

Annual report 2024/25



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Welcome from our Chair

A very warm welcome to you!
It is the passion and commitment of each art therapist in our community that makes this profession such a creative and inspiring resource for people across the United Kingdom. Our annual report brings together different voices from across our community – members, those volunteering as SIG/Regional Group Co-ordinators, elected Council members, and staff. You'll see that the report uses a new format, which the team has developed so that this information is clear and engaging for you to read.

When I was first elected, I promised to place members' voices at the heart of our work. I've held a drop-in each month since May 2020, so that every one of you would have the chance to speak with me if you'd like to do so – about your practice, workplace issues you've had to navigate or opportunities you have seen, about your art-making, preparing for an interview, or thinking about starting to teach or write. These conversations have been a real joy, reminding me of the extraordinary work that art therapists do – often in difficult circumstances. We have developed ways to honour and share this work, with the Lifetime Achievement and annual Art Therapist Awards that

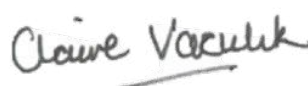
started in 2024. Our CEO and I have also come out to Scotland, Northern Ireland, and Wales to meet you, spend time in regional and national groups, and understand the issues you face.

Looking ahead is as important as taking stock, so that we can move forward together as a community in a coordinated way. This helps us to build on each other's efforts – raising awareness of art therapy and its unique and enduring benefits for service users, supporting trainees to thrive and be ready for a changing workplace, and helping you achieve your professional aspirations.

Over the coming year we will be developing our new strategy for 2027-2032, which will be presented at our AGM in June 2026. We look forward to speaking with you about your hopes and dreams for our profession and those we serve, so that your voices underpin these plans.

**Thank you again for
your trust and support.**

Claire Louise Vaculik



Welcome from our Chief Executive

It is undoubtedly a very challenging time in our sector, but looking back on what we achieved as an association and profession in 2024, I see a lot to be hopeful about. There are many examples of creativity, innovation and collaboration across our art therapy profession that reminds me of the transformative power of art and imagination to change lives, and the important role that our members play supporting their clients and their communities.

In 2024 we saw the continued development of the association. Working collaboratively with members across the UK we have continued to work to improve the services we provide and the promotion of art therapy to policy makers, commissioners and the public. The year saw an improved find-a-therapist search function, the introduction of the members events calendar, improved online forums, increased InSight publications, more CPD events for members, our first in-person annual conference since Covid-19, the introduction of awards for innovation, diversity and the lifetime achievement award, and the significant NHS commission to support the development of the profession.

During the year membership grew by 5% which I hope reflects the hard work and improvements that have been

delivered. None of this would have been possible without the support of our Council, Special Interest, Regional and Country groups, the professionalism and dedication of my colleagues in the staff team, and of course all our members for your ongoing support.

There are priorities and challenges ahead. In 2025 we are looking to

- improve governance structures to ensure the voices of members across all four nations are heard, valued and supported
- develop a comprehensive research strategy
- start to refresh the current strategic plan
- introduce self-directed learning (e-learning) courses to widen our CPD offer
- continue to develop our public affairs capacity, to ensure more people understand the work of our members

I've spent almost two decades working with a wide range of psychological professions. I'm particularly proud to work with art therapists and your unique approach that changes lives in ways that would simply not be possible without the creative approach that art therapy provides. I look forward to the coming year with optimism, and hope to meet as many of you as possible.

Gary Fereday



We turned 60!

Reflections from our Honorary President

The British Association of Art Therapists (BAAT) was formed in 1964 by 32 artists and art teachers. By the early 1980s, we were becoming a national association and had achieved a major political milestone of bringing art therapy into the NHS. By 1997, we had achieved statutory regulation for arts therapists, making us the first psychotherapeutic profession to be regulated.

Ever since the Act of 1997 that regulated arts therapists was passed, we have been able to proudly claim that we are statutorily regulated. Although that did not lead to a significant increase in jobs, it was nevertheless a professional status with a protected title which for the future could only be positive.

Politically, that is where we are now. In this rapidly changing and increasingly anxious society, where mental illness is shockingly rife and services are diminishing, arts therapists have an important role to play. BAAT is working hard to improve our profile and to demonstrate how we can make a difference to the challenges facing our society, such as long-term illnesses,

depression and anxiety, and support in schools. We are in competition for resources but that has always been so. And so, as a team, we continue to respond to the challenges that face us.

It is important to say that none of BAAT's achievements over the past 60 years could have happened without the full support of its members, or the voluntary work of members that continues today. Despite frustrations, members have always rallied. I remember when we needed to convince the Department of Health that we were worthy of state regulation, members helped to produce a large dossier of endorsements from colleagues, employers, academics, politicians, service users and many more, that could not be ignored by the civil servants.

I am often astonished at how much we have achieved when compared with many of the larger professions. Let's continue to work together and to get through this worrying, insecure period in our country, and indeed world. Even with our limitations, we can make a difference.

Diane Waller



Demonstration organised by the Union ASTMS for health professions protesting about the Clegg Report (Annette Coulter, April 1980)

Our strategic aims 2022 – 2027

We have five main overarching strategic themes that describe what we want to achieve in 2022 - 2027:



- Support, engage, understand, and reflect the views of our members.



- Promote and champion equality, diversity, and inclusion within the profession and within our professional networks.



- Ensure the efficacy of what art therapists / art psychotherapists do is understood, and drive research and innovation, and its dissemination.



- Be the clear and respected voice of the art therapy profession and develop opportunities for our members.



- Ensure the organisation and profession is well governed, inclusive, and sustainable.

