



BAR ASSOCIATION
OF QUEENSLAND

BAR ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND

120th Annual Report

2024

Annual Report





2024

Annual Report

Summary of the Bar Association of Queensland during 2023-2024

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2023-2024



President's Report

2024



“I am pleased
to present the
President's
Report for the
year ended 30
June 2024”

Damien O'Brien KC
President

Executive Summary

Over the past year, the Bar Council has progressed important amendments to the 2011 Barristers' Rule (as amended) and the process of appointment for King's Counsel, members of the Association have made more submissions and appeared in Parliament on more occasions than in years prior, and committee members have assisted the Association to organise conferences, maintain wellbeing services and perform the Association's essential functions.

This being my last year as President, I would like to thank the hundreds of members who have assisted the Association in the last two years, whether that be as a member of the Bar Council, as the presenter of CPD, or as a member of one of the Association's committees. The Association's high standing in the profession is earned by the willingness of its members to volunteer their time to uphold that standing. The strength of the Association reflects the strength of the Bar, and the profession is well-placed for the future.

Amendment to Barristers' Conduct Rules

This year saw an important development in the regulation of barristers in Queensland.

In May 2024, the Bar Council unanimously resolved to amend the *2011 Barristers' Rule (as amended)* to expressly prohibit barristers having any interest or shareholding in an incorporated legal practice, other than one that is a publicly listed company.

These amendments maintain the strict division between barristers and solicitors and the different roles they play in the proper administration of justice, complementing the existing prohibition against barristers being a partner or employee in a solicitor's practice.

They help ensure that a barrister's overriding duty of independence is being upheld, allowing barristers to provide legal services of the highest standard unaffected by personal interest.

The amendments to the Barristers' Conduct Rules will come into effect when they have been notified by the Attorney-General under section 225 of the *Legal Profession Act 2007* (Qld).

Appointment to King's Counsel

In June 2024, the Bar Council, in consultation with the Chief Justice, also made amendments to the documents regarding the process of appointment as King's Counsel in Queensland. As a result of those amendments, only a person holding a current Queensland barrister's practising certificate may apply for appointment as King's counsel.

Policy and Law Reform

The Association is fortunate to be able to rely on its committees and individual members willing to give their expertise to submissions to government, courts and other consultative bodies. In the past year, the Association made more than 30 written submissions and, on 12 occasions, members appeared before committees of the Queensland Parliament, marking an especially productive year for the Association as a contributor to law reform.

In written submissions, the Association's committees considered a number of amendments to the *Criminal Code*, to succession, trusts and property law and practice directions for the District, Planning and Environment, Supreme and Federal Courts. Other submissions addressed the mutual recognition of foreign qualified lawyers, the arrangements for how lawyers might practise in the respective jurisdictions to the Australia-UK Fair Trade Agreement and the establishment of the Queensland Victims' Commissioner and Forensic Science Queensland. The Association also contributed to reviews by the Queensland Law Reform Commission, the Queensland Sentencing Advisory Committee, the Crime and Corruption Commission, and the Independent CCC Reporting Review.

The large number of submissions that the Association's Committees and individual members produce each year maintains the Association's position as a highly regarded stakeholder for government, courts, and other consultative bodies.



Member Services

Professional Standards Scheme

On 2 February 2024, the Professional Standards Councils resolved to approve the Association's application for a third Professional Standards Scheme, which commenced on 1 July 2024. From 1 July 2024 until 30 June 2029, the Scheme limits members occupational liability to a maximum of \$1.5 million in the event they are sued by a client or related party, subject to certain conditions outlined in the Scheme. The liability limit is the same as the previous two professional standards schemes, and the terms of the new Scheme are vastly similar to its two predecessors.

The Professional Indemnity and Professional Standards Committee, chaired by Graham Gibson KC, ensured the Association complied with its annual obligations, completing the Association's annual report to the Professional Standards Councils in April 2024, which has been accepted by the Councils. The continuity of the Association's Scheme is due to the commitment of the members of the Professional Indemnity and Professional Standards Committee, whose efforts ensure the Association maintains compliance with the reporting requirements of the Scheme.

Bar Care

The health and wellbeing of the Association's members is the focus of the Association's Bar Care program. That broad scope includes education about the ways that members can improve their mental and physical health and social and emotional wellbeing. In the last year, four CPD sessions were directed towards members' health and wellbeing and Gareth Beacham KC, Chair of the Bar Care Committee, wrote with encouragement to 'Get out There' in issue 96 of *Hearsay*.

The Bar Care program includes three free confidential consultations with a practitioner from the Bar Care panel per year. The panel is made up of psychologists located in Brisbane, the Gold Coast and Townsville, with expertise across a range of fields. Every member should consider making use of these resources, which can benefit any barrister's practice.

The Association also conducted its flu inoculation program, delivering 233 flu vaccinations to members.

Ethics Counsellors

On occasion, members may require guidance and advice on ethical issues which arise in their practice.

The Association's Ethics Counsellors are senior, experienced members of the Bar who practise throughout Queensland and who take the time to give guidance and advice to members on ethical issues which may arise in their practice. I am grateful to each of the Ethics Counsellors who are so willing to dedicate their time to this important advisory role to members.

Private List

The Private List remains a valuable member service which allows members to make necessary enquiries prior to them accepting briefs from law firms. The Honorary Secretary, Liam Dollar, has headed the Private List for many years, dedicating hours of time on a weekly basis, and a large number of members are grateful for his assistance.

CPD

In total, the Association held 39 CPD events in the last CPD year, including:

- the Annual Conference, attracting 220 guests and 27 speakers;
- the Employment and Industrial Law Conference;
- the Gold Coast Bar Association 'Big Day Out';
- the Sunshine Coast Bar Association Conference; and
- 34 CPD seminars, including:
 - four Current Legal Issues seminars;
 - 10-part Criminal Law Series; and
 - Junior Bar Advocacy Program, plus two reader compulsory seminars.

I am grateful to the chairs of the various committees who helped to organise the Association's CPD seminars and conferences. The Association's CPD program is an important member service and its conferences are each a highlight on the Association's calendar.

Further detail of the Association's CPD activities can be found beneath the heading 'Legal Education' in this report.

Group Life Scheme

The Association's Group Life Scheme continues to be a key member service. Currently, the Group Life Scheme provides private Bar (Class A) members up to 70 years old with the benefit of \$300,000 life cover, and total and permanent disablement cover at competitive rates.



The Association and its Community

Hearsay

In the past year, Hearsay has become a quarterly publication, issued in March, June, September and December. Led by its Editor, Richard Douglas KC, the Hearsay Editorial Team has reinforced *Hearsay's* status as the leading on-line publication for the Queensland Bar and a voice for members of the Association to express their expertise, their creativity and their views, complemented by unique perspectives from practitioners throughout Australia and members of the Bench. Each of the issues released in the past year have been packed with insights on legal developments, life at the Bar, arts and culture. My thanks go to Richard and his team for their tremendous work.

The Regional Bar

The Sunshine Coast Bar Professional Development Day was held in October 2023 in Alexandra Heads. The conference was themed: *Bullying – What is it? Where does it happen? What effects does it have? How to deal with it*, and addressed themes of bullying, diversity and ethical conduct.

The Gold Coast Bar Association hosted its annual 'Big Day Out' conference in May 2024, gathering the community of barristers practising on the Gold Coast, who were addressed by a range of speakers, with a particularly valuable contribution from the judges from the Southport Registry of the District Court of Queensland, including Judges Jackson KC, Holiday KC, Wooldridge KC and Prskalo KC.

In Hearsay, members of the Bar practising in Cairns, Mackay, and in Papua New Guinea delivered articles about their communities making up the Regional Bar and the distinctions which come from practising in rural and regional areas. The Queensland Bar has the largest geographic footprint of any State Bar, which is particularly due to the members of the Regional Bar.

Community Support Program

The Association continues to provide sponsorship and make donations to several community legal organisations. Over the last year, the Association maintained its support of Austlii and Lawright, and provided sponsorships to the Women's Legal Service, Community Legal Centres Queensland, Pride in Law, Yalari and the Women Lawyers Association of Queensland.

The Association was proud to host the launch of the Pia Du Pradal Water Soakage collection in its office. The collection, a collaboration between Avelina Tarrago of the Bar and designer Pia du Pradal incorporated artwork by Louise Numina Npanaka. This came following a successful collaboration between Avelina and Ludlows Regalia, who produced Bar jackets and vests lined with a design from the same artist. Portions of the sale of both collaborations were donated to the Mullenjaiwakka Trust.

The Association also provided funding to the Far North Queensland Law Association and North Queensland Bar Association. In academia, the Association funded scholarships at the University of Queensland and the Queensland University of Technology, as well as the major prize for the annual University of Queensland mooted contest.

Social Events and Networking

In the last year, the Association hosted a number of social events including the Junior Bar Drinks, the Federal Court Judges lunch, Bar Dinner, Silks Dinner, Retirement Dinner for the Honourable Chief Justice Susan Kiefel AC and each of its annual conferences. In sport, the Association's XI reclaimed the Tub's Club trophy, contested against the NSW Bar, and retained the Chief Judge's Trophy, against the Judicial XI. The Queensland Bar FC took to the field to contest the Tri-State Football Tournament against teams from the New South Wales and Victorian Bars as part of the Sports Law Conference, where involvement in the conference took precedence over silverware.

Acknowledgements

I express my sincere thanks to members of the Bar Council for their commitment and contributions to the betterment of the Queensland Bar, the profession and the wider community.

As at 30 June 2024, the Council is made up of:

Vice President	Catherine Heyworth-Smith KC
Honorary Treasurer	Nicholas Ferrett KC
Honorary Secretary	Liam Dollar
Assistant Honorary Secretary	Andrew Skoein
Council	Douglas John Campbell KC
	Florence Chen
	David Chesterman KC
	Philippa Coore
	Peter Dunning KC
	Genevieve Feely
	Jane FitzGerald
	Jeffrey Hunter KC
	Christian Jennings KC
	Merissa Martinez
	Ruth O'Gorman KC
	James Sheridan
	Charlotte Smith

I commend this Report to members of the Association.



Damien O'Brien KC
President

Association Staff

Chief Executive

Executive Assistant

Kelsey Rissman

Donna Rea

Legal Department

Director, Legal

Sara Forgione

Senior Lawyer

Ashleigh Poole (from parental leave 19 Oct 2023)

Lawyer

Jessica Medina-Nguyen (from parental leave 27 Nov 2023)

Lawyer

Rebecca Birchley

Lawyer

Joseph Murphy

Business Support Officer

Emma James

Corporate Services Department

Director, Corporate Services

Kasey Rowland

Reception

Geraldene Devencorn

Reception

Deborah Pilkington

Accounts Administrator

Lucy Blewer

Graphic Designer & Business Support Officer

Dianne Lyndon

Clerk Officer

Tim Lockhart (until 2 February 2024)

Legal Education Department

Coordinator, Conferences, CPD

Laura Mulherin (until 28 July 2023)

Coordinator, Conferences, CPD

Cintia Hernandez (from 26 July 2023)

Coordinator, Sessions, CPD

Ashleigh Price (parental leave 12 January 2024)

Coordinator, BPC

Gail Cowen

Business Support Officer

Jen Do (until 24 October 2023)

Business Support Officer

Ethan McNally (from 30 September 2023)

Business Support Officer

Helena Payne

Business Support Officer

Taylor Rissman (from 4 July 2023)





Year in Review 2023-2024

As at 30 June 2024, there were 1469 members of the Association.

