

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT
(Company Limited by Guarantee)
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Company Number: 08804708
Charity Number: 1155640

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Status	The organisation is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated 6 December 2013 and registered as a charity on 5 February 2014. The charitable company commenced operations on 1 July 2014.
Governing Document	The charity is controlled by its memorandum and articles of association, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.
Company Number	08804708
Charity Number	1155640
Registered Office	9 Gray's Inn Square London WC1R 5JD
Trustees	All Trustees served throughout the year and thereafter except where stated: Janet Bignell KC Stephen Cartwright OBE Gregory Dorey CVO Chantal Aimee Doerries KC Judge Jill Frances Christopher Ghika CBE Rt Hon Lord Justice Nicholas Green Anne Sharp CBE Marion Smith KC
Bankers	Royal Bank of Scotland 5 – 10 Great Tower Street London EC3P 3HX
Auditors	HaysMac LLP 10 Queen Street Place London EC4R 1AG

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual Trustees' Report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are also prepared to meet the requirements of a directors' report and accounts for Companies Act purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association and Accounting and Reporting by Charities - the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities (SORP 2015) (Second Edition, effective 1 January 2019) and, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

CONSTITUTION

The Council of the Inns of Court ("COIC") is set up under its Memorandum and Articles of Association, registered as a Company Limited by Guarantee, registration number 08804708 and is registered with the Charity Commission under the Charities Act 2011, registration number 1155640.

COIC was incorporated as a charitable company limited by guarantee on 6 December 2014. For the purposes of the Companies Act 2006 the Board of Trustees is regarded as the Board of Directors of the company.

The liability of the Trustees, being members of the charitable company, is limited. Every member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charitable company in the event of the same being wound up whilst he is a member, or within one year after he ceases to be a member, for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the charitable company contracted before he ceased to be a member and for such costs, charges and expenses of the winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributions among themselves, such amounts as may be required, not exceeding one pound.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the council are:

1. To advance education in the administration and practice of the law and related disciplines, including by providing courses, training and educational materials, and by promoting, undertaking, and publishing research;
2. To promote the sound administration of the law, including by: promoting high standards of advocacy to support the rule of law; and overseeing and enforcing professional standards of conduct in relation to the provision of advocacy and related legal services, in each case, anywhere in the world and for the public benefit.

Strategic Aims

The strategic aims in pursuit of the above charitable objects are to:

1. Provide excellent Bar training for the selected ICCA cohort of Bar students;
2. Provide leadership and guidance in advocacy training;
3. Provide a forum in which the Inns and other advocacy trainers can meet and share information on advocacy;
4. Research & disseminate materials and best practice in advocacy and advocacy training;
5. Organise educational training and other events;
6. Communicate with all interested persons and organisations regarding advocacy standards and training;
7. Liaise and cooperate with legal jurisdictions outside of England and Wales in the provision of advocacy training and training of trainers;
8. Provide a Bar tribunal hearings service that is efficient, effective, timely, professional and transparent and one that uses up to date practices and approaches;
9. Facilitate high quality decision-making in the public interest;
10. Provide independence and clear separation of the adjudicatory function from the prosecuting role of the Bar Standards Board.

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Objectives

In addition to pursuing its charitable objectives and strategic aims, a number of specific objectives were set for 2024, of which the most significant were:

1. Introducing a shared costs model for the Tribunal Service, with funding provided by the Bar Standards Board.
2. Operating a high quality and fit for purpose Tribunal Service by:
 - a. Delivering hearings in accordance with or exceeding the agreed KPIs
 - b. Working with the BSB to improve the entirety of their enforcement proceedings, and especially the time it takes for cases to be brought to a conclusion
3. Bringing BTAS up to date by investigating case management and document management systems, ensuring it operates a 'right to be forgotten'- compliant website, and that it can accommodate high standard in-person, hybrid and fully remote hearings.
4. Reviewing the Inns' Conduct Committee Rules and processes.
5. Continuing to support and help demonstrate the efforts of the Inns of Court in providing high quality training by:
 - a. Co-ordinating the External Observer programme for Qualifying Sessions
 - b. Facilitating the development and exchange of good practice between the Inn's Directors of Education
6. Supporting the work of the Point of Call Working Group, ascertaining and communicating the views of the Inns
7. Supporting the Inns and liaising with the BSB in the development of future pupillage assessments and related training programmes, including *Negotiation Skills* and *Advocacy Skills*
8. Continue efforts to move the Bar Course to break-even as soon as possible by:
 - a. Increasing student numbers by effective outreach and marketing & raising awareness of the success and quality of the course, including raising the profile of the ICCA amongst school and university students. This will be achieved by sponsoring moots & supporting the Bar Council's Bar Placement Week, hosting Open Days, monitoring website traffic, developing links with Chambers and providers of work-based learning and improving communications internally and externally;
 - b. Introducing a charge for students who choose to access the Part 1 materials for more than 12 months without entering or passing the BSB exams from September 2024;
 - c. Promoting and extending the ICCA Bursary Scheme working in partnership with the SBAs to increase the fund and make available more bursaries to deserving candidates;
 - d. Exploring the Inns' appetite or alternative sources of funding to build an ICCA Scholarship fund to reduce attrition between acceptance and enrolment,
9. Regular improvement and remediation of materials and maintain the quality of teaching on the Bar Course, which will lead to continued sector-leading assessment and pupillage rates.
10. Ensuring the high-quality Bar Course is accessible to committed, motivated and diligent students regardless of their background, by promoting diversity and equality of opportunity and widening participation. This will be achieved by the implementation of the Fair recruitment Policy, blind sifting of candidates and continual data analysis and reporting.
11. Continuing to update and make available Pupillage Ethics materials to all pupils thereby generating an income for the ICCA and assisting pupils to succeed in the BSB assessment.
12. Developing and promoting the capability to host and maintain content for the SBAs and Circuits on the ICCA's VLE on a fee-paying basis .
13. Working with and supporting the Inns of Court, to provide leadership and guidance in high quality advocacy including by:
 - a. Rolling out the *Advocacy for Children in Conflict with the Law* (ACCL) course and encouraging its accreditation by the Regulator to enable practitioners to demonstrate competence;
 - b. Continuing to support and develop the *Advocacy and the Vulnerable: Crime and Family* programmes by training Facilitators for the Family Law Bar Association and the Crown Prosecution Service.
14. Supporting the continued improvement of advocacy training in jurisdictions outside of the UK by seeking external funding and exploring methods of providing high quality and seed corn training to deserving organisations.
15. Capitalising on the ICCA's development of expertise in e-Learning by offering the Inns and Circuits assistance in developing, enhancing and hosting online training materials to support their delivery of high-quality training, and doing so on an at-cost basis.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Objectives (Continued)

