



Impact Report 2022-23

Bringing injustice to light: a path to criminal justice reform

///APPEAL



The APPEAL Team

Impact Report 2022-23

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Mission

APPEAL is a non-profit law practice committed to fighting miscarriages of justice and demanding reform.

Aims & objectives

We fight the cases of individual victims of unsafe convictions and unfair sentences who cannot afford to pay for a lawyer themselves. We provide not just legal representation but also thorough investigation and holistic support, neither of which are properly funded by Legal Aid. We use individual cases to advocate and campaign, informing the media, parliament, criminal justice policy makers and the public about how and why miscarriages of justice occur and what needs to change to stop them. We inspire the legal profession to take on this challenge and join us in fighting for change.

Vision

Our vision is a justice system in which people in England and Wales are at less risk of wrongful conviction or unfair sentencing and all such wrongs are righted as a matter of urgency.

Hope on the horizon



Emily

Emily Bolton
 Founder & Director

I will always remember the morning of 24 January 2023, when APPEAL’s client Andy Malkinson was given the news that his case had been referred to the Court of Appeal. We also learned that thanks to a DNA match on the database, another man had been arrested for the crime for which Andy spent more than 17 years wrongly imprisoned.

Our joy and relief at the news were tempered with anger. Why wasn’t the vital evidence, which APPEAL had to battle to uncover, made available earlier? How many others languish behind bars while the system ignores crucial leads which could set them free? The system as currently constructed won’t let us find out, but APPEAL counts a small number of them as our clients.

Andy’s story shines a spotlight on many of the problems that APPEAL has been campaigning to fix for almost a decade. This year, we will support him, and others we represent, to participate in the Law Commission’s review of the criminal appeals system in England and Wales. We intend to seize this landmark opportunity, which came about in part due to our advocacy, to call for transformational change.

Having founded APPEAL and led the organisation until this pivotal moment, I am stepping down from my role as Director in 2023 to concentrate on casework and campaigns. With an expanded board and staff team, I will be handing over to renowned criminal defence lawyer and campaigner Matt Foot, who will bring fresh vision to the organisation and lead the team alongside Co-Director Emma Tor.

Naima Sakande, our Women’s Justice Advocate and Deputy Director, whose fierce advocacy and level-headed organisation management have been key to APPEAL’s success, stood down at the end of this year and will be much missed by both clients and the staff team.

As we enter our second decade in January 2024 under new leadership, I know that APPEAL will spearhead renewed efforts to overturn miscarriages of justice and demand vital criminal justice reform.

After 20 long years, Andy Malkinson will finally have his day in court

Nearly two decades after his wrongful conviction, APPEAL client Andy Malkinson has finally been granted a chance to clear his name.

In January 2023, the Criminal Cases Review Commission (CCRC) referred Andy's conviction to the Court of Appeal as it considers there is now a real possibility it will be overturned.

This is a significant and hard-earned breakthrough for Andy, who has always protested his innocence of a 2003 rape for which he served over 17 years in prison. The CCRC refers fewer than 3% of cases, and twice previously turned down Andy's case.

The CCRC's decision came in response to an application by APPEAL, which presented the compelling new evidence uncovered through years of investigation, made possible by APPEAL's partners and supporters.

This included the results of DNA testing commissioned by APPEAL, which not only supported Andy's innocence but led to further testing that subsequently implicated another man, who has since been identified and arrested.

The new evidence also comprised of previously undisclosed documents and photographs undermining the identification evidence used to prosecute Andy, which APPEAL obtained by twice taking the police to court.

Andy's case illustrates the need for reform to tackle problems which plague our criminal justice system, particularly the unlawful non-disclosure and destruction of evidence by police forces.

Andy's battle for justice is not yet over. APPEAL is working with counsel Edward Henry KC and Max Hardy to persuade the Court of Appeal that Andy's conviction cannot stand. The case has also benefited from the expert assistance of law firms Ropes & Gray, Latham & Watkins and Mishcon de Reya.



Andy takes a walk on the beach on the day his case was referred to the Court of Appeal. Photo Credit: Fran Robertson



Shining a light through our casework

Each of our cases shines a spotlight on wider issues within the criminal appeals system, informing our advocacy and campaigns. Here are some examples which are just the tip of the iceberg. (An * indicates a pseudonym.)

Women's Justice

Sunita* was convicted, along with another man, of the murder of her husband. Evidence obtained by APPEAL demonstrates that she had learning difficulties and a very low IQ. Compounded by the fact that Sunita's comprehension of English (not her native tongue) was also limited, APPEAL has concerns about her ability to properly participate in her case and whether she was afforded a fair trial. APPEAL is working with counsel and experts to obtain fresh evidence and arguments to present to the Court of Appeal.