Of these, 1036 were private Bar members, 156 employed Bar members, 235 Associate members and 41 Interstate members. Accordingly, there are 1192 practising barristers (with a Queensland practising certificate issued by the Association) as at 30 June 2024. The following breakdown is in respect of those practising barristers (i.e., not Associate or Interstate members):

Seniority

10.99%

KING'S COUNSEL OR SENIOR COUNSEL

131

89.01%

JUNIOR COUNSEL

1,061

Gender

72.65%

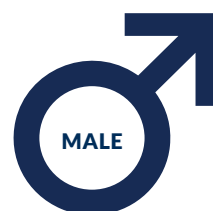


27.35%

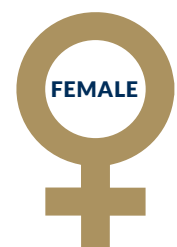


Gender of New Practising Barristers

(barristers issued first practising certificate in the 2023/24 year)



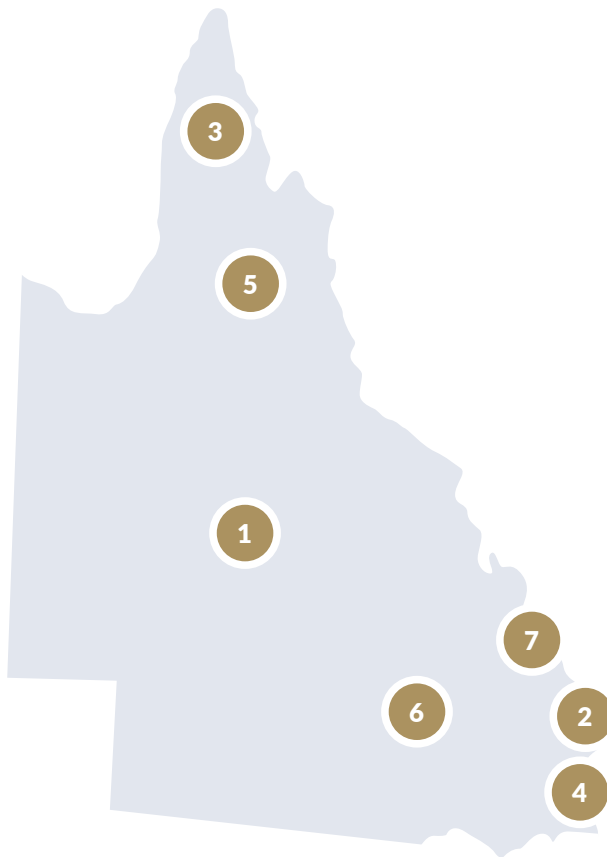
58.49%



41.51%

Employed Bar Breakdown

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Legal Service	16
Corporation	3
Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions	38
Government Legal officer	58
Legal Aid Queensland	34
Other - Non Corporation	7



Age

Under 24	0	
25-29	15	1.26%
30-34	139	11.66%
35-39	129	10.82%
40-44	185	15.52%
45-49	105	8.81%
50-54	177	14.85%
55-59	98	8.22%
60-64	142	11.91%
65-69	99	8.31%
Over 70	103	8.64%

Region Breakdown

1	Central Queensland	11
2	Brisbane City	1002
3	Far North Queensland	34
4	Gold Coast	64
5	North Queensland	35
6	South West	17
7	Sunshine Coast	29
8	Overseas	0

* These statistics include anyone who was issued a practising certificate between 1 July 2023 and 30 June 2024, but who cancelled/surrendered it (e.g. as a result of a judicial appointment or change in career etc.)

Policy

Examples of matters dealt with by the Council or one of the Association's committees and/or volunteers:

- Admission of Legal Practitioners under the Mutual Recognition Principle
- *Anti-Discrimination Act* Review
- Australian Mediator and Dispute Resolution System Standards
- Australia-UK Free Trade Agreement
- Bringing Greater Police Efficiencies through Modernisation and Collaboration
- Continuing Professional Development – Family Violence
- *Corrective Services (Promoting Safety) Bill 2024 & Questions on Notice*
- *Criminal Code (Double Jeopardy Exception and Subsequent Appeals) Amendment Bill 2023*
- *Criminal Code (Prohibited Symbols) Regulation 2024*
- *Criminal Law (Coercive Control and Affirmative Consent) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023*
- *Criminal Proceeds Confiscation Act 2002*
- District Court of Queensland Protected Counselling Communications Practice Direction
- Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia *General Federal Rules*
- Federal Court of Australia procedure for Members' Schemes of Arrangement
- *Forensic Science Queensland Bill 2023*
- Independent CCC Reporting Review
- Industrial Manslaughter provisions in the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*
- Methods of Admission of Foreign Lawyers in Queensland
- Planning & Environment Court Practice Directions
- *Police Powers and Responsibilities and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024*
- *Practice Direction for Family Provision Applications*
- Proposed amendments to Ch. 22 and 32 of the Criminal Code 1899
- *Proposed Criminal Code 1899* amendment – summary disposition of strangulation
- Queensland Law Reform Commission Review of criminal defences and excuses
- Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council: Sentencing of Sexual Assault and Rape
- Reforming Australia's anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing regime
- Scoping Continuing Professional Development in Australia
- *Succession Bill 2024*
- Supreme Court of Queensland Criminal Listing Procedures Practice Direction
- *Trusts Bill 2023*
- *Uniform Civil Procedure Rules* enforcement warrants for charging orders
- *Victims' Commissioner and Sexual Violence Case Review Bill 2024*

Appearances

- Community Safety and Legal Affairs Committee: *Corrective Services (Promoting Safety) Bill 2024*
- Community Safety and Legal Affairs Committee: *Crime and Corruption (and other Legislation) Amendment Bill 2023*
- Community Safety and Legal Affairs Committee: *Criminal Code and Other Legislation (Double Jeopardy Exception and Subsequent Appeals) Amendment Bill 2023*
- Community Safety and Legal Affairs Committee: *Forensic Science Queensland Bill 2023*
- Community Safety and Legal Affairs Committee: *Queensland Community Safety Bill 2024*
- Department of Justice and Attorney-General: *Criminal Justice Legislation (Sexual Violence and Other Matters) Amendment Bill 2024*
- Department of Youth Justice: Proposed reforms to youth justice laws
- Justice Policy and Reform Division of the Department and Justice and Attorney-General: *Anti-Discrimination Bill 2024*
- Property Law Working Group: *Property Law Act 2023*
- Queensland Law Reform Commission: Mining Lease Objections Review
- Queensland Law Reform Commission: Review of defences and excuses in the *Queensland Criminal Code 1899*
- Youth Justice Select Committee: Terms of Reference

Legal Profession Regulation

Under the *Legal Profession Act 2007*, the Association has a number of functions in its capacity as a regulatory authority. These functions include:

- considering and determining applications made to the Association for the grant or renewal of local practising certificates. This function requires the Association to consider, in particular, the eligibility and suitability of applicants, professional indemnity insurance issues, and issues relating to the amendment, suspension or cancellation of local practising certificates. Also, on occasion, it requires the Association to respond to applications seeking the review of a decision of the Association in relation to a local practising certificate;
- maintaining a database for local practising certificates held by barristers in Queensland;
- investigating and reporting in relation to complaint matters and investigation matters referred to the Association by the Legal Services Commissioner, and maintaining a database in relation to these matters; and
- liaising with other regulatory authorities, both in Queensland and interstate, in relation to a range of issues.

The responsibilities discharged by the Association in its capacity as a regulatory authority under the *Legal Profession Act 2007* have been recognised by the Attorney-General, who provides, through the Legal Practitioner Interest on Trust Accounts Fund (LPITAF), funding which is used to defray, in part, the costs incurred by the Association in the discharge of its responsibilities under the Act.

Professional Standards Scheme

On 1 July 2024, the Association's third Professional Standards Scheme (the Scheme) came into effect, and will continue to operate until 30 June 2029. The Scheme applies to limit the occupational liability of members of the private Bar in Queensland, to a maximum of \$1.5 million in the event they are sued by a client or related party, subject to certain conditions outlined in the Scheme. A copy of the current Scheme can be accessed on the Association's website.

National Mediator Accreditation

The Association continued to discharge its role as a Recognised Mediator Accreditation Body under the National Mediator Accreditation System. In this capacity, the Association continued to accredit (as applicable) members.

Appointments 2023-2024

Silk Appointments

On 2 November 2023, Her Excellency the Governor approved the appointment by Letters Patent of the barristers listed below as King's Counsel:

Andrew Maxwell Hoare

Angus John Edwards

Jessica Omra McClymont

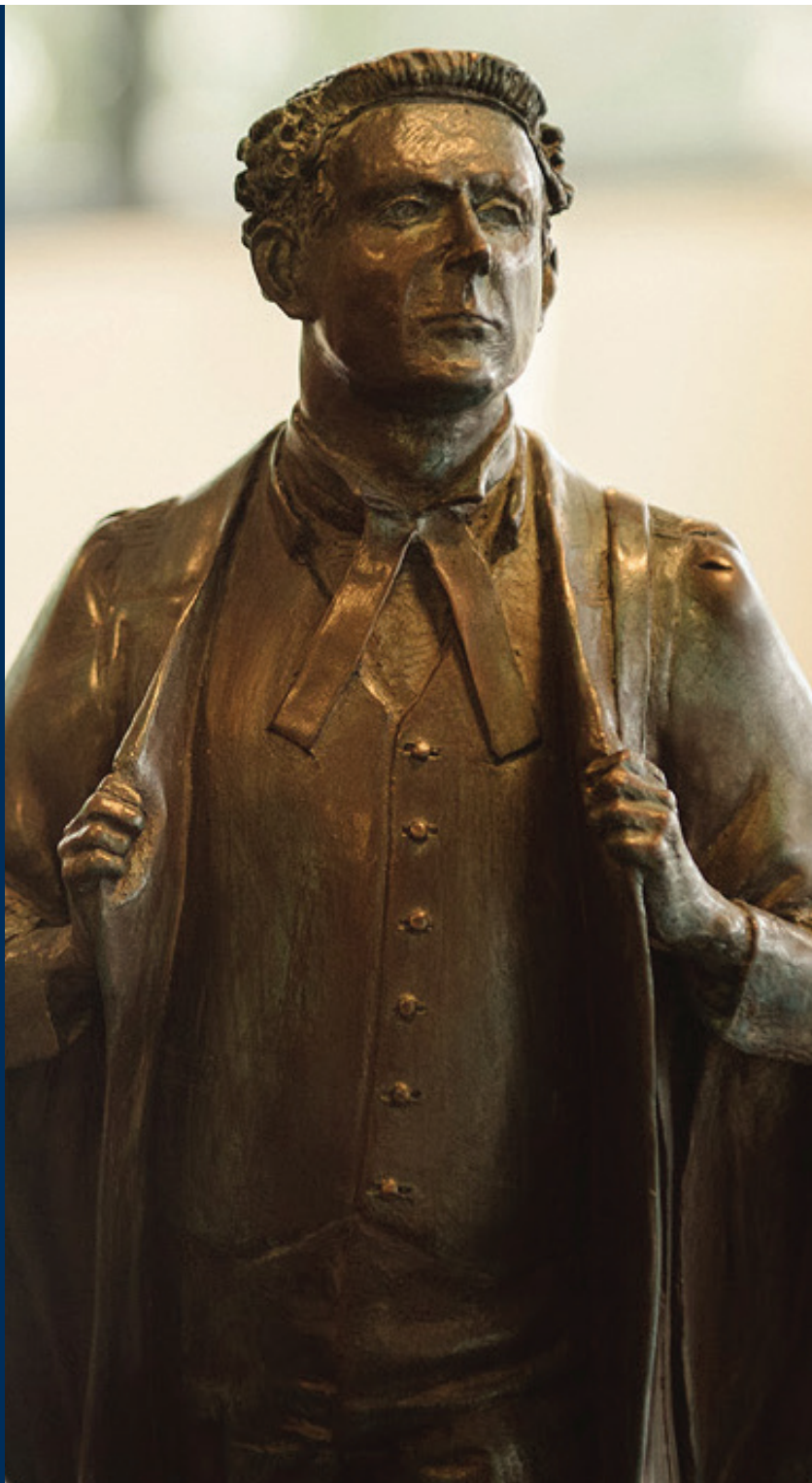
Andrew Barron Fraser

Matthew Owen Jones

Philip Kenneth O'Higgins

Andrew Carl Stumer

Sally Bianca Robb



Judicial Appointments and Retirements

In the past year (as at 30 June 2024) the Association has welcomed the announcement of the following appointments, and has celebrated the careers of the following members of the judiciary (styles and titles at date of appointment):

High Court of Australia

The Honourable Justice Susan Kiefel AC retired 5 November 2023

Court of Appeal

The Honourable Justice Philip Morrison retired 24 June 2024

The Honourable Justice Susan Brown appointed 25 June 2024

Supreme Court of Queensland

The Honourable Justice Michael Copley appointed 8 May 2024

The Honourable Justice Rebecca Treston appointed 8 May 2024

District Court of Queensland

His Honour Judge Carl Heaton KC appointed 11 September 2023

His Honour Judge Joshua Treviño KC appointed 11 September 2023

His Honour Judge Benedict Power KC appointed 11 September 2023

His Honour Judge Michael Rackemann retired 9 February 2024

Her Honour Judge Katarina Prskalo KC appointed 2 April 2024

Magistrates Court of Queensland

Magistrate Michael Holohan appointed 10 July 2023

Magistrate Michael Dalton appointed 24 July 2023

Coroner Melinda Zerner appointed 11 December 2023

Coroner Stephanie Williams appointed 11 December 2023

Magistrate Amanda Bain appointed 7 May 2024

Land Court of Queensland

Mr Nicholas Loos appointed 31 May 2024

Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia

His Honour Judge Stephen Coates retired 3 May 2024

Her Honour Judge Anna Bertone appointed 3 June 2024

Communication with Members

It is always important for the Council to ensure that it communicates effectively to inform members of the work of the Association and what is being done for them on their behalf.

