



The Law Society

Effective modern regulation: what law firms want, clients need and the public expects

Speakers:

The Right Hon. the Lord Hunt of Wirral MBE

Chris Perrin, Executive Partner & General
Counsel, Clifford Chance LLP

Professor Julia Black, Centre for the Analysis
of Risk and Regulation, LSE

20 May 2009

8.00 am - 10.00 am



legal
breakfast series

Venue: The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL

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This is the sixth in a series of legal breakfasts being held by the Law Society to explore the business of law in the new landscape created by the Legal Services Act.

The event will begin at 8.00am with registration and breakfast until 8.30am. After hearing from the speakers there will be an open debate with contributions from delegates.

Speakers

David Hunt was MP for Wirral from 1976 to 1997 and a member of the Government from 1979 to 1995, serving as Coal Minister during the coal strike and subsequently as Deputy Chief Whip and Minister for Local Government and Inner Cities. He was appointed to the Cabinet as Secretary of State for Wales and was subsequently Secretary of State for Employment and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. He was Senior Partner of Beachcroft from 1996 to 2005 and is now Chairman of its Financial Services Division. David Hunt was awarded the MBE in 1973 and appointed to the Privy Council in 1990. He was made a Life Peer as Lord Hunt of Wirral in 1997 and is President and Patron of over fifty charities and voluntary organisations.

Chris Perrin has been with Clifford Chance since he joined as a trainee in 1980, becoming a Partner in 1988. Since 2000 Chris has held a full-time management role and is now the firm's Executive Partner providing direct support to the Managing Partner. He is also the firm's General Counsel and a member of the Management Committee. Chris has particular responsibility for legal and regulatory issues affecting Clifford Chance, its governance, risk management, conflict management, claims, insurance and client agreements. In 2007, Chris was appointed Chairman of the City of London Law Society's Committee on Professional Rules and Regulation.

Julia Black joined the Law Department at the London School of Economics in 1994. Her main area of research is regulation and she has published widely in the area, including a book on rule-making by financial services regulators (Rules and Regulators, Oxford University Press, 1997). In 2001 she received a British Academy/Leverhulme Trust Senior Research Fellowship to develop her work on regulation, and from 2007 to 2008 was a Visiting Fellow at All Souls College, Oxford. Professor Black has advised policy-makers, regulators and consumer organisations on issues of institutional design and regulatory policy. She is a research associate of the ESRC Centre for the Analysis of Risk and Regulation at LSE.

Issues

- What is the ideal relationship between a healthy, independent legal profession, government and regulation?
- Can the different needs of City firms and the high-street be met without reintroducing the regulatory clutter Clementi aimed to resolve?
- Is this the time for the creation of innovative new models or the relearning of old lessons?
- Are the skills needed for the oversight of corporate firms readily available to regulators?
- Would the public interest be served by satisfying the current mood for confrontation rather than collaboration between regulators and businesses?



Who should attend?

- Senior partners, managing partners and practice directors in top 100 law firms
- Banks, venture capital funds and other potential investors
- General Counsel of FTSE100 companies
- Parliamentary spokespeople
- Senior government officials
- Non-lawyer practice managers and senior practitioners in related professions
- Academics
- Others with an interest in the future development of legal business.

The Law Society's legal breakfast series

This series of discussion events brings together business leaders from the legal profession with potential partners, investors, policy-makers and high-profile speakers to debate the construction of a successful and sustainable legal business sector for the 21st century. The events contribute to an emerging understanding of the public policy and business strategies required for growth in the legal services sector and inform the Law Society's position as the voice of the profession.

The events consider the commercial structures, regulatory environment and global economic framework within which legal business will operate. For more information, e-mail legalbreakfast@lawsociety.org.uk.

After each event, a webcast of the speakers is made available to view at www.lawsociety.org.uk/legalbreakfast. A summary of the proceedings is also posted on the website.