

Minutes of the ACL Council Meeting
held on 26th March 2026
 online, via Teams
 10am



Council members present: David Bailey-Vella (DBV), Kris Kilsby (KK), Amy Dunkley (AD), Nathan Cameron (NC) & Nicholas Lee (NL)

Also present: Carol Calver (CC) Head of Operations

Item	
1	Welcome and apologies
1.1	DBV welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Victoria Morrison-Hughes, Julian Caddick, Jane Risley & Nick Northrop.
2	Minutes of the council meeting held on 24 th February 2026
2.1	It was unanimously agreed that the draft minutes of 24 th February meeting were an accurate reflection. Redacted items were approved.
3	Actions arising from the council meeting held on 24 th February
3.1	Actions were reviewed and updated. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. GHR – AD asked LJ Cockerill about CLs not being listed in GHRs. Cockerill agreed to look into it and provide an update. CC suggested the member survey should go out either way as even with little uptake or provision of additional data, it provides an opportunity to detail to the members what we have been trying to achieve. 2. Corporate Sponsorship packages - Council to review proposal and agree next steps / discuss with members at AGM on 21/04 3. Advocacy WS offer with WiC - Further discussion to be had, <i>redacted due to confidentiality</i>. 4. Mock Mediation Session – online / in-person, how and when?
4	Chairman’s Report
4.1	DBV provided feedback from the ACL in Conversation event with Lady Cockerill and that due to lower than expected attendance due to various factors, this resulted in a quite intimate gathering allowing two-way candid discussion to take place. DBV will ask LJ Cockerill to be Keynote at ACL London Conference on 6 th November, <i>redacted due to confidentiality</i> .
4.2	DBV and Council discussed the upcoming Annual General Meeting, confirming objectives and plans.
5	PR & Marketing Committee Report
5.1	NC provided Council with an update on the upcoming Manchester Costs Conference – confirming speakers, breakouts and sponsors. Council discussed having an ACL Panel Q&A, with it being decided the AGM was a better platform for general member discussions.

5.2	NL updated Council on the 'Why Be' campaign, the brief having been revised and to be discussed again with the CLSB & ACLT before final re-submission to Black Letter and Station Road.
5.3	DBV explained to Council that a shortlisted nominee for Costs Lawyer of the Year (Modern Law) had been removed following our request as they were not a Costs Lawyer.
6	Policy Committee Report
6.1	KK detailed recent submissions to consultations: LSB - proposed statement of policy MoJ - Interest on Lawyers' Client Accounts Scheme MoJ – LSB Public Bodies Review And detailed current consultations of: CJC - Use of AI for Preparing Court Documents Members are being surveyed with a response due by 14 th April.
6.2	Chartered status and name change actions and applications have been postponed while consultations have needed responses.
7	Education Committee Report
7.1	As neither JR or NN in attendance an update will be provided at next Council Meeting.
8	Finance & Internal Policy Committee Report
8.1	JC (on annual leave) updated Council that while there had been fluctuations in the investment values this was expected due to volatility within the markets and this is anticipated to settle over time.
9	Operations Report
9.1	CC reminded Council that KKs Council term would end at the end of May, with nominations opening on 1 st April until 15 th – followed by a ballot if more than one nomination received.
10	Any other business
10.1	NC asked the Education committee to feedback on Tutors on the ACLT Course <i>redacted due to confidentiality</i> - how are tutors recruited, vetted and monitored?
11	Date of next meeting
11.1	The next meeting is Tuesday 28 th April via Teams. 10am to 12 midday.