Notices from the President and the Chief Executive along with the Association's In Brief and CPD News have proved to be an effective way of communicating with members.

Hearsay, the Association's e-journal, under the editorship of Richard Douglas KC, John Meredith and Megan Brooks, has a wide readership in Queensland and throughout Australia.

It can be accessed at www.hearsay.org.au.

Relationships with Other Bodies

The Courts

The Association continues to enjoy a harmonious relationship with the Courts and is grateful for their preparedness to consult with and receive submissions from the Association on topics affecting practice in the Courts.

Regular liaison continued with the Chief Justice, the Honourable Chief Justice Helen Bowskill, the President of the Court of Appeal, the Honourable Justice Debra Mullins AO, and Senior Judge Administrator, the Honourable Justice Glenn Martin AM.

Liaison has also been undertaken throughout the year with the Senior Judge of the Federal Court in Brisbane, Senior Judge of the Federal Circuit Court in Brisbane, Senior Judge of the Family Court in Brisbane, Chair of the Supreme Court Rules Committee, Chief Judge of the District Court, President of the Land Court, the Chief Magistrate, President of QCAT, the Industrial Court of Queensland and the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission.

Director of Public Prosecutions

Throughout 2023-2024, the Association has enjoyed a constructive working relationship with the Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr Todd Fuller KC and his predecessor Mr Carl Heaton KC, and his senior staff.

Legal Services Commissioner

The Association continued to work constructively with the Legal Services Commissioner, Ms Megan Mahon, and her team, to ensure that the Bar maintains high standards of professional conduct, and to ensure that consumers of legal services in Queensland can have confidence and trust in the Bar.

Department of Justice and Attorney-General

The Association has throughout the year met or communicated with the Attorney-General, the Honourable Yvette D'Ath MP, the Director-General, Mr David Mackie, and senior officers to discuss a number of important issues affecting the profession as a whole and the administration of justice.

The Association acknowledges and thanks the Attorney-General for consulting broadly with the Association on matters of mutual interest. As noted elsewhere in this Report, the Association and its members have been called upon from time-to-time to make comment on proposed legislation, amendments to legislation, policy and discussion papers.

Solicitors

Over their respective terms during the past year, the Association has met with the Queensland Law Society Presidents, Ms Chloé Kopilović and Ms Rebecca Fogerty. During the year, the Association and the Queensland Law Society continued to work together on various proposals, legislative amendments, CPD seminars and events. The Association looks forward to further enhancing our working relationship with the Law Society.

Legal Aid Queensland

The Association has enjoyed good working relations with Legal Aid Queensland (LAQ). The Association's President and Chief Executive have met from time-to-time with the LAQ Chair, the Honourable Margaret McMurdo AC, and Chief Executive, Nicky Davies. Members of the Association continue to provide a valuable contribution to LAQ's Industry Reference Group.

The Association has been prominent in supporting "Legal Aid Matters", a national legal assistance and access to justice campaign focusing on the importance of an adequately funded legal assistance system to ensure a cooperative, nationally consistent and fair approach to the provision of providing access to justice for all.

Pro Bono and Lawright

Requests for provision of pro bono services have continued. Currently the Association has formal pro bono schemes with the Federal Court of Australia and the Queensland Court of Appeal. These formal schemes are in addition to the Association's long running pro bono referral scheme and its on-going relationship with LawRight. The Association would commend LawRight to members and encourage as many as possible to take an active part in its valuable work.

Whilst the Association has taken a positive role in the provision of pro bono services to a wide cross section of the community, pro bono services cannot serve as a replacement or an alternative to a properly resourced and funded legal aid system.

Law Council Of Australia

The Association's current representative on the Board of the Law Council of Australia is Nicholas Ferrett KC (preceded by His Honour Judge Nicholas Andreatidis KC). The Law Council provides the Association with a professional voice in Canberra.

Australian Bar Association

The Association continues to play an active role in the affairs of the Australian Bar Association (ABA). ABA office holders elected in November 2022 comprise Peter Dunning KC (Queensland Bar) as President, Vice Presidents Róisín Annesley KC (Victorian Bar) and Michael Izzo SC (New South Wales Bar), and Andrew Muller (ACT Bar) as Honorary Treasurer.

The director representing the Bar Association of Queensland is the President, Damien O'Brien KC.

The major functions of the ABA can be broadly categorised as:

- representing at a national level the independent referral Bars;
- working to establish uniform rules of conduct and practice for members of the Bar across Australia;
- the delivery of specialist, high quality training in advocacy for both newcomers to the Bar and experienced trial advocates;
- the delivery of a biennial international conference of immediate relevance to barristers' practices and at which eminent speakers are able to share with practitioners their expertise and challenge them to consider different ways of practice as well as the future of the advocate's profession; and
- the delivery of Advocacy Training which offers a number of courses throughout the year to further develop the essential skills and advocacy skills of barristers. The courses, held in various locations around Australia, enable barristers to work closely with Australian Judges and experienced senior International and Australian Silks.



The Committee System

2024

Access to Justice Committee

Chair Matthew Jones KC
Paul McQuade KC
Kerry Copley
Christopher Wilson (*until 22.8.2023*)
Victoria Trafford-Walker
Clare O'Connor
Stephen Colditz
Bridget O'Brien
Angela Rae
Lara Soldi
Morgan Clarke
Nola Pearce (*from 21.02.2024*)
Rachael Taylor
Salwa Marsh
Gabriel Perry

Administrative Law Committee

Chair Scott McLeod KC
Erin Longbottom KC
Nitra Kidson KC
Angus Scott KC
Sally Robb KC
Stephen Lumb
Simon Grant
Karen Garner
Benjamin McMillan
Ryan Haddrick
Marc McKechnie
Borcsa Vass (*until 15.03.2024*)
Matthew Wilkinson
Renee Berry
Joshua Pemberton
Benedict Coyne
Samuel Walpole
Patrick Nevard
Joshua Liddle

Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee

Chair David de Jersey KC
 Margaret McLennan
 Michael Eastwood
 Dominique Grigg
 Lee Nevison (*until 14.02.2024*)
 David Thomae AM
 George Kalimnios
 Philip Tucker
 Michal Horvath
 Madelaine Luchich
 Jane FitzGerald
 Kelly McIntyre
 Shanna Quinn
 Peter Somers (*from 11.08.2023*)
 Brent Reading
 Angela Laylee
 Stephanie Philippou
 Benjamin O'Sullivan

Bar Care Committee

Chair Gareth Beacham KC
 James Bell KC
 Philip O'Higgins KC
 Rick Green
 Judith Brien
 Caroline Marco
 Benjamin Kidston
 Justin Harper
 Michael Alexander
 Scott Malcolmson
 Steven Hogg
 Stephanie Williams
 (*until 07.02.2024, following judicial appointment*)
 Kate Slack
 Claire Schneider
 Toby Corsbie
 Shireen Long

Annual Bar Conference Committee

Chair Rebecca Treston KC
 (*until 08.05.2024, following judicial appointment*)
Co-Chair Christian Jennings KC
Co-Chair Dominic O'Sullivan KC
 Jeff Hunter KC
 Catherine Heyworth-Smith KC
 Joshua Trevino KC
 (*until 08.09.2023, following judicial appointment*)

Building & Construction Law Committee

Chair Mark Ambrose KC
 Jonathan Sive
 Gregory Thomson
 John Eylander
 Brett Codd
 Michael Trim
 Christopher Taylor
 Peter Travers
 Logan Campbell
 Sean Kelly
 Charles Matthews
 Rachel De Luchi
 Shireen long
 Robert Gallo
 Alexander McKinnon
 Alistair Tindall
 Paul Hick
 Lachlan Tassell

Business & Consumer Law Committee

Chair Damian Clothier KC
Gavin Handran KC
Scott Hooper KC
Craig Coulsen
Greg Sheahan
Stephen (Benjamin) Whitten
Andrew O'Brien
Anthony Messina
Angus O'Brien
Hamish Clift
Sean Russell
Edmund Robinson
Mei Barnes
Tom Ritchie

Commercial Arbitration Committee

Chair Mark Johnston KC
Adrian Duffy KC
Dominic Katter
Shane Monks
Kelly McIntyre
David Turner
Jay Merchant
Sarah Spottiswood
Samuel Walpole
Genevieve Yates
Jason Wang

Criminal Law Committee

Chair Andrew Hoare KC
Stephen Keim S.C.
Jeff Hunter KC
Ruth O'Gorman KC
Benedict Power KC
(until 08.09.2023, following judicial appointment)
Mark McCarthy
Liam Dollar
Laura Reece
James Benjamin *(Vale 2.4.2024)*
Anna Cappellano
Charlotte Smith
Joshua Jones
Kate Juhansz
Damien Gates
Daniel Caruana
Steven Jones
Daniel Whitmore *(until 17.11.2023)*
Sophie Harburg
Daniel Boddice
Clayton Wallis

Environmental, Planning and Property Law Committee

Chair Rodney Litster KC *(until 15.03.2024)*
Chair Benjamin Job KC
Danny Gore KC
Christopher Hughes KC
Errol Morzone KC *(from 07.02.2024)*
Mark Gynther
Sarah Holland
James Lyons
Mitchel Batty
Julia O'Connor
Kate Buckley
Matthew McDermott
Ronald Yuen
William Macintosh
Luke Walker
Jane Bowness

Equal Opportunity & Diversity Committee

Chair Peter Roney KC
 Sarah Farnden KC
 Jessica McClymont KC
 Kylie Hillard
 Charlotte Smith
 Dale Bampton
 Laura Neil (until 04.09.2023)
 Florence Chen
 Dominic Nguyen
 Bianca Kabel
 Sunny Munasinghe (until 07.02.2024)
 Lucy Barnes
 Katherine McGree (until 03.04.2024)
 Yuzo Araki
 Cecelia Bernardin
 Charlotte Campbell

Family Law Committee

Chair Michael Drysdale KC
 Michelle May AM KC
 Gregory Shoebridge
 Clare Dart
 Rowan Pack
 Rebecca Horsley
 Lucy Barnes
 Madeleine Murphy
 Iris Gajic-Pavlica
 Renae Stocks
 Scott Casey
 Luke Tonge
 Rebekah Bassano

Future & Technologies Committee

Chair Andrew Luchich
 Gail Hartridge
 Kerry Copley
 Kate Greenwood
 Sharon Loder
 Anne Fitzgerald
 Brent Blond
 Gary Coveney
 Susan McNeil
 Matt Black
 Kirsty Gothard
 Susan Hedge
 Llewellyn Judd
 Ming Gu

General Litigation (Practice & Procedure/ Insurance Law/Personal Injuries) Committee

Chair Christian Jennings KC
 Gerard Mullins KC
 David Keane KC
 Edward Goodwin KC
 Jessica McClymont KC
 Andrew Stumer KC
 Susan Anderson
 David Schneidewin
 Michael Wilson
 Sarah Holland
 Chris George
 Philippa Ahern
 Stewart Webster
 Peter Somers
 Kristi Riedel
 Claire Schneider
 James Hastie
 Shireen Long
 San-Joe Tan
 Danielle Tay
 Rachel Varshney
 Kate Boomer

Human Rights Committee

Chair Damien Atkinson OAM KC
Greg Cummings
Harry Fong
Charles Wilson
Michael Wilson
Carla Klease
Laura Reece
Paula Morreau
Jens Streit
Julie Fotheringham (*until 12.01.2024*)
Paul Metcalf
John Cahill
Gerry Elmore
Reimen Hii
Clair Duffy
Jason Wang

Indigenous Affairs Committee

Chair Joshua Creamer
His Honour Judge Nathan Jarro (*until 09.05.2024*)
Judge Marshall Irwin (*until 09.05.2024*)
Daniel O'Gorman S.C.
John Fraser
Andrew Skoien
Sue-Ellen Wright
Scott Seefeld
Avelina Tarrago
Melia Benn
Louise Kruger
Kate Boomer

Industrial Law Committee

Chair James Murdoch KC
Chris Murdoch KC
Holly Blattman KC
Peter O'Neill
Stephen Mackie
Charles Martin
Edward Shorten
Megan Brooks
Troy Spence

Legal Education (Continuing Professional Development) Committee

Chair Dan Piggott KC
Carl Heaton KC
(*until 08.09.2023, following judicial appointment*)
Richard Schulte
Clare Dart
Mark Lyell
Lee Clark
Paul O'Brien
Keith Wylie
Anna Bertone (*until 27.05.2024*)
Sam McCarthy
Thomas Jackson
Rebekah Bassano

Migration Law Committee

Chair Matthew Brady KC
Amelia Wheatley KC
Nitra Kidson KC
Mark Steele KC
Frank Lanza
Hellen Shilton
Gavin Rebetzke
Emma Hoiberg
James Byrnes
Robert Lake
Arron Hartnett
Jules Moxon
Zoe Brereton