16. In consultation with the Governing Body, the Inns and Circuits; identifying, researching and scoping possible future workstreams that are necessary for the Bar to remain current and informed in practice including Trauma-informed lawyering, tackling rape myths, and Artificial Intelligence (bringing digital literacy to the fore), Pupil Supervisor training and training in appellate advocacy or written advocacy for the Civil/Family Bar.
17. Assisting the Circuits to manage the development of new regulatory requirements in the delivery of Pupillage Advocacy and New Practitioner Training by enabling them to access the ICCA's VLE and by offering new training materials to deliver to Pupils and New Practitioners.

Public Benefit

In determining strategy and activity the Trustees had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. COIC exists to:

1. Advance education in the administration and practice of the law, principally through the activities of the Inns of Court College of Advocacy, by providing leadership, guidance and co-ordination in relation to the pursuit of academic and professional excellence for the bar.
2. Enforce professional standards of conduct amongst barristers through the activities of the Bar Tribunals and Adjudication Service, for example:
 - i. Appointing and administering Disciplinary Tribunals for barristers facing charges of professional misconduct. Tribunals are open to the public, and the charges and findings of the Tribunals are published in the public domain;
 - ii. Appointing and administering Interim Suspension Panels and Fitness to Practice Panels for barristers;
 - iii. Appointing and administering Inns' Conduct Committee Hearings to consider admission and disciplinary cases brought against individuals aspiring to be called to the bar of England and Wales, and so determine whether they are fit and proper to be practising barristers;and doing so at no cost to the public or those involved in the hearing process.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

1. A shared costs model was implemented as part of a new Service Agreement that, from 1 April 2024, sees the Bar Standards Board contribute 50% of BTAS's operating costs.
2. We experienced very high levels of Tribunal activity throughout 2024, both in terms of the number and complexity of cases handled, delivering a high quality service throughout. We additionally engaged productively with the BSB, supporting their priority of improving the entirety of the Bar's enforcement proceedings.
3. We investigated improvements to its facilities and systems, that will be implemented in time to support and enable the timelines arising from the BSB review into enforcement proceedings.
4. We continue to work with the BSB to review and improve the Inns' Conduct Committee Rules and processes.
5. Working closely with the Inns' Directors of Education we continued to successfully coordinate the External Observer programme for Qualifying Sessions, including the changeover to- and induction of - new EO's.
6. We continued to assist the Inns of Court to determine, in the current environment, what the most appropriate timing is for individuals to be Called to the Bar.
7. We have supported the Inns and Circuits and sought iterative accreditation from the BSB to develop a Pupillage Negotiation Course which will be piloted in 2026 and rolled out thereafter.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Achievements and Performance (Continued)

8. We have continued efforts to move the Bar Course to break-even as soon as possible by:
 - a. Increasing student numbers by effective outreach and marketing & raising awareness of the success and quality of the course, including raising the profile of the ICCA amongst school and university students. This was achieved by sponsoring moots & supporting the Bar Council's Bar Placement Week, hosting Open Days, monitoring website traffic, developing links with Chambers and providers of work-based learning and improving communications internally and externally. The outcome was another increase in 2025 of applications for 2025/26 entry;
 - b. We aim to introduce a charge for students who choose to access the Part 1 materials for more than 12 months without entering or passing the BSB exams from September 2025;
 - c. We have promoted the ICCA Bursary Scheme working in partnership with the SBAs and we aim to increase the fund and make available more bursaries to deserving candidates resulting in a number of socio-economically and disadvantaged students accessing funding for the Bar Course;
 - d. We continue to explore the Inns' appetite or alternative sources of funding to build an ICCA Scholarship fund to reduce attrition between acceptance and enrolment, which may be possible once the ICCA turns a profit on student fees.
9. We have improved and remediated materials and maintained the quality of teaching on the Bar Course, which has led to continued sector-leading assessment results and pupillage rates. The BSB centralised assessment results for December 2025 were the highest they have been since 2021.
10. We have ensured that the high-quality Bar Course is accessible to committed, motivated and diligent students regardless of their background, by promoting diversity and equality of opportunity and widening participation. This was achieved by the implementation of the Fair recruitment Policy, blind sifting of candidates and continual data analysis and reporting. We have improved all areas of data reporting by the appointment of a new Data and Planning Manager.
11. We have continued to update and make available Pupillage Ethics materials to all pupils thereby generating an income for the ICCA and assisting pupils to succeed in the BSB assessment.
12. We have developed and promoted the capability of the ICCA to host and maintain content for the SBAs and Circuits on the ICCA's VLE on a fee-paying basis and each of the Circuits now has its own tenancy on our VLE.
13. We have worked with and supported the Inns of Court, to provide leadership and guidance in high quality advocacy including by:
 - a. Delivering the Advocacy for Children in Conflict with the Law (ACCL) course and encouraging its accreditation by the Regulator to enable practitioners to demonstrate competence;
 - b. Continuing to support and develop the Advocacy and the Vulnerable: Crime and Family programmes by moving the web-based materials to a VLE based programme with extended interactivity.
14. We have supported the continued improvement of advocacy training in jurisdictions outside of the UK by seeking external funding and exploring methods of providing high quality and seed corn training to deserving organisations. In particular, we have made significant progress in Sierra Leone. We have also launched and facilitated a six-weekly forum for all interested international advocacy trainers to join together to share best practice.

