



Annual Report

2018



The Bar Council
Integrity. Excellence. Justice.





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Chief Executive's introduction

I hope this report gives a clear idea of the breadth of activity carried out by the Bar Council's staff and committees in support of our strategic aims, set out in the 2014-17 Strategy. That strategy was rolled into 2018, pending publication of a new five-year Strategic Plan, 2018-2023. Even though one of our strategic aims is to '... support the effective, independent regulation of the Bar through the Bar Standard Board (BSB)...', the BSB has its own Strategic Plan and objectives. This report therefore concentrates on the representative work of the Bar Council.

The entire Representation, Policy and Services (RPS) output is achieved by 30 staff and hundreds of barristers who give their time so generously to support the profession. Neither the BSB nor RPS could carry out their essential work without the shared support of the Resources Group, a further 30 staff covering Finance, Information Systems, Human Resources, Project Management, Records and Facilities. The point here is that the representative role is lean and punches above its weight.

On top of all the policy, representation, training and events work outlined below, there were some notable organisational successes in the year covered by the report, and some challenges. The self-service portal 'MyBar' went live; a major step forward in our digital strategy. It enables online Authorisation to Practice but will become the key method for practitioners to interact with the Bar Council to book training, sign up for events, register for an electronic identity card and much more. We supported the Bar with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) guidance and a toolkit, whilst ensuring that we are compliant internally. Our corporate governance has been improved, with revised policies on everything from procurement to hospitality. A 'root and branch' review of services and processes has identified several operational risks that are being mitigated, and a pricing review has been conducted to ensure charges are appropriate. All our commercial partnerships have been reviewed for suitability and some new partners brought on board. We have been working with senior chambers' executives to develop a 'chambers' package'. The new Ethics and Practice hub has been in high demand.

We have used our new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system, the Pupillage Gateway, the comprehensive 'Barristers' Working Lives' survey and other data to improve our research and understanding of the trends, views and needs of the profession. This provides valuable evidence to support our representations to government and the range of services we offer to the Bar.

Challenges included the plan for our office accommodation when our leases expire in March 2019. Finances were stable, and we managed to hold Practising Certificate Fee (PCF) rates static and put in place a recovery plan for the Bar Council's pension scheme. The risk inherent in some services had to be managed. There have been



some procedural and organisational weaknesses to resolve and we remain vulnerable to the loss of key members of staff.

2018-2019 will bring further challenges and opportunities. I am determined that we will be as proactive and efficient as possible, whilst being able to react effectively to the unexpected. Everything we do will follow a golden thread, from strategy to tactical business planning, and will be in support of the Bar and its values. Our top priority is to gear up a campaign to raise awareness of the crisis in the justice system; gathering evidence, holding events, lobbying government, and boosting the media profile of such issues. We will work closely with the Specialist Bar Associations (SBAs), the Circuits, the Inns, the Law Society, CILEX and others.

Internally, we will renew our leases at High Holborn, with the requirement to undertake a major refurbishment programme. The project will allow us to give up one floor and reduce costs. This will require very careful cash flow management, set against lower PCF and Bar Representation Fee (BRF) income than predicted this year.

I am most grateful to the Chairs, Officers of the Bar Council and the many barristers who have supported me and contributed to my education over my first full year, as well as to my team for their dedication, hard work and readiness to run with new ideas.

Malcolm Cree CBE,
Chief Executive of the Bar Council



About the Bar Council

The Bar Council represents approximately 16,000 practising barristers in England and Wales, in addition to tens of thousands of non-practising barristers globally. We promote the Bar's high-quality specialist advocacy and advisory services, fair access to justice for all, the highest standards of ethics, equality and diversity across the profession, and the development of business opportunities for barristers at home and abroad.

Our range of services, member benefits, online advice and practical guidance for all types of barristers provides support to the profession. We are committed to attracting the best and brightest across England and Wales, regardless of background, gender or ethnicity, to help secure the future of the Bar. The Bar Council's representative work is undertaken by committees comprising barrister and lay members. Their work is overseen by the General Management Committee. The Bar Council officers are elected by Bar Council members in May and serve for one calendar year. The executive, led by the Chief Executive and Directors, supports the work of the Bar Council committees.