New Bar (Readership/Junior Bar) Committee

Chair Todd Fuller KC
 Christian Jennings KC
 Douglas Wilson
 Chris George
 Matthew Hickey OAM
 Joanne Sorbello
 Peter Somers
 Kate Slack
 Jason Dudley
 Margaret Forrest (*until 11.04.2024*)
 Sophie Gibson
 Christopher Doyle
 Genevieve Yates
 Emma Fitzgerald
 Danielle Davison
 Kate Boomer
 Ashlee Campbell (*from 21.02.2024*)

Professional Ethics Committee

Chair Roger Traves KC
 Andrew Philp KC
 Sydney J Williams KC
 Philip O'Higgins KC
 Greg McGuire
 Simon Formby
 Dominic Pyle
 Susan Anderson
 Johnny Selfridge
 John Meredith
 Robert Davis
 Michael Holohan
 (*until 07.02.2024, following judicial appointment*)
 Danielle Palmer
 Christopher Taylor

Professional Indemnity/Professional Standards Committee

Chair Graham Gibson KC
 Richard Douglas KC
 Ronald Ashton KC
 Sydney J Williams KC
 Holly Blattman KC
 Anastasia Nicholas

Regional Issues Committee

Chair Joshua Trevino KC
 (*until 08.09.2023, following judicial appointment*)
Chair Michael Jonsson KC
 Bernard Reilly
 Michael Campbell
 Anthony Arnold
 Gary Coveney
 Craig Ryan
 Andrea Lawrence
 Scott Neaves
 Maree Willey
 Rachelle Logan
 Jane Fitzgerald
 Jessica Goldie
 Stephanie Williams
 (*until 07.02.2024, following judicial appointment*)
 Merissa Martinez
 Timothy Grau
 Zoe Brereton



South Pacific Region Legal Education Committee

Chair Andrew Crowe KC
 The Hon Justice John Logan RFD
 The Hon Justice John Bond (*until 04.03.2024*)
 The Hon Justice Soraya Ryan
 His Honour Judge Bernard Porter KC
 The Hon Justice Peter Callaghan
 Mal Varitimos CBE KC (*until 30.06.2024*)
 Matthew Brady KC
 Amelia Wheatley KC
 Mark Steele KC
 Holly Blattman KC
 Karen Carmody (*until 30.06.2024*)
 Andrew Skoien
 Joseph Crowley
 Liam Dollar
 Brent Reading
 Maxwell Walker
 Reimen Hii
 Jane Menzies

Taxation Law Committee

Chair Madeline Brennan KC (*until 30.10.2023*)
Chair Amelia Wheatley KC
 David Marks KC
 Daniel Butler KC (*from 13.03.2024*)
 Gail Hartridge
 Stephen Lee
 Walter Vitali
 Richard Schulte
 Vincent Brennan (*from 13.03.2024*)
 Harry Lakis
 Anthony Anderson
 Shaun Gordon
 Florence Chen
 James Green
 Michael Wells (*until 07.02.2024*)
 Francesco Maconi
 Matthew Donovan
 Justin Byrne
 Samantha Amos
 Norman Hanna (*from 13.03.2024*)

Succession and Elder Law Committee

Chair Jeffrey Otto KC
 Andrew Fraser KC
 Anthony Collins
 Michael Liddy
 Ilan Klevansky
 Susan McLeod
 Jennifer Sheean
 Caite Brewer
 Katrina Kluss
 Rob Cumming
 Pip Coore
 Karen Gaston

University Relations Committee

Chair Dominic O'Sullivan KC
 Todd Fuller KC
 Joshua Trevino KC
 (*until 08.09.2023, following judicial appointment*)
 Benedict Power KC
 (*until 08.09.2023, following judicial appointment*)
 Andrew Hoare KC
 Paul Telford (*from 14.02.2024*)
 Sarah Holland
 Fiona Lubett
 Susan Hedge
 David Ananian-Cooper
 Merissa Martinez
 Alexander Psaltis
 Jay Merchant
 Carmen De Marco

Standing Committees

Bar Practice Course Management Committee

Chair The Hon Justice Susan Brown
The Hon Justice Declan Kelly
Philip Looney KC
Catherine Heyworth-Smith KC
Dominic O'Sullivan KC
Ruth O'Gorman KC
Alexandra Marks

Governance and Risk Committee

Chair Damien O'Brien KC (President)
Catherine Heyworth-Smith KC (Vice President)
Nicholas Ferrett KC (Treasurer)
Liam Dollar (Honorary Secretary)
Kelsey Rissman (Chief Executive)

Hearsay Editorial Committee

Editor Richard Douglas KC
Deputy Editor John Meredith
Deputy Editor Megan Brooks
Sub-Editor Stephen Keim S.C.

Practising Certificate Requirements Committee

Douglas Campbell KC
Florence Chen

Professional Conduct Committee

Chair Catherine Heyworth-Smith KC (Vice President)
Jeff Hunter KC
Christian Jennings KC

Senior Sub-Committee

Robert Holt KC
Anthony Glynn KC
Patrick O'Shea KC
Andrew Crowe KC
Keith Wilson KC (*until 30.06.2024*)
Andrew Philp KC
Douglas Campbell KC
Kathryn McMillan KC (*until 21.09.2023*)
Michael Copley KC
Damian Clothier KC
Philip Looney KC
Adrian Duffy KC
Peter Hastie KC
Peter Franco KC
Gareth Beacham KC
Michael Jonsson KC
Ronald Ashton KC
Matthew Brady KC
Darlene Skennar KC
Justin Greggery KC
John Peden KC
Damien Atkinson OAM KC
Patrick Cullinane KC
David de Jersey KC
Errol Morzone KC
Amelia Wheatley KC
Joshua Trevino KC
(*until 08.09.2023, following judicial appointment*)
Brett Charrington KC
Jeffrey Otto KC
Steven Deaves KC
Andrew Hoare KC
Jessica McClymont KC
Paul Favell (*until 30.06.2024*)

Junior Sub-Committee

Mark Stunden

Dominic Pyle

Susan Anderson

David Schneidewin

Benjamin McMillan

Alexandra Marks

Madonna Callaghan

Benjamin Dighton

Melinda Zerner

(until 04.03.2024, following judicial appointment)

Geoff Barr

David Turner

Anastasia Nicholas

Rachael Taylor





Committee Work in Review

2024



Access to Justice Committee

The Access to Justice Committee, chaired by Matthew Jones KC, contributed to the development of legal policy and practice measures aimed to increase access to justice in Queensland. In the past year, members of the committee conducted meetings with judges of the Federal and District Courts to assist those courts with matters brought by refugees and self-represented litigants. The committee also continued the Association's advocacy for increases to State and Federal Legal Aid funding, particularly in light of the recommendations contained in Dr Warren Mundy's report at the conclusion of the Independent Review of the National Legal Assistance Partnership. In addition to those activities, Matthew Jones KC arranged with members of the Judiciary and Clergy of Kirabati to provide in-person mediation training to local practitioners.

Annual Bar Conference Committee

The Annual Bar Conference Committee was chaired by The Honourable Justice Rebecca Treston KC until her appointment on 8 May 2024 and has since been co-chaired by Christian Jennings KC and Dominic O'Sullivan KC. The committee, together with the Association, arranged the 2024 Annual Bar Conference, which was held on 1 and 2 March 2024 at the W Hotel in Brisbane. During the conference, 27 speakers from the Bench, government, and profession, addressed 220 delegates. Highlights included the keynote speech by Mr Steven Schliecher, the American lawyer who successfully prosecuted Derek Chauvin for the murder of George Floyd.

Bar Care Committee

The Bar Care Committee, chaired by Gareth Beacham KC, oversees initiatives supporting barristers' wellbeing and their physical, mental, emotional, and social health. The committee also manages the support services available to barristers through the Bar Care scheme, which include free access to counselling with registered psychologists.

Bar Practice Course Management Committee

The Bar Practice Course Management Committee, chaired by the Honourable Justice Susan Brown, assisted in the delivery of the Bar Exam in October 2023 and May 2024, and the Bar Practice Course which ran from August to September in 2023 and again in April to March in 2024. An increased numbers of applicants for the Bar Exam required the Association to shift the hosting of the Bar Exam representing the high level of interest in a career at the Bar. Further details of the Bar Exam and Bar Practice Course can be found in the Legal Education section of this report.

Criminal Law Committee

The Criminal Law Committee, chaired by Andrew Hoare KC, contributes the largest number of the Association's written submissions and often appears before Parliamentary Committees. In the last year, the committee was called upon to make submissions to government, the Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council, the Queensland Law Reform Commission, and to the courts. The committee prepared submissions relevant to Youth Justice, Corrective Services, the sentencing of sexual offences, industrial manslaughter, court procedures and the establishment of Queensland's Victims' Commissioner and Forensic Science Queensland. Various submissions made to committees of the Queensland Parliament resulted in invitations for the chair and committee members to appear as witnesses at public hearings to address any questions arising from the Association's submissions. Members of the committee appeared in respect of submissions made regarding the Corrective Services (Promoting Safety) Bill 2024, Crime and Corruption (and Other Legislation) Amendment Bill 2023, Criminal Code and Other Legislation

(Double Jeopardy Exception and Subsequent Appeals) Amendment Bill 2023, Forensic Science Queensland Bill 2023, and the Queensland Community Safety Bill 2024. Advocacy from committee members before those Parliamentary Committees caused positive changes to the legislation under consideration.

Environmental, Planning and Property Committee

The Environmental, Planning and Property Law Committee, chaired by Rodney Litster KC until 15 March 2024, and since by Benjamin Job KC, made submissions on practice directions for use in the Planning and Environment Court. The committee also met with Judge Fleur Kingham to provide the Association's preliminary views prior to the commencement of the Queensland Law Reform Commission's consultation period for its Mining Law Review.

General Litigation Committee

Throughout the year, the General Litigation Committee, chaired by Christian Jennings KC, responded to a broad range of consultations on issues affecting litigation and commercial law. The committee's submissions included a review of the Criminal Proceeds Confiscation Act 2002, the introduction of the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (Division 2)(General Federal Law) Rules 2024, and accompanying practice directions to the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia. Christian Jennings KC also represented the Association in the Queensland government's Property Law Working Group.

Human Rights Committee

The Human Rights Committee, chaired by Damien Atkinson OAM KC, promotes the respect of human rights in the work of the Association and its members. In the last year, the committee contributed to submissions to the Queensland Sentencing Advisory Committee, as well as appearing at a government roundtable and making written submissions in respect of the Anti-Discrimination Bill 2024.

Indigenous Barristers Committee

In the past year, the Association continued its initiatives to promote the Bar as a career for Indigenous persons. The Indigenous Barristers Committee, chaired by Joshua Creamer, provides oversight and direction of the Association's initiatives designed to encourage and assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to become barristers and to have successful careers at the Queensland Bar, including its Mentoring Scheme for Indigenous Law Students and Indigenous Law Students Program. The committee also contributed to submissions made by the Association to the Queensland Sentencing Advisory Committee.

Industrial Relations Committee

The Industrial Relations Committee, chaired by James Murdoch KC, focuses on legal developments in the practice area of employment and industrial relations law, from the perspective of law reform and legal education. In August 2023, the Committee hosted the Industrial Law and Employment Conference at the Sheraton Gold Coast, attracting 131 delegates and speakers from the Bench, government and the profession.

Legal Education (Continuing Professional Development) Committee

The Legal Education (Continuing Professional Development) Committee, chaired by Dan Piggott KC, in conjunction with the Association, develops and promotes a Legal Education program which is relevant, practical and engaging for members, and which assists them to comply with their CPD requirements. The 2023-2024 program comprised 39 CPD events, including the Industrial and Employment Law Conference, the Association's 2024 Annual Conference, and two regional conferences. Details of all CPD Events appear in the Legal Education section of this report.

New Bar Committee

In the past year, the New Bar Committee, chaired by Todd Fuller KC, conducted a review of the Essential Learning Program for readers. Alongside the Chief Executive, the committee also curated the Association's compulsory reader seminars, including including the a key three-part program, being the Association's Junior Bar Advocacy Course which it hosted in collaboration with the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists. The committee also hosted and participated in a presentation and innovative new professional networking evening for readers who had completed the most recent Bar Practice Course, as well as a social networking event for readers whose call to the Bar was three years ago or less.

Professional Conduct Committee

The Professional Conduct Committee, chaired by the Vice-President, Catherine Heyworth-Smith KC, assisted the Association to carry out its regulatory functions under the Legal Profession Act 2007 through the work of members of its senior sub-committee and junior sub-committee.