Highlights of 2024

Our annual conference

One of the most exciting parts of the year was holding our first in-person annual conference since the Covid-19 pandemic. We welcomed nearly 150 people to the Wellcome Collection to explore art therapy and innovation, with talks from Dr Lynn Kapitan, Dr Jed Jerwood, artist Jason Wilsher-Mills and many more. We also announced the first recipients of our new annual Art Therapists Awards: Corinna Eastwood, Dr Jed Jerwood and Joan Woddis.

Improved member services

In 2024, our membership exceeded 3000 for first time! We hope this sustainable growth in our membership reflects the improvement to our membership offer as well as a growing art therapy profession. We re-launched *Find an Art Therapist*, developed a new member calendar and increased support for co-ordinators of our special interest groups and regional groups.

Developing the arts therapy professions

In March 2024, we were commissioned by NHS England to work on a project developing the arts therapies professions. The project was a creative and collaborative partnership between the British Association of Art Therapists (BAAT), the British Association of Dramatherapists (BADth) and the British Association for Music Therapy (BAMT).

Re-doubling efforts across the four nations

Our association needs to represent art therapists in all corners of the UK. In 2024 we increased our work and engagement with colleagues in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales so that our association represents our members across all of the UK and can respond to what is needed in each nation. Council has voted for work to be undertaken to develop similar processes for England.



Our work in numbers

4

free CPD
webinars for
members each
year.

32

short courses
delivered with
an average of 31
attendees.

400

enquiries
answered on
average every
month.

3000+

members including
practising art
therapists,
trainees, retired
art therapists
and associate
members.

3

new awards
to recognise
the work of art
therapists in
the UK.

44,000

followers on our
social media
accounts.

4

issues of our
magazine InSight
published a year
(increased from 2).

10,000

people visited
our magazine,
InSight.

25%

of members
accessing our
free CPD one or
more times.

180,000

article downloads from
our academic journal.

NHS England Commission:

Developing art,
drama and music
therapy professions



We worked on a collaborative project, commissioned by NHS England, to develop the three arts therapy professions of art, music and drama therapy.



The project had three aims:

- To raise awareness of art, music and drama therapy.
- To co-produce three contemporary curricula with art, drama and music therapy.
- To collaboratively develop clear career frameworks that support art, music and drama therapists.

Among the resources produced are:

- New films to raise awareness of art therapy.
- A new core curriculum for art therapy higher education courses.
- A careers framework to support art, music and drama therapists in their career development.



**Daniela Pasquini,
Project Manager**

This ambitious project called for a dedicated, collaborative effort, and we were fortunate to receive invaluable input from those across the professions as well as from the public. Insights from service users, trainees, educators—both in the UK and internationally—and employers played a vital role in shaping our work. I hope this inspires and encourages you to explore and share the resources, which we trust will support your practice and enrich the wider professions.

Thank you to everyone whose commitment and contributions made this project a success.

Thank you to Josiah Baffour the Project Administrator for all of his work on the project!



Watch and share!

As part of the project we have produced a series of beautiful videos to promote the value of art therapy.

▶ [Watch the videos](#)

“There just aren't
enough words
to express”



Strategic aim 1: **Supporting members**

'Support, engage, understand, and reflect the views of our members.'



Member engagement

We are working to develop engagement with our members so we can offer better support and opportunities.

In 2024 we:

- Held our **first in-person annual conference since the Covid-19** pandemic at the Wellcome Trust. We were excited to bring together 150 art therapists from across the UK to share innovative practice.
- Offered **all member meetings** in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland in person.
- Asked you to **share your experiences** and thoughts through member surveys, which guided our work.
- Launched our **events calendar** in the memberzone to make it easier for members to share events and network with each other.

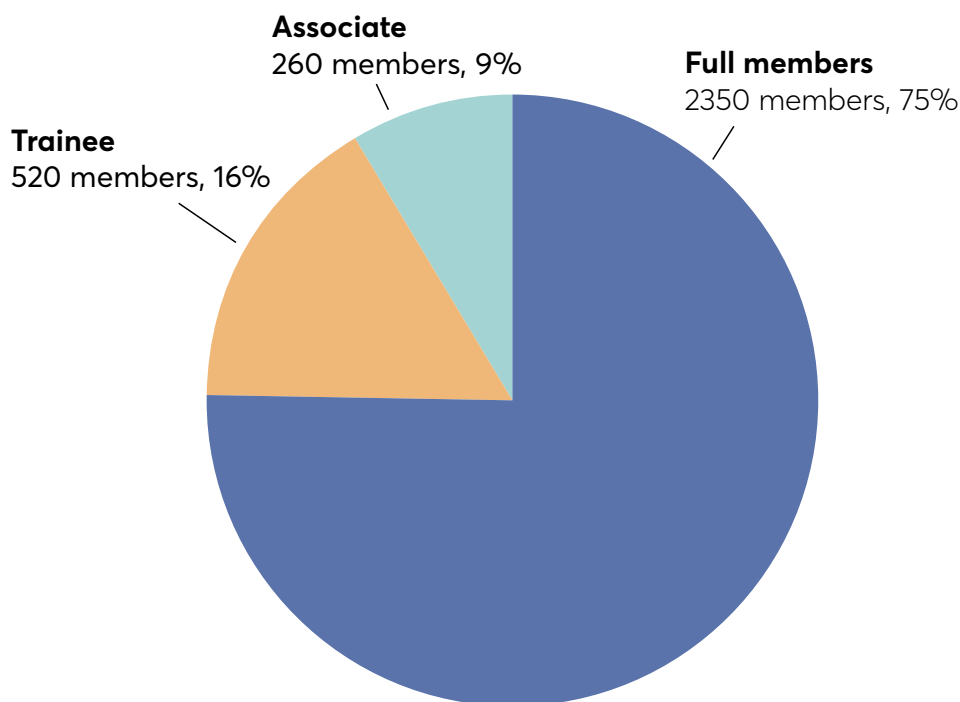


Our membership

Members are at the heart of everything we do. We have over 3000 members, and we're so pleased to see our membership continue to grow.

