2025)
GGM	Sandercock
E	Shang-Simpson
A	Stanley
MMK	Uddin
T	Wilkinson Keane
J	Whitfield

Registered office: 113 Chancery Lane
London
WC2A 1PL

Operating address: 113 Chancery Lane
London
WC2A 1PL

Independent Auditors: BDO LLP
Chartered Accountants
Two Snowhill
Birmingham
B4 6GA

Bankers: Barclays Bank Plc
Level 27
1 Churchill Place
London
E14 5HP

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TRUSTEE'S REPORT

The Trustee is responsible, under its duty of stewardship, to prepare and present its Annual Report and the audited Financial Statements of The Law Society Charity (Charity) for the year ended 5 April 2025. The chairman of the Trustee fulfils this duty by approving the statements on behalf of the Trustee.

Structure, governance and management

The Charity was created by a Trust Deed dated 13 December 1974 made between the Law Society of England and Wales (the "Law Society") and The Law Society Trustees Limited, the Charity's Trustee. It is a registered charity identified by the number 268736.

Under the Trust Deed, the Trustee stands possessed of the trust fund of the Charity absolutely upon trust for the Charity within its absolute discretion but in particular for:

- the continuation and furtherance of legal education and the acquisition of legal knowledge by any charitable means;
- the College of Law incorporated under the Companies Act 1948 and any other similar institution or body being itself a registered charity;
- scholarships, exhibitions, bursaries, prizes or grants to be awarded, given or made for the furtherance of legal education or for research into the laws of England and other jurisdictions; and
- the discharge from time to time of such of the charitable obligations (if any) imposed upon the Law Society by Statute or otherwise as may be within the scope of the Trusts.

The Board must have at least five members and no more than twenty. There are 13 members as at 5 April 2025.

Company secretarial, finance, and administration support is provided by Law Society staff.

Recruitment and training of Board Members

When a vacancy for a Council Member of the Board needs to be filled, all Law Society Council Members are invited to apply to be appointed and sent details of the aims and objectives of the Charity, a job description of the role and a person specification. Candidates are interviewed by the Chair and one other Board member, with a view to a final recommendation being made to the next meeting of the Board.

When a vacancy for a non-Council Member of the Board arises, an advertisement is placed in appropriate publications, such as the *Gazette* and interested parties are asked to complete an application form and the application forms are short listed by a panel of current board members, including the Chair and the Company Secretary, then interviewed. The successful candidate(s) are informed that their appointment to the Board will be recommended at the next Board meeting, where the final decision is taken.

Upon formal confirmation of a new Board member's appointment, they are sent copies of the Memorandum of Association, the Articles of Association and the Trust Deed.

Equality and diversity training is provided for all members who have not already received it in their capacity as Council members.

Risk management

The Trustee regularly assesses the risks to which the Charity is exposed. Members of its Board are satisfied that the systems in place manage the exposure to major risk.

Related parties and connected organisations

There are no issues regarding related parties and connected organisations. At each Board meeting individuals must make a declaration of interest where necessary and take no part in any matter arising in connection with this interest.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)

Objectives and activities

The Charity is essentially a grant making charity. The Board of the Trustee regularly reviews the outline aims and objectives of the Charity, which are:

1. supporting the education of the public in legal matters and members of the profession in the interests of the public, in particular by assisting in the maintenance of high standards of general legal education in the profession;
2. supporting charities whose principal aims are to support members of the profession in need;
3. seeking out and supporting, whether in partnership with others or alone:
 - i. major charitable projects which will be supported by Local Law Societies and groups (and other means of outreach); and
 - ii. joint ventures with other charities, particularly with the charitable arms of firms of solicitors.
4. supporting charitable work done internationally to promote human rights, such as assistance in the development of law, general promotion of legal education and pro bono assistance for people facing capital punishment;
5. in exceptional cases, responding to ad hoc applications for support from other charitable organisations whose work redounds to the credit of the profession, but generally not those with narrow geographical limits; and
6. to focus on the needs of those unable to obtain funding elsewhere, rather than those with established and significant income streams.

In fulfilling these aims and objectives the Board will recognise and, where appropriate, act to promote the particular needs of excluded, under-represented or disadvantaged groups.

The Board will regularly review its policy relating to publicity for its actions and will publicise its strategies with a view to increasing awareness of it and of its work in the profession and in the general public.

The Board of the Trustee has had due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Financial Review of achievements and performance

The Charity was able to make a number of grants and donations during the year in pursuit of its objects for the public benefit. These are listed below:

£5,000	(to one organization)
£5,000	(to one organization)
£5,000	(to one organization)
£2,000	(to one organization)
£5,000	(to one organization)
£5,000	(to one organization)
£5,000	(to one organization)
£5,000	(to one organization)

This means that the total value of grants made were £37,000 (2024: £37,500).

