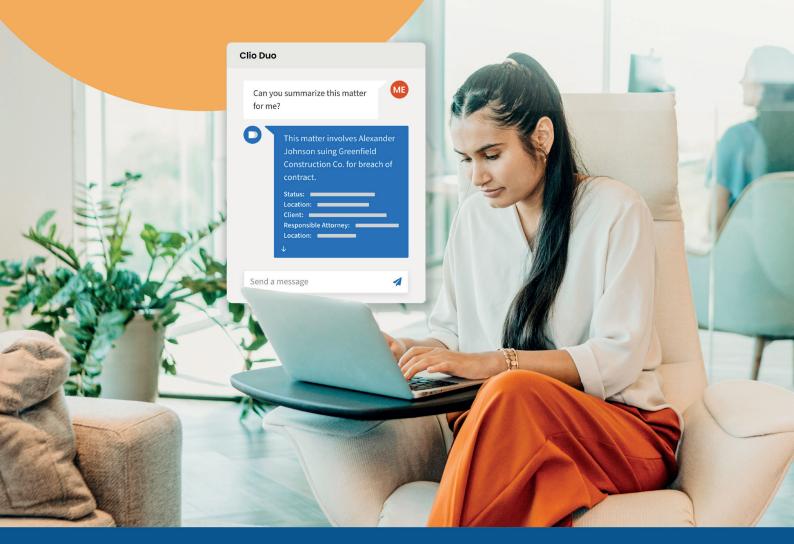
# LiverpoolLaw

Liverpool (LawSociety

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE LEGAL SECTOR IN MERSEYSIDE AND THE NORTH WEST



# Meet Clio Duo, your legal Al partner.



### Do more with Duo:

- Quickly find essential information to keep you focused and on track
- Spend less time poring over documents with instant summaries
- Prioritise your task list so you always know what to work on next





### October 2025

### CONTENTS









ļ	The latest from CEO and Acting Editor,
	Sarah Poblete

- 5 From the President
- 6 LLS Meetings & events
- 7 MSB set to welcome seven new partners as nurturing of future leaders continues
- 8 Celebrating Over 35 Years of Dedication: Rachel's Journey at Paul Crowley & Co
- 10 A New Chapter with Liverpool Law Society
- Freeths' exceptional growth continues as it reports financial results for 2024/25
- 12 Annual Dinner
- 13 Legal Awards
- 14 Clyde & Co expands occupational disease team
- 14 Carpenters Group HostsGroundbreaking Roundtable on OICPortal Reform
- Weightmans posts steady growth and doubles down on international ambition
   Serious injury specialist launches new
- 16 Serious injury specialist launches new Liverpool law firm
- 16 MJLD Committee 24/25 A Year in Review
- 18 Excello Law powers ahead with three senior hires in North West
- 20 The Judges' Service A Service of Dedication and Thanksgiving at the beginning of the Legal Year
- 20 DWF Joanne Frew on the current UK Labour Market
- 21 Shape the future of your local Law Society
- 22 Charity Cake Sale
- 23 Knowsley Chamber
- 24 Deputies Deduct at your Peril
- 26 The Solicitors' Charity wins Charity Collaboration of the Year
- 27 The Judicial Competencies
- 28 Vauxhall Law Centre
- 30 Regulation Update
- 32 Charity Spotlight: North West Air Ambulance Charity
- 34 Strategic Partnership to ElevateStandards for Psychologists
- 35 Conference Update
- 36 Forthcoming Courses
- 40 Social Media Highlights



## **DEADLINES**

November 2025 edition: Tue, 21.10.25 December 2025 edition: Tue, 25.11.25

### Word Count Guidelines: Notes for Contributors

We receive many enquiries about submitting articles for LLS News and one of the questions that comes up every time is 'how long should it be?' While we don't (in theory) restrict the number of pages you can write, there are a few guidelines that you need to follow, like how many words fit on a page, how photographs, affect the word count etc.

With this in mind, the following is a rough approximation of how we calculate word counts for articles:

A full page of text is around 750 words without images, and 400 for a half page. The amount of text space an image takes up depends entirely on how it relates to the text (e.g. a by-line photo will take up less room than something illustrating the main theme of the article). So, we would suggest the following:

Full page with one small\* image: 690 words Full page with two small\* images or one medium\*\* image: 480 words Full page with one large\*\*\* image: 480 words Half page with one small image: 330 words

The word counts do not include the main heading or secondary headings, but do include sub-headings.

- \* Spanning a single column
- \*\* Spanning two columns
- \*\*\* Spanning three columns



Join us on Linked In: <u>LiverpoolLawEMag</u>

.....



Liverpool Law Society Magazine is produced by and for Liverpool Law Society Members. This is our opportunity to share our news, events and celebrations with our friends in the legal community.

All members' contributions to Liverpool Law are warmly welcomed. Please send your article (and photo captions where possible) or request for further information, or assistance to the editor at editor@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk

Photographs should be provided in the highest resolution possible to ensure a good reproduction. Photographs must not be subject to copyright.

The views and opinions expressed in Liverpool Law are those of the individual contributed and not those of the Liverpool Law Society.

Published by Baskerville eMedia Merseybank Business Centre 55-57 Seabank Road, Wallasey Merseyside CH45 7PA Tel: 0151 203 0440 simon@baskervilleemedia.co.uk



#### **Editorial Committee Dates 2025**

Meetings start at 01.00 pm.

Wed, 15 Oct 25 Tue, 18 Nov 25

# Welcome to the October edition of Liverpool Law



In this edition of 'Liverpool Law', we have news of movers and shakers amongst members of Liverpool Law Society to share with you (pp 7 – 18) including a new law firm opening its doors (p 16) as well as changes in the Liverpool Law Society staff team. Last month we said goodbye to Jo Downey who has moved on to pastures new after 17 years and we give a very warm welcome to Kirsty Barker who joins the Society as our Legal Training

and Event Manager. Myself, the team and the directors of the Society very much look forward to working with Kirsty. You can read all about our new recruit on page 10.

We have our flagship black-tie dinner in November to look forward to, a wonderful event that brings together the legal community and celebrates the successes and achievements of the legal sector in and around the Liverpool City Region. The 2025 Legal Awards shortlist appears on page 13 and if you haven't booked yet for the black-tie Annual Dinner and Legal Awards, then remember to do so before the cut-off date of 16 October!

As I write this, we are thrilled to see record sign-ups to the 2025 Liverpool Legal Walk which is a 5k fundraising walk in aid of the Access to Justice Foundation. A full write-up and photos of the walk will appear in the next edition of 'Liverpool Law'.

In the meantime, I hope you enjoy October's read.

### Sarah Poblete,

CEO and Acting Editor editor@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk

### Welcome to new members

We would like to give a warm welcome to our new members who were approved for membership at September's General Committee meeting. There were 24 individuals from the following organisations:

- Bell Lamb & Joynson
- · CG Professional
- DWF
- Edge Hill University
- Fletchers Solicitors
- Gregory Abrams Davidson
- HM3 Legal
- MSB Solicitors
- Richard Edwards & Co
- Slater & Gordon
- Weightmans

Liverpool Law Society's membership now exceeds 2,340 individuals from 236 law firms, barristers' chambers, and other organisations with legal professionals in the Liverpool City Region and beyond.



### From the President

### The latest from the President, James Mannouch

September is my favourite month. I don't know why this is. Perhaps it is because I always enjoyed going to school, and September was the month we all went back. Education is something that unites us all. Each of us went to a different school, college or university and so our experiences are slightly different. But the fact is, we all went to a school, college or university and in this way our backgrounds are the same. It is during early adulthood that we tend to diverge, so perhaps September is the month we all have in common. That is a nice thought.

My fondness for September eventually led me to work in education. I am employed by the University of Law and September is the most energetic month as we welcome our new Law Conversion, SQE and Bar students to the Liverpool Campus. There is such a satisfaction seeing young people realise their ambitions and it is something I never tire of. A sustainable, regional, legal services industry requires good clients, good firms and good entrants. Liverpool's universities ensure the final component and there is no finer place to develop a legal career.

September has also witnessed a return to law society business with a series of events and engagements.

On 8th September, Sarah Poblete (CEO) and I attended a meeting with Bill Addy (Chief Executive) of the Liverpool BID Company. It was a positive meeting that explored ways to promote Liverpool as a city in which firms might expand their operations. Liverpool has won some high profile 'acquisitions' over the past decade and the Society supports further growth. Also discussed were ways in which Professional Legal Services can contribute the city's overall growth strategy, and how firms can showcase their talent during 2027's LLS Bicentenary Celebrations. Exciting times ahead.

On 19th September, I was privileged to attend the President's Dinner guest of Birmingham Law Society. It was a splendid evening, impeccably hosted by **Richard Port**, **MBE**. I have attended several formal dinners this year and each provides opportunity to make connections for benefit of our members.

On 24th September, I attended the final road show in the United Nations Global Compact series on the Sustainable Development Goals. The day was hosted by DWF at its Liverpool Offices under the guidance of the firm's Chief Sustainability Officer, Kirsty Rogers. It was a fascinating day where I learned about the 17 Goals and how they relate to business and government. A link to the Goals may be found here https://unglobalcompact.org/sdgs/17global-goals - each with its own tools and measurables. Goal 16 "Peace and *Justice Strong Institutions*" has obvious relevance to our profession and our role in upholding the Rule of Law. However, other Goals may apply to members and their firms. My key takeaway from the day is that individuals and firms don't need to try to do everything at once. One single, positive measure still makes a contribution.

On 25th September, I attended the national Law Society's Annual Conference for Local Law Societies; the theme being "Engage. Manage. Grow." It was an interesting afternoon and one that illustrated the experience of smaller societies who may have struggled with engagement. Organisations that represent a profession are fragile beasts because when members leave, those remaining wonder why they are left to 'carry the can'. Liverpool is an incredibly strong society because of its members. The Directors of the Society, all of whom act on a voluntary basis, are dedicated to serving the membership and to ensuring the best outcomes for the city. Long may this remain.



The 25th of September was also a sad day for the Society, as we said goodbye to our Director of Education and Training, Jo Downey. Many members will have met Jo and know what a dedicated servant of the Society she has been. Jo organised the Society's professional training offer for many years, and she is known for her professionalism and cheery manner. Jo has left us in a strong position and her replacement, Kirsty Barker, has made a fantastic start in her role. With Practising Certificate renewal just around the corner, why not explore the Society's current range of courses here https://www.liverpoollawsociety.org.uk/ training/

A final reminder, our Annual Dinner and Legal Awards take place on 13 November 2025 at Rum Warehouse, Titanic Hotel, Liverpool. Mark Evans, President elect of the national Law Society, will be visiting our city and speaking on the evening, and I am looking forward to it. Our annual AGM is scheduled for 27 November 2025 at the Racquet Club, Liverpool. Please see the article in this month's magazine about how you can apply to become a Director of the Society. We welcome new, committed individuals!

James Mannouch
President
president@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk



# LLS Meetings & events - Oct/Nov 2025

Start Time	Meeting/Event
07/10/2025 13:00	Employment Law Sub-Committee
10/10/2025 13:00	Directors' Meeting with local MPs
10/10/2025 14:30	Memorial Service for Past President Tony Ensor
12/10/2025 10:30	Annual Judges Service at Liverpool Anglican Cathedral
14/10/2025 12:30	General Committee
15/10/2025 12:00	Bicentenary Working Party Meeting
15/10/2025 13:00	Editorial Sub-Committee
16/10/2025 13:00	Non-Contentious Business Sub-Committee
28/10/2025 12:30	Finance & Policy Sub-Committee
29/10/2025 13:00	Education & Charities Sub-Committee
11/11/2025 12:30	General Committee
13/11/2025 18:00	2025 Annual Dinner featuring the Legal Awards

Liverpool Law Society has a number of committees covering specialist areas of law which meet regularly throughout the year allowing members of Liverpool Law Society to discuss common issues, respond to consultation papers and contribute ideas towards the Society's comprehensive legal training programme.

