

APIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2026.

Date: 14th May 2026

Time: 11.45 am.

Location: Leonardo Hotel, Hinckley Island, Hinkley, LE10 3JA (Hybrid meeting).

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The AGM was opened by Matt Tuff, President of APIL, who welcomed everyone to the meeting. The President thanked all members who voted in this year's additional officer elections. Matt Tuff noted that he had enjoyed his year as President and thanked everyone at APIL for making him feel welcome.

Small to Medium Size Firm EC seat: **Nikki Ealey of Nockolds Solicitors** was appointed to the Executive Committee in the Small to Medium size firm seat. Nikki has shown a commitment to APIL through her work on the APIL Junior Litigators group, the Future Leaders Forum and more recently in the Junior Member seat.

Junior Member EC seat: **Toby Konarzewski of Anthony Gold Solicitors** was appointed to the Executive Committee in the Junior Member seat. Toby qualified as a solicitor in 2024 and is passionate to rebuild public trust in the PI sector.

The Annual Report and Accounts had been added to the APIL website, and all members were sent a link ahead of the meeting. All persons who were not APIL members were asked to leave the room.

2. REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2025

Brett Dixon, APIL Secretary, provided an overview setting out the highlights of 2025:

APIL was granted permission to intervene and make oral submissions against the ruling in Mazur -v- Charles Russell Speechlys. APIL's submission was successful and APIL was delighted with the impact that their submissions had in the Court of Appeal decision and the positive impact that this will have for APIL members.

2025 saw the launch of APIL's Corporate Supporter Scheme, with 16 partner firms joining last year.

In 2025 press coverage was boosted by 62%, by June APIL had surpassed the previous year's total. Messages on key issues such as limitation for abuse claims, legal costs, patient safety and fundamental dishonesty were published across a broad spectrum of outlets, from national newspapers to regional titles, magazines and industry journals. Thousands of new followers were welcomed to APIL's social media channels.

The 'rebuilding shattered lives campaign' continued and 'Rusty's story' won the award for the best short film at the Association Excellence Awards. The film having 1.6 million views.

APIL's Injury Awareness week was taken to Westminster for the first time.

APIL stood up for victims of negligence in 24 consultations, spanning topics from costs, regulation and whiplash, to vehicle technology.

The Justice Select Committee's inquiry into Access to Justice was informed how fourteen years of damaging reforms based on vitriolic and misinformed rhetoric have led to negligence victims effectively becoming second class citizens.

APIL secured a government commitment to review bereavement damages law. Campaigning helped convince government to think twice over a key justice barrier for abuse victims.

APIL took the lead in highlighting growing abuse of the rules on fundamental dishonesty, as reported by its members.

APIL's unique research ensured its campaign work was supported by hard hitting groundbreaking evidence. In response to the government's whiplash review an authoritative report was produced based on APIL's own research and analysis; evidence exposed how the reforms have utterly failed to benefit consumers, lack public support, and will only increase the justice gap for road injury victims.

2025 saw significant focus on clinical negligence costs. APIL's evidence to the Public Accounts Committee stressed the human cost of clinical negligence and the need for fair compensation to help victims get their lives back on track. Research was also undertaken by APIL to contradict the narrative that claimants and their lawyers are responsible for rising costs in clinical negligence claims.

2025 saw the 10th anniversary of the Serious Injury Guide further strengthening APIL's collaborative working across the sector,

APIL delivered over 120 webinars on a huge range of subjects, and conferences remained as popular as ever with high ratings from members.

APIL continued to run the special interest and regional group meetings which are a valuable member benefit, with 40 meetings being run in 2025.

Members were encouraged to view the annual report to view a full list of APIL achievements.

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report was presented by Gordon Dalyell, APIL Treasurer:

Following two consecutive years of loss, mainly due to the Judicial Review into fixed recoverable costs, the focus for 2025 was stability and achieving a break-even outcome at the end of the year. APIL posted an operational surplus of £11,175.

The success of APIL's new Corporate Supporter Scheme had a large impact on the year end position. The revenue generated from the scheme is ringfenced to be spent in areas that benefit members being research, campaigns, JR and interventions along with the running and development costs of the scheme. For this reason, the scheme sits outside of APIL's operational accounts. APIL's 2025 surplus with the APIL Corporate Supporter revenue factored in amounts to a pre-tax figure of £58,263.

Operational turnover was £2,220,603 which was 1% lower than 2024. However, due to careful management and some research and campaigning projects being funded by APIL's Corporate Support scheme the direct cost of providing APIL's services was over 14% lower than the previous year.

When the ACS scheme is factored in, APIL's turnover was 0.35% higher than 2024 and direct costs were over 10% lower.

The contribution to the organisation's finances from membership subscriptions and training remains vital and the continued support of APIL's members is valued.