In 2024 we:

- Updated our **Find an Art Therapist** search tool and making it free for full members to advertise their private practice and grow their caseload by being contacted directly for work opportunities.
- Arranged new full member benefits including **30% off National Art Pass** and **10% of ArtWay supplies**.



Membership types by percentage

Three quarters of our members are full members (including registered art therapists and retired art therapists). About 80% of HCPC-registered art therapists have a membership with us. Trainees are the next biggest membership group, followed by associate members. Associate membership is open to anyone interested in art therapy, including international art therapists, people considering training and other professionals connected with the profession.

Our training offer

Our training and CPD offer continues to grow in breadth and depth.

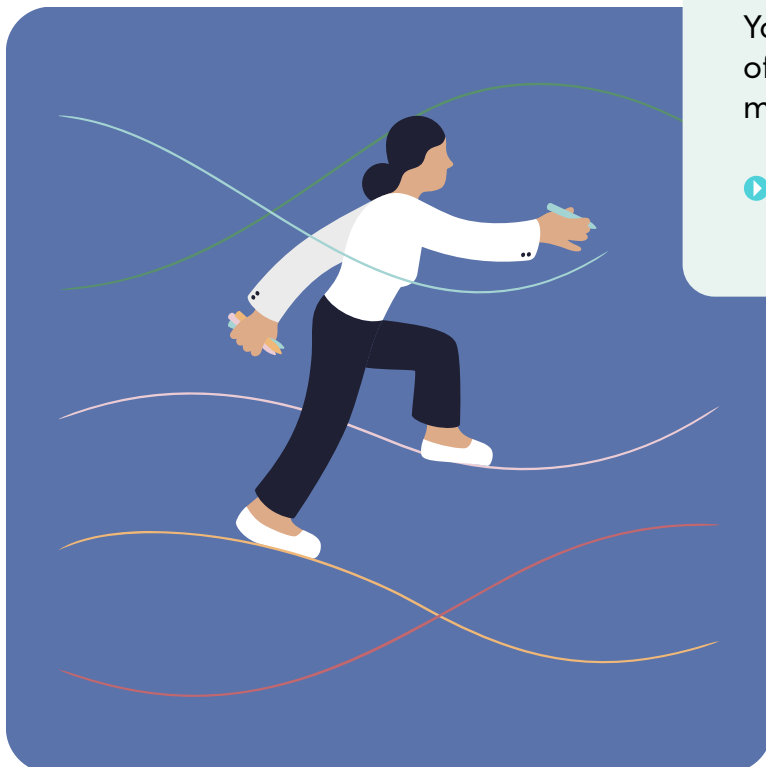
In 2024 we:

- Programmed and delivered a total of 32 short courses with an average of 31 attendees.
- Ran **six free CPD** events especially for our members including on HCPC standards, EDI toolkit, getting art therapy jobs, and how to advertise on our Find an Art Therapist tool.
- Delivered **eight brand new** courses, on topics including autism, complex trauma, learning disabilities, and nature-based art therapy.
- Developed our new series of **masterclasses** - launched at the start of 2025 - which are special classes taught by people who are highly experienced in the subject.
- Welcomed a new cohort to our accredited **diploma** in art therapy supervision and developed a new diploma course in art therapy with children and young people.

Free CPD

You can find the recordings of our free CPDs in the memberzone.

▶ [Go to memberzone](#)



New masterclasses!

We have developed a new series of masterclasses in response to members requests for training at a higher level. These are special classes taught by people who are highly experienced in the subject.

Our first topics have been on: trauma-informed art therapy practice; maintaining your creative practice; and art therapy with 'hard to reach' children & young people.

▶ [Find out more](#)



Our accredited diplomas

Our accredited diplomas are theory-informed and practice based courses to deepen your skills in a specialist area.

During 2024, we ran one level 6 diploma in art therapy supervision.

In 2025, we plan to run two level 6 diplomas in art therapy supervision and art therapy with children and young people.

▶ [Find out more](#)

Supporting networks

We have continued to support the regional and special interest groups and have seen an increase in activity.

In 2024 we:

- Continued to develop our support for the special interest group and regional coordinators by improving the forums.
- Launched a new **events calender** for regional and special interest groups to promote events among the wider membership.
- Developed a new process for setting up **new special interest groups**.

I appreciate being connected with my regional group and in such difficult, fast-changing, and distressing times, we, like other professional communities need to know we can reach each other for support and resilience.

Genevieve Collier, Region 6 Coordinator

Find your network

You can find your regional group through the forums in your memberzone and join any relevant special interest group (SIG) to you, for example if you're a student you can join our trainee forum.

▶ [Go to forums](#)

Trainee co-ordinators

In 2024, we welcomed our second cohort of volunteer trainee co-ordinators to support our work with trainees.

- Fatima has been supporting our magazine, *InSight*, working on our new series *ask an art therapist*.
- Chloe has been supporting the student and trainee forum.

- Jessica has been supporting our academic journal, the *International Journal of Art Therapists*.



Trainee co-ordinators:

Fatima Haneef, Chloe Viney
and Jessica Domin

Enquiries and advice

We provide support and advice on your membership and your clinical practice.