Our committees are: Access to Justice; Civil Litigation; Criminal Practice; Employment Law; Equality, Diversity & Inclusion; Family Business; In-House Lawyers; Non-Contentious Business and Regulatory committees, which are open to members of Liverpool Law Society. To enquire about your membership status and/or being co-opted onto one of the above committees, please email <a href="mailto:committees@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk">committees@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk</a>



# MSB set to welcome seven new partners as nurturing of future leaders continues



MSB Solicitors is pleased to announce the upcoming promotion of seven members of its Liverpool team to the MSB partnership.

The landmark moment reflects MSB's continued growth and the strength of its internal talent alongside the practice's commitment to nurturing future legal leaders. The promotions stand as a testament to the firm's culture of development, collaboration and long-term investment in people as well as a recognition of the personal achievement of those involved.

Whether they have progressed through MSB's ranks from junior roles or joined the firm bringing their valuable experience, each of MSB's new partners has made a lasting impact through their work, leadership and dedication to clients and colleagues alike.

The seven new partners at MSB will be:

**Katie Camozzi** joined MSB in 2016 and specialises in children's law, including

cases in the High Court and the Court of Appeal. She holds accreditations related to child abduction and honour-based abuse.

Another children's law specialist in MSB's Family Legal Aid team is **Daniel Pierce**, who joined the firm in 2020. Daniel has led on complex care proceedings and supported tech-driven innovation in legal services.

**Steven Davies** is MSB's Head of Employment Law, a role in which he advises employers and employees. He joined MSB in 2021 and is recommended in the Legal 500 for his strategic expertise.

**Amy Tagoe** has more than 15 years' experience in housing litigation and is a trusted voice in the field of social housing and regeneration.

**Thomas Stockton** joined MSB in 2008 and now leads on matters related to social housing disrepair. He is also a key figure in the firm's LGBTQ+ inclusion work.

A Fellow of CILEX, John McCreanney

takes a clear and practical approach when he handles commercial litigation, civil fraud and property dispute cases.

**Tom Mealand** specialises in secured lending and commercial property, having joined MSB in 2023. He is renowned for his responsive, client-centred service.

Additional information on each upcoming partner can be seen on the recently relaunched <u>MSB Solicitors</u> website.

"I am filled with pride by the promotion of our new partners, some of whom have spent their entire careers at MSB and were once my own trainees," said Emma Carey, Managing Partner at MSB Solicitors.

"To watch their growth from early career professionals into inspiring leaders has been a privilege. These promotions are a celebration of talent, resilience and our shared values. I cannot wait to see what they accomplish next as they step into this new chapter," she added.



# Celebrating Over 35 Years of Dedication: Rachel Frost's Journey at Paul Crowley & Co



At Paul Crowley & Co Solicitors, we are delighted to celebrate a remarkable achievement for our Practice Manager, Rachel, who marks over 35 years of dedicated service with the firm. Rachel's story is truly inspirational.

### From Office Junior to Practice Manager

Joining the firm straight from school as an Office Junior, she began her career supporting our late Managing Director, Paul Crowley. From those early days, Rachel demonstrated the same determination, reliability, and professionalism that have defined her entire career.

### A Journey of Growth and Achievement

Over the years, as her role expanded, Rachel supported various departments and took responsibility for the cash office and payroll. Ultimately, she became our Practice Manager, a role in which she has excelled for many years, and was instrumental in securing the firm's Lexcel and Legal Aid accreditations. Her journey is a testament to hard work, loyalty, and professional growth.

### An Integral Part of the Firm

Few can say they have dedicated their entire career to one firm, and Rachel's long service reflects not only her devotion to Paul Crowley & Co but also the high regard in which she is held by colleagues past and present. As Practice Manager, she plays a pivotal role in the smooth running of the practice, ensuring our solicitors and support staff can focus on providing exceptional client service. Her organisational skills, attention to detail, and calm leadership have earned her widespread respect. Colleagues describe her as approachable, dependable, and always willing to go the extra mile.

### **Recognition from Leadership**

Paul Crowley & Co owner **Julie Jones** commented on Rachel's dedication:

"Rachel has been with us since the very beginning of her career and has grown alongside the firm. Her contribution over the past 35 years has been immense. She is highly respected by everyone here, and her professionalism, loyalty, and dedication are second to none. On behalf of the whole team, I want to thank Rachel for her incredible service and congratulate her on this special achievement."

#### A Lasting Legacy

Rachel's career highlights the invaluable role long-serving staff play in building the strength, stability, and culture of a law firm. Her deep knowledge of the firm and unwavering dedication to its success are unmatched, and her positive influence is felt across every department. At Paul Crowley & Co, we are immensely proud of Rachel and honoured to celebrate her 35+ years with us. She is not only an outstanding Practice Manager but also a trusted colleague and friend.



### FINANCIAL SERVICES

# Your Clients Trust You. You Should Trust an Independent Financial Adviser.

Support your clients beyond the legal with truly independent financial insight.

As a private client solicitor, your role often extends beyond wills, probate, and estate planning. Clients look to you as a trusted adviser in moments of vulnerability, complexity, and transition. But when financial advice is needed are you confident in your referrals?

- Are your clients receiving independent, whole-of-market advice?
- Is your professional network strengthening your reputation?
- Could you be adding even more value without more workload?

Working with a fully Independent Financial Adviser offers key benefits:

- Whole-of-market solutions no bias, no product pushing
- Expertise in trusts, IHT, pensions & complex estate structures
- Regulated, collaborative, and fully accountable
- Enhances your client offering and safeguards your relationships

Together, we provide clients with a seamless professional experience, where legal and financial matters are aligned ethically, independently, and expertly.

Parker Kelly are Chartered Financial Planners with later life specialists supporting all aspects of financial planning.



Retirement



Investments



Protection



Mortgages



**Business Support** 



**Estate Planning** 



Let's work together to protect what matters most to your clients.

For a confidential discussion or to request a solicitor partnership pack:

© 0151 236 7838 
equiries@parkerkelly.co.uk www.parkerkelly.co.uk

Parker Kelly Financial Services Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. www.fca.org.uk. Financial Services Register no. 692552. Registered in England and Wales. The FCA do not regulate Tax Planning, Estate Planning, Buy to Let business or Trusts



# Supporting, Connecting, Delivering: A New Chapter with Liverpool Law Society



**Kirsty Barker** 



Stepping into this new role marks an exciting new chapter for me. I come from a background in events, having worked within a professional membership organisation, large-scale venues and in corporate settings over the past seven years. Like many, I stumbled into a career in events by accident. My journey began in hospitality, working as a Duty Manager at a quirky Alice in Wonderland-themed restaurant in Manchester and yes, it was just as whimsical as it sounds! It was there that I first got involved in the organising and running of events and I quickly realised it was something I enjoyed.

From there, I went on to work at two of Manchester's largest event venues, before joining the Chartered Institute of Building, where I managed membership engagement and events across the Yorkshire region. Most recently, I was working within a global technology company, supporting the development and delivery of their events strategy across eight regional offices. Now, I'm excited to be part of Liverpool Law Society and look forward to getting fully involved and contributing to the fantastic work the team is doing.

Outside of work, I'm a passionate traveller and outdoor enthusiast. I've been fortunate enough to visit six of the seven continents with Antarctica the last one to be ticked off my list. I love immersing myself in new cultures and landscapes whether that's on a beach, in a mountain range, or exploring a vibrant city. Whether it's catching waves on a surfboard, hiking through national parks or exploring hidden corners of the world, I'm always up for an adventure. When I'm not exploring the outdoors or on a plane, you'll usually find me planning my next trip, discovering new restaurants and coffee spots or spending quality time with friends and family.



I'm really looking forward to meeting members and connecting with professionals across Liverpool's legal sector at upcoming events, as well as collaborating closely with the committees and team here at Liverpool Law Society.

#### **Kirsty Barker**

Training and Event Manager at Liverpool Law Society kirsty@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk



# Freeths' exceptional growth continues as it reports financial results for 2024/25

# Freeths posts record £166.8m turnover and £59.4m profit while investing in talent, technology and responsible business initiatives

Leading law firm Freeths has today announced record financial results for the year ending 31 March 2025, reporting another year of impressive double-digit growth.

Turnover rose by 14.8% to £166.8 million, an increase of £21.5 million compared to the previous year and overall profit climbed to £59.4 million, an increase of 13.0% from the previous year. This strong growth continues Freeths' trajectory of sustained success, with average annual turnover growth exceeding 10% for more than five consecutive years.

The firm also paid a record staff bonus pool of £4.3 million reflecting its continued investment in a people-focused culture and a recognition of the contribution that all staff make to the firm's achievements.

Reflecting on the success, Karl Jansen, National Managing Partner at Freeths, commented: "This year's results are a testament to the incredible dedication of our people and the trust our clients place in us. As well as being crowned Legal Business's Law Firm of the Year in 2024, our continued double-digit growth reflects not only the strength of our legal offering but also our commitment to building a purpose-driven, inclusive and sustainable business. As a certified B Corporation™ ("B Corp") accredited organisation, we're proud to show that commercial success whilst remaining focused on our responsible business goals can go hand-in-hand."

**Investing in social impact**As an accredited B Corp law firm,

Freeths remains committed to responsible business practices, and has taken steps to further strengthen its capability in this area. This saw the appointment of the firm's first Director of Responsible Business, Ben Churchill, in January 2025, along with additional specialist resource to support Freeths' Wellbeing and Sustainability programmes. The firm continued to make progress in key areas such as Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) and took steps forward in developing an impact-led strategy to take its work to the next level. Following its first Responsible Business Report in 2024, Freeths has committed to annual reporting and will be publishing its next report later this year.

### Investing in talent and innovation

In the financial year, which also marked the conclusion of the firm's previous five-year strategy, Freeths made significant investments in several technology packages. This included additional investment in cyber security, a new online recruitment platform and candidate feedback delivery, and a brand-new internal management information system.

Freeths' success is underpinned by its positive, people-focused culture, which prioritises wellbeing, collaboration, and career development, and included 20 partner and director hires in the last financial year. With over 1,300 colleagues across 13 offices, the firm continues to attract and retain top talent while delivering exceptional service to high-profile clients nationwide.

The firm's commitment to growth and its people is evident in its ongoing investment in its office portfolio. During the year, it relocated to larger offices in Bristol and Liverpool and undertook a refurbishment of its London office. This programme is underpinned by strategic recruitment, including numerous senior hires, and expanding client bases across all offices.

Karl Jansen added: "The investment in our facilities underscores our dedication to providing state-of-the-art workspaces that not only support hybrid working models but also enrich client experiences.

"In conjunction with talent attraction, development and retention, we have continued our firm-wide focus on our pay gaps (gender and ethnicity) and our Board, senior management team and employee networks are fully committed to driving the change required to reduce and, over time, eliminate any pay gaps.

"Technology is increasingly important for innovative and efficient legal service delivery, and we have made several investments this year that are already delivering value for our clients. Artificial Intelligence (AI), and generative AI in particular, is rapidly changing the legal landscape, creating new possibilities for increased efficiency, deeper insights and enhanced client service.

"These strong results reflect our success in achieving the goals of our previous five-year strategy and, importantly, give us a great platform as we launch the next phase."



# **Annual Dinner 2025**

Join President James Mannouch at the region's premier event for the legal sector.

Hear from guest speaker

Mark Evans
President-elect of
The Law Society



The Legal Awards ceremony will take place after Dinner.

Nominations are now open, see page opposite for details.