The charity does not fundraise with members of the public and have had no fundraising complaints in the year.

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The total income for the year of £4,757,488 comprised grants of £1,351,376 from the Inns of Court, £3,295,688 of fee income, a donation of £20,000 from the Commercial Bar Association as a restricted fund to establish a bursary scheme, as well as bank interest of £25,702.

After deducting unrestricted expenditure of £4,710,844 the charity made a surplus of £26,644 on unrestricted funds. This was with the approval of the Trustees.

The Trustees regularly assess major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular operational and financial risks, following the Charity Commission's guidance. COIC has devised and put in place a detailed Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Plan. We confirm that, for each identified risk, there are defined monitoring, control and review systems, with specific allocation of responsibilities in place.

Key Risks include:

1. A failure to meet recruitment targets for the ICCA Bar Course; or to overestimate actual numbers enrolling on the course, will lead to a reduction in fee income. This will impact on cashflow and will require careful and active management to ensure the ongoing viability of the course. This risk will be mitigated by using efficiency savings (for cashflow issues) and (to increase future student numbers) evaluating and revising the ICCA's recruitment strategy.
2. Adverse findings about any aspect of the ICCA Bar Course by any of its regulatory or authorising bodies may cause reputational damage and affect the viability of the course. To be mitigated by ensuring the course (in design, delivery and governance) is of the highest standard, and quantitative and qualitative data is constantly collected and analysed to ensure this can be effectively monitored;
3. Loss of access to Tribunal suite or COIC Offices (due to fire or other cause). To be mitigated by disaster recovery processes including working online to continue to deliver teaching and/or Tribunals when it is appropriate to do so;
4. Tribunals and other hearings not delivered in accordance with the applicable regulations / processes leading to legal challenge / costs against COIC. To be mitigated by Tribunal Panel Member & staff training, rules & standard operating procedures, supported by regular appraisals. Insurance is in place to minimise financial risk to the charity;
5. As a small organisation COIC is more exposed than larger ones to significant levels of staff turnover – the impact of even a small number of staff leaving simultaneously could impact on our ability to deliver. To be mitigated as above by SOPs, appraisal, training and flexibility of staff (with cross-skilling across key functions) and, if necessary, deferral of non-essential work.

While COIC is almost entirely dependent on the four Inns of Court for all non-student fee income, the probability of funds not being forthcoming is extremely low. The Inns have repeatedly confirmed their commitment to COIC, and annual confirmation is provided that they will continue to provide support and funding. Additionally, COIC has not taken on liabilities beyond this, and in 2019 the Inns agreed a 'Deed of Undertaking' that made their commitment to financially support the ICCA Bar Course legally enforceable. In 2024 COIC has started imposing a small fee for access to some of its online CPD materials to diversify its sources of income, and this led to £62,196 of income received in 2024.

The continued development of the ICCA, and in particular the transition to a financially self-sustaining Bar Course, is a major undertaking. This will require continued careful planning of staff levels, resources and finance supported by careful management by staff and oversight / governance by the Trustees and Board of Governors.

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RESERVES POLICY

The Board of Trustees have resolved that the sums equivalent to two month's income be held in reserve, which for 2024 amounted to £792,915. The Trustees have resolved that, with their approval, the Charity may use up to half of its reserves to manage any short-term cash flow needs, such as those arising from inevitable fluctuations in student numbers (and associated fee income), but that the full two month's sum must be re-established within a period of 12 months. The reserves are held to meet any additional costs incurred should COIC cease trading

In setting this level of reserve, the Board of Trustees noted the undertaking given by each of the four Inns of Court in their annual grant letter:

"The Inn undertakes to give the Charity three months' notice, or a further grant equivalent to three months' running costs of the Charity, if the Inn decides not to make a grant in future years or decides to substantially reduce the grant such that the Charity is not able to meet its running costs".

