

# 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](mailto:cpdrecords@barstandardsboard.org.uk). Your voice matters.



### Background

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:

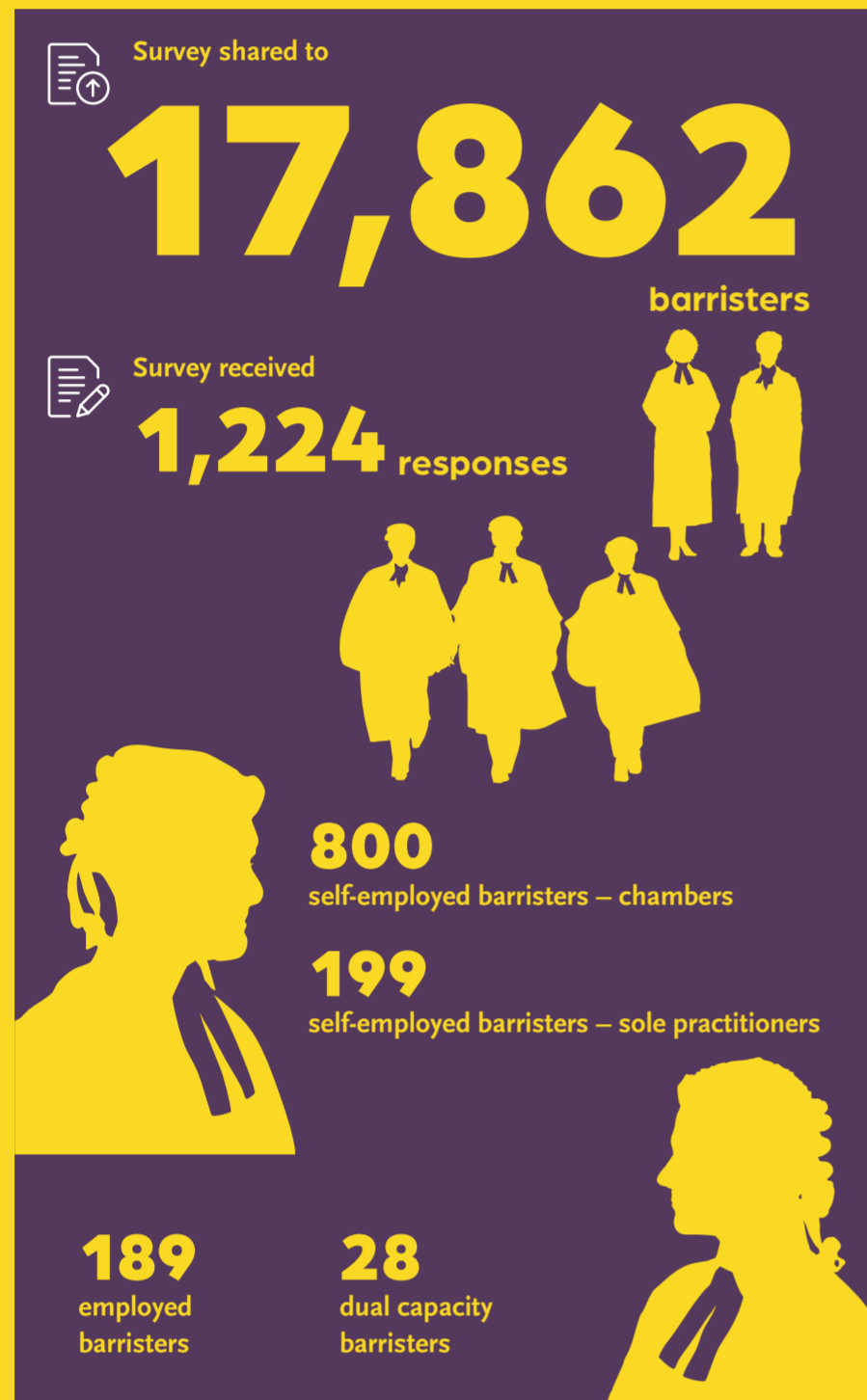
- a. Help us collect more consistent, standardised, and useful CPD information.
- b. Clarify and help barristers meet our CPD requirements and expectations.
- c. Encourage the use of reflection, feedback, the Professional Statement, and good practices as part of CPD.
- d. Help barristers on the New Practitioners' 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



