

Devon and Somerset Law Society: Report on 2025 Activity

About The Solicitors' Charity

Founded over 167 years ago, the Solicitors' Charity is the dedicated occupational charity for the solicitors' profession in England and Wales. The Charity provides physical, mental, professional, and financial well-being support to solicitors on the Roll of England and Wales, those who have previously been on the Roll, and their dependants. It continues to provide that vital safety net for solicitors (*see Page 3 – a Law Society advertorial from January 2026 for a further description of what is delivered*).

Growth in amount awarded in 2025

The Solicitors' Charity delivers a holistic, tailored package of wellbeing support for solicitors in need. In the latest financial year, £1.27m was awarded in the form of direct financial awards and referrals to wellbeing providers (c.£100K more than in 2024).

In 2025, The Solicitors' Charity assisted 247 clients, making nearly 1000 individual awards.

Its team of Case Managers (now numbering four, plus a team head) provides empathetic support to applicants and work with them to identify appropriate help and signposting. This help may take the form of funded referrals for specialist advice and support in areas such as money and debt management, career coaching, mental health assessments and follow up therapy, or through direct financial support on a one off or ongoing basis.

LawCare Grant Funding

Combined with the Law Society funding, the two organisations provided c50% of LawCare's income in 2025 helping them to provide immediate helpline, online chat, and e-mail support, as well as peer support, research, and advocacy. In 2025 LawCare provided support to 365 solicitors in England and Wales – and this help can be accessed by ANYONE working in the law (including paralegals, legal assistants, compliance officers and practice managers).

Fundraising Requirement in 2025

The Charity is funded by a mix of donated Retained Client Balances (RCBs), interest from investments, and voluntary fundraising. RCBs form the most significant part of income either through new donations or the interest on investment of RCBs; the result of careful stewarding over many years.

Over the last five years RCBs have made-up the bulk of the Charity's income along with interest from investments.

With the increase in complexity of client need, the uncertainty over the future of RCBs, and as part of its strategy, it began a fundraising project last year to start to diversify our funding sources and to increase them to meet in-year costs.

Firms, law societies and suppliers to the legal sector can elect to show their support more visibly by joining a corporate giving scheme (Firm Friends), make The Solicitors' Charity their Charity of the Year or offer a single donation.

DASLS' help in promoting news releases and updates to its members is welcomed and undoubtedly helps to raise its profile and encourage people to seek support from The Solicitors' Charity when they need it.

Devon	Somerset
Total Grants paid in 2025 £45,655 (4 clients)	Total Grants paid in 2024 £28,622 (5 clients)
Support and help provided by the Charity included: • Month by month financial support and funded referrals - these referrals and awards included counselling, bereavement counselling and payments to clear debt to improve anxiety; • Payments for upkeep and towards replacement of vital cars as well as various domestic and housing costs; • Additional seasonal support.	

In total, grants paid in 2025 across the two counties was over £74K – more than double the amount of support provided in 2024. Of the nine clients supported, four were between 80-89 years of age, four between 50-59 and one aged 40-49. Four were male and five were female.

A Huge Thank you to DASLS

The programme of support for solicitors, former solicitors and their dependants can't be done without the continued support of law societies like DASLS.

As well as the welcome annual financial donation, The Solicitors' Charity is very grateful that DASLS features The Solicitors' Charity on its website, magazine and LinkedIn posts, and invites a representative of the Charity to key events in its calendar.

Thank you!

Anita McCallum
Director of Impact & Development
6th March 2026

The Vital Safety Net for Solicitors.

THE SOLICITORS' CHARITY.
Supporting you, since 1858

A career in law can be demanding, but it can also be deeply rewarding. Through every stage of the profession, one thing has always mattered: making sure solicitors feel supported, not alone.

For over 165 years, The Solicitors' Charity has been here for solicitors, retired solicitors, and their dependants in England and Wales, offering confidential wellbeing support through life's ups and downs.

Today, that support reflects the reality that pressure rarely comes in just one form. That is why our work spans four pillars of wellbeing: emotional, physical, professional, and financial. These cover more areas than you might think, from career coaching to therapy, and from practical help when ill to lending a hand financially.

We are proud to be the only charity with solicitors as our sole focus.

Whether you need support yourself (Get Help), want to refer our details to someone else, or are interested in how the profession can help sustain this vital safety net, we would love to connect.

And if you're able to help others, there are simple ways to Play Your Part. From donating unclaimed client balances to getting your firm involved, your support helps ensure solicitors never have to face hardship alone.

If you're at a national Law Society event this year that we are attending, do come and say hello.

And if you are a local law society or JLD committee member – please do let us know about your programme so that we can support it. We'd love to come and visit!

Get in touch

Get Help.

Here for solicitors, since 1858.

Emotional Wellbeing



Find out more

Financial Wellbeing



Find out more

Physical Wellbeing



Find out more

Professional Wellbeing



Find out more

Play Your Part.

Looking after our own – together.

Make a Donation



Find out more

Unclaimed Balances



Find out more

Firm Friends



Find out more