

## Social Housing Conference

### Vulnerable Occupiers and the Social Landlord

**17 September 2013 – 9.15am to 5.00pm**

Join our experts in discussion and analysis of topical housing issues affecting local authorities and registered providers in 2013.

Delegates are eligible for 5 hours of accredited CPD



## Speakers and Panel Members

### Keynote Speaker

#### DJ Susan Jackson

Court of Protection Judge

District Judge Susan Jackson sits at Central London County Court where she deals with general civil litigation including housing law. She is a nominated judge of the Court of Protection and the co-author of the book 'Urgent Applications in the Court of Protection. She is a regular contributor of articles to Family Law on the subject of vulnerable adults.

*"...noted for their 'great knowledge of housing law.' One impressed solicitor said: 'Once I brief the set, I know the case is in good hands in terms of getting the best result for the client.'"*

Chambers UK, 2013

### Key Contributors

#### Alastair Redpath-Stevens

Barrister, Hardwicke

Alastair is a specialist in property and housing law focusing on service charges, major works consultation and dispensation as well as all aspects of administrative, government and environmental work. He has experience in all courts up to and including the Court of Appeal, in addition to the LVT and Lands Tribunal, the Adjudicator to HM Land Registry as well as of arbitration and mediation work.

#### Alev Horgan

Housing & Contracts Manager, Origin Housing

Alev is responsible for 43 Supported and Retirement schemes stretching from Westminster across North London to Hertfordshire and on to Cambridge. She has 20 years of experience working with vulnerable tenants and is a management committee member of Supported Housing In Partnership. Alev was awarded the 2013 'Best Leader' award.

#### Alison Meacher

Barrister, Hardwicke

Alison is a public law barrister. Her practice covers all aspects of Housing Management and Policy, Regeneration, Contracting by and with Local Authorities, Social Welfare, Human Rights, the provision of Adult Social Care, Best Interest decisions for adults who lack capacity, DOLS authorisations, appointment and revocation of welfare and financial deputies.

#### Mairéad Carroll

Head of Policy and External Affairs, East Thames Group

Mairéad has worked in social housing for nine years. She has led on the implementation of the affordable rent programme for East Thames. Mairéad developed the Group's approach to working with vulnerable residents and has been involved in designing its equality impact assessment framework. She has recently contributed to the *Homes for London* campaign as a guest blogger and to *The Guardian Housing Network's* expert panel on welfare reform.

#### Paul Hayes

Head of Housing, Lewis Silkin

Paul is Head of Housing Litigation and Dispute Resolution at Lewis Silkin. With 17 years' experience he leads the team advising housing clients on all aspects of housing management, including anti-social behaviour, tenancy fraud, disrepair issues and protestor and trespass actions. Paul is a regular contributor to Inside Housing and speaks at client training events and housing conferences.

#### Andy Lane

Barrister, Hardwicke

Andy is a barrister in Hardwicke's Public Law and Social Housing Teams and edits Hardwicke's Social Housing Team Newsletter. Andy successfully represented the local authority in the important January 2013 Court of Appeal judgment of *Sims v Dacorum Borough Council* [2013] EWCA Civ 12. He is cited as a leading junior in both *The Legal 500* and *Chambers UK*.

#### Alexander Campbell

Barrister, Hardwicke

Alex was called to the Bar in 2010 after obtaining his law degree from Cambridge and Master's degrees from the University of Paris and University College London. He practices primarily in public law and property work, a great deal of which involves social housing. He regularly appears in the County Courts and the High Court and has extensive experience of cases involving vulnerable occupiers.

#### Dean Underwood

Barrister, Head of Social Housing, Hardwicke

Dean is head of Hardwicke's housing team. He is a leading junior in public, administrative and housing law. His practice covers all aspects of housing and homelessness, welfare benefits, community care and the Court of Protection. Dean "... has wowed sources with his impressive attention to detail, his great technical eye and his good rapport with the judiciary." *Chambers UK*, 2013

#### Rakhee Kotecha

Solicitor & Legal Services Manager, The Hyde Group

Rakhee qualified as a Solicitor in 2006 and worked in Private Practice, specialising in Real Estate Litigation. In 2010 she moved in-house to become Hyde's first in-house Solicitor, focusing on the legal aspects of business strategy. Rakhee has now set up a housing litigation team at Hyde. Outside work, Rakhee enjoys travelling, water sports, theatre and cycling.