# **13 NOVEMBER 2025**

6.15PM FOR 6.45PM
RUM WAREHOUSE, LIVERPOOL
MEMBERS £1,050+VAT FOR A TABLE OF 10
NON-MEMBERS £1,400+VAT FOR A TABLE OF 10

Bookings will close 16 October or sooner if sold out

**BOOK NOW** 

SPONSORED BY

















Annual Dinner featuring Legal Awards

Liverpool Law Society is delighted by the number of nominations received for the 2025 Legal Awards from individuals, teams and firms across the membership. The competition has been fierce, the independent judging panel have met and the shortlist has been decided.

### **Legal Awards 2025 Shortlist**

### **Outstanding Team Award (Dispute Resolution** & Litigation)

- Donoghue Solicitors
- DWF
- Leigh Day
- Phoenix Legal

### **Outstanding Team Award (Non-Contentious)** Sponsored by Landmark Information

- Brabners
- CEL Solicitors
- MSB Solicitors

### **Outstanding Team Award (Employment Law)**

- Brabners
- Morecrofts Solicitors
- MSB Solicitors

### **Outstanding Team Award (Family)**

- Brabners
- Jackson Lees Group
- Morecrofts Solicitors
- MSB Solicitors

### **Rising Star Award**

sponsored by The University of Law

- Jack Bookey, Irwin Mitchell
- Jessica Roberts, Fletchers Solicitors
- Robert Porter, Phoenix Legal

### **Legal Awards 2025 Shortlist**

### **Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Award** sponsored by LJMU

- Fletchers Solicitors
- In-House Legal Solutions
- MSB Solicitors

### **Outstanding Lawyer Award** sponsored by Miller

- John Dove, Charterhouse Chambers
- Kevin Donoghue, Donoghue Solicitors
- Kirsty Leedam, HM3 Legal
- Leanne Devine, Leigh Day

In-House Legal Solutions

### Law Firm Award (1-49 employees) sponsored by Clio

- Leigh Day
- Peter Edwards Law
- Phoenix Legal

### Law Firm Award (50+ employees) sponsored by Benchmark

- Bell, Lamb & Joynson Solicitors
- Brabners
- CEL Solicitors
- MSB Solicitors

The awards ceremony will be taking place at the Society's Annual Dinner which is taking place on Thursday, 13th November 2025.

**Book on or before 16 October for the Awards Dinner here** 

#### SPONSORED BY















# Clyde & Co expands occupational disease team with strategic partner hires of Thomas Jordan and Jonathan Mitchell



Global law firm Clyde & Co has appointed Thomas Jordan and Jonathan Mitchell as partners in its UK casualty insurance practice, further strengthening its market-leading occupational disease offering. Thomas will be based in the firm's Bristol office, and Jonathan in Liverpool. Both are joining from DAC Beachcroft.

Thomas is a specialist in occupational disease litigation with a specific focus on asbestos-related conditions, and new and emerging risks. Dual-qualified to practise in both England & Wales and

Scotland, he brings with him more than 16 years' experience in claims and risk management for corporate and insurer clients advising across all sectors including construction, manufacturing and the public sector.

Jonathan has more than 13 years' experience covering a wide spectrum of occupational disease and personal injury claims, notably novel, complex and high value claims. He has also established a niche practice in advising on and defending claims brought under the Equality Act 2010, including claims for discrimination, harassment and victimisation. He is regularly instructed by corporate clients direct as well as insurers to manage these claims on their behalf.

Thomas Jordan says, "Joining Clyde & Co is an exciting opportunity to contribute to a team at the forefront of occupational disease litigation. I have long admired the firm's innovative approach and its clarity in navigating emerging risks. I look forward to applying my experience – particularly in complex group claims – to help clients

resolve high-value disputes efficiently."

Jonathan Mitchell says, "I'm delighted to join Clyde & Co's leading occupational disease team. Their reputation for handling complex and high-value claims is unmatched. I'm eager to support the team's continued success in defending novel claims and helping clients mitigate reputational risk."

The appointments follow the hiring of partner **Barbara Goddard** who recently joined Clyde & Co's London disease team from DAC Beachcroft.

**David Tait**, partner at Clyde & Co, added: "I'm pleased to welcome Thomas and Jonathan to our 85-strong occupational disease team. Their appointments reinforce our commitment to building a nationally integrated disease practice and reflect growing client demand for specialist expertise in complex disease litigation."

Clyde & Co's occupational disease and legacy claims team is highly respected within the market, acting for 13 of the top 15 UK insurers as well as SMEs, brokers, public sector and corporate clients.

# Carpenters Group Hosts Groundbreaking Roundtable on OIC Portal Reform

Carpenters Group recently brought together leading voices from across the motor claims industry for a first-of-its-kind roundtable discussion on the Official Injury Claims Portal (OICP).

Held at London's St Pancras Hotel, the event provided a platform for open dialogue on the Portal's performance, challenges, and future reform. With fewer than 10% of users being unrepresented, the Portal's design continues to frustrate both litigants in person and professional users.

Donna Scully, Owner/Director of Carpenters Group, said:

"We're proud to have facilitated this important conversation. Collaboration is key to improving the claims process and ensuring the Portal works for everyone—especially consumers."



# Weightmans posts steady growth and doubles down on international ambition



Law firm Weightmans has reported record revenue of £145 million for the financial year ending March 31, 2025 - a 3.4% increase on the previous year, representing four years of consecutive growth, and building on its record-breaking results in 2023/24.

The firm also delivered net profit of £15m – the second highest annual total in its history, reflecting another year of sustained, strategic growth.

The year also marked a significant leadership transition, with **Sarah Walton** succeeding **John Schorah** as Managing Partner in April 2025. Her appointment - the firm's first female managing partner - was complemented by the arrival of former Legal & General Managing Partner, **Duncan Finch** as a Non-Executive Director, ensuring both continuity and fresh strategic insight at the top.

Several practice areas delivered standout performances. The Claims Division (Insurance and Healthcare) and Regulatory teams exceeded gross profit targets. Private Wealth emerged as a key driver of both revenue and profit growth. And HR Rely, the firm's fixed-fee outsourced HR and employment law service, surpassed all revenue, sales, and profit targets, delivering exceptional value to clients.

International expansion was another highlight. Weightmans' award-winning cyber consultancy, CyXcel, launched operations in North America. This was in addition to £10 million of international revenue generated in legal advice, reinforcing the firm's global reach and reputation.

The firm also welcomed 21 lateral hire partners, which, together with internal promotions, brings the partnership total to 267 and it had its largest-ever trainee and apprentice cohort, with 87 new joiners.

In 2025, Weightmans was recognised as a Top Employer for the 18th consecutive year, achieving a top five national ranking, and appointed its first Diversity and Inclusion Manager, **Liliana Corrieri**.

The firm's purpose-led marketing campaign, 'See the Possibility', won two Gold Drum Awards, while its ESG credentials were further validated by being ranked second-best among the

UK's 75 largest law firms for greenhouse gas emissions by The Lawyer; being awarded Platinum status by EcoVadis, placing it in the top 1% globally for sustainability performance; and featuring in The Legal 500 UK Green Guide for the second consecutive year.

**Sarah Walton**, managing partner at Weightmans, commented: "In a tough economic environment, we've sustained growth and maintained our momentum, which is impressive following on from the exceptional performance we achieved in our previous financial year. That success has enabled us to invest significantly in bolstering our client offer – including building out our hugely successful cyber security division CyXcel into a uniquely integrated global advisory offering.

"Looking ahead, our strong financial position allows us to continue investing in what matters most: tech and innovation, our people, and delivering exceptional service to clients both in the UK and internationally."



Please check your junk or spam folder. Email providers constantly update their spam filters so even though you used to receive our emails, suddenly this might stop.

Our training, member and general news & events emails will come from <a href="mailto:legalnews@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk">legalnews@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk</a> and automated messages from our website (such as when making a booking for one of our courses or events) will come from <a href="mailto:legalnewsociety.org.uk">legalnewsociety.org.uk</a>.

We suggest you regularly check your junk email and add both these LLS email addresses to your 'safe senders' list to ensure your receive news, events and invitations from Liverpool Law Society!

Not signed up?





# Serious injury specialist launches new Liverpool law firm



**Richard Edwards** 

One of the UK's leading catastrophic injury lawyers is returning home to Liverpool to open his own practice.

Richard Edwards has more than 20 years' experience of dealing with serious injury and complex claims across the UK and overseas, representing clients in the High Court, Court of Appeal and the United States, achieving several multi-million pound settlements on behalf of clients. In 2023 he was declared

'Catastrophic Injury Lawyer of the Year', at the prestigious national Personal Injury Awards.

Regularly featured in Chambers and Partners and the Legal 500, he is a solicitor-advocate (Higher Rights Civil), a member of the Board of Governors at the Expert Witness Institute, a Fellow of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers and assistant secretary of Liverpool-based amputee charity ACSIL. Born and raised in Liverpool, where he still lives today, Edwards completed his training at a city centre firm before moving to Potter Rees Dolan in Manchester, where he became a Partner. He remained at the firm following its acquisition by Hugh James and is now returning to his home city to launch his new practice, Richard Edwards & Co.

Edwards said: "Liverpool has a thriving legal scene and is the perfect location for me to launch a specialist practice. The fact that it's my home city is certainly a welcome bonus.

"I have learned a great deal working alongside some of the best solicitors and barristers in the UK during my career and I plan to bring that experience to bear on behalf of clients at Richard Edwards & Co over the coming years."

Edwards, formerly an active member of the Liverpool Law Society Dispute Resolution Committee, continued:

"It is a really exciting time. I'm looking forward to becoming an active part of the Liverpool legal community once again and I'll certainly do what I can to support the continued growth of the legal sector in my home city."

### MJLD Committee 24/25 - A Year in Review

What a year it has been! 2024/25 has been such a busy year for the MJLD, and we are now looking to plan the year ahead with our new Committee.

Over the year, we have hosted numerous networking events and socials, enabling junior lawyers to connect with peers and build professional relationships with the community. We have helped to enhance student knowledge via our education workshops and close links with the courts and universities. We have also raised a significant amount of money for our chosen charity of the year, Liverpool Heartbeat.

We also recently hosted our annual Summer ball, which was a huge success at the Bentley in Liverpool. The evening brought together junior solicitors, trainees and paralegals from across the city for a night of celebration, connection and well-deserved fun.

The MJLD has had a fantastic year from the opening autumn social at L'Aperitivo, to the annual MJLD v LLS Quiz hosted at Bierkeller, and culminating in the MJLD Ball in August. We have continued our commitment to the future of the Liverpool legal community in working

closely with the universities and local courts, providing many opportunities for students to develop their careers.

The MJLD will be hosting another exciting social calendar for the year 2025/26. New energy, ideas and dedication will no doubt bring fresh momentum to the year ahead and we look forward to seeing what our new Committee achieve.

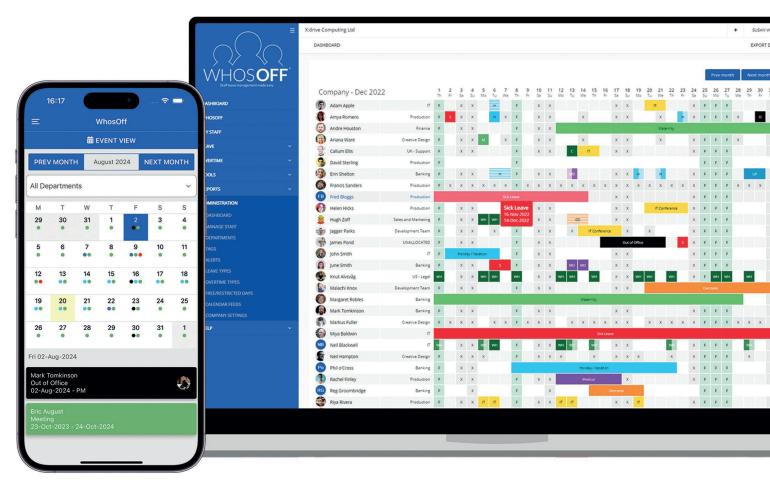
**Faye Morris** Paralegal, Weightmans LLP



### #1 Staff holiday booking system

# Leave management software, trusted by the legal industry

Simplify some of the tedious HR tasks with our easy-to-use leave management software, from sick leave and holiday requests to employee records and document storage.