Flawed Forensics

Malcom* tragically died in prison after spending over two decades in prison for crimes he consistently maintained his innocence of. As is often the way in our cases, the jury at his 1997 trial were not unanimous in their decision to convict him of murder—only 10 out of 12 returned a guilty verdict (see page 10 for more on this). APPEAL obtained fresh expert evidence which casts doubt on the reliability of forensic evidence relied on to convict him and presented this to the CCRC, which is considering whether or not to refer his conviction to the Court of Appeal.

Disclosure failings

The Freshwater Five is one of our most high-profile cases. Four fisherman and a scaffold business owner were wrongly convicted of a drug smuggling conspiracy in the English Channel in 2011. On appeal 10 years later, the Court of Appeal acknowledged that the prosecution had failed to hand over vital marine navigation data to the defence and that there was 'no credible eye-witness testimony' linking them to the drugs found. Nevertheless, their convictions were upheld. A request that the IOPC reopen its investigation of the case, supported by former law enforcement officers, remains under review.

Racial justice

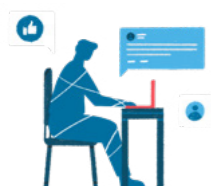
David Pinto is a dedicated father of four who, in 2013, was wrongly convicted of the murder of his nephew. David was convicted on purely circumstantial evidence when far more compelling leads were abandoned. The victim's mother—also David's sister—lost not only her son to murder but also her brother to prison. Racialised stereotypes about drugs and gangs played a role in convincing the jury that David would murder his own sister's son. She and the rest of David's family continue to fight to clear his name.



David Pinto's wife, sisters and children are determined to clear his name.

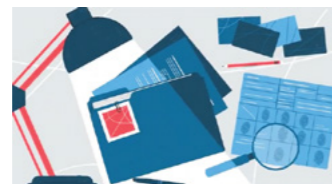
Casework stages

We identify which cases we can fight through a rigorous screening process.
We only represent people who cannot afford to pay for a lawyer and whose cases have the highest chance of success.



1 Screening

A review of core case documents. They might include the judge's summing up from the original trial, Court of Appeal Judgment or any CCRC documents. Obtaining these documents can take several months. The purpose is to determine whether there are potential avenues to explore in order to uncover fresh evidence or new arguments which could support an appeal. Only a small number of cases pass Stage 1.



2 Investigation

A more detailed investigation. This can be lengthy, as we review documents such as police, medical or phone records. Getting access to this evidence is challenging and limited by post-conviction disclosure rules. We may also instruct experts or interview witnesses. The purpose is to assess whether there are strong enough grounds for appeal to give our client a chance of success.

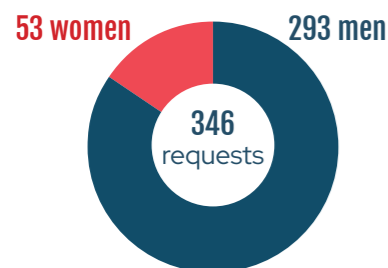


3 Litigation

We will draft grounds of appeal to the Court of Appeal or make an application on our client's behalf to the CCRC. We will also continue in-depth investigations throughout this stage. The purpose is to demonstrate that the conviction is 'unsafe' and ultimately that the Court of Appeal should overturn it.

In 2022/2023

This year, we considered and responded to **346** requests for legal assistance made by or on behalf of people inside and out of prison.



- 38** Individual requests submitted for access to evidence including:
 - 3** Post-conviction disclosure requests
 - 33** Subject access requests
- 2** Other evidence access requests

- 27** Individuals represented
 - 1** Case referred to the Court of Appeal
 - 5** Submissions to the Court of Appeal
 - 4** Submissions to the CCRC
 - 8** Experts instructed
 - 3** Formal complaints against law enforcement agencies made
 - 3** Successful complaints to the information commissioner

System snares, just for women

APPEAL's Women's Justice Initiative exists because there are too many women in prison who do not need or deserve to be there.

Although they make up just 4% of the prison population, as the government itself has admitted, these women are some of the most vulnerable in our society.

In order to comprehend the injustices many of them face, it's crucial to understand the gender-specific drivers which led them there in the first place. One of these women is Jenny (not her real name), a client of APPEAL.

For years, Jenny was subjected to abuse by her ex-partner so horrific that a psychologist described it as torture. The police failed to protect her from his violence time and again, making her feel she would never be believed. One night, she dropped their baby on the floor after being punched in the head. Too scared

to tell the truth for fear of her ex-partner's wrath, Jenny remained quiet about his violence and was convicted of harming her child. In prison, she found APPEAL.

We succeeded in her appeal against sentence, reducing her prison term from 10 to five years. Still determined to clear her name, Jenny appealed her conviction.

We uncovered compelling fresh evidence to support her claim about what actually happened, and the Court of Appeal was given the opportunity to address the impact of domestic violence on alleged criminal behaviour. Instead, they handed down a regressive judgment, flying in the face of the evidence in the case, and Jenny's conviction was upheld.

