



BAR COUNCIL NEWS UPDATE – FRIDAY 8 OCTOBER 2021

Spending Review

[The Independent](#), [The Guardian](#), [The Times](#), [Politics Home](#), [Law Society Gazette](#), [New Law Journal](#), [Insurance Edge](#) - National and legal media report on the Bar Council's Spending Review submission.

The Bar Council has said that £2.48 billion is required to return the justice system to 2010 levels, amid pressures caused by “systemic underfunding, under-resourcing and increasingly complex criminal cases”.

Social mobility - #IAmTheBar

[The Times](#), [Lawyer Monthly](#) – The media reports on the new Bar Council Social Mobility Advocates, who have joined Bar Council's social mobility campaign #IAmTheBar.

The Advocates aim to inspire a new generation of barristers from a wide variety of social backgrounds by sharing their own experiences of becoming barristers.

Gender income differences at the Bar

[Legal Futures](#), [New Law Journal](#) – Further coverage appears in the legal media on new analysis from the Bar Council which shows the income gap between male and female barristers has widened over the past 20 years, with men's income on average almost £35,000 more than their female colleagues in 2020.

According to the Bar Council's analysis of BMIF data, average gross fee income for male barristers came in at £89,070 last year, while female barristers received an average of £54,747 – an absolute gap of £34,323. In 2000, average gross fee income for men was £51,480, while women received £31,620 – a difference of £19,860.

The study looked at income differences by gender in every practice area.

Legal Futures reports that the Bar Council's Modernising the Bar programme began in 2019 and is aiming to effect change on the distribution of work, along with issuing practice management guidance, using mentoring more, running the Bar Council leadership programme, and taking measures to tackle discrimination and inappropriate behaviours.

Pupillage Gateway

[Legal Futures](#), [LawCareers.net](#), [Law Society Gazette](#) – The legal media reports on the Bar Council's new report in the Pupillage Gateway. The report found that candidates from Black backgrounds were much less likely than other candidates to secure a pupillage on the Gateway. Those who received free school meals also fared disproportionately badly, as, to a lesser extent, did women.

[The report](#) analysed the 2021 figures from the centralised Pupillage Gateway, run by the Bar Council, which is used by 60-70% of pupillage applicants and around half of training providers. There was an average of 150 applicants for every pupillage advertised on the gateway. Some 246 pupillages were available and there were 2,660 applicants.

Bar Council Working Lives Survey

[Law Society Gazette](#), [Legal Futures](#) – News that CILEx members often face bullying and discrimination in the workplace also includes reference to the Bar Council's recent findings in its Working Lives survey of the Bar.

The Bar Council survey found reports of discrimination, bullying and harassment had risen amongst the Bar since 2017.

Diversity and inclusion

[Reports Legal](#) – Reports Legal interviews Derek Sweeting QC, Chair of the Bar, on diversity at the Bar. The Chair of the Bar says that some parts of the Bar have a diversity problem and that the profession needs to reflect society.

Legal services

[The Global Legal Post](#) – GLP reports English law underpins trillions of dollars of business annually, according to new research accompanying the relaunch of beefed-up lobbying group LegalUK, which has secured the support of the judiciary, professional representative bodies and an array of top law firms.

The report [by economics consultancy Oxera](#) is the first to explore the economic value of English and Welsh law. It reveals that English law was used in more than €66trn of derivatives trading, \$11.6trn of metals trading and £250bn of global M&A transactions in 2019, while also supporting £80bn of insurance contracts and £15bn of maritime contracts.

GLP reports that LegalUK is supported by the Bar Council and Law Society.

BAR COUNCIL TWEETS

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Meet our new Social Mobility Advocates for 2021/22.

They represent the modern Bar: all came from working class or low-income households, attended state schools and non-Oxbridge universities and worked to fund their education.

Read their stories: barcouncil.org.uk/media-campaign...

[#IATB](#)



 barcouncil.org.uk

Bar Council announces new Social Mobility Advocates





The Bar Council  @thebarcouncil · Oct 5



Bar Council tells @hmtreasury @RishiSunak that an extra £2.48billion is needed to fix the justice system & that justice must be included in #LevellingUp plans, reports @guardian @GdnPolitics.

Read all of our Spending Review asks:

barcouncil.org.uk/uploads/assets...

Return to 2010 levels of funding, Bar Council tells Treasury

In its submission to the Treasury's spending review, the **Bar Council** has today told the chancellor, **Rishi Sunak**, that £2.48bn is required just to return the justice system (excluding police funding) to the levels of 2010 amid pressures caused by "systemic underfunding, under-resourcing and increasingly complex criminal cases".

The Ministry of Justice lost over a quarter of its budget over the last decade and the latest criminal court statistics, **published last month**, showed the number of outstanding

running on empty and rely on the goodwill of those who work in the courts to keep them afloat. The reputation of the justice system domestically is under threat which, in turn, threatens our reputation as a leading international legal centre.

In addition, the Bar Council, which represents approximately 17,000 barristers in England and Wales, is calling on the Treasury to include justice in the government's levelling up agenda, with recommendations including opening more courts and recruiting more judges, recorders (lawyers who sit part-time as judges)



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