



**Teresa Hitchcock**

**Partner**

**INTERNATIONAL CO-HEAD OF PRODUCT LIABILITY AND MASS TORTS**

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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.

- Environment, Health and Safety
- Product Liability, Mass Torts and Product Stewardship
- International Trade, Regulatory and Government Affairs
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Hospitality and Leisure
- Industrials

## 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

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### Publications

#### **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".

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#### **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.

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#### **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.

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#### **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.

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## The EU looks at fracking: regulations taking shape

21 NOV 2013

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## Events

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

## LOCAL COMMUNITY

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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.