Free Trial whosoff.com
Email support@whosoff.com
Let's talk +44 (0)1227 812930





# Excello Law powers ahead with three senior hires in North West



**Gaynor Williams** 



Manchester, Liverpool and Southport welcome senior hires as Excello Law continues rapid growth

Leading fee-share law firm Excello Law has continued its strong growth, with the addition in the past two months of three senior lawyers in the North West. Experienced lawyers specialising in construction, litigation and commercial law join Excello Law in Manchester, Liverpool and Southport.

Holly O'Farrell joins Excello's Manchester office and brings specialist expertise in construction and engineering. She began her career at Clyde & Co before moving to Weightmans and then JMW, where she focused on digital infrastructure and data centre projects. Holly has advised on both contentious and non-contentious construction matters, including a £750 million logistics park in Ipswich.

**Gaynor Williams** joins Excello in Liverpool with over 28 years of experience in debt recovery, civil litigation and insolvency. Alongside her client work, Gaynor supports Liverpool Law Clinic on a pro bono basis, helping law students provide vital access to justice in the local community.

Joining Excello in Southport, **Adrien Herbert** is an experienced commercial lawyer with a strong in-house background advising across IT, media, publishing, telecommunications and industrial

leasing. Adrien has supported clients ranging from multinational communications groups to SMEs in the education, chemicals, consultancy and industrial equipment sectors.

The expansion of Excello's North West team comes in an exciting year of growth for the firm, with international expansion and new offices opening in California, Dubai and Northern Ireland. Excello Law has also helped to launch several new law firms this year, through its innovative House of Brands platform, which now supports 13 boutique law firms across the UK.

Commenting on the appointments and Excello's continued growth, COO **Jo Losty** said: "Our ongoing growth, both through high-calibre senior lawyers joining Excello and through the expansion of our House of Brands platform, demonstrates the strength of our offering. We provide lawyers with the autonomy and support they need to thrive, whether that's as consultant lawyers within Excello or as entrepreneurs building their own brands with our backing. We're thrilled that so many talented professionals continue to choose Excello."



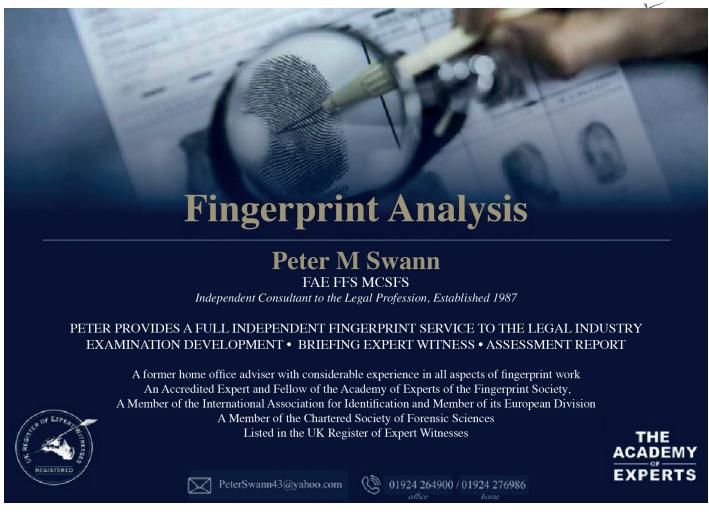
e are a UK charity providing a fantastic selection of high-quality audiobooks to some 50,000 people across the UK who find it difficult or impossible to read due to an illness, disability, learning or mental health difficulty. We charge a membership fee to only half of our members- those who feel they can make some contribution and that is heavily subsidised. The other half need to be fully funded. Listening Books receives no central government funding whatsoever and very little local government funding. The reality is that Listening Books simply could not survive without the generous support of sponsors and the active co-operation of publishers.

Whether you have already written your will or are thinking about writing one in the near future, we ask that you consider leaving a legacy to Listening Books. Your legacy will make a vital difference to the lives of our members for years to come.

CALL US NOW on 020 7407 9417 or email us at: bdee@listening-books.org.uk



www.listening-books.org.uk/Legacies 12 Lant Street, London SE1 1QH







# TRANSLATE HIVE

Providing seamless, accurate and court approved translation and interpretation services.

<u>customer.services@translatehive.com</u> <u>0845 505 9961</u>







# The Judges' Service – A Service of Dedication and Thanksgiving at the beginning of the Legal Year

Sunday 12th October, 2025 at 10.30am Venue: Liverpool Cathedral, St James's Mount, Liverpool L1 7AZ

Members of Liverpool Law Society, their family and guests are invited to the annual Judges' Service to mark the beginning of the new Legal Year.

The tradition of holding a service to mark the beginning of the legal year dates back to medieval times when judges used to gather in Westminster Abbey. They prayed for guidance that they would judge everyone fairly and according to the Law. That service in London is still held to this day. Other cities that are visited by High Court Judges now hold such services and Liverpool has done so

for hundreds of years. This is a Christian Service but those of other faiths or no faith are warmly welcomed.

The service is arranged by the High Sheriff of Merseyside. The office of High Sheriff is the oldest secular office in the country and dates back over a thousand years. The High Sheriff is a representative of the Monarch and supports the Judges of the High Court when they sit in the County.

At the Service, all Judges and Magistrates are reminded of the solemn oath that each took upon their appointment to "well and truly serve our Sovereign King, Charles III and to do right to all manner of people after the laws and usages of this realm without fear or favour, affection or

ill will".

Effective public service and the well-being of the county are the responsibility of civic leaders as well as the judiciary. The Lord Mayor of Liverpool and the Mayors from the other Boroughs in Merseyside attend the service as civic representatives. The service is open to everyone.

The High Sheriff of Merseyside, **Mr Billy Hui BEM DL** looks forward to welcoming you to this year's Service at 10:30am on Sunday, 12th October.

For further details about the service please visit the Liverpool Cathedral website at <a href="https://liverpoolcathedral.org.uk/events/judges-service/">https://liverpoolcathedral.org.uk/events/judges-service/</a>

# DWF - Joanne Frew on the current UK Labour Market



Current economic conditions and evolving legislative frameworks are placing mounting pressure on the UK labour market. The UK employment rate was estimated at 75.2% in May to July 2025. This is up in the latest quarter and above estimates of a year ago. The UK unemployment rate was estimated at 4.7% in May to July 2025. This is up in the latest quarter and above estimates of a year ago.

The estimated number of vacancies in the UK fell by 10,000 on the quarter, to 728,000 in June to August 2025 – the 38th consecutive fall. Nine of the 18 industry sectors saw a fall. UKHospitality has reported that half of the UK job losses since the last budget have been in the hospitality industry. It is unsurprising that the industry has felt the brutal impact of slow wage growth and rising prices.

In May to July 2025, annual growth in employees' average earnings in Great Britain for regular earnings (excluding bonuses) was 4.8%, and for total earnings (including bonuses) was 4.7% in May to July 2025. We can see a clear distinction between the public and private sector - annual average regular earnings growth was 5.6% for the public sector and 4.7% for the private sector. Employers are facing continued pressure from employees to raise pay in line with rising prices.

With the Employment Rights Bill progressing through Parliament, there is a nervousness in the labour market, and many employers are approaching recruitment with caution. The proposed reform, ranging from day-one rights for unfair dismissal and flexible working, to stricter rules around zero-hours contracts and fire-and-rehire practices, are prompting concerns about increased costs, reduced flexibility, and heightened administrative burdens. Having already absorbed the increased costs from the National Insurance changes, employers are reluctant to plan too far ahead until they fully understand the impact of the reforms. While the Bill aims to improve job security and working conditions, its scope and complexity have led some businesses to delay hiring decisions or reconsider workforce structures in anticipation of compliance challenges. Employers are hoping the Autumn Budget will provide much needed clarity and reassurance amid ongoing economic uncertainty.



# Shape the future of your local Law Society

Members are invited to consider becoming a director of Liverpool Law Society and having an opportunity to influence one of the most active local and prominent local law societies in England and Wales. You will make professional contacts and friends, use and enhance skills in a professional environment and be at the centre of the work and decision-making of a membership organisation with approximately 2,350 members from about 200 law firms, barrister chambers, patent attorneys, in-house lawyers, educational establishments and other branches of the legal profession.

We would like to have a committee of Directors which is as representative as possible of the wide membership the Society encompasses. Our membership is broad, taken from all branches of the legal profession. Please note only full\* members of the Society are eligible for election to the General Committee.

#### 2025 AGM

The Society's Annual General Meeting will be held from **1.00pm – 2.00pm** on **Thursday, 27th November 2025** at **The Racquet Club**, Liverpool city centre.

By standing for election at this year's AGM in November, you would become a director and member of the Society's General Committee. The General Committee consists of up to 27 directors, who each serve a three-year term. The nominee must be a member of the Society, be nominated by three members of the Society and is elected to serve a three-year term.

Every year, nine members of the General Committee retire by rotation at the AGM: up to five of those due to retire may be nominated by the Committee for re-election, and the others are not eligible for re-election until the next AGM.

#### How to stand for election

Members of the Society will receive an email in mid-October with details on how to nominate a full member of the Society to become a director. The nomination form must be completed and returned to the Society by **1.00pm on Monday 27th October 2025**. Elections will then take place at the AGM in November.

Please do consider attending the AGM even if you are not standing for election. The President, Officers, staff team and other members present would enjoy meeting you.

If you would like further information about the Society and the work of the General Committee and sub-committees please visit <a href="http://www.liverpoollawsociety.org.uk/about-the-society/committees">http://www.liverpoollawsociety.org.uk/about-the-society/committees</a> or email <a href="mailto:committees@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk">committees@liverpoollawsociety.org.uk</a> and we will get back to you.

#### \*Full member

The following persons practising or working in the Area (Area means the City of Liverpool, the Metropolitan Boroughs of Wirral, Knowsley, St. Helens and Sefton; and Widnes and Neston in the County of Cheshire;) (with the exception of the persons referred to in Article 27.1.2 who are not required to be practising or working in the Area but shall have been so practising or working immediately prior to his or her retirement) shall be eligible to be Full Members of the Society:

27.1.1	any solicitor who holds a current practising certificate;
27.1.2	any solicitor on the Roll who has retired from practice;
27.1.3	any barrister;
27.1.4	any Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Legal Executives;
27.1.5	any registered foreign or European lawyer who is regulated by an Approved Regulator;
27.1.6	any person holding a judicial appointment or teaching law;
27.1.7	any trainee solicitor;
27.1.8	any patent attorney;
27.1.9	any licensed conveyancer;
27.1.10	any notary public;
27.1.11	any trade mark attorney;
27.1.12	pupil barristers; and
27.1.13	subject to Article 29, any person who is in a senior position at an organisation providing legal services w
	subject to supervision by an Approved Regulator and who is approved by the Committee.

which is



# **Charity Cake Sale**





As I sat reading the June edition of this magazine, I was struck by the article about the Liverpool Care Leavers Christmas Dinner charity. As a family law solicitor, this is a cause that is obviously close to my heart so I immediately sent to email to our directors about arranging a charity event. We tried to book abseiling down the Cathedral but sadly all their charity slots were booked so we settled on a cake sale (slightly less dramatic!)

