



Teresa Hitchcock

Partner

INTERNATIONAL CO-HEAD OF PRODUCT LIABILITY AND MASS TORTS

teresa.hitchcock@dlapiper.com

Sheffield

T: +44 (0)114 283 3302

F: +44 (0)114 276 6720

M: +44 (0)7971 422 254

Teresa Hitchcock's practice is broad-ranging, and covers all areas of environmental, health and safety, product safety and food safety law, licensing and gambling, and has recently expanded its remit to cover regulatory aspects of healthcare.

Teresa's client base is very diverse. She regularly advises large international businesses but also government departments, non-profit organisations and local authorities. Key areas of Teresa's recent practice have included regeneration projects, climate change law, the impact of conservation law on industrial operations allocation of regulator liabilities in corporate transactions, defending remediation requirements both statutory and civil, a number of major health and safety investigations and legal compliance projects.

Product Stewardship is an integral part of her practice and Teresa is often involved in strategic decision making on product compliance and recall matters.

Teresa is UK head of Safety Health and Environment (SHE) within the Regulatory and Government Affairs group. Before qualifying as a solicitor, she worked as a senior environmental and health and safety regulator in local government, and thereby acquired extensive practical experience of regulation and compliance.

RELATED SERVICES

- Environment, Health and Safety
- Product Liability, Mass Torts and Product Stewardship
- International Trade, Regulatory and Government Affairs

RELATED SECTORS

- Energy and Natural Resources
- Industrials

CREDENTIALS

Professional Qualifications

- Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales

Prior Experience

1991 to date, DLA Piper (National Head of SHE (Safety, Health & Environment) since 1996)

1986 to 1990, Principal Grade Environmental Health Officer North West Leicestershire District Council Food

Safety/Health and Safety/Pollution Control

1984 to 1986, Senior Grade Environmental Health Officer Erewash Borough Council, Ilkeston Pollution and Health and Safety

1981 to 1984, District Environmental Health Officer Erewash Borough Council, Ilkeston Food Safety

Recognitions

Teresa is described in *Legal 500* 2011 as 'excellent' and 'extremely knowledgeable' who 'understands issues, and is very experienced and responsive'.

Education

- Trent Polytechnic, Environmental Health and Science Degree (MIEH DIP)
- Nottingham Trent, LLB (Hons) Degree 2:1

Memberships

- Chartered Institute of Environmental Health
- Law Society
- UKELA

INSIGHTS

Publications

Mass employment claims in the UK

30 July 2020

In the UK there has been a sharp increase in mass employment claims, or Class Actions, which occur where a number of employees with a similar or shared complaint come together to seek redress from an employer.

Global Class Actions Briefing: Major developments in European consumer protection laws: Product safety and consumer class actions in Europe

15 July 2020

The EU's proposals for a revised EU General Product Safety Directive (the GPSD) and the EU's deal for a Collective Redress Directive (the CRD) point the way to a future of heightened novel risk in Europe of collective redress or, as these claims are popularly known, "class actions".

COVID-19: Preparing to return to work

14 July 2020

Many employers have adapted their working arrangements to ensure that employees have been able to work from home safely. However, following recent changes in legislation on gatherings, employers should now turn their attention to what is permitted, and what steps should be taken so employees can continue to work safely.

The rise and rise of shareholders' Class Actions in the UK

18 June 2020

In the UK there has been a steady rise in shareholders' Class Actions including several Class Actions launched by unhappy shareholders against the companies they invest in.

COVID-19: Updated UK Health and Safety Executive guidance

15 May 2020

The UK government is encouraging those who cannot work from home to return to work. The Health and Safety Executive has this week produced guidance on the reporting requirements, the requirement to consult with workers regarding health and safety measures and their return to the workplace, and how to manage the risk of COVID-19 at work.

New era for privacy and data breach Class Actions in the UK

12 May 2020

The recent decision in the Morrisons case and the judgment in Lloyd v Google have significant implications for the growth of privacy and data protection Class Actions in the UK. If this type of Class Action can progress, the risks for organisations who commit a data breach will be unprecedented.

COVID-19: UK Safety, Health and Environmental Considerations

22 April 2020

The coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic and the introduction of social distancing measures by the UK Government presents new challenges for businesses across all sectors seeking to manage the disruption it brings and understand the new risks that it poses.

How product liability Class Actions are growing in the UK

18 December 2019

Product liability Class Actions in the UK... In the fourth in a series of films, our Class Actions Group discuss how Class Actions are developing in the product liability space in the UK.

How litigation funding is driving Class Actions in the UK

26 September 2019

Class Actions are one of the most attractive categories of disputes for funders. They are large, often reputationally significant and they are capable of being priced. This latest video in DLA Piper's Class Actions series discusses how funding works and what makes a prospective Class Action attractive for funding.

No-deal Brexit: Impact on safety, health and environment legislation

1 September 2019

While a range of outcomes, including [a departure under the terms of the current Withdrawal Agreement](#), remains possible, it is important for businesses to plan for a no-deal Brexit, in which the UK leaves the EU without a withdrawal agreement or other deal. Here we look at the potential impact of a no-deal Brexit on safety, health and environment (SHE) legislation

Six predictions for Class Actions in the UK

23 August 2019

In recent years there has been an explosion in large-scale mass litigation taking place across the globe. In the second in a series of films, our Class Actions Group discuss our six predictions for class actions in the United Kingdom.

Our UK Class Actions film series

17 July 2019

In the UK, the growing prevalence of Class Actions and the circumstances in which businesses are threatened with them, including changing rules on litigation funding and more flexible procedures, means that Class Actions are becoming a major risk for our clients.

The EU looks at fracking: regulations taking shape

21 NOV 2013

Events

Previous

Coronavirus COVID-19: Return to work for UK Real Estate

10 June 2020

Teresa is a well-known speaker at national and international conferences on environmental and health and safety compliance.

NEWS

DLA Piper recognised at Legal 500 UK 2019 Awards

26 FEB 2019

DLA Piper has won two awards at this year's Legal 500 UK Awards, in a ceremony held on the 6th February at the Guildhall, London.

LOCAL COMMUNITY

Teresa has strong connections with local business in the Sheffield area. For many years she has been a leading figure in the South Yorkshire Green Business Club, an organisation which enables smaller businesses in the area to benefit from the expertise of larger businesses, regulators and the academic community and improve their contribution to sustainable development. Teresa was recently appointed a Board Member for Sheffield First for Environment, the local partnership established by Sheffield City Council to champion environmental issues in the area.