Professional Indemnity and Professional Standards Committee

The Professional Indemnity and Professional Standards Committee, chaired by Graham Gibson KC, was especially productive in this financial year. The committee conducted its regular activities, making recommendations to the Bar Council as to the insurers it should approve for the provision of professional indemnity insurance to Queensland barristers, and completing the Association's annual report to the Professional Standards Councils, while corresponding with the Professional Standards Authority to ensure the Association's third Professional Standards Scheme would commence on 1 July 2024.

South Pacific Region Legal Education Committee

The South Pacific Region Legal Education Committee, chaired by Andrew Crowe KC, provides ongoing legal training and support to the National Lawyers of Papua New Guinea and the South-West Pacific region. In September 2023, a dozen members of the Committee presented a week-long course to students at the Legal Training Institute in Port Moresby including training in criminal law, commercial litigation and advocacy, a commitment which the committee has made for the past 11 years. In the past year, the committee arranged for a CPD session specifically for South Pacific practitioners titled "Criminal Sentencing - a Practitioners Guide". The committee also continued to make certain CPD sessions for Queensland barristers accessible to practitioners in the South Pacific region, which included all ten parts of the Criminal Law Trial series and the session titled "Ethical Witness Preparation". The increasing number of high-quality CPD from members of the Queensland Bar which is made accessible to practitioners throughout the South Pacific contributes to the development of legal practice throughout the region, particularly in those where CPD is not compulsory. The committee also worked with Matthew Jones KC of the Access to Justice Committee to further develop mediation practice in Kiribati.

Succession and Elder Law Committee

The Succession and Elder Law Committee, co-chaired by Darlene Skennar KC and Caite Brewer until 26 March 2024, and since chaired by Jeff Otto KC, contributed to consultations to reform existing laws and the practice of succession and elder law, including submissions to the Succession Act 1981 Review and on practice directions governing the operation of the Wills and Estates List.

Taxation Committee

The Taxation Law Committee, chaired by Amelia Wheatley KC, seeks to encourage the growth and development of practitioners working, or seeking to work, in the field of taxation and revenue law. The committee met often throughout the year and arranged for a number of CPD's relevant to taxation and the numerous areas of law with which it intersects and prepared case notes of recent decisions for publication in Hearsay.

University Relations Committee

The University Relations Committee, chaired by Dominic O'Sullivan KC, seeks to develop relationships between the Bar and the law schools of Queensland universities and promote the Bar to students and academics as a profession for high achieving students. In the last year, the committee hosted its Life at the Bar event at the Association's office in Brisbane and at Bond University. Members of the committee attended the Legal Careers Expo to increase student awareness about their options at the Bar.



Legal Education

2024

Continuing Professional Development Program

A total of 32 CPD events were held between July 2023 and June 2024, including conferences, seminars and workshops. Across these events, 60.25 CPD points were offered.

2023/24 Seminar & Conferences Mandatory Categories Offered



Individual sessions run by the Association's Legal Education team in this period included the following seminar topics:

- Criminal Trial Series
 - Session 3: Start of the Trial
 - Session 4: Taking Objections
 - Session 5: Openings
 - Session 6: Leading Evidence
 - Session 7: Cross Examination
 - Session 8: Calling witnesses
 - Session 9: No Case Submissions, Closing Addresses and Directions
 - Session 10: Ethics and Courage
- Good Advocacy and the Contents of Affidavits
- Demystifying Interstate Practice and Appearing in National Lists
- The Importance of Purpose in Statutory Interpretation
- Unnecessary and Insufficient Factual Cases in the Law
- Hands-on Electronic Briefing Training for Barristers
- Riding the AI Rollercoaster
- Arbitration; Around the world and in the Family Court
- How to look after yourself during Long Trials
- Approaching Sexual Harassment as a Barrister
- Committal Applications and Hearings – Tips and Tricks
- Establishing Three Common Grounds of Judicial Review
- Ethical Witness Preparation
- Obligations of Barristers as Employers
- The Impact and Use of Inconsistent Statements in a Criminal Trial
- 2024 Budget Update
- Working with Senior Counsel, How to be a good Junior

The Association also co-hosted sessions with the University of Queensland, Supreme Court Library Queensland, AACL and the Queensland Law Society, including:

- Current Legal Issues 2023 Seminars 2 to 4:
 - Social media and Defamation Law;
 - Wrongful Conviction: Kinds, Causes and Solutions; and
 - From Leah Game Meats to Farm Transparency: Cultures of Privacy and Surveillance in Australia;
- Current Legal Issues 2024 Seminar 1 – Legal Futures – Where should Artificial Intelligence take us?;
- 2023 Minds Count Lecture

Additionally, the Association co-hosted a session with the Women Lawyers Association of Queensland Inc

- Career and Family as a Criminal Lawyer



Bar Association Annual Conference

1– 2 March 2024

The Associations Annual Conference was again held at the W Hotel Brisbane from Friday, 1 to Saturday, 2 March 2024. The highly anticipated event attracted 220 delegates and featured 27 outstanding presenters.

Highlights of the program included:

- the opening of the conference by the President of the Association, Damien O'Brien KC;
- Steve Schleicher's keynote presentation on the trial of Derek Chauvin for the murder of George Floyd;
- The presentation by John McKenna KC, Richard Douglas KC and Ruth O'Gorman KC on recent developments in the conduct of criminal and civil proceedings;
- David de Jersey KC, Christian Jennings KC and Ben Gardiner KC discussion on recent developments in intellectual property and commercial law;
- The presentation by Justin Gregger KC and Renee Berry who delved into the complexities and ethical considerations of the Robodebt scheme, providing valuable insights and encouraging thoughtful discussion among attendees.

The conference presented a diverse range of topics and speakers designed to engage delegates from various specialties, granting attendees 10.5 CPD points across all four mandatory CPD categories. This Annual Conference also provided a valuable opportunity for members to network with peers, industry experts, and leaders.

Employment and Industrial Relations Conference

26 – 27 August 2023

On 26 August 2023, the Employment and Industrial Law Conference took place at the Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort, Gold Coast. The conference provided delegates the opportunity to refresh their knowledge, analyse new

developments and explore emerging areas of practice in Employment Law and Industrial Relations. In 2023 the conference attracted 122 delegates who had the chance to learn from 23 presenters over the two days. This conference offered 8 CPD points across all mandatory categories.

Sunshine Coast Bar Association Conference

7 October 2023

The 2023 Sunshine Coast Professional Development Day was held in Alexandra Heads. The full-day program featured a range of topics from various areas of law, offering attendees 6 CPD points across all four mandatory categories. President of the Sunshine Coast Bar Association, John Lee, delivered the opening address and was joined by a number of excellent speakers, including Judge Michael Byrne KC, Judge Cash KC, Simon Lewis, Joshua Creamer, Melissa Cullen, and Colonel Jens Streit. The conference was offered both in person and online. There were 44 delegates who attended in person and 7 who attended online.

Gold Coast Bar Association Conference Big Day Out

24 May 2024

The Gold Coast Bar Association Conference was held on 24 May 2024 at the Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort on the Gold Coast. This regional conference brought together a range of exceptional presenters, offering 6 CPD points across all four mandatory CPD categories. The one-day program included 11 presenters and was attended by 85 delegates. Ben Strangman opened the conference, and he was joined by a range of brilliant speakers, including His Honour Judge Rowan Jackson KC, Her Honour Judge Deborah Holliday KC, Her Honour Judge Jodie Wooldridge KC, Her Honour Judge Katarina Prskalo KC, Philip Looney KC, Philip McCarthy KC, Gary Coveney and Jane FitzGerald.



Bar Exam and Bar Practice Course

2024

Bar Exam

In the 2023-2024 reporting period, two (2) pre-Bar Practice Course examinations were conducted. The BPC81 examination took place in October 2023, with 95 applications from exam takers. The BPC82 examination followed in May 2024, with 107 applications.

Given the substantial number of exam takers and the transition to electronic examinations, the Association has relocated to the professional exam venue at Cliftons. The examinations continue to be invigilated by BAQ staff.

Exam takers were assessed in the following areas:

- Evidence
- Legal Ethics of Barristers
- Practice and Procedure

Bar Practice Course

During this reporting period, Bar Practice Course 80 and Bar Practice Course 81 were conducted, with cohorts of 25 and 35 pupils, respectively. The August 2023 course was held at the Supreme Court of Queensland, while the March 2024 course took place at the Federal Court of Australia. The Association extends its gratitude to both courts for providing space for lectures during four out of the six weeks of the courses.

In the March course, the Association was proud to host two pupils from Papua New Guinea for the entire six-week duration. The Association is confident that the knowledge they gained from the course will be invaluable to their legal roles in Papua New Guinea.

Running these courses requires the involvement of over 180 presenters, including members of the Federal, Supreme, District, and Magistrates Courts; King's Counsel; and the junior Bar, along with over 130 witnesses who play a crucial role. The Association greatly appreciates the time and expertise imparted by these busy legal professionals.

The Association would also like to acknowledge the invaluable support and assistance provided by the Bar Practice Course Committee, which greatly contributed to the success of the program.



Treasurer's Report

2024



I present the audited financial accounts for the Bar Association of Queensland for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

I am pleased to report a profit for the year (after tax) of \$540,723 (up from \$75,934 in 2023).

Revenue for the year was \$3,887,584 (up from \$3,113,186 the previous year). A total of \$1,953,751 was derived from practising certificate fees (up from \$1,455,481) and membership subscriptions of \$417,010 (up from \$292,521). The income from practising certificates and member subscriptions for the 2024 financial year was higher than the previous year, due to the return to pre-Covid rates plus a 5% increase.

Interest income increased by \$47,547 to \$104,836 (up from \$65,351). Legal education revenue increased to \$829,498 (up from \$627,177). Function revenue increased to \$104,836 (up from \$59,973) and the allocation from the Department of Justice and Attorney-General was \$187,000 (up from \$181,000).

The Association's investment portfolio gained \$129,150 overall (down from \$252,405). Dividend income increased by \$25,689 and profit from sales increased by \$7,659. The fair value of the investments portfolio decreased by \$156,602.

Total expenses for the year were \$3,346,861 (up from \$3,037,252). This increase is in line with the movement in revenue. Legal education and function expenses increased by \$146,119 (due to increased attendance numbers and event running costs for example, catering, venue hire and audio visual services). Payroll expenses increased to \$1,848,397 from \$1,624,900. Travel, rent/occupancy costs and capitation fees also increased. Recruitment costs & IT costs decreased.

The Association ended the year with cash at bank of \$4,092,186. The Association's net asset position as at 30 June 2024 remains strong at \$6,230,308 (up from \$5,689,585).

I would like to thank the President Damien O'Brien KC, Vice-President Catherine Heyworth-Smith KC and Honorary Secretary Liam Dollar for their support during the year. I make particular mention of the contribution of Council member Jane FitzGerald who has continued to monitor the management of the investment portfolio. I thank our staff: our Chief Executive, Ms Kelsey Rissman, the Association's internal accountant, Ms Kasey Rowland and Accounts Administrator Ms Lucy Blewer.

The Association's consolidated financial position is sound. I commend the financial statements to you.

Mr Nicholas Ferrett KC
Honorary Treasurer

2024

Financial Report

Year Ended 30 June 2024

A.C.N. 009 717 739



Financial Report

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Directors' Report

2024

Your directors present their report on the Association for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

The names of the directors in office at the date of this report are:

D J Campbell KC	C C Heyworth Smith KC
F J Chen	J R Hunter KC
D E F Chesterman KC	C Jennings KC
P J Coore	M H Martinez
L M Dollar	D P O'Brien KC
P J Dunning KC	R M O'Gorman KC
G A Feely	J J Sheridan
N H Ferrett KC	A N S Skoien
J E FitzGerald	C R Smith

The profit of the Association for the financial year after providing for income tax amounted to \$540,723 (2023: \$75,933).

The principal activities of the Association during the financial year were to operate as the Queensland professional association for Barristers.

Short Term Objectives

The Bar competes with professionals of other disciplines in some areas of practice and the strength of the independent Bar is dependent upon the maintenance of high professional and ethical standards and the positioning of the Bar as a provider of quality professional services. Accordingly, the short-term objectives of the Association include the continuing professional development of the Bar through master classes, advocacy training, seminars, readership and pre practice training for the Bar.

The Association also promotes the interests of the members of the Association by industry/corporate seminars and specialist conferences to raise the profile of the Bar, its members and the services the Bar has to offer.

The short-term objectives also include promoting fair and honourable practice among barristers, discouraging and preventing unsatisfactory professional conduct and professional misconduct. The Association enquires into the conduct and etiquette of barristers and those seeking to practice as barristers, so far as the law permits and in accordance with the professional rules of the Association and cooperates with professional regulatory authorities.