In 2024:

- Our small team handles, on average, **400 enquiries each month** from members and the public.
- Our **professional advisor** continued to give advice to full members on complex clinical and professional issues, including on fitness to practice hearings and supervision guidance.
- We updated **our guidance** on art therapy and the law, private practice, digital media, working with adopted children and GDPR.



FAQs

Need advice of help quickly?
See if we have an answer to your question in our FAQs, which is a list of the questions we get asked most, from rates of pay to clinical notes.

▶ [Go to FAQs](#)

Insurance

As a member, you get a discount on professional liability insurance with Howden's, which can protect you from financial losses and cover legal fees and settlements if you have a problem in your work.

▶ [Find out more](#)

▶ If you have a problem, suggestion or need advice, you can email: hello@baat.org

We can offer advice on clinical issues, but we are not a trade union.

Art therapist awards

In 2024, we developed three new awards to celebrate and recognise the inspiring work that is being undertaken by art therapists across the UK.

The three awards are:

- Innovation: awarded to Dr Jed Jerwood in 2024
- Inclusive and Anti-Oppressive Practice: awarded to Corrina Eastwood in 2024
- Lifetime Achievement Award awarded to Joan Woddiss in 2024 and Eileen McCourt in 2025

Lifetime achievement award: 2024 & 2025

We were delighted to award Joan Woddiss our first ever lifetime achievement award for her contribution to the profession of art therapy over a 45 year career.

In 2025, our second lifetime achievement award went to Eileen McCourt for her contribution to developing the art therapy profession in Northern Ireland.

▶ [Read more about Joan's work](#)

▶ [Read more about Eileen's work](#)



Strategic aim 2:

Equality, diversity and inclusion

**'Promote and champion equality, diversity,
and inclusion within the profession and within
our professional networks.'**

We are committed to creating a more diverse and inclusive culture in the art therapy profession.

In 2024 we:

- Welcomed **Daniel Regan** as a equality, diversity and inclusion advisor to our Council.
- Launched **scholarships** for our supervision diploma for people from underrepresented groups to enable them to develop further in their art therapy career.
- Became a signatory of the **Memorandum of Understanding** on conversion therapy to protect both adults and children in the UK from the harmful practice of 'conversion therapy'.
- Held our first **award for inclusive and anti-oppressive practice** for art therapists who have made significant contributions to improving the inclusive nature of service delivery, developing anti-oppressive practices, or providing art therapy to communities that may not have traditionally accessed art therapy.
- Held a review of our **journal's actions for change**. The actions for change are a set of actions developed in 2021 that aimed to address issues of racism, inequity and bias in the journal.
- Made further steps to become **a disability confident employer**, including providing work shadowing experience for a disabled young person.

We acknowledge we still have a lot of work to do. Structural inequality, oppression and discrimination have a huge impact on our society and within our small profession. If you have ideas for our equality, diversity and inclusion work get in touch.

► Email hello@baat.org



Corrina Eastwood awarded Art Therapists' Award for Inclusive and Anti-Oppressive Practice

Corrina Eastwood, a leading advocate for inclusivity and social justice within art therapy was our first recipient of the award. Through teaching, writing, and activism, Corrina has advocated for a radical shift in the profession, encouraging art therapists to reflect on their own practice and to better serve underrepresented communities.

▶ [Read about Corrina's work](#)



My role so far has covered a number of projects, including: considering accessibility and communications for the annual conference, assessing applications and processes for the supervision diploma scholarships, facilitating sessions for the NHS England commission and guidance on how members can be more inclusive when uploading event information to the association's website.

It is encouraging to see the continued commitment to being a more inclusive and diverse membership body and I look forward to our further work together."

▶ [Read Daniel's interview](#)

Strategic aim 3:

Awareness, research and innovation

'Ensure the efficacy of what art therapists / art psychotherapists do is understood, and drive research and innovation, and its dissemination.'

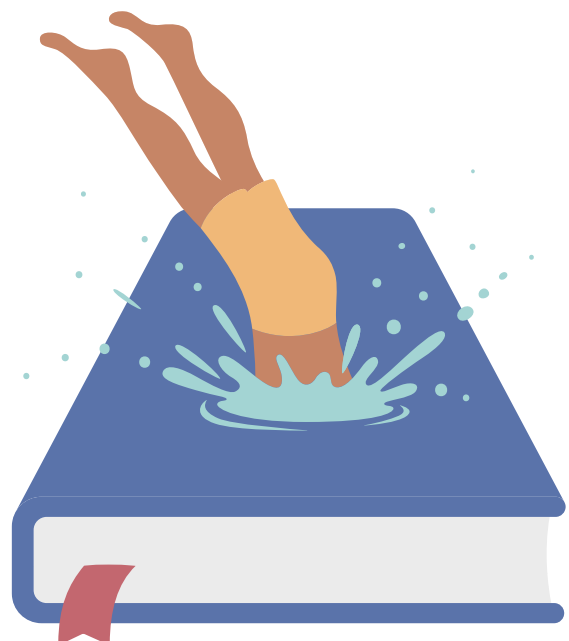
Driving research and innovation

We are supporting the ongoing development of high-quality research and clinical innovation. This is one of the ways we can increase trust and recognition of our profession.

In 2024 we:

- Delivered **16 research clinic** sessions for our members on topics including designing research studies, using the evidence-base to promote and protect art therapy services, analysing data and interpreting results.
- Ran our annual free **peer-review training**.
- Shared **research career opportunities, funding opportunities** and sources of support for developing funding bids.

- Started developing our **research strategy** which will inform how we can best support our members with research and strategically drive art therapy research as an association.
- Promoted the **early career researcher and new practitioner prizes** and mentorships for 2025 and shared tips for aspiring art therapy authors.
- Developed the first in a **series of research-focussed CPD**, launching in 2025.
- Published a **special issue on art therapy and trauma** in our academic journal.



