

DEFENCE NEWSLETTER

This edition brings together recent case law developments and practical defence experience, highlighting how strategy, procedure and evidence continue to shape outcomes. Alongside legal insight, we also recognise the people whose expertise and commitment underpin the work we do.

MARKING TEN YEARS

Mike Jones, Deputy Team Leader, has just marked ten years with Carpenters Group. He said: "It's been great to grow professionally, work with so many talented people and be part of the company's journey."



MAZUR AND THE LIMITS OF DELEGATION IN LITIGATION

The Court of Appeal's decision in *Mazur v Charles Russell Speechlys LLP* brings welcome clarity on delegation in litigation. While non-authorised staff may carry out delegated tasks, responsibility for the conduct of litigation remains firmly with the authorised individual.

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MEET THE TEAM: CASSIE HOPKINS

Cassie's interest in law began at an early stage and has grown into a leadership role within our Legal Defence team. Now a Defence Team Manager, she values developing others, leading through reform, and the support Carpenters Group provides for progression.

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COLES V HETHERTON AND DIMINUTION CLAIMS



Coles v Hetherton remains key authority on diminution claims, confirming reasonableness as an objective, market-based test. The decision provides a practical framework for challenging repair costs where credible evidence shows the sums claimed fall outside what a reasonable person would pay.

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RECENT STRIKE OUT SUCCESSES AT CARPENTERS

Two recent strike-out decisions highlight the importance of procedural discipline. Prolonged inactivity and non-compliance with court directions proved decisive, reinforcing the need for robust case management and timely action when claims fail to progress.

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