### THE CITY OF LONDON LAW SOCIETY INSOLVENCY LAW COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE MEETING BY CONFERENCE CALL

ON THURSDAY 19<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2020 AT 8.30am

Jennifer Marshall, Allen & Overy LLP (chair) Present:

> Catherine Balmond, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP Katharina Crinson, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP

Hamish Anderson, Norton Rose Fulbright LLP

lan Johnson, Slaughter and May Giles Boothman, Ashurst LLP Inga West, Ashurst LLP Jo Windsor, Linklaters LLP

James Roome, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld

Kevin Pullen, Herbert Smith Freehills LLP Adrian Cohen, Clifford Chance LLP

Joe Bannister, Hogan Lovells International LLP

Dominic McCahill, Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom (UK) LLP

Ian Fox, Dentons UK and Middle East LLP Simon Thomas, Goodwin Procter (UK) LLP David Ereira, Paul Hastings (Europe) LLP

Ben Larkin, Jones Day

Ben Klinger, Seddons Law LLP

Byron Nurse

Peter Wiltshire, CMS Cameron McKenna LLP

**Apologies:** Stuart Frith, Stephenson Harwood LLP

Ross Miller, Simmons & Simmons LLP

In attendance: Rebecca Oliver, Norton Rose Fulbright LLP (secretary)

Kevin Hart, CLLS

Jamie Leader, Eversheds Sutherland

- 1 Opening of meeting.
- The minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2020 were approved. 2
- Current consultations/proposals 3

Terms of reference	Working party	Comments/Update
A. Law Commission consultation on draft Bill on transfer of ownership in consumer contracts for the sale of goods	Jo Windsor Inga West Simon Thomas	Submission 3 November 2020  37420096_1.PDF  As a follow up, Kevin Hart will contact the Law Commission to see if they would be available to attend a future meeting of the Committee to discuss.
B. Law Commission scoping paper on intermediated securities 11 November 2020 <a href="https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/project/intermediate">https://www.lawcom.gov.uk/project/intermediate</a>		Noted that the CLLS Financial Law Committee are responding.

d-securities/	
C. EU consultation on further harmonisation of insolvency laws	Closing date 9 December 2020
https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better- regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12592- Enhancing-the-convergence-of-insolvency-laws-	The Committee's response to a similar consultation by the Commission in 2013 can be found here.
Inception impact assessment.pdf	

#### 4 Brexit – implications for restructuring and insolvency

The Committee will continue to offer support to the Insolvency Service and bring to their attention ongoing cases where cross-border recognition is in issue.

It was noted that a consultation is expected on the UNCITRAL model law on Recognition and Enforcement of Insolvency-Related Judgements. Jennifer Marshall, Inga West, Joe Bannister, Hamish Anderson, Adrian Cohen and Catherine Balmond offered to form a working party to consider the consultation when published.

#### 5 Corporate Insolvency & Governance Act 2020

The Committee noted the first Part 26A restructuring plans in relation to Virgin Atlantic and Pizza Express.

It is believed that there have not been many Part A1 moratoria to date and the Committee considered these would be confined to SMEs or combined with contractual arrangements with finance creditors.

It remains unknown whether the temporary measures extended until the end of 2020 will be further extended.

## 6 Pre-pack sales in administration: Outcome of review of industry reforms to pre-pack sales in administration

Pre-pack sales in administration report:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pre-pack-sales-in-administration/pre-pack-sales-in-administration-report

Proposed draft regulations to require scrutiny of pre-pack sales to connected parties:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/922229/Draftregulationstext\_1.odt

Jennifer Marshall and Inga West will liaise on supporting the ILA response to the Insolvency Service.

#### 7 Pension Schemes Bill

Noted by the Committee that the Bill had its report stage and third reading on Monday 16 November 2020 and was reported with amendments. The Bill will now return to the House of Lords for consideration of the Commons amendments.

CLLS/ILA letter of Insolvency Service 10 January 2020:



The Committee will share their concerns with the Insolvency Service again.

#### 8 Extended temporary insolvency practice direction 2 October 2020

https://www.judiciary.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/TIPD-extended-and-revised-02\_10\_20-1.pdf

Noted by the Committee.

# 9 Protecting schemes from sponsoring employer distress - guidance for trustees of defined benefit (DB) schemes

https://www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/en/document-library/regulatory-guidance/protecting-schemes-from-sponsoring-employer-distress

Noted by the Committee.

#### 10 Some recent cases noted by the Committee:

Re PizzaExpress Financing 2 plc [2020] EWHC 2873 (Ch)

Cage Consultants Ltd v Igbal (Re Totalbrand Ltd) [2020] EWHC 2917 (Ch)

Re Tokenhouse VB Limited (Formerly VAT Bridge 7 Limited) [2020] EWHC 3171 (Ch)

Re Industrial North West LLP (in administration) Kendall and another (administrators of Industrial North West LLP) v Morley and others [2020] EWHC 3052 (Ch)

RESAM Cork UC & Anor v Monsoon Accessorize Ltd & Anor, Apperley Investments Ltd & Ors v Monsoon Accessorize Ltd1

#### 11 Any other business

None.

#### 12 Next meeting

Thursday 21st January 2020, to be hosted by Peter Wiltshire, CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang LLP, at 12.30pm.