Our aims

Our work and focus for 2017/18 has been anchored to eight strategic aims that govern everything we do. They are:

1. To be a powerful influence on the development and implementation of Government policy in order to secure the highest standards of justice, equity, integrity, access and efficiency in our justice system.
2. To provide leadership to equip the whole Bar to meet current and future challenges; and to help barristers to maintain and enhance the quality of their work, adapt to changing circumstances and operate more efficiently and effectively.
3. To secure a sustainable role for the Bar as a key player in the maintenance of the Rule of Law and the efficient administration of justice as well as being the leading provider of high quality, value for money, advocacy and specialist advice, and of candidates for the judiciary of the future.
4. To promote the work of the Bar in the interests of the Bar, the wider economy and society at large.
5. To promote equality and diversity across the Bar.
6. To promote and support the effective, independent regulation of the Bar through the BSB to ensure the highest standards of professional practice and to protect the public interest.
7. To work with the Council of the Inns of Court (COIC) and with each of the Inns to support their work in educating and training barristers, in maintaining the ethos and values of the Bar and helping them in their dealings with Government, regulators and other external audiences.
8. To improve the effectiveness and the efficiency of the Bar Council to ensure that we can achieve these challenging aims.

Our work

As the lead representative body for barristers in England and Wales, the Bar Council's work is devoted to ensuring the Bar's voice is heard, efficiently and effectively, and with the interests of the Bar (and the public interest) as its focus. The organisation's teams – Policy, Services, Communications and Executive Office – work collaboratively to achieve those aims.

The Policy team

The work of the Bar Council's Policy team is often the key driving force behind much of the Bar Council's campaign work. Covering a range of areas, including equality and diversity issues, regulation, legal practice and ethics, law reform and international work, as well as remuneration at the Bar, the policy team works closely with barrister-led committees to shape the Bar Council's positions on key issues affecting the profession and justice.

Standing up for justice

Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders (LASPO) Act review: The Government announced it will be reviewing the impact of the cuts it made to family and civil legal aid in the LASPO Act. The Bar Council's Remuneration Committee established a working group to engage with the Government during its review, and the Bar Council is gathering evidence from the Bar on the impact of LASPO on access to justice.

Court reform: The Bar Council worked hard last year to scrutinise and respond to the HM Courts & Tribunals Service (HMCTS) court reform programme and continues to do so. This includes proposals which could have profound consequences for justice and the Bar itself, from online processes and virtual hearings, to Flexible Operating Hours and a reduced physical court estate, to greater powers for court staff authorised to exercise judicial functions.

Speaking up for the rule of law: We continue to speak out whenever rule of law crises occur, and have issued letters expressing concern for the situation of lawyers and judges in [Turkey, Poland, the Republic of Cameroon, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Egypt and Iran](#). We joined the Bar Human Rights Committee (BHRC) and lawyers' organisations around the world to mark the [Eighth Day of the Endangered Lawyer](#) and identified four other [countries where lawyers are currently at risk of human rights abuses](#) for simply doing their jobs.



Strengthening the Bar

Equality & Diversity training: Over the last year the Bar Council has expanded its training offer to chambers (Introduction to E&D, Advanced E&D, Fair Recruitment and Sexual Harassment). Take-up from chambers across the country has provided a good opportunity to meet members of the Bar, find out about live E&D issues and provide practical advice and support.

Chambers management: Our sold-out seminars last year on first-tier complaints handling (in conjunction with the Legal Ombudsman) and fair allocation of work were very well received. We intend to build on them this year by covering other major topics in the running of chambers, and potentially developing webinars. Expect more on this in due course.

International business development: The Bar Council has been working with other stakeholders such as the judiciary, the Law Society and the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) to develop policy and projects that highlight the strengths of this jurisdiction compared with its growing competitors.

Expanding the Bar's work in Latin America: Over the last 3 years, our focus on Brazil and campaign to raise awareness of the international legal services the Bar provides included events in Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Belo Horizonte and Recife. Through our visits, the Bar Council has supported the launch of [Lex Anglo Brasil](#),

established an exchange scheme and developed a strong relationship with the Brazilian Bar Associations. In 2017, we also hosted events on opportunities in the Latin American legal market both in London and on Circuit. Our focus on Latin America continued in 2018 with a visit to Mexico City in early September.

Anti-money laundering guidance: The [Bar Council's guidance](#) has been updated with practical case studies to assist barristers in navigating their AML/CTF obligations. We have also contributed to the guidance for the whole legal sector.

Bar Mentoring Service: We have continued to administer the Bar Council's Bar Mentoring Service. This is an umbrella service consisting of different mentoring schemes designed to meet different needs: for students hoping to become barristers ([e-Mentoring](#)), barristers hoping to maintain or return to a good practice ([Maternity Mentoring](#)), and barristers seeking to progress their careers ([Silk & Judicial Mentoring](#)).

