REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 214508

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

FOR

THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

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for the year ended 31 December 2025

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The Medico-Legal Society is an unincorporated registered charity (No. 214508) governed by the Rules of the Society as approved by the Trustees of the Society and by the Council of the Society at meetings on 11 May 2023; adopted by the Society at its Annual General Meeting on 8 June 2023; and approved by the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 24 October 2023. Part 2 of the rules R 13(1)b and R16 (1)c were modified and adopted by the Society on 13 Jun 24.

The Medico-Legal Society's registered address is:
182 Goldhurst Terrace
London NW6 3HN

TRUSTEES

The following Council members have served as trustees in 2025:

Dr Tania Francis

Dr Sarah Galbraith

Professor Rachael Mulheron KC (Hon)

Mr Michael Owen

Dr James Pattison

Dr Mark Tarn

COUNCIL MEMBERS

The following individuals were Council members for the period 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025:

Ms Skye Blackshaw

Mrs Diana Brahams

Dr. Gerrard Burnett

Mrs Hazel Cameron (1 Jan 25-30 Jun 25)

Dr Tania Francis

Dr Sarah Galbraith

Mrs Annie Girling (1 Jul 25-31Dec25)

Ms Anjali Keeping (1 Jan 25-30 Jun 25)

Ms Linda Lee

Mr Michael Levenstein

Professor Rachael Mulheron KC (Hon)

Mr Michael Owen

Dr James Pattison

Dr Katy Peters

Mr Simon Readhead KC (1Jan 25-30Jun25)

Mr Geoffry Simpson-Scott (1Jul25-31Dec25)

Ms Queenie Sit (1 Jul 25-31Dec25)

Dr Giuseppe Spoto (1Jan25-30Jun25)

Dr Mark Tarn

Dr (Eleanor) Jane Turner

OFFICERS

The following Council members have served as Officers in 2025:

President: Dr Sarah Galbraith

Editor, Medico-Legal Journal: Mrs Diana Brahams

Medical Editor, Medico-Legal Journal: Dr (Eleanor) Jane Turner

Honorary Treasurer: Mr Michael Owen

Honorary Secretary: Mrs Hazel Cameron (1 Jan 25-30 Jun 25). Mrs Annie Girling (1 Jul 25-31 Dec 25)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Lawrence Melinek
7 Helenslea Avenue
London
NW11 8NE

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the society is to promote Medico-Legal knowledge in all its aspects. This is to be achieved by holding meetings at which papers are read and discussed. There have been no material changes in policy since the last report.

PUBLIC BENEFIT TEST

Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 requires charity trustees to have due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission under section 17(1) of that Act in exercising their powers or duties. The trustees confirm that they have referred to this guidance when reviewing the organisation's aims and objectives, in planning future activities and generally in exercising any powers and duties to which the guidance is relevant.

RULES OF THE SOCIETY

Rules of the Society were approved by the Trustees of the Society and by the Council of the Society at meetings on 11 May 2023, were adopted by the Society at its Annual General Meeting on 8 June 2023 and were approved by the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 24 October 2023. Rules 13 and 16 in Part 2 of the Rules were then revised in June 2024.

The provisions in Part 1 relate to the purposes of the charity and how its money and other property can be used. These provisions can only be changed by a two-thirds majority of members present and voting at a meeting. Part 2 contains those provisions which are administrative in nature. These provisions can be changed by a simple majority of those members.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales, the Charities Act 2011, Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The Board of Trustees is delighted that Lawrence Melinek continues as independent examiner in 2025 and has agreed to continue in 2026.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

In the year ending 31 December 2025[1], the Society had a total of 226 members (in 2023, 232; in 2024 and 2025 253 members). There were 69 new members who joined the Society in 2025 across all membership categories Ordinary, Associate, Student and Overseas. The Society held nine meetings during 2025 and the Council met on eight occasions. The Society was again fortunate to be addressed by a number of fascinating speakers.