During this year of account, the actual level of free reserves amounted to £798,888, which exceeds the target by £5,973. The Trustees are satisfied this is appropriate.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

A number of aims and objectives have been set for 2024, of which the most significant are:

1. Enhancement of the Tribunal Service's performance by continued engagement with (and implementation of workstreams arising from) the BSB's review of the Bar's enforcement proceedings:
 - a. Improving BTAS' processes and governance oversight to demonstrably raise standards and time-to-completion rates;
 - b. Ensuring BTAS provides a fit for purpose and modern tribunals service by bringing its systems, facilities and capabilities fully up to date, by implementing case management and document management systems, a 'right to be forgotten'- compliant website, and the ability to host high standard remote and hybrid hearings).
2. Reviewing the Inns' Conduct Committee Rules and processes.
3. Recruiting and training to the highest standards new legally qualified and lay members to serve on the panels that consider Tribunals, ICC and other hearings.
4. Continuing to support and help demonstrate the efforts of the Inns of Court in providing high quality training by:
 - b. Co-ordinating the External Observer programme for Qualifying Sessions
 - c. Facilitating the development and exchange of good practice between the Inn's Directors of Education
5. Supporting the work of the Point of Call Working Group, ascertaining and communicating the views of the Inns
6. Supporting the Inns and circuits to secure accreditation for a Pupillage Negotiation Course for all Pupils to access from 2026 via a Pilot, and thereafter three times a year to enable Pupils to reach the regulatory-based standard within pupillage.
7. Continuing to attract high levels of interest in the ICCA Bar Course with a view to reaching a position whereby the Course is self-sustaining and not reliant upon Inns' funding. We will do so by:
 - i. Maintaining or increasing student application numbers by effective outreach and marketing & raising awareness of the success and quality of the course, including raising the profile of the ICCA amongst school and university students. This will be achieved by supporting the Bar Council's Bar Placement Week, hosting Open Days, monitoring website traffic, developing links with Chambers and alumni, and providers of work-based learning and improving communications internally and externally:

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS (CONTINUED)

- ii. Introducing a charge for students who choose to access the Part 1 materials for more than 12 months without entering or passing the BSB exams from September 2024;
 - iii. Developing links with SBAs to further enhance and increase the ICCA Bursary Scheme to make available more bursaries to bright and deserving candidates from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds and candidates who have protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010;
 - iv. Exploring sources of funding to build an ICCA Scholarship fund to further improve accessibility to the Course, and reduce attrition rates between acceptance and enrolment.
8. Overall refreshing of the Part One Course materials, and continued enhancement of the Part Two Course, and enhancement of the quality of teaching on the Bar Course, which will lead to continued sector-leading BSB assessment results and pupillage rates.
9. Ensuring the high-quality Bar Course is accessible to committed, motivated and diligent students regardless of their background, by promoting diversity and equality of opportunity and widening participation. This will be achieved by the implementation of the Fair Recruitment Policy, blind sifting of candidates and continual professional and transparent data analysis and reporting.
10. Continuing to update and make available Pupillage Ethics materials to all pupils thereby generating a modest income for the ICCA and assisting pupils to succeed in the BSB assessment.
11. Extending the ICCA's capability to host and maintain content for the Circuits and the Inns on the ICCA's VLE on an at-cost basis, with emphasis on best practice and effective VLE management;
12. Working with and supporting the Inns of Court, to provide leadership and guidance in high quality advocacy including by:
 - i. Offering opportunities in London and on Circuit several times a year to undertake the *Advocacy for Children in Conflict with the Law* (ACCL) course and encouraging its accreditation by the Regulator to enable practitioners to demonstrate competence;
 - ii. Continuing to support and develop the *Advocacy and the Vulnerable: Crime and Family* programmes by training new Lead Facilitators for the Family Law Bar Association and the Crown Prosecution Service.
13. Supporting the continued improvement of advocacy training in jurisdictions outside of the UK by seeking external funding and exploring methods of providing high quality and seed corn training to deserving organisations.
14. Promoting international exchanges of best practice in advocacy training by continuing involvement with multi-disciplinary practice lawyers from every continent and especially those with a vested interest in advocacy training and excellence in advocacy.
15. Assessing the ICCA's digital mindset in consultation with external experts to assist us to clarify our strategy, connect with experts and transform our digital landscape with a view to being able to further develop our expertise in e-Learning. In this way, we can also properly offer the Inns and Circuits assistance in developing, enhancing and hosting online training materials to support their delivery of high-quality training, and doing so on an at-cost basis.
16. In consultation with the Governing Body, the Inns and Circuits; identifying, researching and scoping possible future workstreams that are necessary for the Bar to remain current and informed in practice including Rape and Serious Sexual Offences (RASSO) and tackling rape myths, and Artificial Intelligence (AI) (bringing digital literacy to the fore and recognising the value and potential of AI, thinking beyond what our justice system is currently capable of doing and instead embarking on vision-based thinking), Pupil Supervisor training and training in expert and statistical evidence.
17. Assisting the Circuits to manage the development of new regulatory requirements in the delivery of Pupillage Advocacy and New Practitioner Training by enabling them to manage their own VLE tenancies and by offering new training materials to deliver to Pupils and New Practitioners.
18. Promoting the Trauma-informed Advocacy training so that as many users as possible can access the materials and adapt their practices to accommodate traumatised witnesses and those caught up in the justice system.

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the overall management of COIC but delegates responsibility for the day to day management to its Director, within a framework of agreed policies and controls. At 31 December 2024 the Board comprised 9 Trustees. COIC aims to ensure that its Board is properly balanced in terms of gender, ethnicity, disability representation and skills and experience relevant to COIC activities.

The Board of Trustees is assisted in its work by (i) a Strategic Advisory Group made up of representatives from the Inns, the Bar Council and the Bar Standards Board, which meets at least twice a year; and (ii) a Management Sub-Committee of the Trustees which is made up of the Sub/Under Treasurers of the Inns of Court and which meets six times a year, shortly in advance of meetings of the Trustees and/or Strategic Advisory Group.