We are all inspired by the resilience Jenny showed in reliving her trauma, daring to challenge the status quo and giving a voice to survivors everywhere. And yet I can't help but

be angry. Jenny should never have been abused, should have been able to rely on the police to protect her, should have felt safe in her own home, and should have been able to raise her family free from fear. Instead, she was coerced, then convicted.

I am in awe of the strength shown by many of the women APPEAL represents, often in the face of extraordinary hardship. While supporting them to navigate a system that refuses to listen, we have learned how to speak out when all you feel is despair and how solidarity can save lives.

The Women's Justice Initiative remains essential to giving women like Jenny a voice.

— Naima Sakande, APPEAL's Women's Justice Advocate and Deputy Director



Naima Sakande and Jenny at a photoshoot for *The Mail on Sunday*. Credit: Craig Hibbert

“You have become someone that has helped me out of the darkest part of my life.”
— Jenny, in a note to Naima

Generating public outrage

Despite the small size of our team, APPEAL's work was featured in an average of more than one publication per week this year. The vast majority were in the country's most prominent news platforms (including the BBC, *The Times & Sunday Times*, ITV, *The Mail* and *The Guardian*). We were also featured in industry blogs and magazines. Publications were across print, radio, TV and podcasts.

After 17 years in prison, will Andrew Malkinson finally clear his name?

The Guardian told the story of Andy Malkinson's fight for justice in its Today in Focus podcast, following the case's referral to the Court of Appeal (see page 4). Interviewed by award-winning journalist Emily Dugan, who has been following his case for years, Andy's personal account was incredibly moving. Combining storytelling with insightful analysis, Today in Focus attracts more than 500,000 monthly listeners.



The Guardian told the story of 'Andy Malkinson's fight for justice' in a podcast.

'I was threatened for not paying my TV licence'

In an in-depth interview with Aasma Day at *The i Paper*, our client Josiane told her story of being prosecuted for not paying her TV licence.

Josiane has been working closely with APPEAL and has become a key advocate in the campaign to stop unfair prosecutions by the BBC (see page 10).

The article also provided analysis of the problems around BBC enforcement practices and linked to Josiane's petition. This is an example of how APPEAL harnesses human storytelling in the media to put pressure on those who can make change.

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'I was threatened with prosecution for not paying my TV licence, women are being disproportionately impacted'

Josiane Bazatoha suffered sleepless nights after being told she was being prosecuted for not having a TV licence. She is determined to fight against vulnerable people – particularly women – being prosecuted during the cost of living crisis

2022 / 2023



55 broadcasts or publications featured across 23 outlets



62k website visits over the year, up by 1.2k from last year (more than 15k hits on our TV Licensing FAQ page)



1,840 newsletters to people, with an audience increase of more than 500 from last year



1,300 overall increase in social media following

Speaking truth to power

APPEAL has been feeding into the Law Commission's review of criminal appeals in England and Wales. This review, announced in August 2022, came about in part due to a 2021 report by the Westminster Commission on Miscarriages of Justice in which APPEAL was instrumental.

Throughout the year, we have written to and had meetings with government ministers, MPs, peers and civil servants. We have responded to the government consultation on Legal Aid, published a policy briefing and supported relevant campaigns of partner organisations. We have spoken at nine external events, including a large, international event on wrongful convictions.

Tara Casey, our women's justice caseworker, was quoted in Parliament in October 2022 while the house was debating legislation affecting the criminalisation of the TV licence fee.



Two family members who have been fighting for justice for decades in a case that saw their loved one (an APPEAL client) convicted by a 10/2 jury verdict on the basis of dubious circumstantial evidence.

IS OUR JURY SYSTEM A VESTIGE OF WHITE SUPREMACY?

In October 2022, we were excited to launch a groundbreaking research project looking at the phenomenon of juries in England and Wales being permitted to deliver a guilty verdict when not all members of the jury are convinced of guilt.

This review is the first time that the origin of the 'majority verdict rule' in England and Wales has been subject to scrutiny.

This rule was introduced in 1967—a time of increased migration from

the Commonwealth as well as anti-racist and anti-colonial struggle. It abolished the centuries-old principle that a unanimous verdict was required in order for someone to be convicted of a criminal offence. Since the change, prosecutors have only needed to persuade 10 out of 12 jurors of a defendant's guilt. Many of the people APPEAL represents were wrongly convicted despite two of the jurors at their trial believing them to be innocent.

Led by our our researcher working on racism and injustice, Nisha Waller, and funded by the Baring

Foundation, the research project considers the extent to which race and class influenced the decision to introduce majority verdicts and how the rule interacts with miscarriages of justice.