11 December 2025 Dr Andrew Johns BSc (Hons), MB BS, FRCPsych, DFP Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist & Dr Harry Brunjes, CBE, MB, BS, retired physician **Dial Medicine for Murder – a presentation of the lives, crimes and consequences of Dr Bodkin Adams and Dr Harold Shipman.**

13 November 2025 Mr Robert Maurice-Williams MA MB FRCS FRCP Consultant Neurosurgeon **Litigation now has major implications for medical practice**

9 October 2025 The "Minty Lecture" Prof. Sir Chris Whitty KCB FRS FRCP FFPH FMedSci DSc MBA LLM Chief Medical Adviser to the UK Government since 2019 **The role of the State in preventing disease**

12 June 2025 Antonia Cronin FRCP, Consultant Nephrologist, Guy's & St Thomas's Hospital **The ethical and legal landscape of transplantation: Why access to more and better transplants matters**

8 May 2025 Professor Richard Shepherd, Consultant Forensic Pathologist, BSc, MB, BS, DMJ, FRCPath, FFFLM **Unnatural Deaths**

10 April 2025 Dr Gabrielle Pendlebury MBBS MSc MRCPsych LLM, Independent Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist **How to Survive the Coroner's Court — A Clinician's Guide**

13 March 2025 Ms Caroline Harrison KC **Material Contribution Causation in Medical Claims**

13 February 2025 Dr Michael Biggs B.A. Hons (Victoria University of Wellington), Ph.D. (Harvard), Associate Professor of Sociology and Fellow of St Cross College, University of Oxford **Evidence for and History of Puberty Suppression as a Treatment for children presenting with Gender Dysphoria**

[1] Some late payments. Reflects membership year 1 Sep 2025/26

9 January 2025 Mr Angus Moon KC, Serjeants' Inn Chambers **The Assisted Dying Bill in England and Wales: where we are and where we go next.**

The Society continues to deliver in-person and remote presentations A move to Barnard's Inn Hall, Gresham College, from October 25 has placed the previous 'self-help' arrangements onto a professional footing. A professional AV technician runs the hybrid arrangements throughout and prepares the video for upload to the Society's web site each month. The Society continues to work on its online presence, and by 31 December 2025, had over 1000 LinkedIn followers.

REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL POSITION BY THE HONORARY TREASURER

During the year, the Society's total income increased by £633 compared with 2024 and total expenditure increased by £641. Overall, income exceeded expenditure by £23 (2024: £32). Most of the increase in member subscriptions applying from 1 September 2025 will be included in next year's accounts.

The Society had a successful Annual Dinner in June with 70 guests. The trustees are grateful to Sage for their ongoing donation towards this dinner, and for their support of the Society in its other endeavours.

The value of the investment in the BlackRock Charities Growth and Income Fund grew by £5,430 over the year, compared with growth of £4,092 in 2024. The Society continues to benefit from a regular quarterly dividend.

Income from the Minty Trust was £3,758 during 2025 compared with £4,082 in 2024.

Total reserves as at 31 December 2025 increased to £119,781 (2024: £114,328) consisting of cash at bank adjusted for amounts due to and from the Society, plus the investment portfolio. Following the move to Barnard's Inn Hall, the audio-visual equipment was sold during the year.

Details of income and expenses can be found in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 11.

INVESTMENT POWERS

The constitution of the charity authorises the trustees to make and hold investments, which they see as appropriate using the general funds of the charity.

RESERVES POLICY

The policy of the charity is to maintain sufficient funds so that over time sufficient income can be generated from the funds held to carry out the functions of the charity.

RISK ANALYSIS

The trustees who are responsible for the charity are implementing risk management as a matter of policy. A review has taken place and it has considered the following main areas of risk.

Investments: Consideration of responsibility of brokers to the trust and stock market performance.

Accounts: Production of annual accounts together with internal management controls.

Charitable Objects: Ensuring that the charity funds are used in accordance with the trust's charitable objects.

RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There have been no related party transactions in the reporting period that require disclosure.

