

CITY OF LONDON LAW SOCIETY

Construction Committee

Minutes of Meeting

Reason for Meeting: Trainee Talks

Date: 26 February 2008

Held at: Ashurst, Broadgate West, 9 Appold Street, London

Present

Marc Hanson, Ashurst (Chairman)

Robert Blundell, Nabarro Nathanson

Stephanie Canham, Trowers & Hamlins

Bill Gloyn, Aon

Lynne Freeman, Reed Smith Richards Butler

Ashmita Garrett, Clifford Chance

Gillian Thomas, Lovells

Chris Parker, Taylor Woodrow

Peter Brinley-Codd, Sir Robert McAlpine

Patrick Holmes, Macfarlanes

John Werdling, Denton Wilde Sapte

John Scriven, Allen & Overy

Sarah Beddall, Ashurst (Minutes)

AGENDA

1. Apologies

John Hughes D'Aeth, Berwin Leighton Paisner

Martin Potter, Canary Wharf Group

Robert Oakes

Peter Hall, Norton Rose

Nick Downing, Herbert Smith

Victoria Peckett, CMS Cameron McKenna

Terry Fleet, Nabarro

Matthew Jones, Nabarro

2. Training Programme for Junior Lawyers

The Construction Committee has planned a series of talks on core issues in non-contentious construction, to be aimed at trainee and newly-qualified lawyers. The objective of the talks was agreed to be two-fold: firstly, to pool the knowledge and expertise of lawyers from the various firms within the CLLS, and secondly to create a more homogenous training programme for junior lawyers across these different firms.

The talks will be divided into two sessions, each delivered twice a year. After some discussion about dates, it was decided that Session 1 will occur in April and September, and Session 2 in June and November. More precise dates for each will be circulated following the meeting.

There was some debate about which topics to include, and consideration was given to the following factors when deciding:

- relevance to junior lawyers
- relevance to specifically non-contentious construction
- stage of seat the trainees would be in at the time of each talk
- short time allowance for each topic (1hr 15)
- amount of detail inherent in each topic

Topics were discussed and agreed as per the draft programme annexed.

3. Location

It was agreed that the talks would be held at four different firms. Some volunteered auditoriums, but it was felt they would be inappropriate in the case of a small turn-out. The four firms decided on are:

Ashurst
Lovells
Macfarlanes
Travers Smith

Concurrent Delay

It was acknowledged that despite being not strictly a non-contentious construction topic, concurrent delay is an issue which junior as well as more senior lawyers could benefit from a greater familiarity with. It was proposed and accepted by the Committee that this topic be covered by a stand-alone lecture given in September by a QC. The chair is to approach possible candidates.