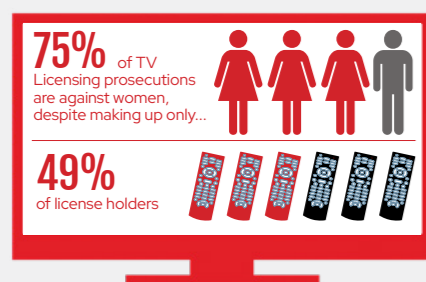
The team has so far drawn on hundreds of archive materials, including Home Office files and British newspapers. Initial findings suggest the introduction of the majority verdict rule may be linked to the decision to allow a wider range of people, in terms of race and class, to serve on juries. Look out for the interim report, expected imminently!



Josiane's campaign

This story shows how a committed individual, with lived experience of the criminal justice system, can become a change-maker.

Josiane was a lone parent struggling with household bills during the pandemic. Nevertheless, she was prosecuted for not paying her TV Licence fee. The charges were dropped after she sought legal assistance from APPEAL.



Statistics show that 75% of prosecutions brought by TV Licensing are against women. This, combined with Josiane's personal experience, motivated her to join our campaign to end the practice of

criminalising women for poverty-related offences. She quickly became the star of the campaign.

Advocacy

Supported by APPEAL, Josiane wrote a [petition](#) attracting 250,000 signatures on change.org, giving government a democratic mandate to address this issue. Letters were written by petition supporters to their local MPs.

Following this, Josiane forged a relationship with her local MP Stephen Metcalfe, now a key ally in the campaign. At a meeting at his constituency office, where Josiane was supported by APPEAL, they hashed out a parliamentary advocacy plan.

Strategic litigation

Alongside all of this, Josiane was bringing two legal cases against the BBC based on indirect gender discrimination, both of which resulted in success.

In one, with the support of the Public Law Project, Josiane threatened a judicial review against the BBC which resulted in them agreeing to conduct an internal Gender Disparity Review, overseen by Baroness Young of Hornsey OBE. The review was published in May 2023. Although it does not go far enough, in its report, the BBC does commit to making various changes to TV Licensing's enforcement practices.

Secondly, represented by Leigh Day, Josiane brought a private law claim against the BBC for indirect sex discrimination. A settlement was agreed, with the BBC awarding Josiane thousands in compensation plus her legal costs.

It's clear why we made Josiane our Woman of the Year on International Women's Day! We look forward to reporting on her further feats of advocacy in next year's impact report.



APPEAL's Naima Sakande, Stephen Metcalfe MP and Josiane at a meeting at Stephen's constituency office in January 2023.

Bound By Injustice

Bound By Injustice (BBI) is APPEAL's network for those at the sharp end of our broken justice system—people who have survived miscarriages of justice, and their loved ones.

Survivor advocacy

The group is facilitated by our Survivor Advocates, one of whom has lived experience as the spouse of someone wrongfully convicted.

Having a loved one in prison often has a massive effect on families' incomes, as the remaining partner struggles to balance paid work with caring for children and vulnerable family members, supporting the person in prison, as well as the legal battle. Our Survivor Advocates produced a 42-page [information pack](#) compiling support that may be available to them, especially during the cost-of-living crisis. This included benefits, grants, help with energy bills, cheap eats and useful resources.

This year, 70% of BBI members received individual support from the Survivor Advocates with issues such as housing, further education and prison conditions.

Building connections

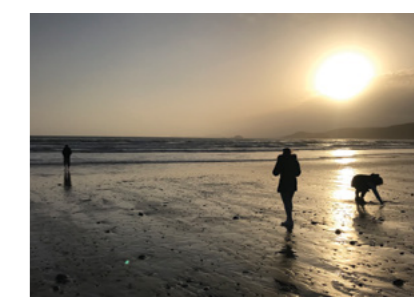
We provided two residential retreats for BBI members. The first took place in May in beautiful Pembrokeshire and was led by Jennifer Thompson, a speaker, advocate and pioneer of restorative justice who is also a crime survivor. Jennifer, founder of the US-based charity Healing Justice, facilitated a space for our community to speak openly about the trauma and loss caused by their own wrongful conviction, or that of a loved one.



On the final evening, the group walked along the beach at sunset before returning to the campsite to share what they had gained from the retreat. One member described how it had allowed them to feel 'connected in a deep and meaningful way with every single participant' and another called it 'a brilliant experience'.

In August, 30 members of our BBI community came together in Oxford to discuss what they had in common and find confidence as advocates for criminal justice reform. They also enjoyed cricket in the sun, punting on the river and activities facilitated by our Survivor Advocates. Everyone in the group bonded over their shared experiences, but the most notable connections were made between our very youngest BBI members. They presented an acrostic poem about BBI to a rapt audience of their loved ones. With nervous excitement, they read out:

Being together and Believing In each other



All images on this page show members of BBI and APPEAL staff on the Healing Injustice retreat in Pembrokeshire, Wales in May 2022.

These simple words epitomise BBI and reflect the feeling of unity which continues to grow within the community.