Raising awareness

For research to have impact, its findings need to be used. We're continuing to increase awareness of art therapy research.

In 2024 we:

- Published our first webpages on the **research evidence for art therapy** and why it might be helpful for different groups of people.
- **Increased the article views** of the International Journal of Art Therapy by 10% to over 180,000 downloads.
- Achieved **an impact factor** for our journal for the first time, marking its transition from an emerging to an established peer reviewed journal.
- Shared **the latest articles** from the International Journal of Art Therapy articles through our mailing lists and social media channels.
- Published articles on **art therapy research in our magazine, InSight**, including on art therapy and self harm, an interview with renowned art therapy researchers and articles with journal authors on anti-oppressive art therapy an art therapy with refugees.

Evidence pages

You can find our published evidence pages on our website. We have published pages on:

- ▶ [Cancer](#)
- ▶ [Primary schools](#)
- ▶ [Psychosis](#)
- ▶ [Self-harm](#)



International Journal of Art Therapy

In 2024, our academic journal, announced a new editorial board: Dr Zoe Moula is now Editor-in-Chief, Dr Vicky Armstrong and Dr Gary Christopher are Co-Deputy Editors.

The team's key value is to make everyone feel welcome, from trainees to experienced art therapists.

If you want to get involved in the journal, get in touch!

► [Visit the journal](#)



It is a huge privilege being in this position and I am thankful to be working with exceptional individuals in our editorial board, advisory board, and peer review network.

Dr Zoe Moula, Editor-inChief

International Journal of Art Therapy: top articles in 2024

In case you missed them, our most popular articles in 2024 were:

► [Art therapy for children and adolescents with autism: a systematic review](#)

► [An exploration of the role of mess-making in art psychotherapy](#)

► [Perceptions of young adult clients treated with time-limited art therapy](#)

All our members get free and full access to the journal.



Journal cover image credits:

'The Blue NY Metropolitan Museum of Fine Art',
Yuko Kiyotoku, from Issue 4, 2024

Our annual conference in 2024: Art therapy and innovation

In November, we welcomed 150 art therapists to the Wellcome Collection to explore innovation in art therapy. The day brought together brilliant art therapists and researchers working in a truly diverse range of areas and ways, from AI to research into art therapy to prevent burnout in clinical staff.

▶ If you missed the conference, you can [purchase the recordings](#).



Dr Jed Jerwood awarded the Art Therapists' Award for Innovation

Dr Jed Jerwood has been awarded our first Innovation award for his ground-breaking work at The Mary Stevens Hospice. His co-developed approach to advance care planning, 'No Barriers Here', uses arts-based methods to engage underserved communities in end-of-life care. The approach has since been adopted by national organisations such as Marie Curie and The Terrence Higgins Trust.

▶ [Read about Jed's work](#)



Images top to bottom:

Mejan Tjasink presenting at our annual conference; Dr Jed Jerwood presenting at our annual conference.

Strategic aim 4:

Be the voice of the profession

'Be the clear and respected voice of the art therapy profession and develop opportunities for our members.'

Influencing decision makers

We have been building our public affairs capacity by joining cross-sector initiatives, and building connections across the sectors.

In 2024 we:

- Responded to the **Change NHS consultation** on behalf of the profession, highlighting the unique contribution art therapists make.
- We became a signatory to the Centre for Mental Health's, Manifesto for a Mentally Healthier Nation.
- We became a signatory to the **Climate Minds Coalition** consensus statement to amplify the psychological professions collective voice towards UK policymakers, parliamentarians, the media and the public on the climate emergency and mental health.
- Developed a **public affairs strategy** with three overarching high-level themes: art therapy changing lives; creating a sustainable career structure for art therapists; engaging in wider society.

Mentally Healthier Nation

Read more about the Mentally Healthier Nation manifesto we are signatories of and how you can support the campaign.

▶ [Read the manifesto](#)

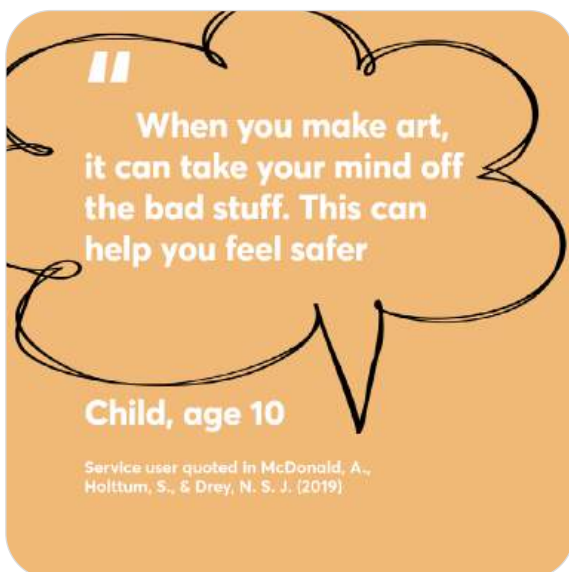


Our voice online

To build the profile of art therapy in the UK, we have been building our online presence to become a trusted voice in the mental health sector.

In 2024 we:

- Reached a total of nearly **44,000 followers** across Instagram, LinkedIn, X (Twitter) and Facebook.
- Received over **600,000 views of our website** from nearly 90,000 people.
- Created the first of our **accessible graphics on our evidence pages** that have reached hundreds of people.
- Published **four issues of our online magazine, InSight**, with a total of 36 articles on art therapy, with nearly 30,000 views from nearly **10,000 people**.