Advocacy and the Vulnerable: Following the [2014 government paper](#) promising to improve victims' experiences of going to court, a working group of experts developed a new approach to the questioning of vulnerable witnesses. The Circuits and Inns of Court have now trained over 2,300 barristers this way. The Bar Council is coordinating this roll-out, and keeping the MoJ informed, aiming to complete all training by the end of 2018.

Supporting barristers and chambers

Wellbeing at the Bar (Phase 2): In Autumn 2017 the Bar Council launched a new range of wellbeing support, including a new section for post-Call [students and pupils](#); [suicide](#) and [bereavement](#) resources; and our [Certificate of Recognition](#) – we had 30+ applications in the first round, creating a bank of ideas for those looking to introduce wellbeing in their organisations. We have continued to award Certificates to bodies across the Bar every quarter since launching the initiative.

Shared Parental Leave (SPL): Having successfully lobbied the profession's independent regulator, the Bar Standards Board (BSB), to change the rules on parental leave last year, we have been developing a guide for chambers on amending policies and planning an Equality & Diversity Officer (EDO) Network session to assist the Bar in compliance.

Ethical Enquiries Service & Hub: In 2017, the Bar Council received over 6,000 calls and 500 emails from members of the Bar seeking confidential help with ethical dilemmas. As well as common queries, such as what to do [when two cases clash](#), we also receive calls about emerging issues such as when a barrister undertaking a [secondment](#) is considered to be acting in an employed capacity. With oversight from our Ethics Committee, we launched the new [Ethics and Practice Hub](#) at last autumn's Annual Bar Conference. We also published new guidance, including on what to do when [a defendant in a criminal case absconds](#).

General Data Protection Regulation: The [GDPR Guide for Barristers and Chambers](#) is now published, and our existing [IT documents](#) are being updated to comply with the GDPR. We have been working with [Riliance](#) to deliver further templates, policies and procedures in the GDPR Toolkit, accessible to the profession for free. As part of this work, we have also been communicating with Parliament and Government about the development of what is now the Data Protection Act 2018.

Shaping the legal and regulatory landscape

The Brexit Papers: A coordinated effort by the Brexit Working Group, SBAs, and other senior members of the profession, these [papers](#) harness the expertise of members of the Bar to summarise the legal implications of Brexit on particular topics, and make recommendations to Government. In 2018 the Working Group will expand on these through webinars on key topics of interest. See more on our Brexit work [here](#).

Law reform work: The Bar Council's Law Reform Committee has had a busy period over the past year engaging with the Law Commission's review of sentencing legislation. The objective of this work is to produce a single consolidated sentencing

code. The Commission has also recently released its 13th programme of law reform, which includes their priority projects for the next four years. Two of our recommendations, on residential leasehold and the law of surrogacy, have been taken up, and we look forward to working with the Commission on these and other law reform initiatives over the coming year.

Standard of proof: Last year we undertook extensive research to inform our response to the BSB consultation on the standard of proof in disciplinary proceedings, seeking the views of the Bar through circuit representatives and meetings with those who defend and prosecute barristers before disciplinary tribunals. We also met with Bar Tribunals and Adjudication Service panel members, barristers who defend and prosecute in disciplinary tribunals of other professions (including solicitors) and barristers instructed in cases before the higher courts in which the standard of proof in disciplinary proceedings has been examined. Our response sought to reflect the views of our members and can be found [here](#).

Engagement with the Legal Services Board: We regularly engage with the LSB as it seeks to fulfil its statutory duties as the oversight regulator of the profession. Some of our observations on the Board's 2018-21 strategy resulted in changes to the final draft. We also recently submitted a [substantial response](#) to the LSB's consultation on the Internal Governance Rules (which aim to specify how the principle of regulatory independence under the Legal Services Act 2007 can be achieved in practice). Discussions on this will continue between the LSB and the various approved regulators over the next year and beyond.

BSB transparency consultation: After substantial engagement with the Competition and Markets Authority's (CMA) market study on competition in the legal services market in 2016, we submitted a detailed response to the BSB's consultation on implementing the CMA's transparency recommendations in January 2018. The BSB proposals included controversial requirements for chambers to publish guideline prices in the abstract, and to publish first-tier complaints data. We spoke with a wide range of members of the profession to reflect their concerns in our response, which can be read [here](#). The BSB is expected to publish draft rules in Autumn 2018 and we will continue to engage actively in the interests of the Bar and public on this issue.