On 21st July our lovely team provided lots of delicious baked goods, with our Trainee Solicitor **Megan McCauley** winning best baker for her delightful brownies and apple crumble cupcakes!

The lovely **Caroline**, who co-runs the Liverpool Care leavers Christmas Dinner charity, came to our office to sample some cakes and have a chat over a cuppa. Caroline and I put the family law world to rights and could have chatted forever! This is such a wonderful cause but if they do not make enough money, they may have to postpone this year's event. This means that 40+ care leavers would be without a Christmas dinner, Christmas

presents and the knowledge that someone cares about them.

With a generous donation from our directors, our cake sale raised £2,050. Caroline tells us this has set the charity 'well on the way' to being able to offer the Christmas Dinner event this year. If you or your firm can offer any fundraising to this inspiring event, you can contact **Caroline Fogell** on <a href="mailto:liverpoolclcd@gmail.com">liverpoolclcd@gmail.com</a>.

Amanda Sime Associate Solicitor

Associate Solicitor Canter, Levin & Berg

Editor's comment: we are delighted to see that the regular 'Charity Spotlight' column has brought tangible benefits to a deserving cause. Do let us know if you too have been moved to help one of the many charities featured in Liverpool Law's Charity Spotlight!

# **Knowsley Chamber:**

### **Community Impact through Working Well**





**Jess Murphy** 

Knowsley Chamber strives to be the voice of business representing the membership and championing the borough. It has developed into a thriving private sector-led organisation representing businesses of all sizes, sectors and locations. Knowsley Chamber has the privilege to be the delivery partner for the Working Well programme since 2011. This unique programme is funded by Knowsley Public Health and recognises the need for workplace wellbeing support.

This initiative supports local businesses to improve employee health and wellbeing. The programme appoints Health and Wellbeing Champions in workplaces, providing free support to boost wellbeing, reduce sickness absence, and improve staff retention. The Working Well programme currently have 349 Health and Wellbeing Workplace Champions who have access to a wide range of services through the programme. These services include health campaigns, signposting to specialist services, small grants, and dedicated events focused on nine key standards: smoking, alcohol, mental health, physical activity, healthy eating, leadership, absence management,

health and safety, and equality and diversity. Crucially, Working Well is open to all businesses in Knowsley, not just Chamber members, meaning its positive impact is felt across the borough. For businesses based in Knowsley there is an opportunity to apply for a grant of up to £1,000. In summer 2025, due to the programme's success, the Chamber expanded the team by appointing a second Business Engagement Manager, Jess Murphy, to further strengthening its ability to reach and support more local businesses.

Jess is keen to make an impact on the Knowsley and Liverpool City Region: "As a Business Engagement Manager for Working Well, my goal is simple: to help Knowsley businesses improve the health and wellbeing of their staff through the Working Well Programme. Whether it's through our events, resources, grants, or guidance on best practices, I'm here to help businesses create healthier, more productive workplaces. Focusing on key areas such as healthy eating, leadership, physical activity, and mental wellbeing, we can make a tangible difference to both employee health and business success. My role is to ensure businesses have the tools and support they need to meet the 9 health and wellbeing standards, driving lasting positive change for their teams.

I'm also extremely passionate about supporting local charities and Community Interest Companies (CICs) in working alongside businesses to give back to the community. There's truly no better feeling than knowing you've made a positive impact on someone's life, and I believe that by fostering these partnerships, we can create a thriving, interconnected local economy. Knowsley is all about collaboration, and together, we can build a stronger, more supportive community for everyone."

From its origins in 1987 to its current position as a dynamic, forward-thinking organisation, Knowsley Chamber has consistently demonstrated that business support is most effective when it is collaborative, inclusive, and responsive. By championing its members, building strong partnerships, and delivering innovative programmes, the Chamber has played a vital role in driving Knowsley's economic success.

For more information about Knowsley Chamber and how it can support your business, please contact info@knowsleychamber.org.uk.

### Olivia McGuinness

Business Engagement Manager Knowsley Chamber of Commerce



'Working Well' Event



# Deputies Deduct at your Peril – AKS v National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Ltd [2025] EWHC 126 (SCCO)





A recent decision from Cost Judge Leonard has confirmed that it is important for any professional Deputy for property and finances to ensure that Court approval has been obtained before making a payment from a Protected Party's damages in respect of a success fee or a shortfall. It is not enough to rely on the Court of Protection advising that they do not believe that a Deputy should normally require an order.

The circumstances surrounding this matter are fairly unique and the approach adopted by the Protected Party's Solicitor left a lot to be desired. The Protected Party was a passenger in an RTA claim and had suffered significant injuries that rendered them a Protected Party. The claim settled for £3.8m and the settlement was approved by the Court in November 2022.

The Claimant's Solicitors, Seth Law, made an Application to the Court in June 2023 seeking the Court to approve a success fee which had been calculated at 25%. The total amount sought was £73,750.00. However, in July 2023 Seth Law sent an email to the Court requesting the Application be withdrawn because

the matter had been "dealt with" by the Claimant's Deputy.

CJ Leonard requested clarification regarding how the matter had been "dealt with" but, unfortunately, no explanation was provided. As such, CJ Leonard listed a remote hearing in October 2023 requesting a representative of Seth Law to attend. On the morning of the remote hearing a representative of Seth Law sent an email to the Court requesting the hearing be vacated because "the matter has been settled". CJ Leonard refused to vacate and Seth Law sent a Paralegal to the remote hearing who proceeded to advise that court approval for the payment had already been obtained.

An Order made dated 22/05/2023 made by **District Judge Ellington** in the Court of Protection was eventually provided. This Order dismissed an application which had been made by the professional Deputy seeking authority to pay costs to Seth Law out of the Claimant's damages. The Order included the following terms:

"(4) It does not appear that a professional deputy should normally require an order in these circumstances.

(5) Insufficient information has been provided and the application is procedurally incorrect."

CJ Leonard, upon considering the contents of the Order, noted that the contents did not support the point made by the Claimant's Solicitors and that, without Court approval, the Claimant's Solicitors were not entitled to take a payment from the Claimant's damages. CJ Leonard proceeded to list the matter for an assessment in April 2024 and issued directions for the provision of relevant documents and information from Seth

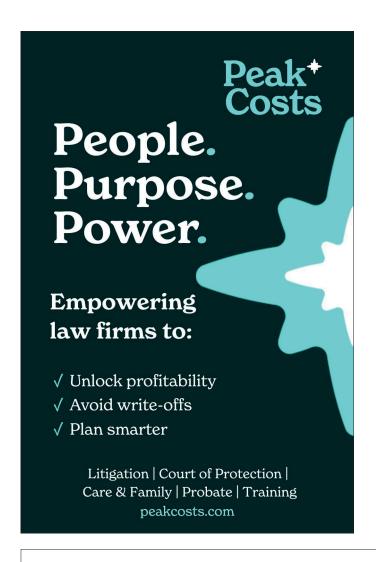
Law. Seth Law failed to comply with the directions and through administrative issues, the assessment hearing date was lost. A new assessment hearing was listed for July 2024. Before the hearing could take place, Seth Law was closed down by the SRA with effect from 13/06/2024.

The success fee was initially assessed at nil due to a failure by the professional Deputy and the Litigation Friend to provide the relevant documents requested. However, following an appeal lodged by the professional Deputy, the total deductions from damages was assessed at £16,502.64.

The professional Deputy had already paid Seth Law £73,750.00 and therefore had to attempt to recover an overpayment if £57,247.36 from Seth Law who were in compulsory liquidation. How much could be recovered was therefore significantly in doubt.

Whilst CJ Leonard found that the professional Deputy had arranged the payment with the express authority of the Litigation Friend, he found that she had been mistaken about the scope of her discretion and the amount due to Seth Law. CJ Leonard reiterated that "the law requires the court determine the amount to be deducted in accordance with established principles". As such, this case should be a clear warning to all professional Deputies to ensure that they do not mistakenly pay costs which are not within their discretion to pay.

Kris Kilsby is a Costs Lawyer at Paramount Legal Costs and a Council member of the Association of Costs Lawyers. For any further questions or queries about Deduction from Damages or if you are interested in further in-depth training on the topic please get in touch at kristopher.kilsby@peackcosts.com







# As expert Auctioneers & Valuers, Outhwaite & Litherland have been supporting North West Lawyers and professionals with valuations and advice since 1907.

We offer a complete probate valuation service, which now includes RICS accredited property valuations, in addition to the existing valuation service, estate sales and property clearance.

We hold a variety of specialist auctions during the year along side a catalogue of regular general household sales.

Outhwaite & Litherland are always just a phone call or email away and happy to offer free, friendly advice.



Outhwaite & Litherland 39-41 Hoghton Street, Southport, Merseyside PR9 0NS

> Tel: 01704 538489 e: auction@lots.uk.com www.lots.uk.com





The Solicitors' Charity and LawCare have won a coveted ACO Award



Supporting you, since 1858

The Solicitors' Charity is delighted to announce that it has won Charity Collaboration of the Year at the ACO Annual Awards 2025, for its longstanding partnership with LawCare.

The award recognises the two charities' outstanding work in delivering tailored support to the legal community. Since 2012, The Solicitors' Charity has partnered with LawCare, the mental health charity for the UK legal sector, to provide vital emotional wellbeing services including direct support (via phone, email and chat), training, information, research and advocacy.

Through over a decade of collaboration, the two organisations have built a complementary partnership which

ensures solicitors can access timely and specialist support when they need it most. The Solicitors' Charity provides core funding to LawCare, enabling it to deliver frontline services and special projects such as the Life in the Law research.

The ACO Annual Awards celebrate excellence across the charity sector, showcasing the achievements of grantmaking and benevolent charities that provide vital financial and wellbeing support. The awards are sponsored by Family Fund Business Services.

Nick Gallagher, CEO of The Solicitors' Charity, said: "We are honoured to receive this prestigious award for our collaboration with LawCare. This recognition highlights the dedication of our team and our valued partner in supporting solicitors through some of life's most challenging circumstances. Since 2012, we have helped nearly 3,700 solicitors in England and Wales through LawCare.

At The Solicitors' Charity, collaboration is at the heart of what we do, and we are proud to stand alongside LawCare in making a real difference to people's lives."

The judges' feedback was: "This longstanding partnership continues to innovate and modernise the support offered to its beneficiaries, setting the standard for contemporary thinking across the sector."

The Solicitors' Charity's recent <u>Big</u>
Report highlights the scale and impact of its work, revealing how tailored support is helping solicitors overcome emotional, professional, physical, and financial challenges. This life-changing assistance is only possible thanks to the generosity of donors and the dedication of the charity's case managers.

For more information on how to get involved visit: <a href="https://thesolicitorscharity.org/play-your-part/">https://thesolicitorscharity.org/play-your-part/</a>



# **Resolve Legal Solutions**

Investigating with Precision. Delivering with Integrity.

Karl Starkey, Director Tel: 0151 640 0928

Mob: 07775 430 403

info@resolvelegalsolutions.com www.resolvelegalsolutions.com

We work with many Liverpool based Law Firms in several areas of law providing our services in:

- Investigations
- Statement Drafting
- Process Serving
- People & Asset Tracing
- Surveillance
- Due Diligence
- BackgroundReports
- Specialist Forensic Services









# The Judicial Competencies: Completing the application form – Training for Solicitors (Thursday 30 October 2025, 10.00am-4.30pm)

THINKING ABOUT A JUDICIAL ROLE? THIS INTERACTIVE ONLINE WORKSHOP IS DESIGNED FOR SOLICITORS EXPLORING JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS WHO WANT TO STRENGTHEN THEIR JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION (JAC) APPLICATION. IF YOU HAVE STRUGGLED TO EVIDENCE YOUR POTENTIAL IN WRITING, THIS SESSION WILL EQUIP YOU WITH THE SKILLS TO PRESENT YOUR EXPERIENCE EFFECTIVELY.

