

CONSTITUTION OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE BAR
FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE BAR COUNCIL

1. The Bar Council is established to discharge the following functions:
 - a) To be the governing body of the Bar.
 - b) To consider, lay down and implement general policy with regard to all matters affecting the Bar.
 - c) To maintain the standards, honour and independence of the Bar, to promote, preserve and improve the services and functions of the Bar, and to represent and act for the Bar generally as well as in its relations with others and also in matters affecting the administration of justice.
 - d) To formulate and implement policies for and to regulate (including by making, altering and giving effect to regulatory arrangements as defined in section 21 of the Legal Services Act 2007 in respect of) all aspects of
 - i) education and training for the Bar, including, but without limitation,
 - a. education and training in the Academic Stage as defined in the Bar Training Regulations;
 - b. education and training in the Vocational Stage as defined in the Bar Training Regulations;
 - c. education and training in pupillage;
 - d. continuing education and training for barristers;
 - e. testing by assessment, examinations or otherwise of students, barristers and other qualified lawyers; making provision itself for, or arranging for others to make provision for, such education, training and testing;
 - ii) qualification for Call to the Bar and for the grant of rights of audience and rights to conduct litigation and other rights exercisable by barristers;
 - iii) the grant of rights of audience and rights to conduct litigation exercisable by barristers and other rights exercisable by barristers;
 - iv) the authorisation of barristers to carry on reserved legal activities as defined in the Legal Services Act 2007;

- v) the authorisation of bodies of persons (corporate or unincorporated) to carry on reserved legal activities as defined in the Legal Services Act 2007;
- vi) the conduct, practice and discipline of barristers, including the conduct of barristers exercising rights of audience, rights to conduct litigation and other rights exercisable by barristers;
- vii) the conduct, practice and discipline of other persons authorised by the Bar Council to carry on reserved legal activities as defined in the Legal Services Act 2007;
- viii) the conduct, practice and discipline of persons who are not authorised by the Bar Council to carry on reserved legal activities but who are managers or employees of persons who are so authorised (within the meaning of the Legal Services Act 2007).
- e) To make arrangements, either directly or through another body, for the conduct of disciplinary hearings and to take disciplinary action according to the Bar Council's regulatory arrangements in respect of those persons who are subject to those rules.
- f) To refer to the Inns' Council in accordance with Paragraph 6(a) of the Introduction any general policy of the Bar Council which affects the assets or liabilities of the Inns or any of them or otherwise requires implementation or acceptance by the Inns or any of them and, upon the Inns' Council referring back to the Bar Council any such policy in accordance with Paragraph 6(b) of the Introduction, to reconsider the same and to consider the observations and recommendations of the Inns' Council in connection therewith.
- g) To consider all recommendations and other matters referred to the Bar Council by the Inns' Council.
- h) In consultation and agreement with the Inns' Council to keep under review and amend as necessary the Bar Training Regulations.
- i) To create a board, to be known as the Bar Standards Board, to discharge its regulatory functions. The Bar Standards Board shall be constituted in accordance with such constitution as the Bar Council shall from time to time determine.

For the purposes aforesaid the Bar Council shall have all appropriate powers and jurisdiction, including (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) power to raise funds for its general purposes, and to use the services of any other persons including any charity or charities established by the Bar Council for educational purposes.