A story of holistic care

Over the past 20 years, I have been involved with several legal teams, but I can honestly say that APPEAL is the first to see me as more than just a case to progress.

They see me as a complete, multi-faceted, individual. This has proven to be essential in the way that Cath, one of APPEAL's Survivor Advocates, has supported me. She has repeatedly assisted me with sorting my health appointments and has gone above and beyond with trying to access adequate mental health support for me. Additionally, when I wanted to move to Scotland, she talked it all through with me to see if there was anything she could do to help with my move and all the added complications such a move presents for someone in my situation (such as liaising with probation).



Cookie and her partner on a BBI retreat, May 2022.



Since my move, I have been in constant contact with Cath to handle difficulties with my new accommodation. She has been able to advise me and help me to deal with my landlord and their responsibilities. This is all practical stuff, but that's not all Cath has been doing. She has been there to support me on a psychological level whilst mental health services

are arranged here. Cath has been there to answer my calls, reply to my messages, and, when she hasn't heard from me for a while, to reach out and see if I am alright. Her continued and consistent support has been invaluable.

— Cookie, a woman APPEAL represents

Our powerful community of supporters

The scope of our ambition to change the justice system is not matched by the size of our small staff team. We will only get there by growing a movement of lawyers to battle alongside us for change.

The achievements in this report were made possible because of those current and future legal professionals who have already joined the fight.

Lawyers working in for-profit firms donate their time for free (*pro bono*) to work on APPEAL's clients' cases. This gives the people we represent the depth and breadth of investigation which is so vital to reaching the truth. Working with APPEAL also opens other lawyers' eyes to the injustices in the system.

In addition, we partner with universities to inspire the next generation of social justice lawyers, offering specialist training to aspiring solicitors and barristers.

The eight law firms and four universities who have partnered with us this year form a key part of the wider APPEAL team; it makes a real difference to be able to count on their support. We strive to ensure they have inspiring, if challenging, experiences of working with us.

96%
reported that the programme has improved their professional skills

92%
rated their experience as Good or Excellent

100%
would recommend working *pro bono* with APPEAL

92%
said it has increased their awareness of errors and unfairness in the justice system

83%
said it has increased their awareness of difference and diversity in society

From a survey of lawyers who have worked with us *pro bono* over the past year.



APPEAL offers students a unique opportunity to bridge the gap between theory and practice, foster a deeper understanding of the legal system, and fight for a fair and inclusive justice system.

—Vanessa Wiggins, Lecturer at the University of East London

Working in partnership

Ropes & Gray has been a longstanding and generous supporter of APPEAL. Since our partnership began, they have donated over 4,600 hours of their expertise for free.

They have been key in developing our Bound By Injustice community, sponsoring an event held in their offices in 2019 where survivors of miscarriages of justice and their loved ones could meet. As Sue, whose husband was wrongly convicted and who now works for APPEAL as a Survivor Advocate, says, 'I remember walking into the room and being amazed that this had been laid on just for us, by people who had been working away so hard to support our loved ones'.

This year, Ropes & Gray brought a special guest speaker from the United States to the residential Bound By Injustice retreat in Oxford. John Huffington is an exoneree who spent 32 years in the Maryland prison system—10 of which were on death row—after being wrongfully convicted of a 1981 double murder. At the retreat, he spoke powerfully about dealing with the anger he feels at the system, and rebuilding his life on release. Many of the Bound By Injustice members, still fighting to overturn their convictions, were inspired by his story of survival.

In addition to supporting Bound By Injustice, this year, Ropes & Gray has lent its legal expertise to help many of the people APPEAL represents. The firm has assisted us in the appeal cases of Andy Malkinson and Sunita (see pages 4 and 5) and provided other types of legal support to APPEAL beneficiaries, enhancing our holistic model.

Ropes & Gray is also responsible for designing and printing this impact report! APPEAL and the people we represent are delighted to have the firm on our side in the fight for a fairer justice system.



Our work with APPEAL is about more than righting legal wrongs. It's equally about supporting the individuals wrongly incarcerated as well as their families. It's an absolute privilege to be part of the healing process and to watch the Bound By Injustice community support one another. We are stronger together.

— Amanda Raad, Partner at Ropes & Gray

Looking ahead

Here are five major things that, with the help of our supporters, APPEAL plans to achieve in 2023-24.

1 Play a pivotal role in reforming criminal appeals procedure and policy

We will act as a major contributor for the Law Commission's review of criminal appeals. We will provide evidence in two formal consultations, and facilitate our Bound By Injustice community in sharing their expertise with the Law Commission at an event at the Ministry of Justice. We will also mobilise a group of stakeholders to help us refine our proposals for reform and ensure we represent a unified voice for change.