Long Term Objectives

The Association's long-term objective is to promote the cause of justice through the rule of law and the proper administration of justice and to maintain and enhance the honour, interests and standards of the Association and its members. To maintain correct and cordial relations with the courts and tribunals and the other branches of the legal profession so as to promote the importance of Queensland barristers as specialist advocates.

In order to achieve these long term objectives, the Association makes submissions and recommendations with respect to proposed legislation and law reform, seeking to ensure that justice is delivered to all according to law. Representatives of the Association meet with key stakeholders, Ministers, Shadow Ministers and other members of the State and Commonwealth Parliaments to put the Association's positions on key legal policy issues which affect or are of direct relevance to practice at the Queensland Bar and the wider community. The Association also meets with Heads of Jurisdiction and other senior members of the judiciary in relation to issues concerning the Courts and the administration of justice. The Association is often called on to make submissions to government in response to draft legislation, discussion papers and other legal policy reviews.

The Association also arranges and provides schemes of insurance for members.

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

The Association plans to continue to pursue its short and long term objectives in future financial years.

The Association's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a state or territory.

No dividend has been recommended for the year ended 30 June 2024 as the constitution of the Association prohibits the distribution of such a dividend.

Particulars of directors' qualifications, experience, special responsibilities, as at the date of this report, are as follows:

Director	Number of Years' Experience	Position
D P O'Brien KC : LLB, LLM, BA	26	President
C C Heyworth-Smith KC : LLB, LLM(Hons)	29	Vice President
N H Ferrett KC : LLM	25	Honorary Treasurer
L M Dollar : LLB, BIntBus	19	Honorary Secretary
D J Campbell KC : BA, LLB, LLM	42	
F J Chen : BCom, LLB	10	
D E F Chesterman KC : LLB(Hons), BIntBus	15	
P J Coore : LLB, BJ, BCom, DPhil (Oxford)	6	
P J Dunning KC : LLB, BCom	31	
G A Feely : LLB(Hons), BA	1	
J E FitzGerald : LLB, BBus(Acc)	14	
J R Hunter KC : LLB, BCom	37	
C Jennings KC : LLB, LLM, BA	21	
M H Martinez : LLB, BA	9	
R M O'Gorman KC : LLB	15	
J J Sheridan : LLB, LLM	29	
A N S Skoien : LLB, BA	27	
C R Smith : LLB(Hons), BA(Hons)	15	

During the financial year, twelve meetings of the Association's directors were held. The number of meetings each director of the Association attended is as follows:

Name	Total Meetings while Director	Total Meetings Attended
Douglas Campbell KC	12	12
Florence Chen	12	9
David Chesterman KC	7	6
Philippa Coore	12	10
Christopher Doyle	5	4
Liam Dollar	12	9
Peter Dunning KC	12	9
Genevieve Feely	7	7
Nicholas Ferrett KC	12	10
Jane FitzGerald	12	8
Simone Fraser	5	3
Catherine Heyworth Smith KC	12	11
Keith Howe	5	3
Jeffrey Hunter KC	12	12
Christian Jennings KC	7	6
Merissa Martinez	7	7
Damien O'Brien KC	12	11
Ruth O'Gorman KC	12	11
James Sheridan	10	8
Andrew Skoien	12	9
Charlotte Smith	12	12
Maree Willey	5	3

No options over issued shares or interests in the Association or a controlled entity were granted during or since the end of the financial year and there were no options outstanding at the date of this report.

No indemnities have been given during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of the economic entity.

The Director and Officers insurance premium (\$15,386) was paid during the financial year. No insurance premium was paid during or since the end of the financial year for the auditor of the economic entity.

No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the Association or intervene in any proceedings to which the Association is a party

for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the Association for all or any part of those proceedings.

The Association was not a party to any such proceedings during the year.

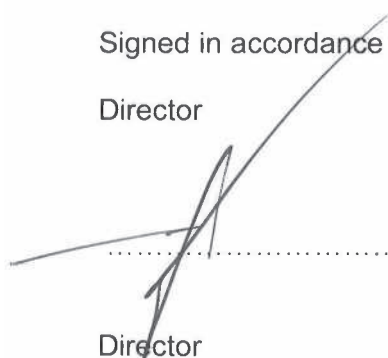
The Association is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a company limited by guarantee. If the Association is wound up, the constitution states that every member (other than Honorary members or Life members who are not Ordinary members) is required to contribute an amount not to exceed \$4 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the entity. At 30 June 2024, the total amount that members of the Association are liable to contribute if the Association is wound up is \$5,860 (2023: \$5,804).

Auditor's Independence Declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 is set out on page 44.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

Director



D P O'BRIEN KC

Director



N H FERRETT KC

Dated this 23rd day of October 2024



**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER
SECTION 307C OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001**

TO THE DIRECTORS OF BAR ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2024 there have been:

- i. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- ii. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Bentleys Brisbane (Audit) Pty Ltd
Chartered Accountants

Stewart Douglas
Director
Brisbane
23 October 2024



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Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Revenue	2	3,887,584	3,113,185
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(229,984)	(221,819)
Employee benefits expense		(1,848,397)	(1,624,900)
Finance costs	3	(159,000)	(160,906)
Other expenses from operating activities		(1,109,480)	(1,029,627)
Profit before income tax		540,723	75,933
Income tax (expense)/benefits	5	-	-
Profit for the year		540,723	75,933
Other comprehensive income:		-	-
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year		540,723	75,933

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Financial Position

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	7	4,092,186	3,502,912
Trade and other receivables	8	55,649	116,804
Financial assets - investments	9	4,743,095	4,598,027
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		8,890,930	8,217,743
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Financial assets - investments	9	56,473	56,473
Property, plant and equipment	10	572,948	603,465
Deferred tax asset	13	55,621	61,837
Right of use - leases	17	1,307,698	1,281,763
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		1,992,740	2,003,538
TOTAL ASSETS		10,883,670	10,221,281
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	11	2,711,880	2,686,846
Current tax liabilities	13	20	20
Provisions	12	264,010	236,709
Lease liability - current	17	206,129	173,679
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		3,182,039	3,097,254
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provisions	12	61,915	14,600
Deferred tax liabilities	13	55,621	61,837
Lease liability - non-current	17	1,353,787	1,358,005
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,471,323	1,434,442
TOTAL LIABILITIES		4,653,362	4,531,696
NET ASSETS		6,230,308	5,689,585
MEMBER'S EQUITY			
Reserves - other	14	10,206	10,206
Retained earnings		6,220,102	5,679,379
TOTAL MEMBER'S EQUITY		6,230,308	5,689,585

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	Retained Earnings \$	Special Levy \$	Joining Levy \$	Asset Revaluation Reserve \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2022		5,603,446	486	8,685	1,035	5,613,652
Profit/(loss) from ordinary activities		75,933	-	-	-	75,933
Total other comprehensive income for the year		-	-	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2023		5,679,379	486	8,685	1,035	5,689,585
Profit/(loss) from ordinary activities		540,723	-	-	-	540,723
Total other comprehensive income for the year		-	-	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2024		6,220,102	486	8,685	1,035	6,230,308

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from members		3,669,869	2,778,317
Payments to suppliers		(3,150,930)	(2,202,283)
Interest received		70,335	52,602
Income tax received/(paid)		-	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	15	589,274	628,636
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		-	-
Purchase of investments		-	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		-	-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		589,274	628,636
Cash at the beginning of year		3,502,912	2,874,276
Cash at the end of year	7	4,092,186	3,502,912

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended
30 June 2024

2024

The financial statements cover Bar Association of Queensland ("The Association") as an individual entity, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Bar Association of Queensland is a company limited by guarantee.

Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Corporations Act 2001. The Association is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable,

by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

Critical accounting estimates and judgments

Due to the nature of the Association's operations and its financial position, no critical estimates or judgments have been incorporated into the financial report.

The Association has made no judgments or assessments which may cause a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period.

a. Income tax

The charge for current income tax expense is based on the profit for the year adjusted for any non-assessable or disallowed items. It is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or are substantively enacted by the year end.

Deferred tax is accounted for using the statement of financial position liability method in respect of temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements. No deferred income tax will be recognised from the initial recognition of an asset

or liability, excluding a business combination, where there is no effect on accounting or taxable profit or loss.

Deferred tax is calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply to the period when the asset is realised or liability is settled. Deferred tax is credited in the statement of comprehensive income except where it relates to items that may be credited directly to equity, in which case the deferred tax is adjusted directly against equity.

Deferred income tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future tax profits will be available against which deductible temporary differences can be utilised.

The amount of benefits brought to account or which may be realised in the future is based on the assumption that no adverse change will occur in income taxation legislation and the anticipation that the Association will derive sufficient future assessable income to enable the benefit to be realised and comply with the conditions of deductibility imposed by the law.

b. Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the costs basis and are therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

In the event the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than the estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to the estimated recoverable amount and impairment losses are recognized either in profit or loss or as a revaluation decrease if the impairment losses relate to a revalued asset. A formal assessment of recoverable amount is made when impairment indicators are present (refer to Note 1 (n) for details of impairment).

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Association and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the statement of comprehensive income during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including buildings and capitalised lease assets, but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on either a straight line or diminishing value basis over their useful lives to the Association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate
General Assets	30%
Property Improvements	2.5%
Long Life Assets	5%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are included in the statement of comprehensive income. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation reserve relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

c. Fair value of assets and liabilities

The Association measures some of its assets and liabilities at fair value on either a recurring or non-recurring basis, depending on the requirements of the applicable Accounting Standard.

Fair value is the price the Association would receive to sell an asset or would have to pay to transfer a liability in an orderly (ie unforced) transaction between independent, knowledgeable and willing market participants at the measurement date.

As fair value is a market-based measure, the closest equivalent observable market pricing information is used to determine fair value. Adjustments to market values may be made having regard to the characteristics of the specific asset or liability. The fair values of assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market are determined using one or more valuation techniques. These valuation techniques maximise, to the extent possible, the use of observable market data.

To the extent possible, market information is extracted from either the principal market for the asset or liability (ie the market with the greatest volume and level of activity for the asset or liability) or, in the absence of such a market, the most advantageous market available to the entity at the end of the reporting period (ie the market that maximises the receipts from the sale of the asset or minimises the payments made to transfer the liability, after taking into account transaction costs and transport costs).

For non-financial assets, the fair value measurement also takes into account a market participant's ability to use the asset in its highest and best use or to sell it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The fair value of liabilities and the entity's own equity instruments (excluding those related to share-based payment arrangements) may be valued, where there is no observable market price in relation to the transfer of such financial instrument,

by reference to observable market information where such instruments are held as assets. Where this information is not available, other valuation techniques are adopted and, where significant, are detailed in the respective note to the financial statements.

d. Financial instruments

Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Association becomes a party to the contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is the date that the Association commits itself to either the purchase or sale of the asset (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments (except for trade receivables) are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs, except where the instrument is classified "at fair value through profit or loss", in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately. Where available, quoted prices in an active market are used to determine fair value. In other circumstances, valuation techniques are adopted.

Trade receivables are initially measured at the transaction price if the trade receivables do not contain a significant financing component.

Classification and subsequent measurement

FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

Financial liabilities are subsequently measured at:

- Amortised cost; or
- Fair value through profit or loss.

A financial liability is measured at fair value through profit or loss if the financial liability is:

- held for trading; or
- initially designated as at fair value through profit or loss.

All other financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a debt instrument and of allocating interest expense in profit or loss over the relevant period.

The effective interest rate is the internal rate of return of the financial asset or liability, that is, it is the rate that exactly discounts the estimated future cash flows through the expected life of the instrument to the net carrying amount at initial recognition.

A financial liability is held for trading if it is:

- incurred for the purpose of repurchasing or repaying in the near term;
- part of a portfolio where there is an actual pattern of short-term profit taking; or
- a derivative financial instrument (except for a derivative that is in a financial guarantee contract or a derivative that is in an effective hedging relationship).

Any gains or losses arising on changes in fair value are recognised in profit or loss to the extent that they are not part of a designated hedging relationship.

The change in fair value of the financial liability attributable to changes in the issuer's credit risk is taken to other comprehensive income and is not subsequently reclassified to profit or loss. Instead, it is transferred to retained earnings upon derecognition of the financial liability.

If taking the change in credit risk in other comprehensive income enlarges or creates an accounting mismatch, then these gains or losses should be taken to profit or loss rather than other comprehensive income.

A financial liability cannot be reclassified.

FINANCIAL GUARANTEE CONTRACTS

A financial guarantee contract is a contract that requires the issuer to make specified payments to reimburse the holder for a loss it incurs because a specified debtor fails to make payment when due in accordance with the terms of a debt instrument.