Led by Manjula Bray, a business psychologist, facilitator and coach, her experience as a former JAC lay assessor panel member provides unique insight into the qualities sought for judicial appointment.

This intensive workshop will focus on tailoring your submission to make a positive impact at the JAC's competency-based application stage of the process. The session will provide practical advice on developing your examples of achievement in a group coaching format, incorporating your experiences, you will receive invaluable feedback from your fellow learners and the trainer/facilitator.

This training will also be useful for the interview and other competency-based selection processes such as public appointments. Pre-work (approximately 1 hour) is required to ensure you get the most out of this workshop.

As places are limited to 10 delegates per course early booking is recommended

Thursday 30 October 2025, 10.00 – 4.30pm
Online | Limited to 10 delegates

<u>Visit The Law Society's event page</u> to find out more and book







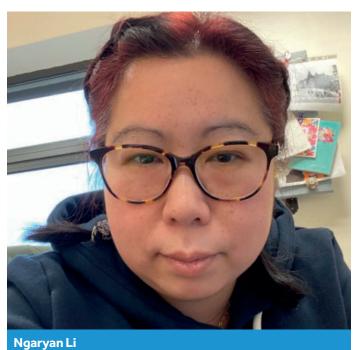
# The latest news from Vauxhall Law Centre. Providing Access to Justice in the community since 1973.





We've been hard at work on our Impact Report for 2024-2025, collating all the figures and speaking with advisors to put together our report for the last financial year. We're now proud to say it's all finished, and we're so pleased with the contributions from all of our staff. Their insights have helped demonstrate some of the biggest issues our clients are facing, and the trends they have seen in terms of our clients' needs. Below, we've included an excerpt written by our CEO & Senior Solicitor, Ngaryan Li, where she discusses some of her insights. We have also included some of the key figures in financial gains, and the number of hours our team have spent delivering access to justice. You can take a look at the full report on our website.

'Over the past year, one of the most significant and persistent systemic issues we have observed in our casework across the Liverpool City Region is the increasing failure of statutory



systems to meet their legal obligations to vulnerable individuals and families, particularly in housing, welfare benefits, and

and families, particularly in housing, welfare benefits, and asylum support. These failures are rarely isolated; rather, they reflect a pattern of under-resourcing, poor decision-making, and delays that place individuals at significant risk of harm.

Housing remains a critical concern. In Merseyside, we are consistently seeing clients placed in unsuitable or unsafe temporary accommodation—often for extended periods—due to the severe shortage of social housing and the use of unlawful gatekeeping practices by some local authorities.

The cost-of-living crisis has further exacerbated this, with rising levels of rent arrears and homelessness disproportionately affecting already marginalised communities. In welfare benefits, we have seen a sharp increase in cases where clients are left without income due to flawed or delayed DWP assessments, leaving them reliant on food banks or emergency hardship funds. This is compounded in asylum and immigration support work, where delays in decision-making and difficulties accessing the right to appeal continue to leave many in limbo, unable to move forward with their lives.

Looking ahead, the most impactful change would be a renewed







469,906 case minutes (7,831.76 Hours) spent upholding our clients rights.



£4,620,867.42 in Financial Gains and debt managed for our clients.



2413 Cases and enquiries opened, and 2363 closed.

focus on early intervention, accountability, and joined-up support across all levels:

At government level, we urgently need the restoration of accessible legal aid and the introduction of sustainable funding models for advice services, which are the first line of defence for many. At the local authority level, a commitment to embedding legal rights into decision-making processes, addressing gatekeeping practices, and investing in preventative services would make a meaningful difference. At service level, deeper collaboration between legal advice providers, community organisations, and statutory bodies across the Liverpool City Region is key to creating a more coordinated and client-centred approach

Preventing escalation and crisis should not be a luxury—it should be a core principle of public service delivery. As a Law Centre rooted in the community, we remain committed to pushing for a rights-based, preventative model that delivers justice and dignity for all.'

Ngaryan Li - CEO & Senior Solicitor

### Shannon's feature on Garden Court North's Blog



# Rosalind Burgin and Misha Nayak-Oliver secure settlement for family of four to remain in home

2 September 2025



Our Housing and Asylum Support Caseworker Shannon's work was recently featured on Garden Court North's blog, after a successful result on behalf of one of their clients. The family of four were facing eviction, but with the help of Garden Court North, and Shannon's excellent casework, they were instead able to gain a 'three-year tenancy for the family at a fixed rent, the clearing of rent arrears, a 28-day break clause for the tenant, and an agreement to carry out repair works at the property in accordance with an expert surveyor report.'

Well done to both Shannon and Supervising Solicitor Tom for their fantastic work once again. If you would like to read the full article, you can find it <u>here</u>.

### Can you help Vauxhall Law Centre?

We would be grateful if you could support our organisation's work by making a donation towards our charity, helping us to continue providing access to justice to those who need it most. As a charity, we are reliant on funding and donations. Without this, we would not be able to meet the increasingly high level of demand on our services.

### Further information can be found on our website.

Alternatively, if you think you or your company can support our work at VCLIC, please don't hesitate to contact us. We are looking for volunteers with skills in a wide range of areas such as Financial Management, HR, Technology, Fundraising, and Advice. If you have any skills and would like to get on board with us, please drop us a line at <a href="mailto:recruitment@vauxhalllawcentre.org.uk">recruitment@vauxhalllawcentre.org.uk</a>

Please consider using volunteering as a means to meet some of your company's Corporate Social Responsibility commitments and support the local community.



# Regulation Update October 2025

### The latest Regulation news from Andrea Cohen of Weightmans LLP



**Andrea Cohen** 

Welcome to Compli's monthly roundup of developments and updates from the regulatory sector, and an overview of recent disciplinary decisions. After reporting last month on the hive of activity in the world of risk and compliance, this month has been a little quieter, but with the recent Law Society Economic Crime conference (previously the AML conference, indicating the changes in regulation) and the SRA COLP COFA conference on 21 October, we expect a number of announcements over the next few weeks.

### High volume claims...continued

Following the publication of the results of a thematic review into how firms handle high-volume consumer claims on 22 August, and a mandatory declaration sent to around 500 firms which handle such claims, with the information required set out in a long and detailed questionnaire, the SRA has published a discussion paper on 'How can the high-volume consumer claims market work better for consumers?' and is now 'calling for further evidence' on challenges facing consumers as it steps up 'the robust action we are taking to investigate poor practice, and to protect consumers from harm.' The paper refers to a number of areas to consider,

including client transparency at signup, third-party funding risks and ATE insurance suitability and raised to the possibility of banning the term 'no win, no fee' and enhanced oversight of firms.

Interestingly, the call for evidence comes before the closing date for the declaration submissions on 3 October 2025, and before any analysis of the responses has been undertaken.

If you received the SRA declaration email, which was sent to the COLP but needs to be completed by the managing partner, CEO or equivalent, and have not yet sent/completed your response, it needs to submitted by no later than Friday 3 October 2025. The SRA estimates that if you have all the information to hand, it will take up to two hours to complete, but says it may (we anticipate it will) take longer if you have multiple types of consumer claims, referrers, ATE insurers etc. The initial form runs to 121 questions over 16 pages, and the additional forms have between 6 and 25 questions.

Declarations will need to be carefully completed - firms are still being investigated by the SRA for declaring in 2017 that they had a compliant AML firm-wide risk assessment in place at that time.

### **Conduct of litigation**

The recent High Court decision in *Mazur v Charles Russell Speechlys*, which said that non-authorised employees of law firms can support a solicitor in conducting litigation, but cannot conduct litigation themselves under the supervision of a solicitor, has led to much commentary and speculation in the legal press, LinkedIn etc. Comments have ranged from the decision causing widespread panic and nationwide disruption, particularly in firms dealing with high volume claims who employ

a large proportion of non-admitted staff, to firms having to now evidence processes in the event they are queried at a later date, with the possibility of satellite legislation relating to earlier pleadings. The SRA, who apparently provided advice to the firm that there was not an issue, (the advice being provided by a case worker), and then said it would await the judgment, has come in for criticism for its lack of comment and guidance. The SRA has said it is looking into whether further guidance is needed, but if your firm may be affected, waiting for any such guidance to be produced, rather than considering your processes and taking steps now, may not be the best approach.

# Consultation on holding client funds – SRA's present position

For those who were concerned that the SRA would remove the ability to have client accounts you can relax... for now. The SRA have written to respondents to its consultation that ran until February 2025 to confirm that, for now, while there is 'a strong case to properly explore the long-term transformation of the model of holding client money and how the compensation fund is funded' its immediate focus is on making changes under the current system. A progress report will be published later this year with proposals for further consultation in a number of areas.

### LSB consultation Upholding Professional Ethical Duties – emerging themes and next steps

You may remember that earlier this year the LSB consulted on professional ethics. It is putting its response together and finalising the policy statement, but in the meantime has shared some emerging themes and next steps, including taking an outcomes-based approach rather than prescribing what regulators must do, to avoid a one size fits all approach; creating a clear



definition of 'professional ethics duties'; recognition of the complexity for legal professionals to balance different professional ethical duties e.g., duties to the client, to act with independence and integrity, and duties to the court to act in the interests of justice, and the importance of continuing education and training on ethics, the current approaches being inadequate. The LSB will set out its response 'soon' and how it plans to take this forward.

#### **Sanctions**

The government has published a useful 'Starter guide to UK sanctions' Starter guide to UK sanctions - GOV. UK. With all law firms coming within scope of the regulations, the guide may be useful to share with employees to raise awareness of what the regulations involve, types of sanctions, how they work, the importance of due diligence and the consequences of breaching/ circumventing sanctions. In addition, it has issued a guide on reporting a suspected breach, How to report a suspected breach of sanctions - GOV. UK and 2 new guides relating to Russia sanctions.

### **NCA Suspicious activity reports**

The National Crime Agency's (NCA's) UK Financial Intelligence Unit has produced six videos to demonstrate best practice, which include:

- Understanding what a SAR is, why to submit one and the glossary codes to use.
- Best practice for completing the reason for suspicion, criminal/ terrorist property and prohibited act sections.
- What happens after submitting a defence against money laundering or defence against terrorist.

### New practice notes and guidance

### SRA guidance/news

SRA | Complying with Principle 6 - encouraging equality, diversity and inclusion | Solicitors Regulation Authority

Law Society practice notes
Residual client balances | The Law Society

Price and service transparency | The Law Society

<u>Professional undertakings | The Law Society</u>

Compliance officers | The Law Society

## Disciplinary and regulatory decisions

A number of decisions and judgments have been reported since our last publication, including:

#### **AML fines**

So far this month, fines totalling over £125,000 have been reported as being imposed on 10 firms for breaches including failure to have documented FWRA between June 2017 and May 2023, having submitted a declaration to the SRA that it had a FWRA in place, and then failed to have an appropriate FWRA from May 2023 to November 2024, failing to have compliant PCPs between June 2017 and May 2025, failing to conduct ongoing monitoring, including scrutiny of SoF checks. The fines ranged from £3000 to £31,000. In none of the cases was there actual harm or direct loss to clients, or financial gain or any other benefit.

### Struck off for lying to client

A solicitor who told a client an expert's report, which undermined the case, had not been received, to buy herself more time, has been struck off the roll.

## Struck off for overstating time spent

A solicitor who over-recorded time spent on matters, including 23 hours in one day, saying she struggled to meet time recording targets, has been struck off.

## Struck off after stealing £85,000 from clients

A solicitor who was acting under a lasting power of attorney stole £85,000 from two clients through ATM withdrawals and direct bank transfers to her own account, some of which was used to pay for a holiday, was struck off. She pleaded guilty to fraud by abuse of position and was sentenced to 2 years in prison.