2 Seek a major victory in the Court of Appeal

We will represent Andy Malkinson at his final appeal hearing, scheduled for July 2023. As well as presenting the DNA evidence supporting Andy's innocence, we will draw the court's attention to the evidence unearthed by APPEAL that was not disclosed to the defence at trial but which strongly undermines the prosecution's case. We will ensure that these 'disclosure violations' are seen for what they are—a key reason why Andy was wrongfully convicted. We will leverage this case in all of our policy reform efforts.

3 Strengthen the Bound By Injustice community

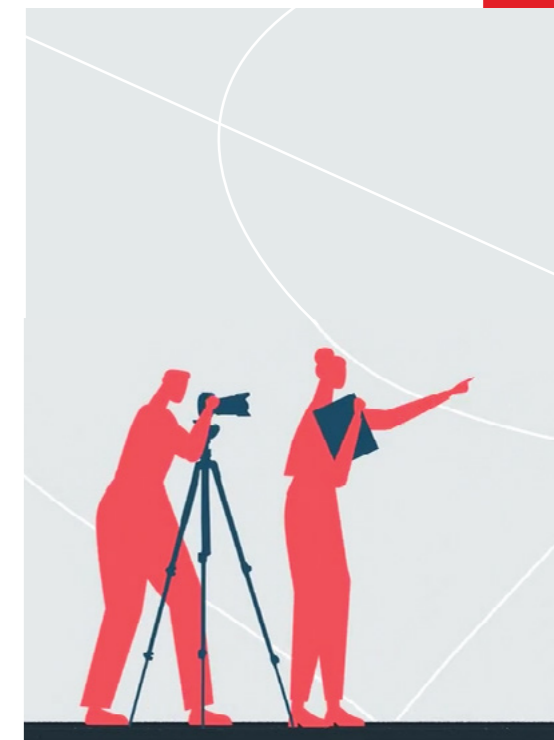
We will organise at least two in-person events for the Bound By Injustice community, including one designed to enhance the connections between the young members of the group. We will use new funding from the National Lottery Community Fund to build on the existing trusting relationships we have with our community, including through arranging home visits. We will work to create a safe and supported environment within which the group—including those in prison—can have their voices heard by those in positions of power.

4 Influence the conversation about racism in criminal justice

We will publish a groundbreaking report exploring whether current rules around non-unanimous jury verdicts in England and Wales find their origins in racism and whether this has links to miscarriages of justice and the silencing of Black, Asian and minority ethnic voices. By providing a reliable evidence base, the report will represent a significant development in the public conversation around racism in the criminal justice system. Based on our findings, we will propose how the system can be improved and advocate for change.

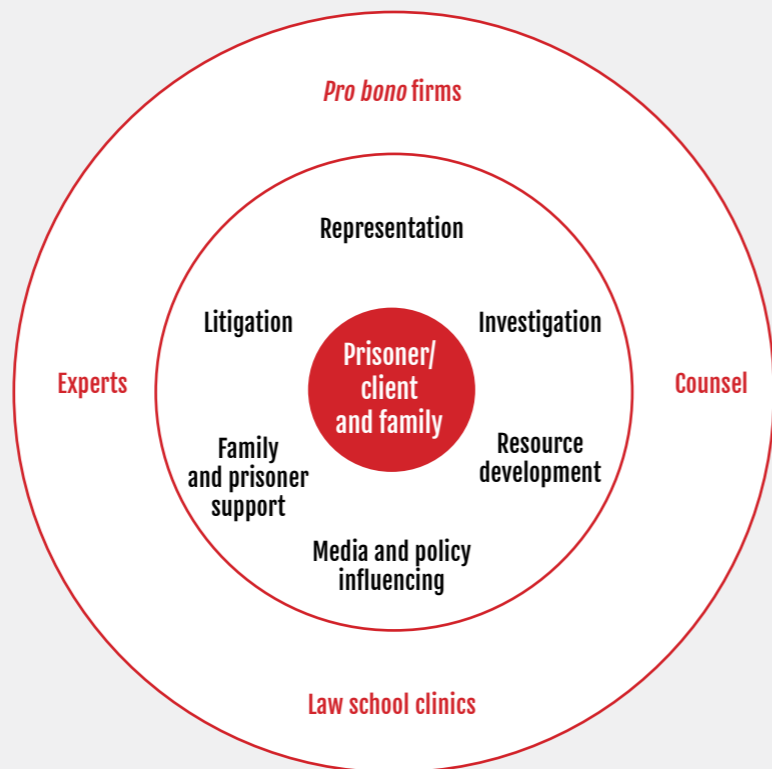
5 Stand up for those being prosecuted for being poor

We will hold the BBC to account as they implement their 10-point Action Plan aimed to address the gender disparity in TV Licensing prosecutions. We will create a 'Know your Rights' poster which will be widely distributed to those with vulnerabilities that are being prosecuted for not paying their TV Licence. We will hand in our petition, 'I'm not a criminal: Stop TV Licensing prosecuting people during the cost-of-living crisis', to the Culture Minister and create further media coverage around this issue.