With regards to the work of the Inns of Court College of Advocacy the Trustees are assisted by a board of Governors and its sub-committees. With regards to the work of the Bar Tribunals Service, the Trustees are assisted by the input of the BTAS Strategic Advisory Board and Tribunals Appointments Body.

When appropriate, to aid induction of new Trustees we insured, wherever possible, that they Trustees attend meetings prior to taking up post. COIC Trustees receive papers prior to each meeting. Full guidance on Trustee duties was made available and new Trustees are briefed to review roles, structures, priorities and responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for setting the pay and remuneration of the charity's employees including the key management personnel. Salary and pension payments to all COIC personnel are approved by the Trustees as part of the annual budget process, and over the more than ten years of the charity's operations this has resulted in near-inflationary increases that applied equally to all staff without regard to seniority. To aid the Trustees in determining what (if any) percentage increase is appropriate as part of this annual pay review process, research is undertaken to confirm the pay increases awarded in comparable organisations (most notably the four Inns of Court). Starting salary levels are also benchmarked so that they are compatible with those paid for similar roles elsewhere (again, particularly at the Inns of Court). Staff whose role changes significantly during their period of employment may have their salary reviewed to ensure it remains appropriate, and any increases deemed necessary must be approved by the Director of COIC.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The following statement is intended to provide readers of COIC's Annual Report and Financial Statements a better understanding of its governance and legal structure at the date of the approval of this Annual Report.

COIC's Structure, Governance and Management is set out in the immediately preceding section of this report. COIC's Articles of Association date from 2014 and underpin the governing practices adopted by the Board. COIC's Statement of Purpose is:

Founded by the Inns of Court, COIC works with them in strengthening the rule of law through excellence in professional education and in maintaining the highest standards of professional conduct.

COIC's Trustees are legally responsible for the overall management and control of COIC. The Board of Trustees meets at least four times a year.

A Management Sub-Committee of the COIC Trustees was established in 2023. This is made up of the four Sub/Under-Treasurers (CEOs) of the Inns of Court who serve ex officio as Trustees and the Director of COIC. The Management Sub-Committee's role is to monitor and scrutinise the delivery of COIC's strategy, supporting and holding COIC's Executive to account in the oversight of COIC's operations and associated resources; and advise COIC's Executive on the suitability of proposed activities and associated expenditure.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

The ICCA Governors advise the Trustees on all matters relating to the ICCA and its Bar Course. The Governors meet at least eight times a year to discuss current issues and to agree actions as required. This includes an annual Away Day, where matters of strategic and longer-term importance pertaining to the ICCA are considered. The Governors are assisted in their work by a number of sub-committees that focus on specific areas of business:

- Finance & Operations Committee
- International Committee
- Board of Examiners
- Appeals Committee
- Education Committee

The ICCA Governors are responsible for the oversight of any regulatory responsibilities including compliance with the OfS's ongoing conditions of registration.

INTERNAL CONTROLS

Identifying and managing risk is a key part of the work of the Trustees and specifically the Management Sub Committee. This is addressed by the maintenance and development of a Risk Register that is discussed and updated as necessary.

The Risk Register includes an assessment of financial, operational, reputational and health and safety risks.

Internal controls are based on both the likelihood and potential impact of the risks occurring, and take into account mitigation measures that can be put in place. This approach identifies key risks and enables responses to be prioritised accordingly.

Trustees understand that it is their responsibility to ensure that an appropriate system of internal controls is maintained and reviewed as appropriate.

The Trustees and external auditors have not identified any significant internal control weaknesses or failures in the financial year under review or in the period up to the date that this Annual Report was approved.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees (who are also Directors of COIC for the purpose of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law 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 charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and 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 charitable company will continue in business.

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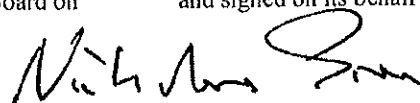
TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time of the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as we are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

By order of the Board on and signed on its behalf by:

Signed: 

(Trustee)

Name: NICHOLAS SREEN

Date: 23 May 2025

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Council of the Inns of Court for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows 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).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of the charitable company's net movement in funds, including the income and expenditure, 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 Companies Act 2006 and the Office for Students Accounts Direction.

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 are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are 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. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 6, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are 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 trustees determine 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 trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company'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 trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' 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 trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Annual Report. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 or a material misstatement of the other information. 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. We have nothing to report in this regard.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report (which includes the strategic report and the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' report included within the Trustees' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report (which incorporates the directors' report).

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the charitable company; or
- the charitable company's financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Matters on which we are required to report in respect of the Office of Students

In our opinion in all material respects:

- funds administered by the charitable company for specific purposes during the year ended 31 December 2023 as disclosed in note 11 to the accounts have been applied for those purposes and managed in accordance with relevant legislation;
- funds provided by the OFS and Department for Education have been applied in accordance with the terms and conditions attached to them during the year ended 31 December 2024; and

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to the Office for Students requires us to report where:

- grant and fee income as disclosed in note 4 to the accounts, has been materially misstated.
- Expenditure on access and participation activities for the financial year has been materially misstated.

Responsibilities of trustees for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on pages 6 to 7, the trustees are 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 trustees determine 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 trustees are 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 trustees either intend 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

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.

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:

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT (continued)

Based on our understanding of the charity and the environment in which it operates, we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to compliance with employment law and health and safety regulations, and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and the Office for Students Accounts Direction.