### Suspended for amending email

A 2-year qualified solicitor was suspended for a year after amending and email address in an email with a client. He had used an incorrect email address and when he forwarded her the email to the correct address the following day, he altered the original to make it look as if it had been sent to the correct address, stating 'I understand you've not received the attached'.

The SRA accepted that he had acted deliberately but in panic, it was not planned but was a spontaneous reaction to an error and no harm was caused to the client. The SDT accepted it was a 'brief, isolated incident'. He agreed to contribute to the SRA's £12,500 costs.

## Senior partner suspended for backdating letter

A managing partner has been suspended from practice for a year after he admitted backdating a client care letter written in 2023, to 2020. He admitted misconduct, which he said was the result of 'being stressed, overworked and dealing with personal issues'. The SDT did not agree with the initial proposed suspension of 3 months. The SRA and solicitor agreed to 12 months, which was accepted by the SDT. He was also ordered to pay almost £25,000 costs.

### How Compli can help...

The Compli Solicitor Regulatory and Professional Discipline Team can provide expertise and advice on risk and compliance, AML, disciplinary assistance etc. If we can help in any way, please get in touch at compli@weightmans.com.

Andrea Cohen Compli, Weightmans LLP



# Charity Spotlight: North West Air Ambulance Charity



### North West Air Ambulance Charity – saving lives across the North West

At the North West Air Ambulance Charity (NWAA), we have been saving lives for 26 years.

## Where Will You See the North West Air Ambulance Charity?

Our crew covers the entire North West, 5,500 square miles and over eight million people, every day of the year. From city centres to remote landscapes, we reach patients across the North West within 30 minutes from our bases in Barton (Manchester) and Blackpool.

Each helicopter and car carry a specialist team of consultant doctors and critical care paramedics, delivering lifesaving care at the scene. With three helicopters, four critical care cars and a night car, we bring hospital-level treatment to those who need it most.

### Paul's story

Paul Bradford from West Kirkby, was involved in a cycling accident in 2023 and was in a critical condition, he said: "I was involved in a serious cycling accident and given a 10% chance of survival. I'm here to tell the tale because NWAA do what they do best, they bring the hospital to the patient."

### **Become a Corporate Partner**

Joining North West Air Ambulance Charity as a partner directly



funds our crew's lifesaving work. The charity works in a mutually beneficial way with partners to create meaningful impact.

The main advantages for law firms include:

- Becoming part of a corporate collective movement, helping our crews attend over 3,000 missions every year
- Elevating brand reputation within the community and among clients
- Gaining brand visibility through helicopter sponsorship and community events
- Delivering your firm's commitments on CSR and ESG with measurable social impact
- Donating unclaimed lapsed client balances in a way that is financially risk-free
- Developing and engaging staff through fundraising events and volunteering support

Building a partnership with lifesaving impact and shared goals brings practical business and cultural benefits to a law firm, its people, and the communities it serves.

To discuss partnership opportunities, contact Rachel Donohoe at NWAA on 0800 587 4570.

## Gifts in Wills fund one in five of our missions

Leaving a gift in your Will is an opportunity to not only support the charity but also leave a lasting legacy to fund lifesaving missions in the future.

At NWAA, we also run a Make a Will campaign throughout the year where a standard Will can be prepared free of charge. In Liverpool, NWAA is partnered with Dutton Gregory Solicitors who are based in Exchange Court which is located next to the Town Hall.

Anne Forrester who prepares the Wills has 15 years' experience in Will preparation as well as being a volunteer for NWAA.

#### **Testimonial – Anne Forrester**

"Taking part in the Make a Will campaign is really great as not only are people (who may not otherwise have done so) making their Wills but they are supporting a great charity that saves lives every day... Everyone wins"

As a charity, we are actively seeking skilled legal volunteers to grow our Make a Will campaign.

If you have any questions about the

Make a Will campaign and how you can support the charity, or if your firm has a volunteer scheme, please do not hesitate to contact **Grace Cunningham at NWAA on 0800 587 4570.** 

## Other ways you can you help to make a lifesaving difference...

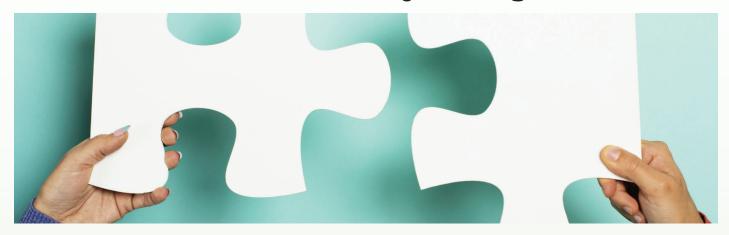
- A personal one-off donation if you are a taxpayer don't forget Gift Aid
- A corporate donation or a nomination to be your charity of the year
- Undertake a challenge with sponsorship in favour of NWAA
- Visit one of our shops in Heswall or Southport to donate your pre-loved items and browse for bargains
- Volunteer as an event's ambassadors or take a shift in one of our shops
- Celebrate a special occasion and ask for donations to be made to NWAA instead of receiving unwanted gifts
- Play our Lift off Lotto
- Leave a legacy in your Will

If you would like to help in any way, please call on 0800 587 4570 or email enquiries@nwairambulance.org.uk or visit nwairambulance.org.uk





# The Expert Witness Institute and Expert Insight Announce Strategic Partnership to Elevate Standards for Psychologists



The Expert Witness Institute, the UK's leading body for expert witnesses, is proud to announce a new partnership with Expert Insight, a community dedicated to supporting registered psychologists working as expert witnesses. This collaboration will enhance professional development and support for this vital group of specialists.

The partnership aims to combine the EWI's robust framework for legal and professional standards with Expert Insight's tailored clinical, psychological, and peer support. By working together, the two organisations will help ensure registered psychologists who serve as expert witnesses are equipped with both the essential legal training and the specialised clinical support needed to excel.

"The EWI is committed to supporting the proper administration of justice through high-quality expert evidence," said Simon Berney-Edwards, CEO of the EWI. "Our partnership with Expert Insight will allow us to directly address the specific needs of registered psychologists, ensuring they have access to a complete range of resources—from formal legal training and accreditation to practical tools and resources that strengthen the clinical skills of expert psychologists—that is crucial for their work in civil litigation."

Expert Insight was created to meet the unique challenges faced by registered psychologists in the expert witness field. Its mission is to provide accessible, practical, and responsive support, focusing on short-form clinical content and diagnosis-specific guidance.

"Expert Insight was founded on the principle of developing a strong, supported community for registered psychologists," said **Dr Kathryn Newns**, co-founder of Expert Insight. "We are strong advocates for the EWI and its role as the benchmark for best practice. This partnership is a natural fit, allowing us to complement EWI's legal and professional training by signposting our members to their key offerings, while we focus on the development of clinical skills within the legal context."

Through this new alliance, the organisations will work together to broaden the pool of qualified experts and enhance the reputation of expert evidence.

### **About The Expert Witness Institute**

The Expert Witness Institute (EWI) is the UK's leading membership body for expert witnesses from all professional disciplines and the lawyers who use their services. The EWI's mission is to support the proper administration of justice and the early resolution of disputes through high-

quality expert evidence. All members are subject to a strict Code of Professional Conduct and Practice.

### **About Expert Insight**

Expert Insight is a community created to support registered psychologists working as expert witnesses in civil litigation. It aims to develop expert witness clinical skills and provide clinical, psychological, and peer support that is specific to this area of work.

**Heather George** EWI

### Contact:

<u>Simon.berney-edwards@ewi.org.uk</u> / 020 3880 0064 <u>susie.oconnor@apsy.co.uk</u> / 01223 803793





# **Conference Update**

### 2025 Private Child Law Conference

On September 10th, Liverpool Law Society held the 2025 Private Child Law Conference, a must attend for legal professionals involved with family law. This event provided a round-up of key developments kindly hosted by Taylor Wessing.

The day began with a session from **Ruth Kirby KC** from 4PB on 'A-Z of spotting an abduction and knowing what to do next' followed by an introduction to our sponsors, AlphaBiolabs. Sponsors and delegates then had a chance to network, before **Gemma Thomas** from 7 Harrington Street delivered an update on 'Enforcement of Child Arrangements Orders'. Closing the morning sessions **Sasha Watkinson** and **Beth Morton** from Deans Court Chambers spoke on 'Covert Recordings in Family Proceedings: Practice & Procedure'.

Sponsors, speakers and delegates then had chance to network over lunch before the afternoon session commenced with a presentation on "How the court should/will deal with allegations of Parental Alienation" from David McCormick from Exchange Chambers. The final session of the day was a Panel Discussion "Covert Recording & Alienating Behaviours: in theory & in practice" with Dr Jaime Craig. Our chairperson DJ O'Neill then brought the event to a close, thanking our kind sponsors AlphaBioLabs, the excellent speakers involved and delegates for their support.

### **2025 Property Conference**

The 2025 Property Conference took place on September 17th at Taylor Wessing in their offices on the Royal Albert Dock. This event was designed specifically for legal professionals working in the property sector whether they focus on residential or they were looking to expand their knowledge into commercial transactions.

The conference featured a range of topical and practical sessions for property professionals. John Jones opened with "The Lender's Handbook: Helpful or Handcuffs?", followed by Alex Gregory of Chialton, Dutton Gregory with "The Customer is Always Right! Right?". Tom Kerwin from one of our sponsors InfoTrack then presented on "Reporting on Leasehold Property". Pam White and Richard Curtis from HM Land Registry gave a joint session on "HMLR: Local Land Charges and HMLR Collaborating with MHCLG on Data Standards". Richard Snape delivered two sessions during the day: "The Leasehold and Freehold Reform Act 2024" and "The

Landlord & Tenant Act 1954: When It Applies". Keith Davidson of Irwin Mitchell and Iryna Minimurzina of Groundsure presented together on "Climate Risks and Property Transactions". The conference concluded with "Building Safety Act" presented by Sarah McGuinness of Freeths.

During the breaks in the programme the delegates and speakers were able to network and learn more about the events two sponsors InfoTrack and Groundsure. The day was hosted by our chairperson **Charlie Marshall** from Taylor Wessing. Thank you to all our incredible speakers, chairperson and generous sponsors who made this event possible.

### **Kirsty Barker**

Legal Training and Event Manager





# **Forthcoming Courses**

DATE	EVENT	SPEAKER
10/10/2025	Trial advocacy for solicitors	Mike Winston
14/10/2025	Building Safety Act & other post Grenfell Issues	Richard Snape
15/10/2025	Employment Law Conference	Various
17/10/2025	Ogden tables and future losses	Mike Winston
22/10/2025	Costs Masterclass	James Miller & Thomas Mason
24/10/2025	Advanced Communication	Denise Chilton
04/11/2025	PSC Register Requirements – the Fundamentals	Jackie Sheldon
05/11/2025	Probate Procedure and Update	Rebecca Roscoe
11/11/2025	SRA Business Competencies Intermediate Level (3 year PQE +)	Keith Harper
19/11/2025	Legal Finance in Focus: From Cashiering to Compliance	Various
21/11/2025	Looking after you too – Building resilience and wellbeing	Denise Chilton
25/11/2025	Allotting and issuing shares – a How To Guide	Jackie Sheldon
26/11/2025	Personal Injury Conference	Various
27/11/2025	Al in Legal Services: Foundations and Future	Various
02/12/2025	All About Alphabet Shares	Jackie Sheldon
03/12/2025	Trusts: Drafting to Distribution	Rebecca Roscoe
04/12/2025	Will Drafting & Estate Planning Update	Prof Lesley King
10/12/2025	Introduction to Estate Administration	Rebecca Roscoe
11/12/2025	Staying Ahead on AML & Compliance Standards: 2025 Insights and 2026 Priorities	Tracy Thompson

### \*\*NEW\*\* MULTI DELEGATE DISCOUNT FOR MEMBERS

Commencing September we launched our brand-new members-only benefit - booking multiple delegates on the same legal training course will enjoy substantial discounts, making it ideal for teams looking to learn together or firms aiming to offer equal training opportunities across departments.