The future profession

Careers Outreach Activity: Bar Placement Week (July 2017) was a resounding success, with 58 students from non-traditional backgrounds and 55 chambers participating in the London event. 27 students and 25 chambers participated in Bar Placement Week North from 13-21 February 2018. Since then, the Bar Council has run [How to become a barrister](#) sessions and continued to back the Young Citizens' Bar Mock Trials [National Final](#).

Working with the Council of the Inns of Court (COIC): The Bar Council works jointly with COIC on a range of matters including careers events and initiatives, including the Pupillage Fair, careers fairs and Bar Placement Week to name a few.

Pupillage Gateway & Fair: A record 100 chambers are recruiting for pupillage via the latest round of the Pupillage Gateway. Demonstrating our commitment to a fair, transparent and rigorous recruitment system for the Bar, we have responded to feedback by enabling chambers to tailor the questions to their needs and/or practice areas. As for the Pupillage Fair, it will be held this year on Saturday 27 October. We have committed to improving the fair year on year.

Young Bar research: As highlighted by the Bar Council's Young Barristers' Committee (YBC) Chair for 2017 in his [address at the #OneBar17 Conference](#), the "number of barristers under five years' call shrank by 30 per cent from 2005-2015". The Bar Council has been exploring and investigating the reasons for this decline and continues to do so. This research is still in development, but we hope there will be quantitative secondary research undertaken in-house and focus groups in London and on Circuit later in 2018.

The Services team

The Services team at the Bar Council exists to support the profession with a range of services aimed at helping the Bar through training, professional support and other services.

The Bar Council's Services team brings together two separate functions: Member Services & Commercial Services and Training & Events. The Member Services team deals with queries on matters such as the Bar Representation Fee (BRF), the Bar Directory/Juriosity, Arbitration and Mediation Services, the Pupillage Gateway, and Direct Access Portal, to name a few.

The Bar Council's Training & Events team delivers training courses and the events commissioned by the Bar Council's Policy team. These career-enhancing events include the Annual Bar & Young Bar Conference, now in its 33rd year, international events, the Opening of the Legal Year, the annual Law Reform lecture, and all public access, GDPR and soft skills training courses, amongst others.

The Services team works closely with the Bar Council's Bar Representation Committee to "sense-check" ideas with barristers, as well as to identify opportunities to develop new services and products and continuously improve our offers to members of the profession.

In 2017/18, we focused on:

Commercial review – In order to deliver even greater value to the profession with the resources available, a commercial review has been carried out to identify what new training needs are required by the Bar, and what areas of our provision need to be discontinued.

Business partnerships – We have long had arrangements with commercial providers who are willing to offer preferential or discounted rates (and customised services) to the Bar. This year the Bar Council welcomed Raileasy (a train ticket cost-saving company), Westgate Asset Management, Carter Savoy (a clothier), AFEX (a foreign currency company) and Lovetts (debt recovery).

Training – We delivered new GDPR training to over 100 barristers and we are in the process of finalising new training on cyber-security and anti-money laundering.

Support – We launched the GDPR Toolkit to ensure chambers and barristers are well-prepared to meet their obligations under GDPR. We have also partnered with a barrister-owned firm called Juriosity to deliver a "next generation" Bar Directory.

Annual Bar & Young Bar Conference 2017 – This was the best attended conference in nearly a decade, and it brought an impressive array of speakers from the Bar, from Westminster and Whitehall and further afield.



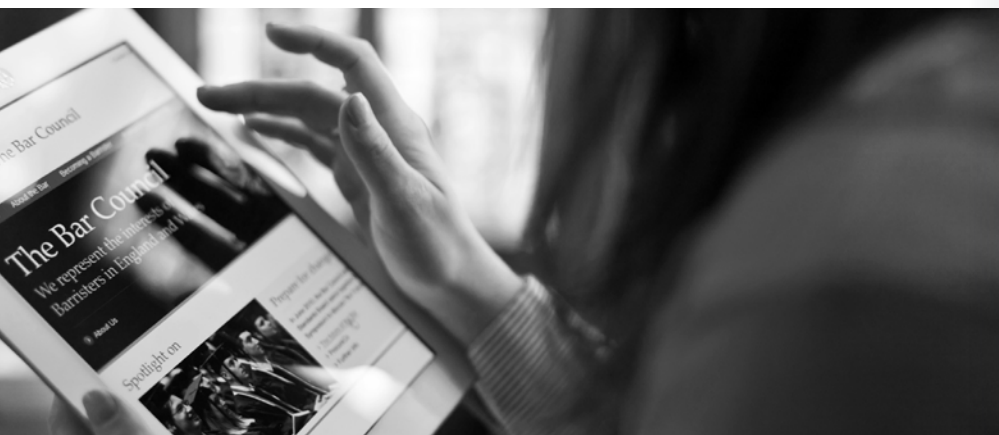
The Communications team

The broad remit of the Bar Council's Communications team includes all Bar Council media/press relations, the management of five social media channels with extensive followings (Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube), barrister-facing communications, such as the profession's official fortnightly e-newsletter BarTalk, International Update and other e-newsletters, internal communications and, with the assistance of the Special Adviser to the Chair of the Bar, public affairs and lobbying those in Whitehall and Westminster.