Top InSight articles in 2024

In case you missed them, our most popular articles in 2024 were:

- 🔗 [Neurodiversity and art therapy](#)
- 🔗 [Self-harm: how art therapy can help](#)
- 🔗 [£2.5 million granted to arts therapy research study](#)



Write an article for InSight

We want to demonstrate the breadth and diversity of the art therapy profession across the UK and around the world.

Find out how you can submit an article to share your experience.

🔗 [Go to submission guidance](#)

Cover image credits:

Top: 'Flourish', Christine Pang

Bottom: 'Process', Anne Buckingham

Strategic aim 5:

Governance and sustainability

'Ensure the organisation and profession is well governed, inclusive, and sustainable.'

Our governance

We are governed by a Council, who are the Directors of the limited company. They are elected by full members at our annual general meeting.

Directors of a limited company are legally responsible for managing and running the company, ensuring compliance with regulations, and representing the company's interests. They have a duty to act in the company's best interests, exercise reasonable care and

diligence, and avoid conflicts of interest. Specifically, they are responsible for overseeing financial matters, having oversight of the day-to-day operations undertaken by the staff team and making strategic decisions.

Over the last 3 years, the association has embarked on modernising the way we work and are governed, which has had a significant change on the organisation.

This work has included improving transparency of decision-making and updating our articles of association, to put us in a better placed to promote the amazing work of members.



Governance documents

Our [Articles of Association](#) are the legal framework that constitutes the organisation and describe how we are governed.

▶ You can also find a diagram of our [organisational structure](#).

Our Council

Claire Louise Vaculik,
Chair



Michele Wood
Vice-chair



Caryl Sibbett
Council member



Sinead Braiden
Council member



Sarah Challenger,



Dr Jessica Collier



**Liliana Montoya
De La Cruz**
Council member



Francesca Norouzi
Council member



Catherine Stevens,
Council member



Simi Warah
Council member



Jacqui McKoy-Lewens
Council member

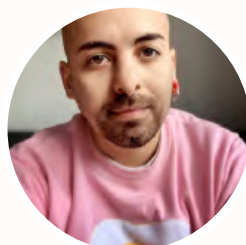


Advisor roles

Professor Diane Waller OBE
Honorary president



Daniel Regan
Equality, diversity
& inclusion advisor



A big thank you
to Sophia Cowx
who stepped down
from Council in 2024
for your valuable
contributions.

Our staff team

Gary Feredy,
Chief executive



Dr Abimbola Badiora
Finance manager



Alex McDonald
Professional
development and
comms manager



Amy Collins
Events officer
(part time)



Federica Tomasi
Administrative officer



Kate Peel
Operations manager
(part time)



Kat Starczewski
Senior digital
comms officer
(part time)



Louise Nazir
Membership services
manager



Dr Sue Holttum
Research officer
(part time)



Daniella Robbins
Events officer
(part time)



Rosie Creer
Professional advisor
(part time)



A big thank you to
Louise Smart who
stepped down as our
professional advisor in
2025.

Across the four nations

BAAT Scotland, BAAT Northern Ireland and BAAT Wales work with members in each nation to support them and promote art therapy in a way that meets each nation's specific context.

This is under the oversight of Council, which oversees our UK-wide strategy and has ultimate responsibility for the association. Council has indicated that work now needs to be done to ensure that members in England also have the means to feed into national issues.

Northern Ireland

Chair: Clare Boyd
85 members (4% UK total)

Highlights from 2024:

Organised a range of member meetings and events; Art therapy represented on AHPF Northern Ireland; meetings with civil servants to explore art therapy in Northern Ireland.

Scotland

Co-Chairs:
Alex Taneus-Miller and
Catriona Macinnes
Bridget Grant (2024 Chair)
250 members (11% UK total)

Highlights from 2024:

Organised a range of member meetings and events; art therapy was represented at the AHPF Scotland and a round table event was organised with Allied Health Professions Leads

Wales

Chair: Sarah Challenger
85 members (4% UK total)

Highlights from 2024:

Supported the formation of AHPF Wales; worked closely with Wales Art Therapies Advisory Forum and meetings with civil servants to explore art therapy in Wales.

England

1878 members (81% UK total)

In 2025 we will be reviewing how we work with members in England.

