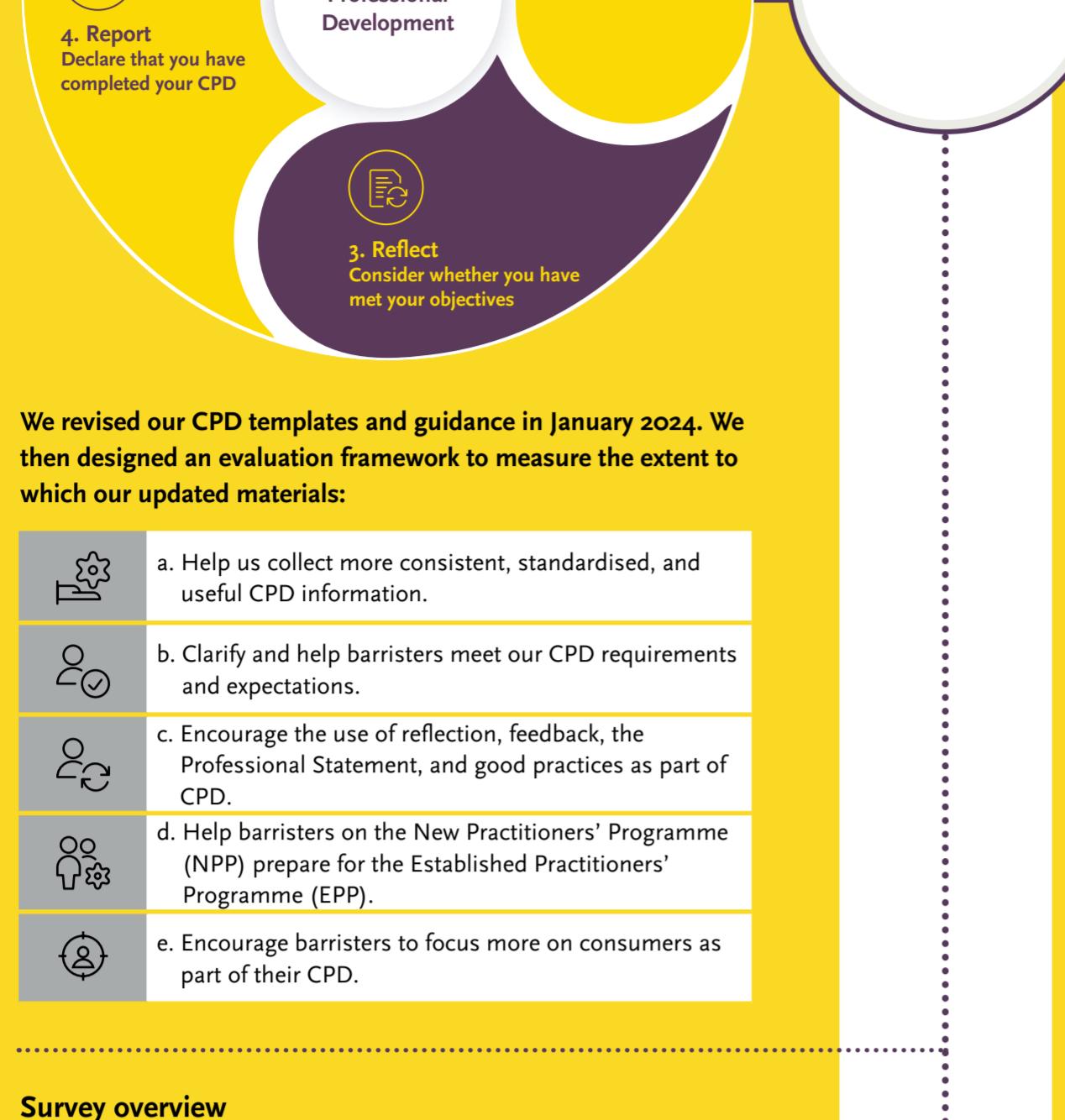


Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Resources Survey

KEY INSIGHTS

Thank you

Thank you for participating in our recent survey. Your insights will help to shape our CPD approach and resources. Please continue to share your feedback via the pop up on our CPD web pages or by sending it to cpdrecords@barstandardsboard.org.uk. Your voice matters.



