



**CHAMBERS PRO BONO
FRAMEWORK**

Field Court Chambers



THE CHAMBERS PRO BONO FRAMEWORK REPORT

APRIL 2026

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Pro bono snapshot

44%

Barristers reported undertaking pro bono work in 2025*



49

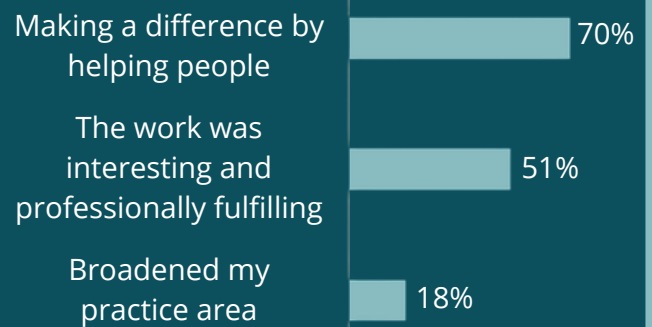
Chambers signed up to The Chambers Pro Bono Framework in 2025



700+

Barristers appeared on the 2026 Pro Bono Recognition List, a 13% increase from the previous year

The most common benefits of undertaking pro bono work, reported by barristers*



1 in 5

self-employed barristers practising from chambers provided one to two days of pro bono work

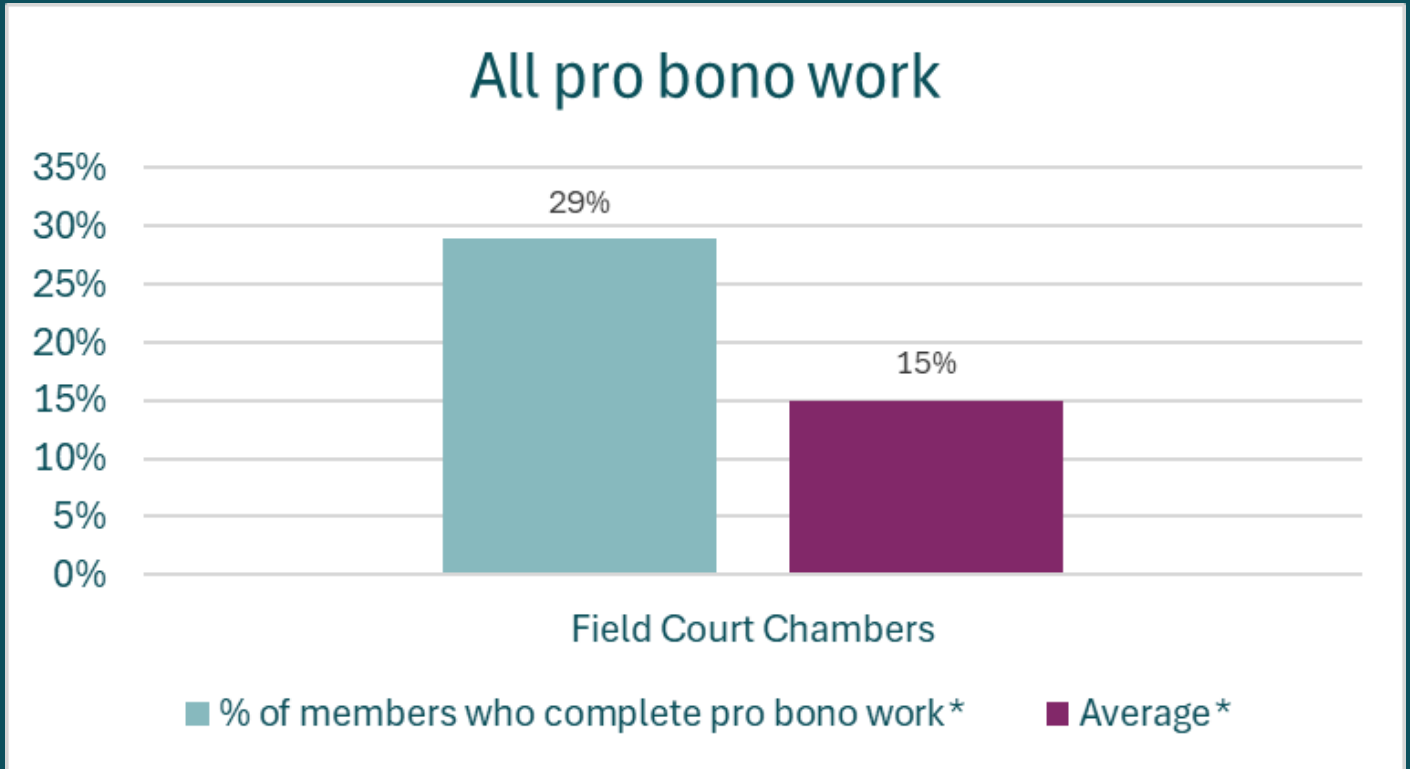
*Data taken from the 2025 Barristers' Working Lives Survey (Bar Council)

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Field Court Chambers Pro Bono Work in 2025

In 2025, 29% of members from Field Court Chambers reported completing pro bono work, putting Chambers above the average of Framework sets.