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (continued)

Review of financial position at the end of the year

Total reserves stand at £375,409 (2024: £301,077). It is the aim of the Charity to continue to make grants and donations within its objects and policies according to the income it receives.

Plans for the future

The Charity is seeking to obtain long term funding options with the Law Society to enable it to continue its work.

Investment policy

The Charity invests its reserves with Barclays Wealth and Investment Management as it allows easy access to funds when grants are made as well as any growth income earned accumulating within the portfolio. For the year ended 5 April 2025 the Charity made a return on its investments of £10,561 (2024: £10,253).

Reserves policy

It is not the aim of the Charity to accumulate large cash balances; however, it has sufficient funds to meet its commitments for 12 months from the date of signing as they fall due. Total reserves stand at £375,409 (2024: £301,077) of which unrestricted reserves are £375,409 (2024: £301,077) and designated £nil (2024: £nil). It is the aim of the Charity to continue to make grants and donations within its objects and policies according to the income it receives.

Going concern and long-term viability

The Trustee considers that the Charity will have sufficient resources to meet its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future, at least over the next 12 months from the date of signing the financial statements. As a result, the Trustee is satisfied that the Charity is a going concern.

TRUSTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Trustee is responsible for preparing the Annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Charity law requires the Trustee to prepare financial statements for each financial year in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under charity law the Trustee must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they 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 these financial statements, the Trustee is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK 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 Trustee is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. 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.

Statement of disclosure of information to auditors

So far as the Trustee is aware at the time the report is approved:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the Charity's auditors are unaware; and
- the Trustee has taken all steps that it ought to have taken to make itself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

Approved by the Board of the Trustee:



Ian M Bond

Chairman, Board of the Trustee

Date: 27/01/2026

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEE OF THE LAW SOCIETY CHARITY

Opinion on the financial statements

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs as at 5 April 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

We have audited the financial statements of The Law Society Charity ("the Charity") for the year ended 5 April 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We remain independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

Conclusions related to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustee with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Trustee is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEE OF THE LAW SOCIETY CHARITY (continued)

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion;

- the information given in the Trustee's Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of the Trustee

As explained more fully in the Trustee's responsibilities in relation to the financial statements, the Trustee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustee is responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustee either intends to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Acts and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Extent to which the audit was capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Non-compliance with laws and regulations

Based on:

- Our understanding of the Charity and the sector in which it operates;
- Discussion with management and those charged with governance; and
- Obtaining and understanding of the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations;

we considered the significant laws and regulations to be Charities Act 2011 and Charities SORP.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEE OF THE LAW SOCIETY CHARITY (continued)

The Charity is also subject to laws and regulations where the consequence of non-compliance could have a material effect on the amount or disclosures in the financial statements, for example through the imposition of fines or litigations. We identified such laws and regulations to be data protection.

Our procedures in respect of the above included:

- Review of minutes of meeting of those charged with governance for any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- Review of financial statement disclosures and agreeing to supporting documentation.

Fraud

We assessed the susceptibility of the financial statements to material misstatement, including fraud. Our risk assessment procedures included:

- Enquiry with management and those charged with governance regarding any known or suspected instances of fraud;
- Obtaining an understanding of the policies and procedures relating to:
 - Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud; and
 - Internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud.
- Review of minutes of meeting of those charged with governance for any known or suspected instances of fraud;
- Discussion amongst the engagement team as to how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements;
- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud.

Based on our risk assessment, we considered the areas most susceptible to fraud to be posting inappropriate journal entries to manipulate financial results and management bias in accounting estimates.

Our procedures in respect of the above included:

- Testing a sample of journal entries throughout the year, which met a defined risk criteria, by agreeing to supporting documentation; and
- Assessing significant estimates and judgements made by management for bias.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to risks of material misstatement in the financial statements, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery, misrepresentations or through collusion. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures performed and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we are to become aware of it.


A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at the Financial Reporting Council's ("FRC's") website at:

<https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEE OF THE LAW SOCIETY CHARITY
(continued)**

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's trustee as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's trustee those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity's trustee as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

DocuSigned by:

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Samantha Lifford (Senior Statutory Auditor)
BDO LLP, statutory auditor
Birmingham, UK
Date 28 January 2026

BDO LLP is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

BDO LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales (with registered number OC305127).