Few organisations place all this activity in one team; it has its challenges, but the team has raised the Bar Council's profile and influence across a wide range of audiences and through different channels in the last few years. The team enables the Bar Council's voice to be heard, working closely with Policy and other teams to ensure the Bar Council is doing its job of representing the views of barristers in England & Wales.

In 2017/18 the Bar Council and the profession benefitted from the Communications team's efforts as summarised below.

Media/press relations: We were successful in securing media coverage of Bar Council work and campaigns in approximately 1000 media outlets in 2017/18, including on broadcast channels, national news titles and online media. Appearances on BBC Radio Four, as well as in national newspapers, including The Times and Financial Times, helped raise the profession's profile to the public. In addition, sector-specific media outlets, across a range of sectors, including farming, journalism and business featured references to our work. The team will continue this work, with a particular focus on expanding and strengthening our links with different strands of the media.



BarTalk: The Bar Council's flagship e-newsletter for the profession and chambers, BarTalk, saw a surge in popularity in 2017/18. Readership of BarTalk leapt from 30 per cent to 50 per cent of the profession reading the fortnightly publication. The industry readership average for similar newsletters is 21 per cent. In addition, more than 700 non-barrister subscribers now receive BarTalk on request. In 2017/18 a number of special editions of BarTalk were published, the most successful of which was a Rule of Law / Human Rights edition in March 2018.

Social media: Growth in our suite of social media channels has been driven by the Communications team, with the aim of extending the organisation's reach and influence, as well as raising its profile amongst more public audiences.



39,600
followers



2,797
followers



1,630
followers



1,368
followers



286
subscribers

Whitehall, Westminster and lobbying: We ensured the profession's voice was heard in Whitehall and Westminster on a range of issues affecting the profession and the justice system. Campaigns calling for an end to indefinite detention of immigrants, as well as considerable lobbying on protecting the justice system post-Brexit featured in the Bar Council's campaigns calendar. The Bar was represented by the Bar Council in warnings over plans to introduce flexible working hours in courts, as well as taking a cautious approach to moving the courts online.

Beyond the UK, the Bar Council's international voice resonated, at times jointly with the independent Bar Human Rights Committee, over the treatment of lawyers and judges in Iran, Turkey and other jurisdictions where the legal profession and the rule of law was at risk.

Whilst we continuously responded to key consultations, in 2017/18 the organisation's consultation responses drew considerable interest from the media and the Bar, covering a range of topics, from the future training of the Bar and law reform to changes to planning laws in Wales and GDPR.

Digital communications: The Communications team has played a key role in supporting the launch and development of Bar Council-led digital communications, including the MyBar portal for the profession, the Direct Access Portal, and the Wellbeing at the Bar website and communications, as well as the creation of the Ethics and Practice Hub and maintenance of the main Bar Council website.

The Executive Office

The Executive Office team has a central governance role and oversees and monitors the business planning processes for the Representation, Policy and Services part of the Bar Council. This team maintains the Bar Council risk register and ensures that the Regulatory Independence Protocol between the BSB and Bar Council is adhered to. The team also supports the Chief Executive and Chair of the Bar in their day-to-day operations, and is responsible for facilitating changes to the Constitution or Standing Orders when the need arises.

The team additionally ensures that the Bar Council elections run smoothly each year and oversees the recruitment processes for Bar Council committees, ensuring that the committees are fairly balanced and that new members of the Bar Council get the opportunity to join one.

2017/18 was a busy year for the Executive Office team. Major projects worked on include:

Induction of the new Chief Executive

Malcolm Cree CBE joined the Bar Council as its new Chief Executive at the start of August 2017. The Executive Office team were responsible for ensuring that Malcolm's induction was thorough, efficient and successful. His induction to the Bar Council involved a series of introductory meetings with staff and key stakeholders.