Our Pro Bono Champions are:

Lily Cooke
Mark Townsend

Members who completed pro bono work:

Aristide Hoang-Brown, Harrison Engler, Joanna Thom, Madeleine Southey, Mark Tempest, Michael Reason, Dr Sara Hunton and Tony Harrop-Griffiths

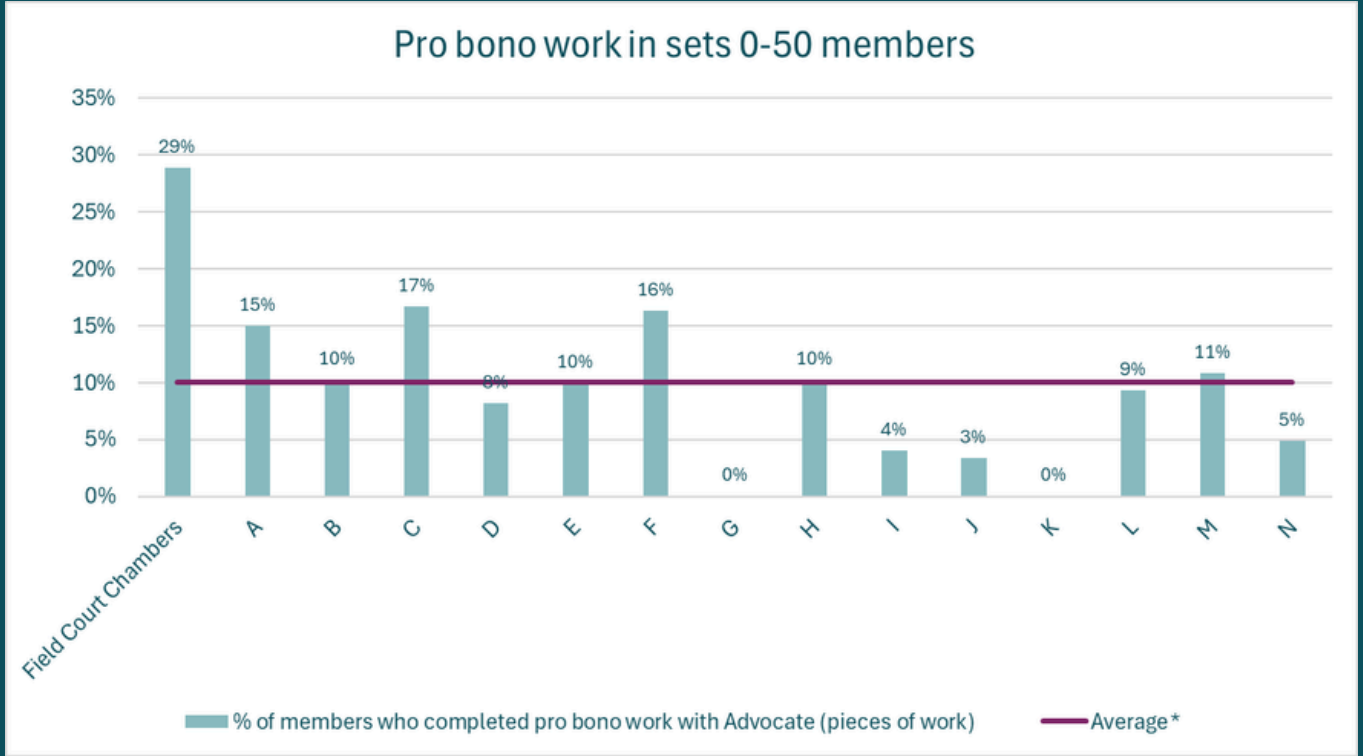
*Data produced from information provided by chambers based on all pro bono work completed in 2025. The average is based on all chambers who took part in The Chambers Pro Bono Framework.

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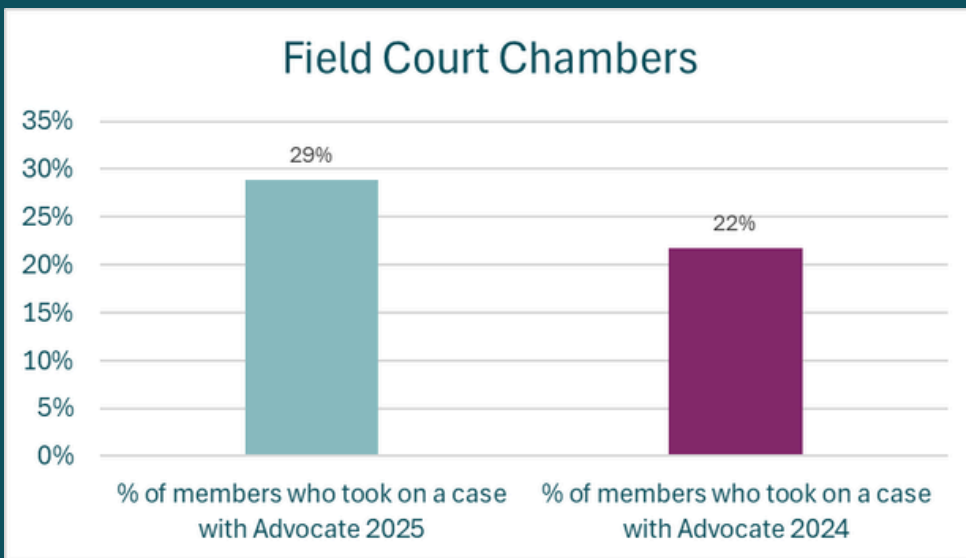
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Work with Advocate

