

Behind the Façade Series 2021-2022

The Construction, Property and Professional Liability Teams at Gatehouse Chambers are pleased to announce the dates for their Behind the Façade series of online talks looking at the issues arising out of façade and cladding claims. The series will run from October 2021.

To register for the talks individually please click the relevant links below, alternatively please [click here](#) to register for more than one talk.

13 October 2021, 11:00-11:45 (BST) | **The key regulations**

Counsel to the Grenfell Tower Inquiry, Emma Hynes and George Eyre introduce the regulations governing the construction of façades, both before and after the tragic fire. They will discuss the different routes to compliance for products that make up a façade, including industry debates on interpretation of statutory guidance Approved Document B. They will also discuss the regulations that govern buildings in occupation, particularly the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, and provide an update on changes in regulation which may be on the horizon.



Emma Hynes



George Eyre

[Register via email](#)

24 November 2021, 15:00-16:00 (GMT) | **A reminder of the key principles, concepts and terminology**

Michael Wheeler, Jamal Demachkie and Katie Lee will be looking at some of the main construction and property related principles, concepts and terminology which comes up in claims relating to façade and cladding issues.



Michael Wheeler



Jamal Demachkie



Katie Lee

[Register via email](#)

26 January 2022, 11:00-11:45 (GMT) | **Freehold/Headlease issues – sale and purchase agreements including warranties and indemnities**

Brie Stevens-Hoare QC and Jack Dillon will look at the position as between those investing in property to sell or rent and the developer/vendor. They will consider freeholder's and head lessee's claims arising out of sale/purchase agreements. The session will include a look at conditional agreements, forward funding arrangements and warranties. They will also address the protection of freeholders and headlessees against lessees and occupiers claims by way of indemnities.



Brie Stevens-Hoare QC



Jack Dillon

[Register via email](#)

3 February 2022, 11:00-11:45 (GMT) | **Issues when looking to the service charge as an avenue for redress**

Daniel Gatty, Laura Tweedy, Cameron Stocks and Adam Smith-Roberts will be taking a deep dive into the issues which arise when the service charge is looked to for redress in façade and cladding claims. In particular they will be looking at:

- The differences between residential and commercial statutory protection
- Major works provisions in residential service charges (e.g. dispensation, remediation works, insurance and temporary measures)
- Lease variations
- The effect of the Building Safety Fund and Building Safety Bill



Daniel Gatty



Laura Tweedy



Cameron Stocks



Adam Smith-Roberts

[Register via email](#)



24 February 2022, 11:00-11:45 (GMT) | **Avenues of redress for landlords and tenants part II: non-service charge related solutions**

Daniel Gatty, Catherine Piercy and Adam Smith-Roberts will be examining the areas of redress which are available over and beyond looking to the service charge. The session will cover:

- NHBC and similar warranty schemes
- Warranties and representations in sale agreements
- Issues relating to assignment, both predecessors and successors in title
- Mortgage issues
- Forfeiture
- The effect of the insolvency of one of the parties

[Register via email](#)



Daniel Gatty



Catherine Piercy



Adam Smith-Roberts

24 March 2022, 15:00-15:45 (GMT) | **Have you got the evidence you need?**

David Pliener and Emma Hynes help you charter the dangerous waters of matters of evidence in the technically complex area of façade construction and fire engineering. They will be looking at:

- The technical problems that different types of façade present
- Documentary and physical evidence - what evidence is available and persuasive
- The use of experts, including which type or types of experts are suitable for a case

[Register via email](#)



David Pliener



Emma Hynes

27 April 2022, 11:00-11:45 (BST) | **A look at key professional negligence issues**

With a particular emphasis on the current law relating to professional negligence claims following *Manchester Building Society v Grant Thornton UK LLP* [2021] UKSC 20, Brie Stevens-Hoare QC, Sarah McCann and Jack Dillon will discuss the scope of duty owed by potential professional defendants. They will address questions such as to whom those duties are owed, the difficulties in establishing causation and factors to consider where there are multiple possible defendants. These issues will be considered in the context of claims against:

- Solicitors
- Surveyors
- Architects
- Engineers

[Register via email](#)



Brie Stevens-Hoare QC



Sarah McCann



Jack Dillon

5 May 2022, 11:00-11:45 (BST) | **Constructing the claim: what are the issues in making claims against the project team?**

Catherine Piercy, Louis Zvesper and George Eyre will be considering who can sue, who to sue and some of the issues involved in bringing claims against the building project team, including:

- Who has the standing to bring a claim
- Who are the potential defendants from the project team (developers, contractors, designers, fire engineers, building inspectors)
- What causes of action might arise
- What redress is available

[Register via email](#)



Catherine Piercy



Louis Zvesper



George Eyre

2 June 2022, 11:00-11:45 (GMT) | **Claims against contractors and professional consultants**

Paul Reed QC, Andy Creer, Simon Kerry and Michael Levenstein consider recent changes in the legal landscape affecting professional consultants and building contractors in the context of cladding disputes. In particular, they will review the Government's Building Safety Bill aimed at strengthening the current regulatory framework by amending the Defective Premises Act 1972 and extending limitation periods for claims arising under the DPA 1972 and the Building Act 1984. They will also consider the extent to which these changes widen the duties owed by construction professionals, contractors and third parties (eg, landlords, freeholders, etc.) and the sort of evidence likely required in order to establish liability at trial.

[Register via email](#)



Paul Reed QC



Andy Creer



Michael Levenstein



Simon Kerry