THE LAW SOCIETY CHARITY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

	NOTE	TOTAL FUNDS 2025	TOTAL FUNDS 2024
		£	£
INCOME			
Donations and legacies	2	100,771	26,294
Investments		10,561	10,253
Total income		111,332	36,547
EXPENDITURE			
Charitable activities			
Grant payments	3	(37,000)	(37,500)
Total expenditure		(37,000)	(37,500)
NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE)		74,332	(953)
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward	8	301,077	302,030
Total funds carried forward	8	375,409	301,077

The notes on pages 13 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

**THE LAW SOCIETY CHARITY
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 5 APRIL 2025**

	NOTE	TOTAL FUNDS 2025	TOTAL FUNDS 2024
		£	£
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		395,409	313,577
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		395,409	313,577
LIABILITIES			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	6	(20,000)	(12,500)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	7	375,409	301,077
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		375,409	301,077
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY			
Unrestricted income funds	8	375,409	301,077
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS	8	375,409	301,077

The notes on pages 13 to 16 form part of these financial statements.

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



Ian M Bond

Chair, Board of the Trustee

Date: 27/01/2026

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 102), applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these financial statements.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

b) CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND AREAS OF JUDGEMENT

Preparation of the financial statements requires the trustee and management to make significant judgements and estimates. The items in the financial statements where these judgements and estimates have been made include:

- allocation of expenditure and support costs; and
- estimating future income and expenditure flows for the purpose of assessing going concern (see below).

c) GOING CONCERN

The Trustee has considered whether the going concern basis of preparation for these accounts remains appropriate based on available liquid assets and forecast expenditure. The Trustee notes that the Charity has cash balances available that represent many years of expenditure and that the award of grants is discretionary. As such the Trustee is satisfied that the Charity can settle its obligations for a period of at least 12 months from the date of signing the financial statements and that it is appropriate for the financial statements to be prepared on a going concern basis.

d) INCOME RECOGNITION: VOLUNTARY INCOME

Voluntary income is received by way of donations and gifts and is included in full in the statement of financial activities when receivable, the charity has entitlement to the funds and the amount can be measured reliably.

e) INCOME RECOGNITION: LEGACY INCOME

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected.

f) INCOME RECOGNITION: INVESTMENT INCOME

Funds are placed with Barclays Global Investors and the interest earned is recognised when receivable.

g) INCOME RECOGNITION: UNCLAIMED CLIENT BALANCES

Solicitors' firms may, under the Solicitors' Accounts Rules, donate to a charity client monies held by them where the client cannot be traced. Approval by the Solicitors Regulation Authority is required where any particular balance to be donated is of, or above, £500 (2024: £500). In that event the charity must give an indemnity to repay the money if the client later appears.

h) EXPENDITURE RECOGNITION: REVENUE GRANTS

Charitable activities include revenue grants debited to the statement of financial activities when authorised and committed to by the Trustee.

i) RESOURCES EXPENDED

Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred and allocated to unrestricted funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)****j) GOVERNANCE**

The Board of the Law Society Charity convenes to assess all funding applications received and awards grants upon their merits.

k) TRUSTEE EMOLUMENTS

The Trustee and any person related or connected by business to the Trustee has given of their time freely and no expenses have been paid by the Charity to the Trustee or related or connected person as such costs are met by the Law Society.

l) SUPPORT AND GOVERNANCE COSTS

The Charity benefits from centralised services and facilities provided by the Law Society which includes payment of trustees' emoluments, accounting administration, treasury management and fundraising activities which are not recharged to the Charity. These costs and the associated donation in kind are not included in the statement of financial activities because their value cannot be reliably estimated.

m) CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

The expenditure on charitable activities relates to grants made in the year.

2. INCOME**INCOME RESOURCES: DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Donations	31,671	2,888
Unclaimed Client Balances	69,100	23,406
	100,771	26,294

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**3. EXPENDITURE****EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES: GRANT PAYMENTS**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Grant Payments	37,000	37,500
	37,000	37,500

GENERAL FUND: CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Grants to Institutions	37,000	37,500
	37,000	37,500

4. STAFF COSTS

There were no employees during the year (2024: nil).

Neither the Trustee nor any person related or connected by business to the Trustee has received any remuneration from the Charity during the year (2024: £nil).

No expenses were reimbursed to the Trustee nor any person related or connected to the Trustee in the year (2024: £nil).

5. TAXATION

The Charity is exempt from tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Grants Payable	20,000	12,500
	20,000	12,500

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**7. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS**

	2025	2024
	£	£
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		
Cash at bank	395,409	313,577
Creditors	(20,000)	(12,500)
	375,409	301,077

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	BROUGHT FORWARD	INCOMING RESOURCES	OUTGOING RESOURCES	TRANSFER	CARRIED FORWARD
	£	£	£	£	£
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
Total General Fund	301,077	111,332	(37,000)	-	375,409
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS	301,077	111,332	(37,000)	-	375,409
TOTAL FUNDS	301,077	111,332	(37,000)	-	375,409

9. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Law Society paid 2025 audit fees of £5,229 (2024: £4,295) on behalf of the Law Society Charity.