

Care Team



Within this busy department, you will have the opportunity to work on a large range of cases, representing a variety of clients from care providers to banks to vulnerable people.

Due to the nature of this sector, you will be exposed to cases covering a whole range of issues for a range of different health and social care providers, e.g.

- Adult care homes
- Care homes for those with learning disabilities
- Care homes for those who suffer with mental health
- Supported living
- Independent hospitals
- Children's homes
- GPs
- Dentists
- Independent special schools

As a trainee in this seat, you will gain knowledge in cases such as:

- Defending enforcement action by regulators
- Appeals to the tribunal to prevent cancellation of registration
- Coroner's inquests
- Safeguarding of vulnerable children and adults
- Health and safety matters
- Contractual disputes
- Defending criminal investigations/ prosecutions
- Regulatory due diligence
- Contact with clients
- Contact with council/ barristers

Due to the variety of clients and high value / profile cases – this role is outstanding for your CV.

What you will hope to achieve in this seat?

- You will learn a great deal about the adult health and social care sector and also the legislation and regulations which providers must comply with.
- You can expect to become familiar with the role and powers of the Care Quality Commission who regulate the care sector.
- You will be given the opportunity to get involved with a range of matters with different fee earners and work collaboratively with other members of the commercial group.
- You will become confident in dealing with a variety of different care providers in the UK and develop an awareness of the commercial and legal pressures that our clients face.
- You will come to understand the role of the Coroner and the inquest process – when an inquest is required and the key questions the Coroner seeks to answer concerning a person's death.

Facts and Figures

- Although based in Bournemouth, clients are all around the country
- Small but busy and fast-paced team
- 1 partner, 1 chartered legal executive, 1 solicitor, 2 support staff

Anything unique

- Experience and exposure to high profile cases
- Court experience
- Open door policy
- Range and variety of cases
- Geographical spread
- Market leaders
- Media coverage of cases and dealing with journalists

Type of law covered:

- Contractual
- Health and social care regulation
- Civil enforcement action
- Police powers pace
- Professional disciplinary
- Both civil and criminal law
- Administrative

Any prep work?

- CQC website familiarisation
- Look at current media coverage
- Look at current cases
- Read enforcement policy (not essential)

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Meet the Team



LAURA GUNTRIP
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Laura leads the Healthcare Team in advising providers of adult care homes, nursing homes, supported living facilities, independent hospitals, children's homes and schools, throughout England and Wales, on a range of issues. Laura regularly represents clients in challenging inspection reports and defending enforcement action by regulators such as CQC, CIW or Ofsted.



JAMES PANTLING-SKEET
CHARTERED LEGAL EXECUTIVE
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James specialises in the provision of legal advice and assistance to individuals, their representatives, and professionals in the field of community care law, which governs the provision of education, health and social care services. James' expertise and experience include a wide range of education, health and social care and mental capacity law matters. He prides himself on delivery of excellent client care which is tailored to meeting the needs of his clients.



ALICE STRAIGHT
SOLICITOR
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Alice is a solicitor within the Commercial Group. She has particular experience in the regulation of health and social care services and completed two seats of her training contract within Lester Aldridge's specialist Healthcare Team. Alice also has wider experience in Corporate and Employment related matters.

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