- Membership subscriptions accounted for 39% of APIL's turnover,
- Conferences accounted for 32% of turnover,
- Training accounted for 22% of turnover.

Savings on overhead spending totalled £25,000 being 4.6% lower than the previous year.

The operational outcome increased APIL's reserves which at the year-end amounted to £838,527. This figure includes the operational reserve fund, equal to three months' of operational costs and the ringfenced revenue from the APIL Corporate Supporter Scheme.

Thanks were noted for APIL Officers and Executive Committee members and for the commitment, dedication and hands-on attitude of their hard-working staff team.

Members were thanked for their support during 2025.

4. RESOLUTIONS AND ELECTION RESULTS.

This section of the AGM was presented by Brett Dixon, APIL Secretary.

Resolution 1:

To re-appoint: Clayton and Brewill Chartered Accountants, 149-155 Canal Street, Nottingham, NG1 7HR as APIL's auditors and to authorise the Executive Committee to fix their remuneration.

The resolution was proposed by Brett Dixon and seconded by Gordon Dalyell, APIL Treasurer.

All votes were cast via a poll. The results of the poll were as follows:

For: 40
Against: 1

Resolution 1 was approved.

Resolution 2:

That the amended text of the Articles of Association (which accompany this Notice and as agreed by the Executive Committee) be approved. The amendments give effect to the decision by the Executive Committee to:

- (a) Amend Article 22.1 (current article number) to reduce the quorum for an Annual General Meeting from 50 members to 30 members.
- (b) Remove Articles 28 to 35 (current article numbers) which address '*composition of the Executive Committee, appointment and retirement*' from APIL's Articles of Association into a Bye Law (Appendix 3). Such Bye Law sets out the revised appointment process of Executive Committee members to introduce Officer progression.
- (c) Amend Article 32.3 (current article number which is proposed to be clause 6.3 of the Bye Law (appendix 3)), to extend the term of an appointed Executive Committee member to up to two years.
- (d) Clarify the distinction between '*Member*' and '*Voting Member*' throughout the articles.
- (e) Rectify a drafting error to clause 50.1 (current article number and proposed new article number 43.1) to replace the word 'co-opt' to 'appoint' to align with the language used throughout the Articles of Association.
- (f) Strengthen the provisions for removing ineffective Executive Committee members set out in Article 34 (current article number and proposed clause 8 of Bye Law (appendix 3)).
- (g) Amend Article 40.1 (current article number and proposed article number 32.1) to clarify that the Executive Committee not the Chief Executive Officer holds residual powers.

The resolution was proposed by Brett Dixon and seconded by Matthew Tuff, President.

All the votes were cast via a poll. The results of poll were as follows:

For: 40
Against: 1

Resolution 2 was approved.

Officers' election:

Following a call for nominations for the positions of President, Vice-Presidents x 2 and Secretary the following APIL members were elected unopposed:

Guy Forster of Fieldfisher - President;
Pauline Roberts of Hugh James – Vice-President; and
Suzanne Trask, consultant solicitor– Vice-President

All candidates were automatically elected and started their terms of office from the AGM.

There were 2 candidates for the position of Secretary. All candidates were eligible to be elected as officers on the executive committee and there were no invalid votes.

Candidates name	Firm	Votes
Kim Harrison	Slater & Gordon	145
Simon Quinn	Hilary Meredith Solicitors	61

Kim Harrison of Slater & Gordon was elected as Secretary having polled the most votes.

Matthew Tuff automatically remained on the executive committee as an Additional Officer in the role of Immediate Past President for a term of one year.

Additional Officer election:

There was one vacant additional officer position. There were 5 candidates for this vacancy. All candidates were eligible to be elected as additional officers on the executive committee. There were no invalid votes.

Candidates name	Firm	Votes
Anna-Marie Kavanagh	Irwin Mitchell	54
Sandeep Gill	Hugh James	44
Daniel Easton	Leigh Day Solicitors	36
Helen Clifford	Helen Clifford Law	22
Simon Quinn	Hilary Meredith Solicitors	9

Anna-Marie Kavanagh of Irwin Mitchell was elected, having polled the most votes.

5. THANKS

Thanks were noted for all the committed volunteers including the co-ordinators of special interest and regional groups and the many working groups set up to consider policy matters.

Kim Harrison was thanked for her term as President and Immediate Past President. Kim following completion of her term was awarded Honorary Life Membership.

Thanks were noted for Brett Dixon who ceased his role as Secretary. Brett had shown considerable commitment to APIL following his first appointment to the EC in 2014.

Thanks, were noted for Daniel Easton who stepped down from his position as Additional Officer. Daniel was thanked for his time and support over the past 3 years.

Matt Tuff formally closed the AGM.