This chart compares the percentage of barristers in each chambers that take part in pro bono work with Advocate in sets of a similar size nationwide. It offers a comparison of where Field Court Chambers work falls in relation to other sets of up to 50 members.



Chambers sits considerably above the average of pro bono work completed when compared to sets of a similar size.



This chart compares the percentage of members who did pro bono work with Advocate in 2025 against 2024.

A higher percentage of members from Field Court Chambers have completed work with Advocate in 2025.

*The average presented in this graph is based on chambers who took part in The Chambers Pro Bono Framework of a similar size (0-50).

Pro Bono in Action

An Advocate panel member stepped in at short notice to represent a mother before the SEND Tribunal.

The mother was trying to secure a school place for her son, who has special educational needs and requires access to specialist support. English is not the mother's first language, and she was also suffering the recent bereavement of the child's father. Following questioning and submissions, the Tribunal agreed that the school is uniquely placed to meet the educational requirements under the child's Education, Health and Care Plan. They concluded that, despite capacity challenges, the school can accommodate him and that the local authority cannot rely on the exception under Section 39(4) of the Children and Families Act 2014 to deny placement, noting that difficulty is not the same as impossibility. Thanks to our panel member's support, the child is now able to access the educational support he needs to thrive.

Another Advocate Panel Member worked with a solicitor via Pro Bono Connect to assist a grandmother in family proceedings concerning two grandchildren who had been taken into care by the Local Authority.

Their father is in prison abroad for serious assault and their mother passed away unexpectedly in 2024. The grandmother was initially seeking a Special Guardianship Order but later applied for a defined contact order, as the only family member left that the children had regular contact with. Both parties provided unwavering support through advice and representation throughout the proceedings. Thanks to their assistance, the Local Authority has now changed the final care plans from adoption to long-term fostering. This means that the grandmother will now be able to see the children once a fortnight.

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Ideas on how to encourage pro bono work in Chambers

Encouraging pupils and junior tenants to sign-up to Advocate.

Hosting events to discuss pro bono work.

Raising pro bono opportunities in a targeted and practical way, aligning with a member's experience, availability and practice goals, which has proved far more effective than general circulation alone.

Targeting discussions with individuals that demonstrate the business case for doing pro bono work.

Communicating and celebrating pro bono cases in the same way that our barristers' paid work is publicised (on our website, LinkedIn and internally) also helps reinforce the importance chambers, as a whole, gives to pro bono.

Circulating the cases that are on offer.

Promoting barristers who complete pro bono work through blogs, news articles, and social media.

Providing practical tips and guidance on how to get involved.

Encouraging members to nominate for awards to gain recognition for their inspiring pro bono contributions.

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Thank you Field Court Chambers for participating in: The Chambers Pro Bono Framework 2025

In 2025, you committed to:

Appointing a Pro Bono Champion
Actioning pro bono work
Organising a seminar
Reporting on the pro bono work completed

We extend our sincere thanks to the members and staff of Field Court Chambers for their unwavering support of Advocate and access to justice. We could not continue to operate without all you do.

“Your organisation has not only provided access to brilliant barristers but, more importantly, to kind-hearted professionals who genuinely care. The support I have received has been extraordinary, and I am fully aware that many others have benefitted just as much - people who, like me, would have been left voiceless against powerful corporations that too often act as if they are above the law.” - Advocate helpseeker

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Annex

The Chambers Pro Bono Framework (The Framework) is an opportunity for all chambers in England and Wales to establish their commitment to undertaking pro bono work and improving access to justice.

As the Bar's national pro bono charity, Advocate wants to make it possible for every chambers to be part of the solution and to help us address the growing number of people in desperate need of legal assistance, who cannot obtain legal aid or afford to pay.

The Framework provides the opportunity to strengthen and highlight the pro bono ethos of your chambers and makes it possible for everyone, both barristers and staff, to contribute.

By signing up to The Framework, chambers commit to four actions within a calendar year. These are:

- (1) Appoint Pro Bono Champions**
- (2) Action pro bono work as a chambers**
- (3) Organise a seminar on pro bono**
- (4) Report on the pro bono done**

The data used in this report was obtained through self-reporting from Chambers in England and Wales who participated in the 2025 Framework, data gathered through Advocate's reporting system, and the Bar Council's 2025 Barristers' Working Lives Survey.

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