By order of the trustees on 14 May 2026

Dr Sarah Galbraith President

Mr Michael Owen Treasurer

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Medico-Legal Society for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Medico-Legal Society, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Medico-Legal Society's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: 

Name: Lawrence Melinek BSc. (Hons) ACMA CGMA

Address: 7 Helenslea Avenue, London NW11 8NE

Date: 14 May 2026

THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	£	2025 £	£	2024 £
INCOMING RESOURCES	1(b)				
Subscriptions			20,549		20,067
Investment income from:					
Managed Investments		3,624		3,136	
Minty bequest		3,758		4,082	
			7,382		7,218
Other income:					
Annual dinner and donations			8,199		8,268
Charitable donations received	3		1,916		1,860
Total incoming resources			38,046		37,413
RESOURCES EXPENDED	1(c)				
Direct charitable expenditure:					
Expenses of meetings			11,964		12,386
Journal production			3,688		3,958
Annual dinner costs			6,895		6,680
Small IT costs			49		305
Depreciation of audio-visual equipment	1(d)		2,982		1,491
Administration expenses			5,647		3,334
			31,225		28,155
Governance costs					
Honorarium		5,500		7,250	
Insurance		978		948	
Website management		320		306	
Sundry expenses				722	
			6,798		9,226
Total resources expended			38,023		37,381
Net incoming resources			23		32
Other recognised gains and losses					
Unrealised gain on investments			5,430		4,092

Total net movement in funds	5,453	4,124
Fund balances brought forward at 1 January 2025	114,328	110,204
Fund balances carried forward at 31 December 2025	119,781	114,328

THE MEDICO-LEGAL SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

for the year ended 31 December 2025

	Notes	2025	2024
		£	£
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	2		2,982
Investments	3	98,131	92,702
Total fixed assets		98,131	95,684
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	4	867	1,784
Prepayments	4		800
Cash at bank	5	41,013	22,141
		41,880	24,724
CREDITORS:			
Subscriptions in advance	6	20,230	6,080
Amounts falling due in one year	6		
		20,230	6,080
NET CURRENT ASSETS		21,650	18,644
TOTAL NET ASSETS		119,781	114,328
FUNDS			
Income and expenditure account	7	119,781	114,328
Total Reserves		119,781	114,328

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 14 May 2026 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mr Michael Owen

Treasurer

Dr Sarah Galbraith

President

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

(b) Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

(c) Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

(d) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Audio-visual equipment was purchased in 2022 in order to make monthly lecture and Council meetings available remotely. The cost of this equipment will be written off over its expected useful life of five years on a straight-line basis.

(e) Investments

Investments are stated at market value at the statement of financial position date. The Statement of Financial Activities includes the realised gains and losses on acquisitions and disposals as well as the unrealised gains and losses throughout the year. The unrealised gains or losses represent the difference between the market value and the book value on the annual accounting date, namely 31 December 2025. Unrealised gains or losses are transferred to the accumulated fund. The actual gain or loss will depend upon the prices ruling at the time of sale. The figure for unrealised gains is therefore only an indication of the position.

(f) Irrecoverable vat

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources for which the related expenditure was incurred.

2. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	2025	2024
Audio-visual equipment		
	£	£
Cost or valuation		
At 1st January 2025	7,454	7,454
Additions		
Disposals		
At 31 December 2025	7,454	7,454
Depreciation		
At 1st January 2025	4,473	2,982
Disposals		
Depreciation in year	2,981	1,491
At 31 December 2025	7,454	4,473
Net book value at 1st January 2025	2,981	4,473
Net book value at 31st December 2025	0	2,981

3. INVESTMENTS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Market value at 1 January 2025	92,702	88,610
Acquisitions	-	-
Disposals	-	-
Revaluation	5,430	4,092
Market value at 31 December 2025	98,131	92,702
Investments at market value comprised:		
BlackRock Charities Growth and Income Fund	98,131	88,610
Historical cost	85,000	85,000

4 DEBTORS

Other debtors	866	1,684
Prepayments and accrued income		1,000
	866	2,684

5 CASH AT BANK IN HAND

Business account	33,799	14,984
Treasurers account	7,214	7,157
	41,013	22,141

6 CREDITORS

Subscriptions in advance	20,230	6,080
Amounts due within one year		
	20,230	6,080

7 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Balance at 1 January 2025	114,328	110,204
Net outgoing resources	23	32
Investment gains	5,430	4,092
Balance at 31 December 2025	119,781	114,328