We revised our CPD templates and guidance in January 2024. We then designed an evaluation framework to measure the extent to which our updated materials:

-  a. Help us collect more consistent, standardised, and useful CPD information.
-  b. Clarify and help barristers meet our CPD requirements and expectations.
-  c. Encourage the use of reflection, feedback, the Professional Statement, and good practices as part of CPD.
-  d. Help barristers on the New Practitioners' Programme (NPP) prepare for the Established Practitioners' Programme (EPP).
-  e. Encourage barristers to focus more on consumers as part of their CPD.

Survey overview

As part of our evaluation we surveyed barristers in February 2025. The survey covered three issues:

-  1 Whether barristers were aware of our revised templates and guidance
-  2 Whether barristers were using our revised templates and guidance
-  3 Whether barristers found our revised templates and guidance helpful

Who responded



Background

“

I like the freedom of what counts towards CPD and the possibility of learning something new for my practice from varied sources of legal knowledge.”

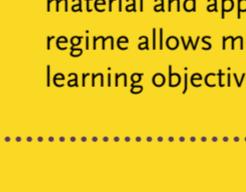
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“The flexibility currently in place works perfectly.”

What the survey told us

Awareness

How aware were you of our updated resources?



63%

of respondents were aware that we updated and published new resources in January 2024.

The responses show that the Regulatory Update was the most useful tool in raising awareness; browsing on the BSB website and being informed by colleagues or employers were also popular. Although, few respondents asked for a separate, specific email to circulate CPD updates as they consider the Regulatory Update to be content heavy and therefore, important information can be missed.

Use

How often did you use the resources?



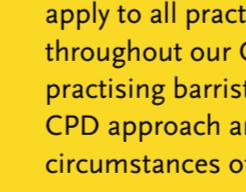
66%

of respondents who were aware of our updated resources confirmed they were using them.

Positively, 65% of those who hadn't used our resources planned to use them in the future. Additional survey comments described the resources as 'helpful and clear.'

Helpfulness

How helpful did you find the resources?



75%

Most respondents who were aware of our resources viewed them as either very helpful or helpful, particularly our CPD Guidance and CPD Templates and Examples.

Most respondents strongly agreed or agreed that the revised material helped or will help improve their overall approach to CPD (e.g. by making it more structured or consistent). Although a small number of respondents prefer the previous structured CPD minimum annual allocation, most respondents appear content with our current CPD material and approach with one respondent commenting 'the new regime allows me more flexibility in focusing on the relevant learning objectives.'

Role of chambers and employers

48%
of respondents believed we already do enough in this area.

52%
of respondents supported us doing more in this area.

Views were divided on whether we should do more to encourage barristers' chambers and employers to actively support their CPD. 52% of respondents supported us doing more, and 48% of these agreed that we should update our CPD Guidance for Chambers and Employers. The other 48% of respondents believed we already do enough in this area, with 30% of those agreeing that barristers should manage their own CPD.

“I think the light touch approach is best as barristers take their professional development very seriously and it is an essential part of their work.”

We will take the necessary steps to ensure the right level of involvement with chambers / employers in CPD.

Employed barristers



3%

of respondents highlighted a perceived gap in our CPD materials for employed barristers.

3% of respondents highlighted a perceived gap in our CPD materials for employed barristers, stating, for example, that our CPD materials of their employed barristers are 'rarely relevant to employed barristers'. Some requested that we should create a CPD template for employed barristers. This is surprising and, possibly, concerning, our CPD Rules apply to all practising barristers, and employed barristers are targetted throughout our CPD guidance, and our CPD templates are targetted throughout our CPD guidance. We will, however, explore ways to ensure our CPD approach and materials adequately consider the needs and circumstances of employed barristers.

Targeted resources

CPD opportunities

Some respondents asked for a greater range of CPD opportunities at different stages of a barrister's career, and on specific topics, including technology and AI. We will consider our

role in influencing what CPD opportunities, including and signposting relevant CPD opportunities, including and

AI, and 'more opportunities outside of London'.

Targeted resources

We will aim to consider the themes that came out of the additional survey comments and use this to reflect on our current priorities, including the need to consider our CPD requirements, expectations and support for specific barrister

cohorts and create targeted CPD materials on issues, including the use of technology and AI to 'keep pace with developments in the wider legal market'.

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