



First Meeting of the Bar Council 2026

Tuesday, 9 December 2025 at 17:00

The Bar Council, 289-293 High Holborn, London, WC1V 7HZ,
held via Video Conference

Present:

Barbara Mills KC	Chair of the Bar	BMKC
Kirsty Brimelow KC	Chair Elect 2026 (Chaired the meeting)	KBKC
Heidi Stonecliffe KC	Vice Chair Elect 2026	HSKC

Members in attendance (in alphabetical order):

Abigail Bright, Adam Baradon KC, Aimee Stokes, Alex Gunning KC, Alexandra Sutton, Alice Hands, Amanda Jepson, Amrit Dhanoa, Amy Mannion, Andrew Brooke, Andrew Duncan, Andrew Howe, Anna Soubry, Anton van Dellen, Anushka Kangesu, Aoife Kennedy, Asad Maqsood, Barbara Connolly KC, Bella Dennis, Ben Bentley, Beth Crocker, Brittany Buckell, Cait McDonagh, Caroline Rees KC, Cathrine Grubb, Celina Colquhoun, Charlie Woodhouse KC, Christina Michalos KC, Claire Davies KC, Cleon Catsambis, Daniel Sheridan, David Bunting, David Grant KC, David Christopher Taylor, Deshpal Panesar KC, Dilpreet Dhanoa, Elaine Banton, Eleena Misra KC, Emily Formby KC, Emma Hughes, Emma Southern, Emma Torr, Emma Walker, Faisal Sadiq, Fenner Moeran KC, Gaynor Wood, Guy Williamson, Hannah Smith, Harpreet Sandhu KC, Harry O'Sullivan, Harry Stratton, Henry King KC, Hollie Gilbery, Ian Clarke KC, Ivor Collett, Jaime Hamilton KC, James Hines KC, James Kane, James Lewis KC, James Paterson, James Pickering KC, James Roberts KC, James Robinson, Jasmine Chan, Jason Pitter KC, Jeffrey Jupp KC, Jo Martin KC, John-Paul Swoboda, Jonathan Foy, Kama Melly KC, Kate Lumsdon KC, Katrina Mather, Lachlan Stewart, Laurie-Anne Power KC, Leanne Targett-Parker, Lee Marklew, Linda Turnbull, Lorinda Long, Lucy Reed KC, Luke Wygas, Maddy Charlesworth, Martyn McLeish, Mary Prior KC, Matthew Butt KC, Matthew Keliris-Thomas, Melissa Coutino, Michael Polak, Mike Jones KC, Minka Braun, Dr Mirza Ahmad, Nancy Kelehar, Natasha Shotunde, Nicholas Johnson KC, Owen Thomas KC, Paul Powlesland, Peter Grieves-Smith, Philip Moser KC, Philip Stott, Rabby Fozlay, Rachel Crasnow KC, Riel Karmy-Jones KC, Rory Brown, Ruth Kirby KC, Saira Kabir Sheikh KC,

Sam Kharabanda Groom, Sam Thomas, Samantha Hillas KC, Samantha Singer, Sara Ibrahim, Sarah Gaunt, Sarah Gerrard, Sarah Williams, Sean Jones KC, Sean Summerfield, Shazia Akhtar, Shobana Iyer, Shoshana Mitchell, Simon Atkinson, Simon Regis, Sophie Stevens, Stephanie Hall, Stephen Kenny KC, Tahmina Rahman, Tomas McGarvey, Tony Singla KC, Verity Bell, Winston Hunter KC, Yaa Dankwa Ampadu-Sackey.

In attendance:

Anna Pinch	Director of Services	AP
Jamie Shaw	Head of Strategy, Planning and Governance	JS
Justina Naik	Governance and Committees Manager (minutes)	JN
Malcolm Cree	Chief Executive Officer	MC
Phil Robertson	Director of Policy	PR
Piran Dhillon-Starkings	Adviser to the Chair	PDS
Sally Burnell	Director of Communications	SB

Apologies were received from:

Claire Davies KC, Kate Lumsdon KC, Lorinda Long, Mike Jones KC, Shazia Akhtar.