*"The revised guidance and templates are of great assistance to barristers in a self-monitoring and reporting framework."*



*"The revised materials and case studies demonstrating good practice are particularly helpful."*



### The BSB is using the feedback to do the following:

We will continue to keep our CPD materials up to date. This may involve ad hoc work to address feedback, and review our existing materials, particularly for barristers' chambers and employers, and employed barristers. We plan to resurvey barristers to allow us to compare survey outcomes and monitor the usefulness and effectiveness of our materials. Barristers find our CPD Good Practice Case Studies useful, so we plan to continue working with the profession to promote good practices. We have already installed a 'Did you find this page useful?' pop up feedback box to the main CPD pages. Your feedback is helping us determine our priorities and continue improvement.



#### CPD opportunities

Some respondents asked for a greater range of CPD opportunities based outside of London, aimed towards 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 exist, and signposting barristers to CPD opportunities, including those that relate to specific topics such as technology 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 the resources we provide. The survey has reinforced 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.'

### What the survey told us

#### Awareness

How aware were you of our updated resources?



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?



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.'

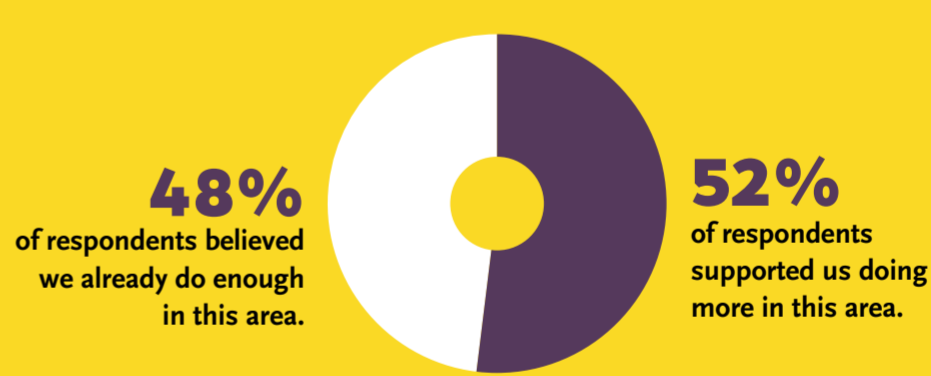
#### Helpfulness

How helpful did you find the resources?



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

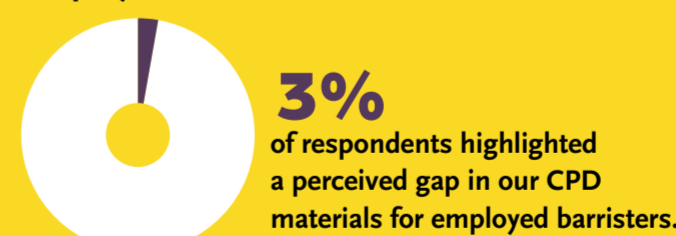


Views were divided on whether we should do more to encourage barristers' chambers and employers to actively support their CPD. 52% of respondents supported us doing more, and 25% of these agreed that we should update our CPD Guidance for Chambers and Employers. The other 48% of respondents believed we 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 we find 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, stating, for example, that they are unsure of their regulatory requirements as BSB resources are aimed at self-employed barristers and 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, employed barristers are mentioned throughout our CPD guidance and our CPD templates target all practising barristers. We will, however, explore ways to ensure our CPD approach and materials adequately consider the needs and circumstances of employed barristers.

*"I am grateful for the resources for the assistance they provide. There is a lot of material within them and plenty of thought provoking guidance."*