The team rolled out a comprehensive engagement programme for Malcolm, ensuring he met with Circuit Leaders, a number of SBA chairs, his counterparts at other legal organisations including the Law Society, Legal Services Board, Free Representation Unit and Bar Pro Bono Unit, and arranged meetings with selected parliamentarians and key government officials.

Summer Reception 2017

After an interval of several years, the Bar Council's Summer Reception was restored in July 2017. Organised by the Executive Office team, the event, which was held at Temple Church on 20 June 2017, attracted 130 committee and staff members, all of whom had been invited to thank them for their services to the Bar Council.

The reception also had a pro bono 'theme' with 50 barristers who had carried out significant amounts of pro bono work in the last year invited to attend.

Changes to the Constitution and Standing Orders

Over the last year, a number of changes have been made to the Bar Council's Constitution and Standing Orders. The main ones have been:

- Changes allowing those voting in elections to return their voting forms electronically;
- Changes that enable barristers to vote across all categories in the subscriber elections rather than having to vote only in the self-employed or employed categories; and
- Changes to the composition of Bar Council committees allowing for greater flexibility.

Circuit Visits

The Executive team supported the Chair of the Bar on Circuit visits from February 2018 onwards, visiting both chambers and courts, to meet as many practitioners as possible. The main aim of these meetings is not only to inform barristers of the Bar Council's work but also to hear at first-hand any issues or concerns they may have and to address them accordingly. This year the Chair visited the following cities on circuit:

Nottingham	Midland Circuit
Birmingham	
Bristol	Western Circuit
Manchester and Chester Mess	Northern Circuit
Liverpool	
Newcastle	North Eastern Circuit
Cardiff	Wales and Chester Circuit
Swansea	
Woolwich Crown Court	South Eastern Circuit
Maidstone Crown Court	



Resources Group

The Resources Group is a shared service group between the Bar Council and BSB. It provides essential business support to both organisations, including human resources, information technology, finance, facilities management, project management and data/records support.

In 2017/18, the organisation-wide Information Management programme took a major step forward with the launch of MyBar, a self-service portal for the profession, as well as the establishment of a dynamic CRM system.

In addition, a review of the organisation's location options took place as well as an assessment of what upgrades and improvements might be necessary to the current property used by the Bar Council.

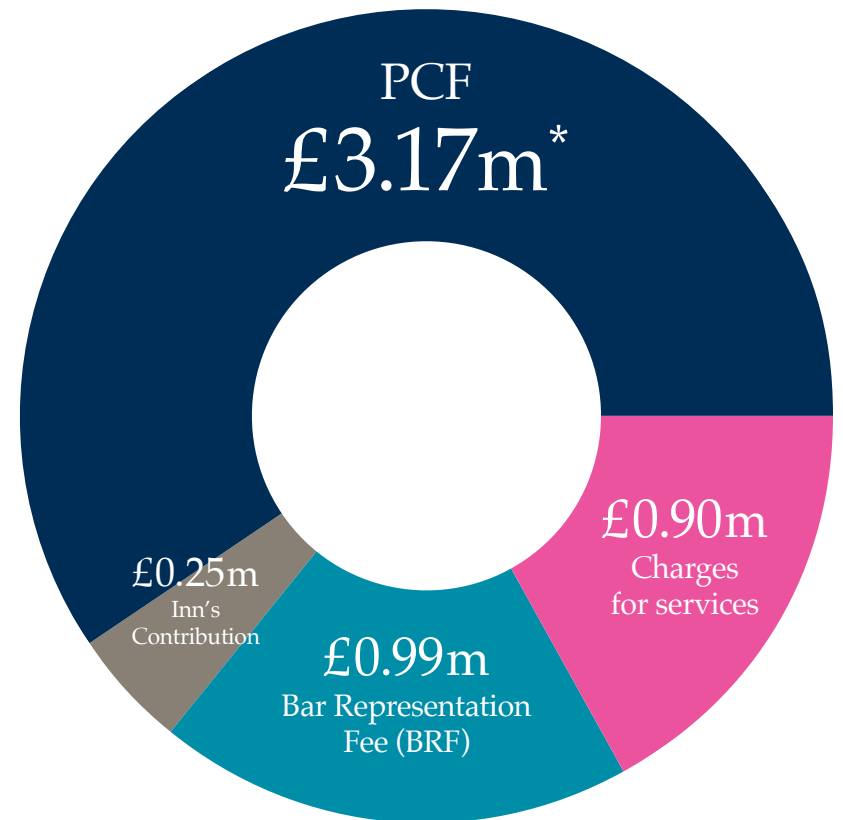
A new internal wellbeing programme was launched by the Bar Council and BSB to provide members of staff with a range of resources to help maintain a healthy lifestyle and focus on their physical and mental wellbeing.