We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to management bias in certain accounting estimates. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:


- Inspecting minutes of trustees meetings;
- Inspecting correspondence with regulators and tax authorities;
- Discussions with management including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulation and fraud;
- Evaluating management's controls designed to prevent and detect irregularities;
- Identifying and testing journals, in particular journal entries posted around the year-end or with unusual descriptions; and
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their critical accounting estimates.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Thomas Wilson
(Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of HaysMac LLP
Statutory Auditor

10 Queen Street Place
London
EC4R 1AG

Date: 28/05/2025

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations and legacies	2	1,351,376	20,000	1,371,376	2,080,240
Charitable activities	3	3,357,854	-	3,357,854	1,907,394
Investments		25,702	-	25,702	13,068
Other		2,556	-	2,556	-
TOTAL		<u>4,737,488</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>4,757,488</u>	<u>4,000,702</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities					
Training		4,034,969	7,500	4,042,469	2,971,095
Regulation		675,875	-	675,875	541,310
TOTAL	5	<u>4,710,844</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>4,718,344</u>	<u>3,512,405</u>
NET INCOME		26,644	12,500	39,144	488,297
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		817,734	99,100	916,834	428,537
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>£844,378</u>	<u>£111,600</u>	<u>£955,978</u>	<u>£916,834</u>

None of the company's activities were acquired or discontinued in the year.

There were no recognised gains or losses other than those included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT

BALANCE SHEET

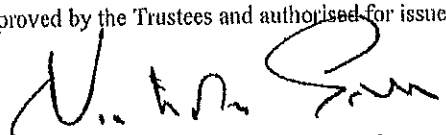
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	8	<u>45,490</u>	<u>37,539</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	9	370,451	208,179
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>1,337,002</u>	<u>1,222,903</u>
		<u>1,707,453</u>	<u>1,431,082</u>
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(796,965)</u>	<u>(551,787)</u>
Net current assets		<u>910,488</u>	<u>879,295</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>£955,978</u>	<u>£916,834</u>
FUNDS			
Restricted Funds	12	111,600	99,100
Unrestricted funds		<u>844,378</u>	<u>817,734</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>£955,978</u>	<u>£916,834</u>

The accounts were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on

and signed on its behalf by:

Signed:



(Trustee)


Name:

NICHOLAS SREEN

Date:

23 May 2025

Signed:



(Trustee)

Name:

JANET BIGNELL KC

Date:

21 May 2025.

Signed:



(ICCA Dean & OFS Accountable Officer)

Name:

LYNDA GIBBS KC (Hon)

Date:

23 May 2025

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net cash provided by operating activities (see below)	<u>137,185</u>	<u>793,210</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchase of fixed assets	<u>(23,086)</u>	<u>(31,353)</u>
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(23,086)</u>	<u>(31,353)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	114,099	761,857
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	<u>1,222,903</u>	<u>461,046</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	<u><u>£1,337,002</u></u>	<u><u>£1,222,903</u></u>
Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities		
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	39,144	488,297
Add depreciation	15,135	10,195
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(162,272)	154,555
Increase in creditors	<u>245,178</u>	<u>140,163</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u><u>£137,185</u></u>	<u><u>£793,210</u></u>

ANALYSIS OF NET DEBT

	At	Cash	Non-cash	At
	1 January	movements	movements	31 December
	2024			2024
	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	1,222,903	114,099	-	1,337,002
	<u>£1,222,903</u>	<u>£114,099</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>£1,337,002</u>

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of financial statements is as follows:

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 Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities (SORP 2015) (Second Edition, effective 1 January 2019) and the Companies Act 2006.

The Council of the Inns of Court meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

Having considered future budgets and cash flows, the Trustees confirm that they have no material uncertainties about the entity's ability to continue as a going concern for the foreseeable future.

Income

All incoming resources are included in the SOFA once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably. The following specific policies apply to categories of income:

Voluntary income donations & grants where related to performance and specific deliverables are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance. Where income is received in advance of its recognition it is deferred and included in creditors. Where entitlement occurs before income being received the income is accrued.

Course fees are accounted for in the period to which they relate.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs relating to the following categories:

Charitable Activities – Costs of charitable activities comprise all costs identified as wholly or mainly attributable to achieving the charitable objectives of the charity, including the costs of disseminating information in support of charitable activities. These costs include staff costs, wholly or mainly attributable support costs and an apportionment of general overheads.

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the Council's activities. The basis on which support costs have been allocated are shown below.

Governance costs – These comprise all costs identified as wholly or mainly attributable to ensuring the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulations.

Allocation of costs

Staff costs are allocated by the Trustees between direct charitable expenditure and support expenditure on the basis of time spent on these activities. Other costs are ascribed directly to the relevant heading.

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Pension costs

The Council of the Inns of Court operates a defined contributions scheme for the benefit of the employees. The assets of the Scheme are held independently from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The pension costs charged in the financial statements represents the contributions payable during the year.

Taxation

No provision has been made for corporation tax or deferred tax for The Council of the Inns of Court as it is a registered charity and is therefore exempt.

Restricted funds

Where grants are to be spent in accordance with terms agreed with the funders, the income and related expenditure are shown as 'Restricted'. Any unspent restricted income at the year-end is deferred for spending to future years.

Unrestricted funds

Core income and such other income for which there are no restrictions on the way it can be spent are termed 'Unrestricted'. Such unspent income at the year-end is termed 'Unrestricted funds'.