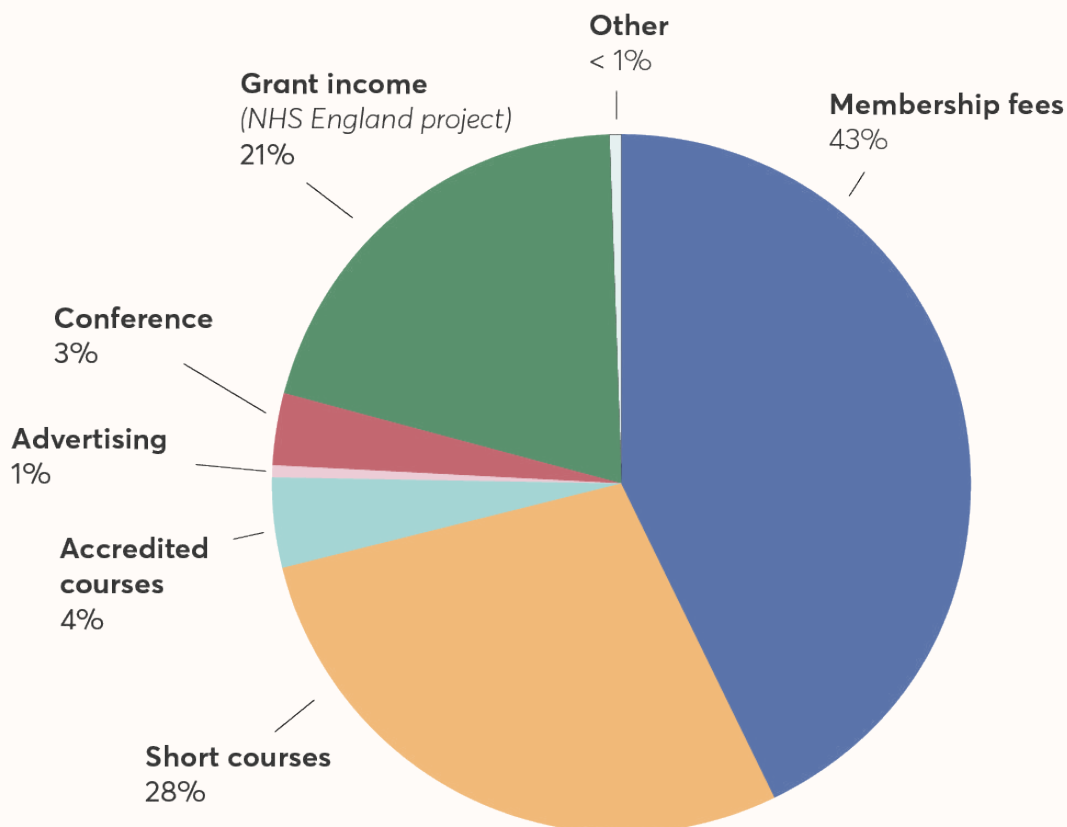


Our finances

It's crucial we maintain a strong financial footing as an association so we can continue to support members and the profession.

In 2024, our biggest source of income remains to be membership fees, followed by our short CPD courses and grant income. The grant income came from NHS England as a stand alone project for us to develop the arts therapies professions, and will not be an ongoing source of income.

2024 income by percentage



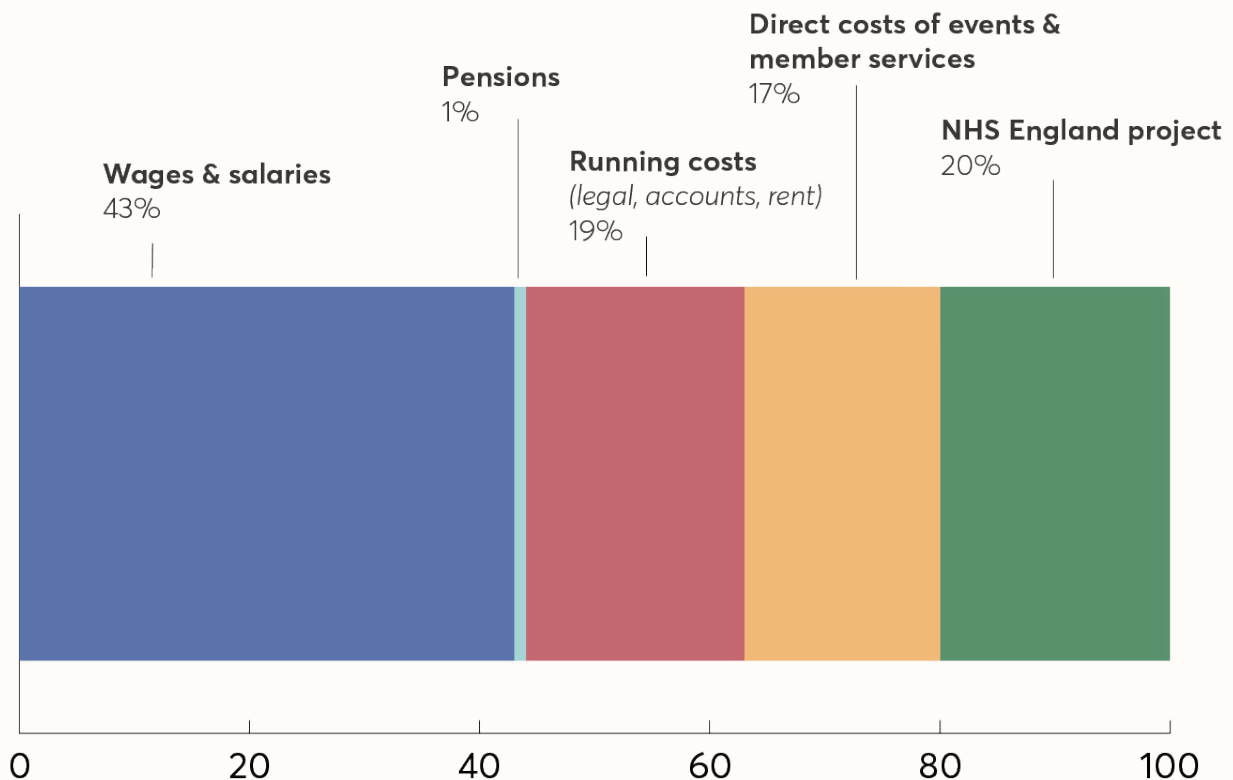
As a non-profit organisation, all our income goes back into the association to support members and develop the art therapy profession.

In 2024, our biggest expense was staff costs, followed by the NHSE project, which was funded by the grant from NHS England.

