

# Commercial Litigation Conference

Wednesday 13th December 2017, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Liverpool Law Society, Second Floor, Helix, Edmund Street, Liverpool, L3 9NY

In a fast -changing field of practice, this is a Conference which will be of vital importance to commercial litigators.



**9.10 - 9.30 Registration & refreshments**

**9.30 - 9.40 Welcome address**  
**HHJ Graham Wood QC**

**9.40 - 10.20 New Proposals / Developments**  
**Paul Brant**

- Pre-Action Protocol for Debt Claims
- Fixed Recoverable Costs (Jackson Report)

**10.20 - 11.00 Expert Evidence ~ Stephanie Cummings**

- Applicability of CPR 35
- Single joint Experts
- Instruction letters
- Questions to Expert

**11.00 - 11.15 Refreshments**

**11.15 - 12.00 Remedies for Breach of Tenant's Covenants in Commercial Leases**  
**Simon Booth**

- Recovering Possession
- Injunctions
- Monetary Remedies

**12.00 - 12.45 The Business and Property Court: What is it? ~ HHJ David Hodge QC**

- Why has it been created?
- What are its implications for Liverpool?

**12.45 - 1.45 Lunch**

**1.45 - 2.15 The County Court Money Claims Centre & Commercial Litigation: An Update**  
**Martin Huddleston & Richard Seddon**

- Facts, figures and trends
- Current Challenges
- Reform of civil money claims

**2.15 - 3.00 Instructing Counsel**  
**Alexander Williams**

- Contract between Solicitor and Counsel
- Counsel's Duty of Care
- Practical tips about Instructions and Briefs

**3.00 - 3.15 Refreshments**

**3.15 - 4.00 On-line Dispute Resolution**  
**Stewart McCulloch & Gareth Cutts**

- Science Fiction or Reality?
- The Value Proposition for Parties
- Preparing to go to the Digital Route

**4.00 - 4.15 CCMCC Q & A**

**4.15 - 4.30 Chairpersons' close**

**FREE to 2017/18 Training Season Ticket Holders**  
**OR 2 Corporate Training Credits**



## Speakers

**Simon Booth** was born and educated in the city. Simon commenced practice at the Bar in Liverpool in 1985 and is a member of the Chancery & Commercial Practice Group within Atlantic Chambers. His property law practice includes advising and representing both landlords and tenants of commercial premises across Merseyside and beyond.

**Paul Brant**, barrister at Oriel Chambers, year of call 1993. He has a thriving commercial, chancery and personal injury practice and has appeared in a significant number of leading cases in the field of asset finance, consumer credit and commercial disputes.

**Gareth Cutts** is Information Technology Director of national law firm, Minster Law. Prior to this Gareth has held a number of senior positions in industry including Head of IT at Close Brothers Motor Finance and Head of IT at Associated British Ports. At Minster Law, Gareth oversees an advanced and innovative system designed to resolve cases efficiently and to deliver excellence in service delivery to customers.

**Martin Huddleston**, Operations Manager of CCMCC has over 35 years of civil and family operational experience and has worked in several county courts in Greater Manchester during his career. He was previously Court Manager of Salford County Court and moved to the business centre ahead of the launch of CCMCC in March 2012.

**Stephanie Cummings** is highly regarded by both her lay and professional clients due to her approachable manner combined with her strong business acumen and thorough advice. She frequently advises and represents both Claimants and Defendants in interim hearings, applications and trials across all tracks. With regards to Commercial Litigation, Stephanie has experience in drafting pleadings and preparing written advice for claims involving breach of contract, interpretation of contractual construction, sale and supply of goods and services, debt recovery, company litigation, recruitment and estate agency contracts.

**HHJ David Hodge QC** is a Specialist Chancery Circuit Judge sitting principally in Manchester and Liverpool. He spends about 6 weeks each year sitting in the Chancery Division in London and he has been appointed to sit in the Tax and Chancery Chamber and the Lands Chamber of the Upper Tribunal. Since February 2016 David has been the Deputy Chancellor for the Diocese of Blackburn and he is a member of the Legal Advisory Commission for the General Synod of the Church of England.

**Stewart McCulloch** qualified as a solicitor in 1984 and gained nearly 30 years in private practice. Head of a large Liverpool based personal injury claims and litigation department, he was involved in a number of high profile cases including the leading cases of Alcock v Chief Constable of South Yorkshire Police and Hollins v Russell. He was Liverpool Law Society's Chair of the Civil Litigation Committee in 2013 and remains a member and director. He is Public Relations Officer at LLS and has appeared in many live and recorded television and radio shows. Stewart was appointed Quindell Group COLP on 6th November 2014, later Slater Gordon Solutions Legal Limited as director. Stewart is the founder and chief executive of AutoResolutions Limited, a company offering on-line dispute resolution services.

**Richard Seddon**, Customer Service Manager at CCMCC has worked in HMCTS for 12 years. He started off in the Magistrates Court and moved to the Salford Business Centre in 2011 He is currently Customer Service manager and Continuous Improvement lead for the centre.

**Alexander Williams** has a wide-ranging commercial practice which regularly sees him acting for clients in contractual disputes, insolvency, finance, consumer credit and employment. He is also a long-standing junior on the Attorney General's Civil Panel with experience in quasi-regulatory work concerning directors' disqualification and Employment Business Prohibition Orders.

**HHJ Graham Wood QC** is a Circuit Judge on the Northern Circuit, based at Liverpool Civil and Family Court. He was called to the Bar in 1979 and took Silk in 2002. He was appointed as an Assistant Recorder in 1996, as a Recorder in 2000, as a Legal Member of the Restricted Patients Panel in 2007 and as a Deputy High Court Judge in 2010. He was called as Bencher of Middle Temple in June 2010.

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