Financial guarantee contracts are initially measured at fair value (and if not designated as at fair value through profit or loss and do not arise from a transfer of a financial asset) and subsequently measured at the higher of:

- the amount of loss allowance determined in accordance to AASB 9.3.25.3; and
- the amount initially recognised less accumulative amount of income recognised in accordance with the revenue recognition policies.

FINANCIAL ASSETS

Financial assets are subsequently measured at:

- amortised cost;
- fair value through other comprehensive income; or
- fair value through profit or loss.

Measurement is on the basis of two primary criteria:

- the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial asset; and
- the business model for managing the financial assets.

A financial asset that meets the following conditions is subsequently measured at fair value through other comprehensive income:

- the contractual terms within the financial asset give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding on specified dates; and
- the business model for managing the financial asset comprises both contractual cash flows collection and the selling of the financial asset.

By default, all other financial assets that do not meet the measurement conditions of amortised cost and fair value through other comprehensive income are subsequently measured at fair value through profit or loss.

The Association initially designates a financial instrument as measured at fair value through profit or loss if:

- it eliminates or significantly reduces a measurement or recognition inconsistency (often referred to as an "accounting mismatch") that

would otherwise arise from measuring assets or liabilities or recognising the gains and losses on them on different bases;

- it is in accordance with the documented risk management or investment strategy and information about the groupings is documented appropriately, so the performance of the financial liability that is part of a group of financial liabilities or financial assets can be managed and evaluated consistently on a fair value basis; and
- it is a hybrid contract that contains an embedded derivative that significantly modifies the cash flows otherwise required by the contract.

The initial designation of the financial instruments to measure at fair value through profit or loss is a one-time option on initial classification and is irrevocable until the financial asset is derecognised.

EQUITY INSTRUMENTS

At initial recognition, as long as the equity instrument is not held for trading or is not a contingent consideration recognised by an acquirer in a business combination to which AASB 3 applies, the Association made an irrevocable election to measure any subsequent changes in fair value of the equity instruments in other comprehensive income, while the dividend revenue received on underlying equity instruments investments will still be recognised in profit or loss.

Regular way purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised and derecognised at settlement date in accordance with the Association's accounting policy.

Derecognition

Derecognition refers to the removal of a previously recognised financial asset or financial liability from the statement of financial position.

DERECOGNITION OF FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

A liability is derecognised when it is extinguished (i.e. when the obligation in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires). An exchange of an existing

financial liability for a new one with substantially modified terms, or a substantial modification to the terms of a financial liability, is treated as an extinguishment of the existing liability and recognition of a new financial liability.

The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability derecognised and the consideration paid and payable, including any non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

DERECOGNITION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS

A financial asset is derecognised when the holder's contractual rights to its cash flows expires, or the asset is transferred in such a way that all the risks and rewards of ownership are substantially transferred.

All the following criteria need to be satisfied for the derecognition of a financial asset:

- the right to receive cash flows from the asset has expired or been transferred;
- all risk and rewards of ownership of the asset have been substantially transferred; and
- the Association no longer controls the asset (i.e. it has no practical ability to make unilateral decisions to sell the asset to a third party).

On derecognition of a financial asset measured at amortised cost, the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the sum of the consideration received and receivable is recognised in profit or loss.

On derecognition of a debt instrument classified as fair value through other comprehensive income, the cumulative gain or loss previously accumulated in the investment revaluation reserve is reclassified to profit or loss.

On derecognition of an investment in equity which the Association elected to classify under fair value through other comprehensive income, the cumulative gain or loss previously accumulated in the investments revaluation reserve is not reclassified to profit or loss, but is transferred to retained earnings.

Impairment

The Association recognises a loss allowance for expected credit losses on:

- financial assets that are measured at amortised cost or fair value through other comprehensive income;
- lease receivables;
- contract assets (eg amount due from customers under construction contracts);
- loan commitments that are not measured at fair value through profit or loss; and
- financial guarantee contracts that are not measured at fair value through profit or loss.

Loss allowance is not recognised for:

- financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss; or
- equity instruments measured at fair value through other comprehensive income.

Expected credit losses are the probability-weighted estimate of credit losses over the expected life of a financial instrument. A credit loss is the difference between all contractual cash flows that are due and all cash flows expected to be received, all discounted at the original effective interest rate of the financial instrument.

The Association uses the following approaches to impairment, as applicable under AASB 9: Financial Instruments:

- the general approach;
- the simplified approach;
- the purchased or originated credit impaired approach; and
- low credit risk operational simplification.

GENERAL APPROACH

Under the general approach, at each reporting period, the Association assessed whether the financial instruments are credit impaired, and:

- if the credit risk of the financial instrument increased significantly since initial recognition, the Association measured the loss allowance of the financial instruments at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses; and

- if there was no significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, the Association measured the loss allowance for that financial instrument at an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses.

SIMPLIFIED APPROACH

The simplified approach does not require tracking of changes in credit risk at every reporting period, but instead requires the recognition of lifetime expected credit loss at all times.

This approach is applicable to:

- trade receivables or contract assets that result from transactions that are within the scope of AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers, and which do not contain a significant financing component; and
- lease receivables.

In measuring the expected credit loss, a provision matrix for trade receivables is used taking into consideration various data to get to an expected credit loss (ie diversity of its customer base, appropriate groupings of its historical loss experience, etc).

RECOGNITION OF EXPECTED CREDIT LOSSES IN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

At each reporting date, the Association recognises the movement in the loss allowance as an impairment gain or loss in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

The carrying amount of financial assets measured at amortised cost includes the loss allowance relating to that asset.

Assets measured at fair value through other comprehensive income are recognised at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in other comprehensive income. The amount in relation to change in credit risk is transferred from other comprehensive income to profit or loss at every reporting period.

e. Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

f. Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short-term borrowings in current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

g. Revenue

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Investment income comprises dividend income and interest income on funds held under management and is recognised when the right to receive the dividend/ interest has been established.

Revenue from the rendering of services

The Association has applied AASB 15 using the cumulative effect method.

Revenue from the rendering of a service is using the five-step process, as outlined by AASB 15, as follows:

- identify the contract(s) with a customer;
- identify the performance obligations in the contract(s);
- determine the transaction price;
- allocate the transaction price to the performance obligations in the contract(s); and
- recognise revenue when (or as) the performance obligations are satisfied.

h. Goods and service tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

i. Employee benefits

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may not satisfy vesting requirements.

Contributions are made by the entity to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred.

j. Accounts payable and other payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the Association during the reporting period which remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability.

k. Leases

The Association has applied AASB 16.

At inception of a contract, the Association assesses whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. A contract is, or contains, a lease if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. To assess whether

a contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset, the Association assesses whether:

- the contract involves the use of an identified asset - this may be specified explicitly or implicitly;
- the Association has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from use of the asset throughout the period of use; and
- the Association has the right to direct the use of the asset. The Association has this right when it has the decision-making rights that are most relevant to changing how and for what purpose the asset is used.

This policy is applied to contracts entered into, or changed, on or after 30 June 2018.

Recognition

The Association recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the lease commencement date. The right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost, which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for any lease payments made at or before the commencement date.

The right-of-use asset is subsequently depreciated using the straight-line method from the commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the end of the lease term.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease or, if that rate cannot be readily determined, the Association's incremental borrowing rate. Generally, the Association uses its incremental borrowing rate as the discount rate.

The lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. It is remeasured when there is a change in future lease payments arising from a change in an index or rate, if there is a change in the Association's estimate of the amount expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee, or if the Association changes its assessment of whether it will exercise a purchase, extension or termination option.

When the lease liability is remeasured in this way, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset, or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

I. Comparatives figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

m. New and amended accounting standards

The company has adopted all of the new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

Any new or amended Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted.

n. Impairment of assets

At the end of each reporting period, the entity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount is over its recoverable amount is recognized in profit or loss.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the entity estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Where an impairment loss on a revalued individual asset is identified, this is recognized against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that class of asset.

Note 2: Revenue

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Revenue	2024 \$	2023 \$
Annual subscriptions	417,010	292,521
Practising certificates	1,953,751	1,455,481
Other income	258,258	239,250
Legal Education	829,498	627,177
Investment income	167,200	111,697
Fair value adjustment - investments	(21,729)	134,875
Bank income	70,355	52,602
JAG regulatory income	187,000	181,000
Profit on sale of investments	26,241	18,582
	3,887,584	3,113,185

Note 3: Finance Costs

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Bank and credit card charges	83,666	79,552
Interest expense - leases	75,334	81,354
	159,000	160,906

Note 4: Profit before Income Tax

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Operating result before Income Tax has been determined after		
Credit as income:		
Bank Income	70,335	52,602
Investment income	167,200	111,697
Fair value adjustment - investments	(21,729)	134,874
Charging as expenses:		
Depreciation	30,516	23,538
Amortisation	199,469	198,281

Note 5: Income Tax Expense

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
The prima facie tax payable/(refund) on operating surplus/(deficit) before income tax at 25% (2023: 25%)	141,745	18,983
Add tax effect of:		
Expense related to mutual income	662,064	602,164
Investment income	(6,560)	(4,646)
Tax Losses not brought to account	(47,647)	(69,854)
	607,857	527,665
Mutual income	(734,654)	(528,834)
Imputation credits	(14,948)	(17,814)
	(749,602)	(546,648)
Income tax expense/(benefits)	-	-
PAYG instalments paid	-	-
Current year tax payable	-	-
Income tax provision/(refund)	-	-
Deferred Tax Calculation		
Investments - Book Value	3,373,778	3,269,953
Investments - Tax Value	(3,151,296)	(3,022,605)
	222,482	247,348
Deferred Tax Liability at 25% (2022: 25%)	55,621	61,837
Tax Losses	222,482	247,348
Deferred Tax Asset at 25% (2022: 25%)	55,621	61,837
Net deferred Tax Liability at 25% (2022: 25%)	-	-

Note 6: Auditors' Remuneration

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Auditing or reviewing the financial report	26,500	24,500
Taxation services	5,820	3,000
	32,320	27,500

Note 7: Cash and Cash Equivalents

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Cash at bank and in hand	4,092,186	3,502,912
	4,092,186	3,502,912

Note 8: Trade and Other Receivables

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Current	2024 \$	2023 \$
Trade Receivables	2,635	26,967
GST	22,222	18,642
Prepayments	30,792	71,195
	55,649	116,804

Note 9: Financial Assets - Investments

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Fair value through profit or loss financial assets comprise:		
Investment portfolio (including shares in listed corporations) - at fair value	4,743,095	4,598,027
	4,743,095	4,598,027
Fair value through other comprehensive income financial assets comprise:		
Shares in Barristers Chambers Limited - at fair value	56,473	56,473
	56,473	56,473
Total Financial Assets	4,799,568	4,654,500

Note 10: Property, Plant and Equipment

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
General Assets:		
At cost	600,243	600,243
Accumulated depreciation	(600,243)	(587,018)
	-	13,225
Property Improvement:		
At cost	659,205	659,205
Accumulated depreciation	(182,558)	(170,335)
	476,647	488,870
Long Life Assets:		
At cost	188,850	188,850
Accumulated depreciation	(92,549)	(87,480)
	96,301	101,370
Total property, plant and equipment	572,948	603,465

Note 10: Property, Plant and Equipment (continued)

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	General Assets \$	Property Improvements \$	Long Life Assets \$	Total \$
MOVEMENT IN CARRYING AMOUNTS - Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year.				
Balance at the beginning of year	13,225	488,870	101,370	603,465
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Depreciation expense	(13,225)	(12,223)	(5,069)	(30,517)
Balance at the end of year	0	476,647	96,301	572,948

Note 11: Trade and Other Payables

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Current	2024 \$	2023 \$
Trade Creditors	104,232	96,193
Subscriptions received in advance	393,016	379,505
Practising certificate fees received in advance	1,988,578	1,950,527
Mediator accreditation fees on trust	2,627	1,918
Prepaid Income	77,987	66,175
Group Life Policy	8,424	53,051
Professional Standards in advance	79,063	80,593
GST	57,953	58,884
Wages accrual	0	0
	2,711,880	2,686,846

Note 12: Provisions

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Provisions

A provision has been recognised for entitlements relating to long service leave for employees. In calculating the present value of future cash flows in respect of long service leave, the probability of long service leave being taken is based upon historical data. The measurement and recognition criteria for employee benefits have been included in Note 1.

Movement in Provisions		\$
Opening balance at 1 July 2023		140,323
Movement of provisions during the year		57,939
Balance at 30 June 2024		198,262

Employee Benefits

An amount has been recognised for entitlements relating to annual leave for employees. This has been measured at the current value of those entitlements.