How we work

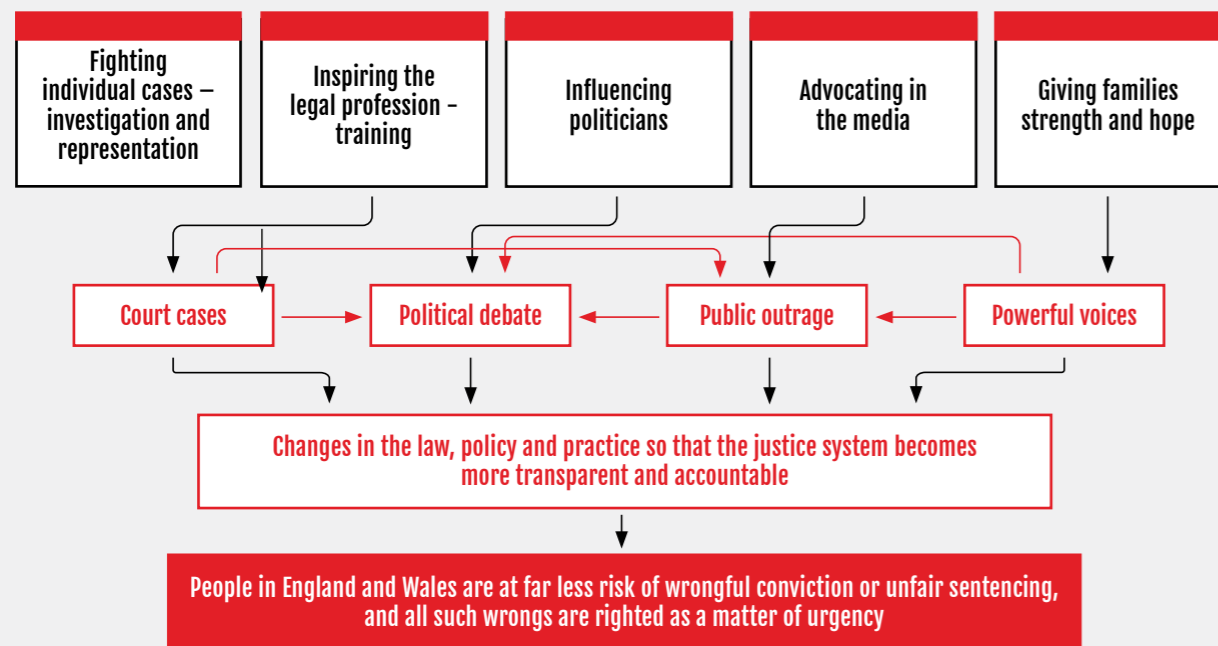
Our holistic representation model means we offer a multidisciplinary team to everyone whose case we take on and to their loved ones. Our goal is to mitigate the whole harm done by miscarriages of justice.



Theory of Change

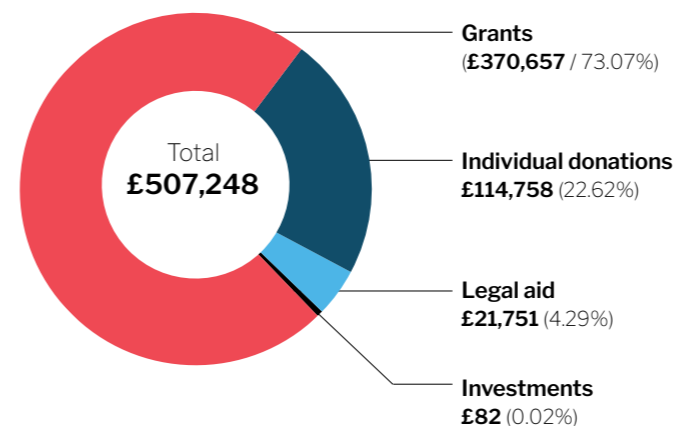
Fighting the cases of those wrongfully convicted or unfairly sentenced is at the heart of our work. These individual cases act as the spotlight we shine on

the intrinsic flaws in the justice system. The voices of victims and their families are vital in advocating for legal change.