Fixed assets

All fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Items costing less than £500 are not capitalised. The carrying values of other tangible fixed assets are reviewed for impairment if events or change in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost, less any estimated residual value, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life, as follows:

Computer equipment	4 years
Office furniture	4 years

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes bank accounts, cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Financial instruments

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Estimation uncertainty

In the view of the Trustees in applying the accounting policies adopted, no judgements were required that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements nor do any estimates or assumptions made carry a significant risk of material adjustment in the next financial year.

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES	2024	2023 £
Grants received from the Inns of Court towards general activities	1,351,376	1,980,240
Bursaries grant	20,000	100,000
	<u>£1,371,376</u>	<u>£2,080,240</u>

3. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - 2024	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Fee income	3,078,344	-	3,078,344	1,876,292
Bar Standards Board (BSB) intake fee	217,314	-	217,314	-
Ethics income	50,407	-	50,407	28,806
Virtual Learning Experience (VLE) support	11,789	-	11,789	2,296
	<u>£3,357,854</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£3,357,854</u>	<u>£1,907,394</u>

All activities were unrestricted in 2023.

4. GRANT AND FEE INCOME	2024	2023 £
Fee income from taught awards	3,078,344	1,876,292
	<u>£3,078,344</u>	<u>£1,876,292</u>

5. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE - 2024	Direct Costs £	Support Costs £	Governance Costs £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Charitable activities:					
Training	3,161,713	866,924	13,832	4,042,469	2,971,095
Regulation	349,269	321,498	5,108	675,875	541,310
	<u>£3,510,982</u>	<u>£1,188,422</u>	<u>£18,940</u>	<u>£4,718,344</u>	<u>£3,512,405</u>

ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE - 2023

	Direct Costs £	Support Costs £	Governance Costs £	Total 2023 £
Charitable activities:				
Training	2,258,496	695,043	17,556	2,971,095
Regulation	248,487	287,009	5,814	541,310
	<u>£2,506,983</u>	<u>£982,052</u>	<u>£23,370</u>	<u>£3,512,405</u>

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

SUPPORT COSTS CONSIST OF:

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs	298,885	266,897
Other staff related costs	12,234	13,418
Establishment costs	488,023	452,119
Insurance	66,034	64,910
Finance and accounting fees	22,892	16,080
Other professional fees	52,972	19,621
Office costs	53,552	47,463
IT costs	136,257	100,509
Bank charges	1,307	1,035
Irrecoverable VAT	56,266	-
	<u>£1,188,422</u>	<u>£982,052</u>

6. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2024 £	2023 £
Auditor's remuneration	16,000	14,500
Other professional fees	2,940	8,870
	<u>£18,940</u>	<u>£23,370</u>

Other fees payable to the auditors (for other business support) amounted to £21,982 (2023: £15,600) and are included within support costs.

No Trustees received any remuneration during the year.

7. EMPLOYEES

	2024 £	2023 £
Staff costs were as follows:		
Wages and salaries	1,803,632	1,318,917
National insurance contributions	214,168	160,879
Pension contributions	266,228	220,190
	<u>£2,284,028</u>	<u>£1,699,986</u>

The average number of employees during the year was as follows:

	No.	No.
Charitable activities	30 (28.14 FTE)	26 (24.66 FTE)
Management and support	3 (2.4 FTE)	2 (2 FTE)
	<u>33 (30.54 FTE)</u>	<u>29 (26.66 FTE)</u>

As required in the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities, the number of employees earning income in excess of £60,000 is provided in £10,000 bands:

	2024	2023
£60,000 - £69,999	6	2
£70,000 - £79,999	-	1
£80,000 - £89,999	2	2
£90,000 - £99,999	3	1
£100,000 - £109,999	-	1
£110,000 - £119,999	1	-
£120,000 - £129,999	1	-
£130,000 - £139,999	-	1
	<u>13</u>	<u>8</u>

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

As required by the Office for Students, the number of employees earning income in excess of £100,000 is provided in £5,000 bands:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
£100,000 - £104,999	-	1
£110,000 - £119,999	1	-
£120,000 - £129,999	1	-
£130,000 - £134,999	-	1

HEAD OF PROVIDER'S REMUNERATION

	2024 £	2023 £
Annualised basic salary	£128,000	134,149
Other remuneration/benefits	-	-
Pension contributions	26,483	39,968
	<u>£154,483</u>	<u>£174,117</u>

Key management personnel remuneration (including employers NIC and pension) amounted to £381,401 (2023 - £376,835).

Salary Sacrifice Arrangements: Please note that, as required in the *OfS's Regulatory Advice 9: Accounts Direction* the pension contribution figures above include additional contributions made by the Head of Provider as part of a salary sacrifice scheme, which results in the total remuneration figure being overstated (as the basic salary figure has not been adjusted to reflect the salary sacrifice). Total pension contributions made by COIC to the Head of Provider in 2024 (and 2023) were 15% of basic salary, in common with all COIC employees.

The Head of Provider's remuneration package is set with reference to other similar organisations, including the Inns of Court. It reflects the Head of Provider's responsibility not just over the ICCA (through which all its education offering is provided), but the Bar Tribunals and Adjudication Service, and over the cross-Inn collaborative function. The Head of Provider's remuneration is approved by the Board of Trustees, and the Head of Provider receives the same annual pay award as that given to all COIC staff.

At 31 December 2024 the Head of Provider's basic salary was 2.2 times (2023: 2.3) the median pay of staff, where the median pay is calculated on a full-time equivalent basis for the salaries paid by the provider to its staff. In 2024 the Head of Provider's total remuneration was 2.3 times (2023: 2.9) the median total remuneration of staff (where the median total remuneration is calculated on a full-time equivalent basis for the total remuneration by the provider of its staff).