#### Nick Billingham

Partner, Devonshires Solicitors

Nick is the Head of Devonshires' Housing Management Department. His cases include the Court of Appeal case of *L&Q v Weaver* and the House of Lords cases of *Riverside HA v White* (2007), *LB Lambeth v Kay* (2006), *Bruton v London & Quadrant Housing Trust* (2000) and *Newlon v Alsulaimen* (1998). Nick is recognised as a leading practitioner in the Social Housing field in *Chambers UK*. He is on the editorial board of *The Journal of Housing Law* and chairs the Social Housing Law Association.

#### Leon Glenister

Barrister, Hardwicke

A significant proportion of Leon's practice comprises social housing. Notable cases in this area include *Watford Community Housing Trust v M*, and a case transferred to the High Court to determine if the six week limit to delay execution of a possession order is a breach of article 8 ECHR. He writes regularly in *The Guardian*, recently on non-residential squatting, and care homes under the Human Rights Act.

#### Daniel Skinner

Partner, Batchelors

Daniel is a Partner and Head of Social Housing at Batchelors. His expertise is in the areas of anti-social behaviour, leasehold and shared ownership, and data protection. Daniel is ranked in the top band by *Chambers UK* which describes him as "a standout lawyer". He is also an experienced trainer in Housing Law, in great demand for his unique approach to training.

#### Helen Tucker

Partner, Anthony Collins

Helen is a Partner and heads up the housing litigation work at Anthony Collins Solicitors. She advises social landlords on all types of housing related litigation. She has run 7 housing Appeal cases and successfully concluded a Judicial review where a housing association was withdrawing from providing direct care. Helen authored the anti-social behaviour chapter of CIH Practice Online and won the Birmingham Law Society Commercial Solicitor of the Year award.

## Conference Programme

09.15 – 10.00	Registration and refreshments
10.00 – 10.15	<b>Chair's welcome and introduction</b> <b>Alastair Redpath-Stevens</b> Barrister, Hardwicke
10.15 – 11.00	<b>Keynote address</b> <b>DJ Susan Jackson</b> Central London County Court
11.00 – 11.15	Refreshments
11.15 – 12.00	<b>A question of capacity: Protected persons and the Court of Protection</b> <b>Alison Meacher</b> Barrister, Hardwicke
12.00 – 13.00	<b>Workshops: Aspects of equality</b> <b>A: Vulnerable occupiers and the duty to make reasonable adjustments</b> <b>Paul Hayes</b> Partner, Lewis Silkin <b>Alexander Campbell</b> Barrister, Hardwicke  <b>B: Tenancy management and discrimination under the Equality Act 2010</b> <b>Rakhee Kotecha</b> Solicitor & Legal Services Manager, The Hyde Group <b>Leon Glenister</b> Barrister, Hardwicke
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 15.00	<b>Ask the experts: An interactive discussion forum</b> <b>Helen Tucker</b> (Chair) Partner, Anthony Collins <b>Daniel Skinner</b> Partner, Batchelors <b>Alev Horgan</b> Housing & Contracts Manager, Origin Housing <b>Mairéad Carroll</b> Policy & Research Manager, East Thames <b>Andrew Lane</b> Barrister, Hardwicke
15.00 – 15.15	Refreshments
15.15 – 16.00	<b>Public law and Human Rights: Issues for the social landlord</b> <b>Nick Billingham</b> Partner, Devonshires Solicitors
16.00 – 16.45	<b>Welfare Reform and the vulnerable occupier</b> <b>Dean Underwood</b> Barrister, Head of Social Housing, Hardwicke
16.45 – 17.00	<b>Q &amp; A</b>

## Further Information

### How to book

To book a place at the Social Housing Conference, please e-mail [events@hardwicke.co.uk](mailto:events@hardwicke.co.uk) and we will contact you to process your payment by credit card or invoice.

- Cost** £100 per delegate, including refreshments, lunch and conference documentation.  
£150 for two delegates from the same organisation.
- Early bird discount** Book before 1 July and take advantage of the special early bird discount of £75 per person, or £125 for two people from the same organisation.  
All prices are exclusive of VAT.
- Cancellation** Any cancellations must be received before 4pm on 1 September 2013. These will be subject to a £35 charge TBC. Later cancellations will be subject to a charge equal to the full conference fee. Substitutions may, however be made at any time.
- CPD** Delegates are eligible for 5 hours of accredited CPD.

### Questions for the Experts' Panel

Please submit a maximum of two housing-related questions or issues that you would like the Experts' panel to address by e-mailing Daniel Kemp at [daniel.kemp@hardwicke.co.uk](mailto:daniel.kemp@hardwicke.co.uk).

A selection of topical questions and issues will be made from those submitted by delegates. Due to time constraints, the panel will address only a small number of the questions and issues submitted and there is no guarantee that yours will be selected.

### Venue

Hardwicke Building, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3SB