This offer cannot be used in conjunction with the Training Passport.

Liverpool LawSociety

### **Building Safety Act & other post Grenfell Issues**

with Richard Snape

'Live' online, 14th October, 1.30pm - 4.30pm

The Building Safety Act is a notoriously complicated piece of legislation which has fundamentally changed the nature of leasehold conveyancing. It is now being litigated, and various areas are still little understood. In addition, problems with EWS1 certificates have risen in the light of Tri Fire. This course aims to look at some of the important issues.

### Topics covered include:

- Changes to Building Regulations in England
- Higher-Risk Buildings and Registration in England
- · Case Law on the Height of Buildings
- · Leaseholder Protection Issues and Case Law
- Latest Statements from the Welsh Government
- UK Finance Guidance on EWS1 certificates
- Proposed statutory changes
- Case law on Remediation Orders and Remediation Contribution Orders
- & Other Post-Grenfell legislation

For more information, click here



### 2025 Employment Law Conference

Wednesday 15th October | 9.30am till 3.20pm Attend in-person or online Multi delegate discounts available

This conference is packed with insight and discussion covering the latest technical developments & best practice.

**Employment Rights Bill Update** 

**David Flood, St Johns Buildings** 

The use of generative AI in Employment Tribunal proceedings

David Campion, Nine Chambers

Tribunals Update

**Employment Judge Nicky Benson** 

An Expert's Guide to Interim Relief in the Employment Tribunal

Dan Northall KC, Littleton Chambers

Religion and Belief discrimination – where are we after Higgs?

Andrew Edge, KBW

ADHD in the workplace

Snoof, The Brain Charity

Legal Round Up

Martin Mensah, Nine Chambers

**Book Here** 





Liverpool LawSociety

### SRA Business Competencies for 0-3 PQE Solicitors

with Keith Harper

'Live' online, 16th & 23rd October, 9.30am - 12.30pm

The SRA defines competence as "the ability to perform the roles and tasks required by one's job to the expected standard". Three of the four SRA competency areas for solicitors are non-technical.

The highest levels of technical skills are expected and assumed by clients, therefore the non-technical competencies are often what makes the crucial difference both to clients and the performance of the firm.

This online course will deliver the business skills required by 0-3 PQE solicitors to meet the SRA standards and to improve the performance of the firm.

For further information, click here



### The Ogden tables and claims for future losses

with Mike Winston

Friday, 17th October, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Venue: St Johns Buildings Chambers, 38 Vernon Street, Liverpool, L2 2AV.

This course takes delegates from the absolute basics through all the major calculations required in a PI claim including more advanced uses of the Ogden tables including calculating bereavement and dependency awards in fatal accident and disease claims.

### What you will learn:

- The new discount rate what does that mean tactically?
- Introduction to the 8th edition of the Ogden tables
- · Multiplicands and multipliers
- · Discounting for early receipt and mortality
- Calculating losses for life
- Calculating losses to a fixed age
- Using the reduction factor tables
- Calculating loss of earnings
- Challenging evidential assumptions
- Using Conner v Bradman in disability claims
- Evidential uncertainty is Blamire appropriate?

(a) (2a<sup>2</sup>b<sup>3</sup>) = (2)<sup>4</sup>b<sup>4</sup>

& more...

For more information, <u>click here</u>



Liverpool LawSociety

Practical Probate: The Works
with Rebecca Roscoe

Live' online, 21st October, 9.30am - 4.30pm

#### Level - Intermediate Advanced

This online course will take the practitioner to the next level of estate administration and will, through practical case studies, look at some of the more complex aspects of estate administration including a detailed consideration of inheritance tax.

This course will focus on complex estate administration and will look at:

- · Understanding complex assets and obtaining valuations
- Preparing the IHT400 including claiming residence nil rate band, downsizing and the reduced rate for charitable giving
- Complex probate applications (eg. de bonis non, ad collingenda bona, s.116 senior courts act)
- Dealing with post-Grant issues
- Tax during the estate administration
- · Accounts and distributions
- Claims against the estate
- Complex Post-death variations

For more information, click here



### **Costs Masterclass**

with James Miller & Thomas Mason

'Live' on 22nd October, 10.30am - 1pm

### Covering:

- Wasted Costs and non-party costs orders
- Life after Ainsworth: compliance in Detailed Assessment proceedings
- Solicitor and own client costs a review of recent developments and case law
- Costs Budgeting update
- Q and A

For more information, click here

\*Multi Delegate Discount Offer for Members\* Pay £80 for 1st delegate, then £45 for 2nd & only £22 for all other delegates (+vat)





### **Advanced Communication**

with Denise Chilton

'Live' online, Friday 24th October, 12pm-1.30pm

By the end of the bite sized session, you will have some practical tips about how to: -

- Feel more confident giving difficult feedback
- Tame your advice monster
- Develop the skill of listening to deepen your working relationships

\*Multi Delegate Discount Offer for Members\*

Pay member rate of £65 for 1st delegate, then **£37** for 2nd & only **£18** for all other delegates (+vat)

For more information, click here



### **PSC Register Requirements - the Fundamentals**

with Jackie Sheldon

'Live' online, 4th November, 1pm - 2.30pm

This course is appropriate for solicitors, accountants, and company secretaries who advise companies in relation to the PSC regime.

This online course will cover the following:

- Who is a PSC (including understanding indirect ownership)
- · How to advise a company to identify PSCs
- Identity verification requirements for PSCs under ECCTA
- Filing requirements
- Other proposed changes under ECCTA
- Compliance suggestions/practical tips
- · Consequences of non-compliance
- Requirement from January 2020 to report a discrepancy about a beneficial owner on the PSC Register by an obliged entity and changes in 2023 surrounding these obligations
- Q&A

For more information, click here

### **Probate Procedure and Update**

with Rebecca Roscoe

'Live' online, 5th November, 9.30am - 4.30pm

This online course is intended to give practitioners an opportunity to understand the latest developments in probate procedure and any planned changes.

\*Multi Delegate Discount Offer for Members\*

Pay member rate of £175 for 1st delegate, then £99 for 2nd & only £49 for all other delegates (+vat)

For more information, click here



**SRA Business Competencies Intermediate Level** (3 year PQE +)



Tuesday 11th November, 9:30am - 4:30pm

Venue: Liverpool City Centre

This intermediate level course is aimed at 3+ PQE lawyers with some existing management or supervision responsibilities within their firms, or those about to assume them. The session will deliver the business skills required to meet the SRA standards and to improve the performance of the firm.

For more information, click here





Reach 2400 members of the legal profession



We offer sponsors



**AVENUES TO SHOWCASE THEIR PRODUCT** ATTRIBUTES IN A TARGETED MARKET AREA.



**OPPORTUNITY TO CROSS BORDERS & SHARE** COMMON VALUES.



TO INTEGRATE YOUR PRODUCT OR SERVICE INTO THE ACTIVITIES OF LIVERPOOL LAW



POSITIVE PUBLICITY WHICH HELPS CREATE HEIGHTENED VISIBILITY OF PRODUCTS &

"Liverpool Law Society has always been a pleasure to work with. The team always go above and beyond to help sponsors achieve their objectives in supporting the Society, always keeping the members at the centre of everything they do."

https://www.liverpoollawsociety.org.uk/services/sponsorship/

**ENQUIRE** 





### Exploring Care Support for Yourself or an Older Family Member?

When care needs arise for yourself or a loved one, it's natural to wonder about the best path forward. While residential care homes are one option, there's a wonderful alternative that lets you stay exactly where you belong - in the comfort and familiarity of your own home.

Welcome to Live-in Care Support-Your home. Your routine. Your independence.

Our care team working alongside you every step of the way as we have done for thousands of older people since 1980.

- Ready to explore how live-in care could work for you?
- Request your free brochure today and discover a care solution as unique as you are.
- Call 01603 764567 or email to info@ablecommunitycare.com

Able Community Care, based in Norfolk but available everywhere for over 45 years.

www.ablecommunitycare.com





AMANDA AZZOPARDI™

AESTHETICS









### **TIRED EYES? FINE LINES? LOST VOLUME? LOOK REFRESHED.** FEEL CONFIDENT.

At Amanda Azzopardi Aesthetics we specialise in injectable treatments tailored to your needs. From softening fine lines to restoring volume, our treatments will leave you

Amanda Azzopardi is an Advanced Nurse Practitioner and Independent Nurse Prescriber with over 25 years in the medical aesthetics industry including 11 years as a midwife

Our popular injectable treatments include:

- Anti-Wrinkle Treatment (forehead, eyes, frown lines)
   Dermal Fillers (temples, marionette lines, cheeks, lips and jawline)
   Skin boosters for hydration and collagen stimulation

Results include:

- Brighter, more youthful eyes
  Smoother skin and softened wrinkles
  Restored facial definition and volume

Complimentary Medical Consultations Available

- CQC registered and fully insured clinic
   Trusted by 1000s of clients across Liverpool, Manchester, London & North Wales

EXCLUSIVE OFFER: BOOK FREE CONSULTATION NOW AND RECEIVE £ 50 OFF CALL 0151 558 07☆2 OR SCAN QR CODE TO BOOK YOUR FREE CONSULTATION



Tel: 0151 558 0742

Email: contact@amandaazzopardi.co.uk

www.amandaazzopardi.co.uk

CQC • SAVE FACE • Fully Insured

LIVERPOOL · NORTH WALES · MANCHESTER · LONDON



TEL: 0151 651 2776 simon@baskervilleemedia.co.uk

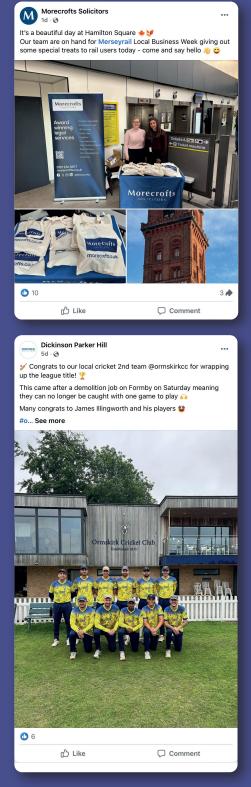


# FINDING YOUR VOICE IN TODAYS DIGITAL LANDSCAPE



# Social Media Highlights

Each month we will be bringing you a selection of the latest social media posts by Liverpool Law Society and its members.









If you have an interesting story to share, why not send it to us, clearly labelled 'Social Media Page': editor@liverpoollawsociety.

org.uk

Comment

Repost

7 Send

# If you like our technology, you'll love our people

With 28 offices across England and Wales, X-Press Legal Services is the largest independent property search network and a trusted, friendly partner to hundreds of legal practices since 1998. Our local owners have an in-depth knowledge of their area and we provide a wrap-around service including residential & commercial searches, pre & post completion services, cyber security, compliance products and much more.





Client onboarding and sales progression platform









Legal forms

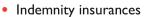
• Land Registry submission

SDLT submission



X-Press Legal Services®

Group



- Home buyer and seller protection
- Property searches and reports
- CPD training and webinar provider



Client direct payment facility



A little knowledge is a wonderful thing



The latest in legal compliance

To find out more, simply get in touch T: 01925 393333 | E: hello@xpresslegaluk | xpresslegal.co.uk



















Call our helpline: 0800 279 6888 support@lawcare.org.uk lawcare.org.uk