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

8. FIXED ASSETS - TANGIBLE ASSETS

	Computer Equipment £	Office Furniture £	Total £
COST			
Balance bought forward 1 January 2024	80,639	38,476	119,115
Additions	14,021	9,065	23,086
	<u>94,660</u>	<u>47,541</u>	<u>142,201</u>
Balance carried forward 31 December 2024			
DEPRECIATION			
Balance bought forward 1 January 2024	44,834	36,742	81,576
Charge in year	13,890	1,245	15,135
	<u>58,724</u>	<u>37,987</u>	<u>96,711</u>
Balance carried forward 31 December 2024			
NET BOOK VALUE			
31 December 2024	<u>£35,936</u>	<u>£9,554</u>	<u>£45,490</u>
31 December 2023	<u>£35,805</u>	<u>£1,734</u>	<u>£37,539</u>

9. DEBTORS

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	164,424	27,661
Prepayments	206,027	180,518
	<u>£370,451</u>	<u>£208,179</u>

10. CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	393,411	187,275
Accruals and deferred income	366,839	364,512
VAT payable	36,715	-
	<u>£796,965</u>	<u>£551,787</u>

Deferred income comprises fees received in advance.

Movements in deferred income:		
Deferred income at the start of the year	189,499	130,320
Amounts released to income	(189,499)	(130,320)
Amounts deferred in the year	275,380	189,499
	<u>£275,380</u>	<u>£189,499</u>
Deferred income at the end of the year		

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

11. OPERATING LEASES

The total of future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are payable as follows:-

	2024 £	2023 £
Within one year	-	208,750
Between one and two years	0-	417,500
Between two and five years	-	921,980
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The charity had no lease commitments at the year-end due to the existing lease being terminated and the new lease not yet being entered into.

12. RESTRICTED FUNDS - 2024

	Balance B/fwd 1.1.24 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance C/fwd 31.12.24 £
Bursary fund	99,100	20,000	(7,500)	111,600
	<u>£99,100</u>	<u>£20,000</u>	<u>£(7,500)</u>	<u>£111,600</u>

RESTRICTED FUNDS - 2023

	Balance B/fwd 1.1.23 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance C/fwd 31.12.23 £
Bursary fund	-	100,000	900	99,100
	<u>£-</u>	<u>£100,000</u>	<u>£900</u>	<u>£99,100</u>

The bursary fund represents funds given for the purposes of awarding bursaries to students to enrol on the bar course. A further £20,000 was awarded in the year.

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

13. ALLOCATION OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - 2024

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Fixed assets	45,490	-	45,490	37,539
Current assets	1,595,853	111,600	1,707,453	1,431,082
Creditors	(796,965)	-	(796,965)	(551,787)
	<u>£844,378</u>	<u>£111,600</u>	<u>£955,978</u>	<u>£916,834</u>

ALLOCATION OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - 2023

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	2023 Total £
Fixed assets	37,539	-	37,539
Current assets	1,331,982	99,100	1,431,082
Creditors	(551,787)	-	(551,787)
	<u>£817,734</u>	<u>£99,100</u>	<u>£916,834</u>

14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Four of the charity's Trustees are employed as Sub/Under-Treasurers of the Inns of Court, as follows:

Stephen Cartwright OBE - Under-Treasurer of the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn
 Gregory Dorey CVO - Sub-Treasurer of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple
 Christopher Ghika CBE - Under-Treasurer of the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple
 Anne Sharp - Under-Treasurer of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn

In addition each of the four Inns nominates one of its senior members to serve as its representative Trustee, as follows:

Janet Bignell KC - The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn
 Chantal Aimee Doerries KC - The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple
 Judge Jill Frances - The Honourable Society of the Inner Temple
 Marion Smith KC - The Honourable Society of Gray's Inn

The other trustee acts as the President and is a senior individual of one of the Inns. This is the Rt Hon Lord Justice Nicholas Green, a member of the Inner Temple.

THE COUNCIL OF THE INNS OF COURT

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The charity has the following transactions with the Inns:

- All of the Trustees are representatives of an Inn of Court and it is from the Inns that grants of £1,351,376 (2023: £1,980,240) are received towards general activities.
- Provision of HR support (for which COIC paid Middle Temple £2,700 in 2024 (2023 - £4,020)).
- Payments for lunches (for which COIC paid the four Inns a total of £24,651 in 2024 (2023 - £19,382)), accommodation (for which COIC paid the Inns £302,960 in 2024 (2023 - £311,842)), room hire for teaching accommodation (for which COIC paid the Inns £92,973 in 2024 (2023 - £57,000)), and provision of payroll processing (for which COIC paid Middle Temple £3,023 in 2024 (2023 - £3,798)).

There were no other related party transactions in the year.

15. FINANCIAL INFORMATION - 2023 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
INCOME FROM:			
Donations and legacies	1,980,240	100,000	2,080,240
Charitable activities	1,907,394	-	1,907,394
Investments	13,068	-	13,068
Other	-	-	-
TOTAL	3,900,702	100,000	4,000,702
EXPENDITURE ON:			
Charitable activities			
Training	2,970,195	900	2,971,095
Regulation	541,310	-	541,310
TOTAL	3,511,505	900	3,512,405
NET (EXPENDITURE)	389,197	99,100	488,297
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	428,537	-	428,537
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	£817,734	£99,100	£916,834