1. List of Bar Council 2026 Co-Options and Representative Committee Chairs/Vice Chairs

The 2026 Committee Chair and Vice Chair changes were unanimously approved. The new Chairs and Vice Chairs for 2026 were as follows:

Bar Representation Committee

Co-Chair: William Dean

Co-Chair: Tony Singla KC

Vice-Chair: Sarah Earl

Education and Training Committee

Co-Chair: Fallon Alexis

Co-Chair: Matthew Butt KC

Employed Barristers' Committee

Chair: Simon Regis, CBE

Vice-Chair: Amelia Clegg

Ethics Committee

Co-Chair: James Hines KC
Co-Chair: Fenner Moeran KC
Vice-Chair (Family): Susan Grocott KC
Vice-Chair (Crime): Francis FitzGibbon KC
Vice-Chair (Civil): Andrew Granville Stafford

Equality & Diversity and Social Mobility Committee

Chair: Rachel Crasnow KC
Vice-Chair: Nadia Motraghi KC

European Committee

Co-Chair: Anneli Howard KC
Co-Chair: Kieron Beal KC
Vice Chair: John Ratliff
Vice Chair: Daniel Lloyd

International Committee

Chair: Marion Smith KC
Vice-Chair: David Josse KC
Vice-Chair: Frederico Singarajah
Vice-Chair: Charles Hale KC

Law Reform Committee

Chair: Eleena Misra KC
Vice-Chair: Edite Ligere
Vice-Chair: Dominic Lewis
Vice-Chair: Celina Colquhoun

Legal Services Committee

Co-Chair: Susan Grocott KC
Co-Chair: Philip Stott
Vice-Chair: Shobana Iyer
Vice-Chair: Anton Van Dellen

Pro Bono and Social Responsibility Committee

Co-Chair: Samantha Singer
Co-Chair: Marina Faggionato

Remuneration Committee

Co-Chair: Richard Wright KC
Co-Chair: Mike Horne KC
Vice Chair: Shiva Ancliffe KC
Vice Chair: Tom Little KC

Vice Chair: Martyn McLeish

Young Barristers' Committee

Chair: Amelia Clegg

Vice Chair: Yaa Dankwa Ampadu Sackey

Regulation Panel

Chair: Stephen Kenny KC

1.1 The Chair thanked the Committee Chairs stepping down at the 2025 year-end for all their work:

- Jacob Hallam KC, Co-Chair, Education and Training Committee
- Sean O'Sullivan KC, Co-Chair, Remuneration Committee

1.2 The 2026 Co-Options were unanimously approved. The 2026 Co-Options were as follows:

- Rachel Crasnow KC as Chair Equality, Diversity and Social Mobility Committee
- Samantha Singer as Co-Chair Pro Bono & Social Responsibility Committee
- Amelia Clegg as Chair Young Barristers' Committee
- Marion Smith KC as Chair International Committee
- Eleena Misra KC as Chair Law Reform Committee
- William Dean
- Dominic Boothroyd

The formal meeting was closed.

2. Voluntary opportunity for new members to meet the incoming Chair after the close of the formal meeting

Kirsty Brimelow KC, Chair Elect 2026 met and welcomed the Bar Council members for 2026.

Bar Council meeting dates 2026:

Date and time	Venue	Format
12 January 2026; 5:30 – 8pm	Gray's Inn Hall	Inaugural address in person only – not a Bar Council meeting
Saturday 7 February 2026; 10am	Bar Council offices	BC meeting
Tuesday 14 April 2026; 5pm	Bar Council offices	BC meeting
Tuesday 23 June 2026; 6pm	Inns (TBC) – Precedes the summer reception	BC meeting
Saturday 12 September 2026; 10am Annual General Meeting of the Bar 11am	Bar Council offices	BC meeting followed by AGM (AGM needs quorum of 60 members)
Saturday 14 November 2026	(Time/Location TBC)	BC meeting