Movement in Provisions		\$
Opening balance at 1 July 2023		110,986
Movement of employee benefits during the year		16,678
Balance at 30 June 2024		127,664

Analysis of Total Provisions

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Current	264,010	236,709
Non-current	61,915	14,600
Balance at 30 June	325,925	251,309

Note 13: Tax Liabilities

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Current Tax Liabilities		
Income tax	-	-
Income tax instalment paid	20	20
	20	20

Deferred Tax Assets		
The balance comprises temporary differences attributable to:		
Accumulated tax losses	55,621	61,837
	55,621	61,837

Deferred Tax Liabilities		
The balance comprises temporary differences attributable to:		
Investments held at market value	55,621	61,837
	55,621	61,837

Note 14: Reserves - Other

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Special levy - "History of the Qld Bar"	486	486
Joining levy	8,685	8,685
Asset revaluation	1,035	1,035
	10,206	10,206

Asset Revaluation Reserve

The asset revaluation reserve records revaluations of non-current assets. Under certain circumstances dividends can be declared from the reserve.

Special Levy and Joining Levy Reserves

The reserves record funds set aside for future expansion of the Association.

Note 15: Segment Reporting

For the year ended 30 June 2024

The Association operates predominantly within Queensland as the professional Association for barristers and derives its revenue from members' subscriptions and associated activities.

Note 16: Cash Flow Information

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
a. Reconciliation of Cash Flow from Operations with Profit after Income Tax		
Profit/(loss) after income tax	540,723	75,933
Non-cash flows in profit		
Depreciation	30,516	23,538
Loss/(Gain) on investments	(145,068)	(239,109)
Changes in assets and liabilities		
(Increase)/decrease in trade debtors	61,156	(43,557)
(Increase)/decrease in right of use asset	(29,935)	198,281
Increase/(decrease) in lease liability	28,232	(175,038)
Increase/(decrease) in payables	25,034	789,680
Increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	16,679	8,355
Increase/(decrease) in long service provision	57,939	(9,447)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	589,274	628,636

Note 17: Right of Use Assets and Leasing Commitments

For the year ended 30 June 2024

The Association leases assets including building space and office equipment. Information about leases for which the Association is a lessee is presented below.

Right of Use Assets

	Property \$	Office Equipment \$	Total \$
Balance as at 30 June 2023	1,236,720	45,043	1,281,763
Additions/(disposals)	-	6,954	6,954
Modifications	218,249	-	218,249
Amortisation during the year	(189,131)	(10,137)	(199,268)
Balance as at 30 June 2024	1,265,838	41,860	1,307,698

Lease Liabilities

Maturity Analysis - contractual undiscounted cash flows		\$
Payable:		
Less than one year		279,444
One to five years		1,108,336
More than five years		446,860
Total undiscounted lease liabilities as at 30 June 2024		1,834,640

Lease liabilities included in the Statement on Financial Position	2024 \$	2023 \$
Current	206,129	173,679
Non-current	1,353,787	1,358,005
	1,559,916	1,531,684

Note 17: Right of Use Assets and Leasing Commitments (continued)

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Real Estate Leases

The Association leases a floor of a building for its office space. The lease of the office space typically runs for a period of 10 years. The lease includes an option to renew the lease for an additional two five-year periods after the end of the contract term.

The lease provides for additional rent payments that are based on changes in local price indices. The lease also requires the Association to make payments that relate to the outgoings of the building; these amounts are generally determined annually.

Extension Options

The lease of the office building contains two five-year extension option exercisable by the Association up to one year before the end of the non-cancellable contract period. Where practicable, the Association seeks to include extension options in new leases to provide operational flexibility.

The extension options held are exercisable only by the Association and not by the lessors. The Association assesses at lease commencement whether it is reasonably certain to exercise the extension options. The Association reassesses whether it is reasonably certain to exercise the options if there is a significant event or significant change in circumstances within its control.

Other Leases

The Association leases equipment, with lease terms of three to five years. In some cases, the Association has options to purchase the assets at the end of the contract term, otherwise, the asset is returned to the lessor at the end of the lease term.

	Lease Liabilities recognised (discounted) \$	Potential future lease payments not included in lease liabilities (discounted) \$	Historical rate of exercise of extension options \$
Office Buildings	1,517,388	-	NIA
Office Equipment	42,528	-	NIA
Total	1,559,916		

Note 18: Events after the Reporting Period

For the year ended 30 June 2024

The financial report was authorised for issue on the date specified by the directors in the Directors' Declaration. There are no events after the reporting period that require disclosure in the financial statements.

Note 19: Related Party Transactions

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

Directors

The names of directors who have held office during the financial year are as follows:

D J Campbell KC	C C Heyworth Smith KC
F J Chen	K S Howe
D E F Chesterman KC	J R Hunter KC
P J Coore	C Jennings KC
M P Dalton	M H Martinez
C M Doyle	D P O'Brien KC
L M Dollar	R M O'Gorman KC
P J Dunning KC	J J Sheridan
G A Feely	A N S Skoien
N H Ferrett KC	C R Smith
J E FitzGerald	M M Willey
S C Fraser	

Key Management Personnel

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Short term benefits	433,406	389,648
Post-employment benefits	47,675	38,965
Other long-term benefits	-	-
	481,081	428,613

Other Transactions

The Bar Association of Queensland invoices the Australian Bar Association \$65,000 for Bar Support Services during the year ended 30 June 2024.

Note 20: Financial Instruments and Fair Value

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Financial Risk Management

The Association's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, managed investment portfolio, local money market instruments, short-term investments, accounts receivable and payable, loans to and from subsidiaries, bills and leases.

The entity does not have any derivative instruments as at 30 June 2024.

(i) Treasury Risk Management

Directors meet on a regular basis to analyse financial risk exposure and to evaluate treasury management strategies in the context of the most recent economic conditions and forecasts.

(ii) Financial Risk Exposures and Management

The main risks the Association is exposed to through its financial instruments are interest rate risk, liquidity risk and credit risk.

INTEREST RATE RISK

The Association's exposure to interest rate risk, which is the risk that a financial instrument's value will fluctuate as a result of changes in market interest rates and the effective weighted average interest rates on those financial assets and financial liabilities, is as follows:

	Weighted Average Effective Interest Rate		Floating Interest Rate		Fixed Interest Rate Maturing					
					Within 1 Year		1 to 5 Years		Non-interest Bearing	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Financial Assets:	%	%	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	0.01%	0.01%	4,092,186	3,502,912	-	-	-	-	-	-
Short-term Deposits	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Financial Assets	-	-	4,092,186	3,502,912	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Weighted Average Effective Interest Rate		Fixed Interest Rate Maturing							
			Floating Interest Rate		Within 1 Year		1 to 5 Years		Non-interest Bearing	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Financial Liabilities:	%	%	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,711,880	2,686,845
Total Financial Liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,711,880	2,686,845

Note 20: Financial Instruments and Fair Value (continued)

For the year ended 30 June 2024

FOREIGN CURRENCY RISK

The entity is not exposed to fluctuations in foreign currencies

LIQUIDITY RISK

Liquidity risk arises from the possibility that the Association might encounter difficulty in settling its debts or otherwise meeting its obligations in relation to financial liabilities. The Association manages liquidity risk by monitoring forecast cash flows.

CREDIT RISK

The maximum exposure to credit risk, excluding the value of any collateral or other security, at balance date to recognised financial assets, is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in the statement of financial position and notes to the financial statements. The entity does not have any material credit risk exposure to any single receivable or group of receivables under financial instruments entered into by the entity.

There are no material amounts of collateral held as security at 30 June 2024.

Sensitivity Analysis

The following table illustrates sensitivities to the Association's exposure to changes in interest rates. The tables indicates the impact on how profit and equity values reported at the end of the reporting period would have been affected by changes in the relevant risk variable that management considers to be reasonably possible. These sensitivities assume that the movement in a particular variable is independent of other variables.

	Profit/(Loss) \$	Equity \$
Year ended 30 June 2024		
+/- 2% in interest rates	+/- 81,844	+/- 81,844
Year ended 30 June 2023		
+/- 2% in interest rates	+/- 70,058	+/- 70,058

Note 20: Financial Instruments and Fair Value (continued)

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Fair Value - Fair Value Estimation

The fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities are equivalent to their carrying amount as presented in the statement of financial position.

Financial Instruments Measured at Fair Value

The financial instruments recognised at fair value in the statement of financial position have been analysed and classified using a fair value hierarchy reflecting the significance of the inputs used in making the measurements. The fair value hierarchy consists of the following levels:

- quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1);
- inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (as prices) or indirectly (derived from prices) (Level 2); and
- inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs) (Level 3).

	Level 1 \$	Level 2 \$	Level 3 \$	Total \$
2024 Financial Assets				
Investment portfolio (FVTPL)	4,743,095	-	-	4,743,095
Shares in Barristers Chambers Limited (FVTOCI)			56,473	56,473
2023 Financial Assets				
Investment portfolio (FVTPL)	4,598,027	-	-	4,598,027
Shares in Barristers Chambers Limited (FVTOCI)			56,473	56,473

Included within Level 1 of the hierarchy are listed investments. The fair value of these financial assets has been based on the closing quoted bid prices at the end of the reporting period, excluding transaction costs.

Note 21: Capital Management

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Management controls the capital of the entity to ensure that adequate cash flows are generated to fund its activities and that returns from investments are maximised within tolerable risk parameters.

The entity's capital consists of financial liabilities, supported by financial assets.

Management effectively manages the entity's capital by assessing the entity's financial risk and responding to changes in these risks and in the market.

There have been no changes to the strategy adopted by management to control the capital of the entity since the previous year.

The Association has total borrowings of \$Nil (2023: \$Nil) and a total equity balance of \$6,230,308 (2023: \$5,689,585).

Note 22: Members' Guarantee

For the year ended 30 June 2024

The Association is limited by guarantee. If the Association is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$4 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the Association.

Note 23: Association Details

For the year ended 30 June 2024

The registered office of the Association is:

Ground Floor, Inns of Court,
107 North Quay
Brisbane QLD 4000

The principal place of business is:

Ground Floor Inns of Court
107 North Quay
Brisbane QLD 4000

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

The directors of the Association declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 7 to 40, are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001:
 - a. comply with Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
 - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the Association.
2. In the directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



 D P O'BRIEN KC (Director)
 Dated this 28th day of October 2024



 N H FERRETT KC (Director)
 Dated this 23rd day of October 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BAR ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND (CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report (Continued)

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the ability of the Company to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is 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 the Australian Auditing Standards 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 this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BAR ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND (CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report (Continued)

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the ability of the Company to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is 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 the Australian Auditing Standards 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 this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.



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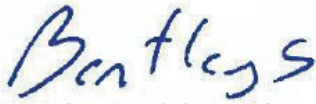


**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF BAR ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND
(CONTINUED)**

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report (Continued)

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



Bentleys Brisbane (Audit) Pty Ltd
Chartered Accountants



Stewart Douglas
Director
Brisbane
28 October 2024



DISCLAIMER

The additional financial data presented on page 46 is in accordance with the books and records of Bar Association of Queensland, which have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our statutory audit of the Association for the year ended 30 June 2024.

It will be appreciated that our statutory audit did not cover all details of the additional financial data. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on such financial data and no warranty of accuracy or reliability is given.

Neither the firm nor any member or employee of the firm undertakes responsibility in any way whatsoever to any person (other than Bar Association of Queensland).

Bentleys Brisbane (Audit) Pty Ltd
Chartered Accountants

Stewart Douglas
Director
Brisbane
28 October 2024



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Income and Expenditure Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
INCOME		
Annual subscriptions	417,010	292,521
Practising certificates	1,953,751	1,455,481
Function income	104,836	59,973
Investment income	129,150	252,405
Interest income	112,898	65,351
Legal education	829,498	627,177
JAG regulatory income	187,000	181,000
Other income	153,441	179,277
Total Income	3,887,384	3,113,185
EXPENSES		
Bank and credit card charges	83,666	79,552
Legal education	309,605	218,590
Capitation fees	183,489	160,766
Depreciation	30,516	23,538
Donations	47,395	40,373
Functions	131,018	75,914
IT expense	126,908	151,514
General operating expenses	219,038	316,859
Occupancy cost	334,063	319,819
Payroll	1,848,397	1,624,900
Travel	32,766	25,431
Total Expenses	3,346,861	3,037,252
PROFIT/(LOSS) FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	540,723	75,933
Plus OTHER INCOME		
Trust Settlement	-	-
Income Tax Benefit	-	-
Less OTHER EXPENSES		
Income Tax Expense	-	-
Loss on Disposal of Asset	-	-
NET PROFIT/(LOSS)	540,723	75,933



2024

Annual Report

Summary of the Bar Association of Queensland during 2023-2024



BAR ASSOCIATION
OF QUEENSLAND

Bar Association of Queensland

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