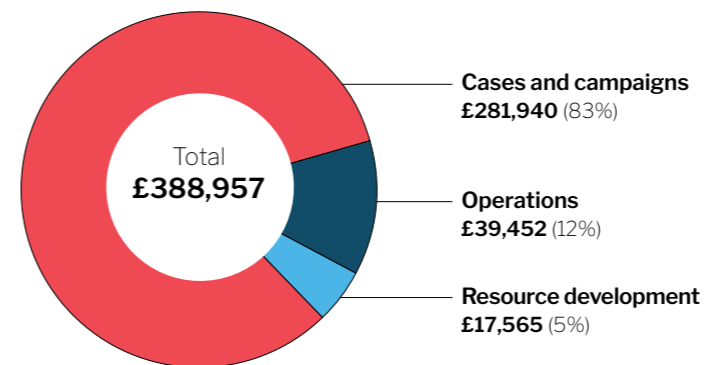


Our finances

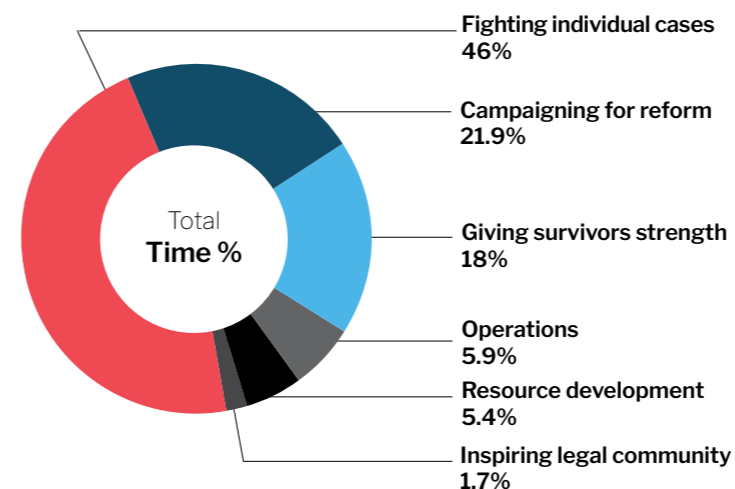
Income



Expenditures



Our Time



This year marks a decade since Emily founded APPEAL. Through unwavering determination and infectious enthusiasm, she has transformed a visionary idea into a fully fledged charity, with 10 staff, some loyal funders and pro bono assistance from commercial law firms. We have achieved legal victories and major policy wins, alongside holistic support for our community. Our recent appointment of Matt Foot as Co-Director brings us the passion and expertise of a leading lawyer and activist.

Nevertheless, there is still so much to be done. While APPEAL thrives, the criminal justice system faces crisis. Delays in trials and the alarming state of police standards, as highlighted by the Casey report, render miscarriages of justice inevitable.

There are glimmers of hope. Andy Malkinson's upcoming Court of Appeal hearing should exert immense pressure on the system to confront its inadequacies. The Law Commission's review, prompted by APPEAL's policy efforts, presents a rare opportunity for transformative reform. This could be a watershed moment.

It is crucial that APPEAL has the resources we need to seize this opportunity. Legal Aid only provides a fraction of our funding; we are hugely grateful to the generous supporters without whom we could not exist. There has never been a better time to make a donation and join our collective fight for a fairer justice system.

Joe Hingston
Chair



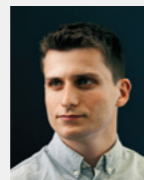
Our team



Sue Beere
Survivor Advocate



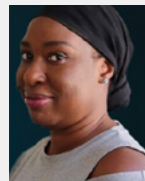
Emily Bolton
Founder and Director



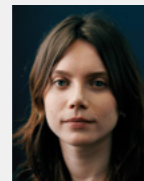
James Burley
Investigator



Tara Casey
Women's Justice Caseworker



Fatou Kane
Finance Manager (freelance)



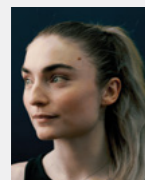
Lizzie Norton
Trainee Solicitor



Lindsay Owen
Resource Development Associate



Naima Sakande
Deputy Director and Women's Justice Advocate



Cath Snow
Survivor Advocate



Charlotte Threipland
Communications and Policy Lead



Emma Torr
Legal Director and in-house Barrister



Nisha Waller
Researcher working on racism and injustice

Board of Trustees

Because we are a law practice as well as a charity, all our trustees must be practising barristers or solicitors. In 2022-23 we expanded our board, which now encompasses a range of expertise across the legal profession, academia and the judiciary. Our trustees are:

**Joe Hingston (Chair) | Saadiya Ahmad | Jacob Bindman
Christopher David | Margaret Obi | Mair Williams**

We extend our sincere thanks to Adeela Khan, who stepped down as a trustee in autumn 2022 after more than four years of much-valued service.

Thank you from APPEAL

We are grateful to the many people and organisations which generously support APPEAL.

The time, money and expertise they give us are vital in our fight for justice. Some of those who worked with us during 2022-23 are listed below; others prefer to remain anonymous and we also extend our thanks to them, along with the many individuals who donated to APPEAL throughout the year.

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We would also like to thank all our supporters who wish to remain anonymous.

Special thanks to Ropes & Gray LLP, which kindly designed and printed this report for us.

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Sophia Spring, photographer, @sophia_spring_photography

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Credit also goes to illustrators Giulia Bavagnoli and Kirsten Smith.

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6-8 Amwell St (First Floor), London, EC1R 1UQ

Telephone: 020 7 278 6949

Email: mail@appeal.org.uk

www.appeal.org.uk