Our finances

The Bar Council and the Bar's independent regulator, the BSB, share Practising Certificate Fee (PCF) income, but have their own independent sources of income upon which they depend.

In 2017-18, Bar Council's total funding (not including BSB) was £5.3m, the same as 2016-17.

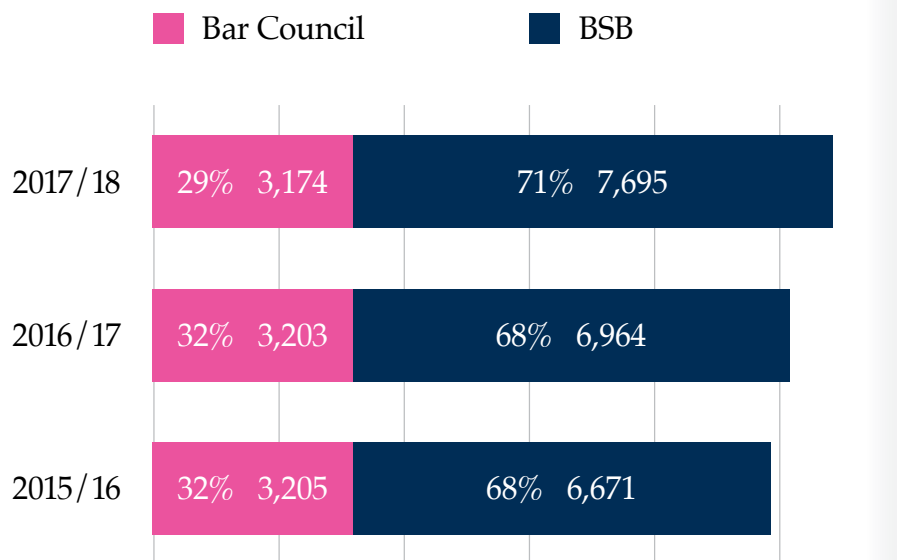
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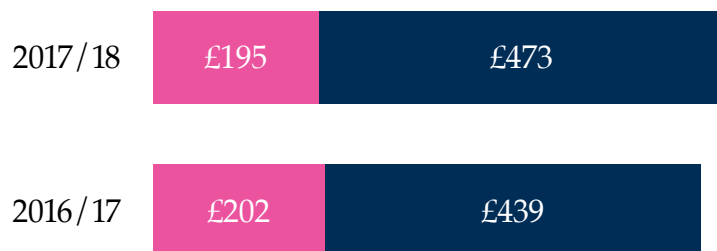
* The total PCF income of £12.6m (minus £0.8m levy for the Legal Services Board and the Legal Ombudsman and £1m for the DB Pension Scheme) was divided between Bar Council (29 per cent) and BSB (71 per cent).

The cost of the PCF for each barrister for 2017-18 was £668. Of that, £195 went to the Bar Council (£202 for 2016-17) and £473 to the BSB (£439 for 2016-17).

Allocation of PCF between Bar Council and BSB



Cost per Barrister £



Other sources of the Bar Council's funding include:

Bar Representation Fee (BRF)

Income from the BRF was up 3.4 per cent in 2017-18 compared with 2016-17. BRF funding is used to extend and increase the Bar Council's vital work in representing the Bar's interests as well promoting the Bar Council's wider strategic aims.

Services to the profession

Income from services to the profession was £0.86m, down 21.3 per cent on 2016-17. This income is used to support the Bar Council's representative activities.

BSB

Total BSB funding for 2017-18 was £9.1m, up nine per cent on 2016-17. The BSB's non-PCF funding, which is only applied to its regulatory work, was £1.5m.