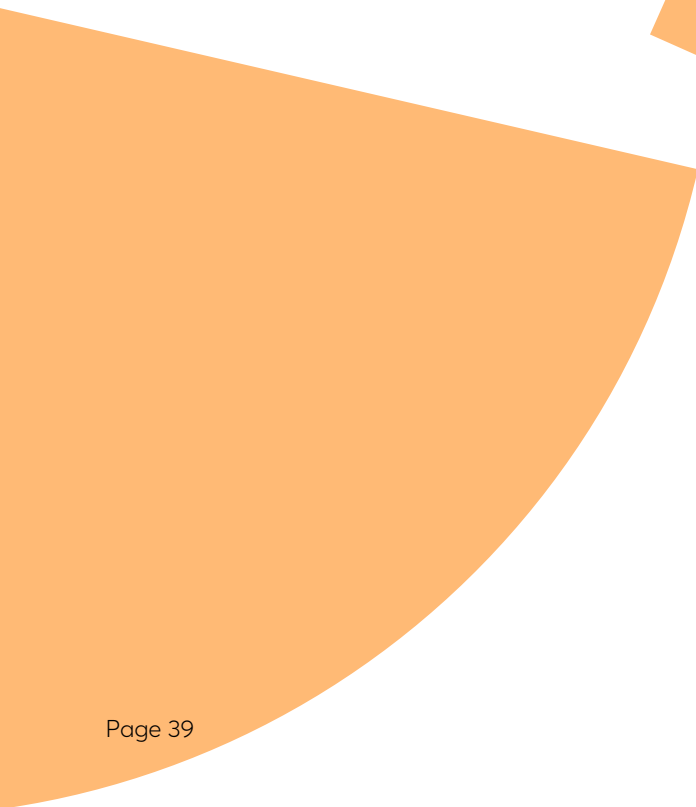
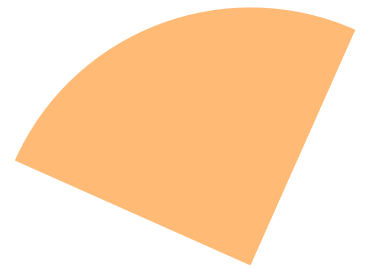
Full financial report

You can view our full accounts report on our website.

2024 expenditure by percentage



Looking ahead

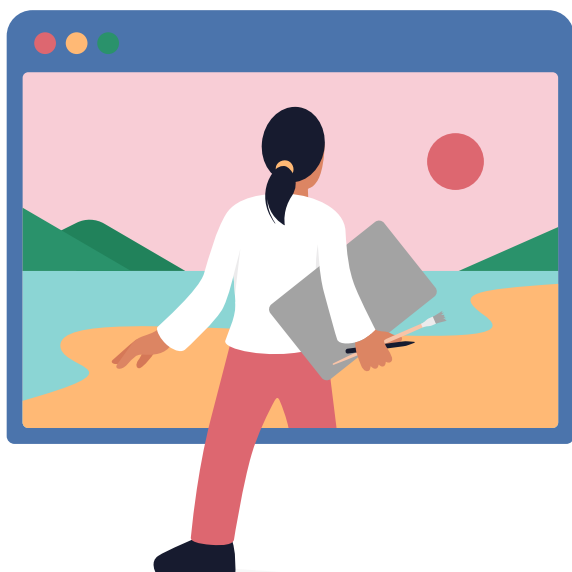


What we want to achieve in 2025/26

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1. Four nations governance

We will be developing and agreeing a revised governance structure for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. This is to make sure the voices of our members across all four nations are heard, valued and supported in a fair and equitable way.

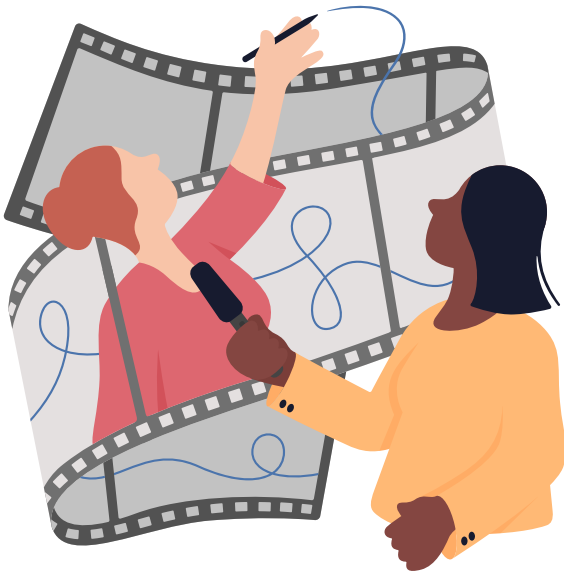


2. Self-study programmes

We are introducing online self-directed learning courses. This is the start of process of increasing and diversifying our CPD offer so it is as accessible to as many members as possible.

3. Research strategy

We are continuing work on developing a comprehensive research strategy, engaging our members and stakeholders in the process. This will be completed by summer 2025 and feed into the development of our Strategic Plan 2027-2032.



4. Public affairs

We will be launching our first campaign in the second half of 2025. The campaign will, focus on hospices and end of life care. We plan to build from this and start other campaigns to show the value of art therapy and respond to issues in the sector and issues our members care about. We will be engaging members and our special interest groups (SIGs) to ensure our work is informed by art therapists who are specialists in the field.

5. A new strategic plan

We will be developing a new strategic plan, which will support our shared work from 2027-2032. The process will include lots of engagement with members to understand your needs and what you would like to see us prioritise in the next five years. We will present a new strategic plan at the 2026 AGM.



Thank you!

Thank you to those of you who serve in voluntary roles - supporting special interest groups, regional groups, peer reviewing articles for our journal, writing for InSight, and all of the other areas of our shared work as a community. Your efforts make such a difference to our profession and to those we support across the UK.

If you'd like to get more involved, please do get in touch!

▶ [Email hello@baat.org](mailto:hello@baat.org)

▶ [Chat to our Chair](#)