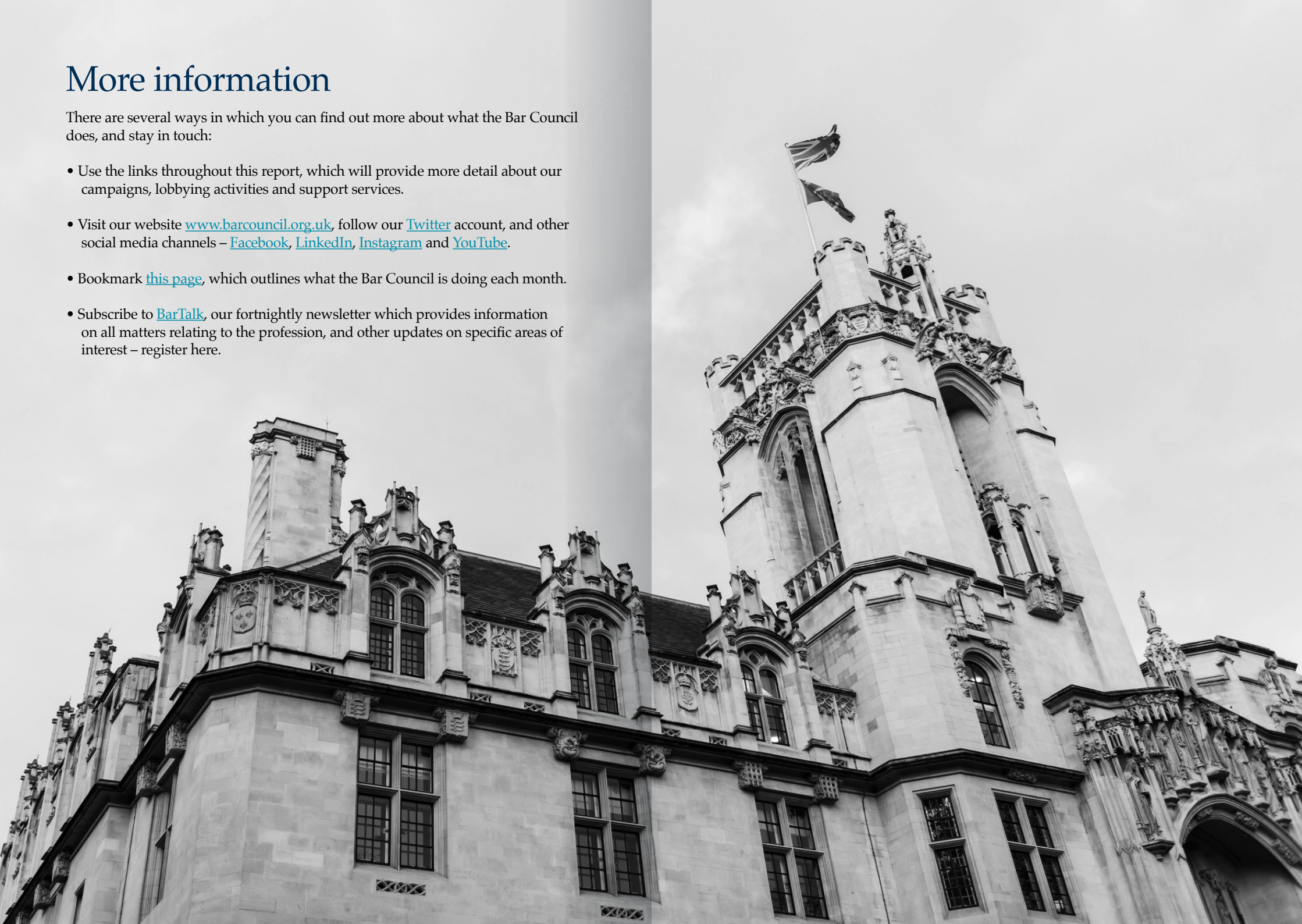
Number of Bar Council and BSB employees per salary band in 2017-18

Salary band	Number of employees
£160,000 plus	1
£140,001 – £160,000	2
£120,001 – £140,000	0
£100,001 – £120,000	1
£80,001 – £100,000	11
£60,001 – £80,000	8
£40,001 – £60,000	36
£20,001 – £40,000	85
Up to £20,000	8

More information

There are several ways in which you can find out more about what the Bar Council does, and stay in touch:

- Use the links throughout this report, which will provide more detail about our campaigns, lobbying activities and support services.
- Visit our website www.barcouncil.org.uk, follow our [Twitter](#) account, and other social media channels – [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).
- Bookmark [this page](#), which outlines what the Bar Council is doing each month.
- Subscribe to [BarTalk](#), our fortnightly newsletter which provides information on all matters relating to the profession, and other updates on specific areas of interest – register here.



Integrity. Excellence. Justice.

The Bar Council represents barristers in England and Wales. It promotes:

- The Bar's high quality specialist advocacy and advisory services
- Fair access to justice for all
- The highest standards of ethics, equality and diversity across the profession, and
- The development of business opportunities for barristers at home and abroad.

The General Council of the Bar is the Approved Regulator of the Bar of England and Wales. It discharges its regulatory functions through the independent Bar Standards Board.

www.barcouncil.org.uk

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