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

ON THURSDAY 21st JANUARY 2021 AT 12.30pm

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

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

Hamish Anderson, Norton Rose Fulbright LLP

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

Kevin Pullen, Herbert Smith Freehills LLP Adrian Cohen, Clifford Chance LLP Gabrielle Ruiz, 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 David Ereira, Paul Hastings (Europe) LLP

Ben Larkin, Jones Day

Ben Klinger, Seddons Law LLP Stuart Frith, Stephenson Harwood LLP Ross Miller, Simmons & Simmons LLP

Byron Nurse

Peter Wiltshire, CMS Cameron McKenna LLP

Megan Sparber, Slaughter & May

**Apologies:** James Roome, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld

Simon Thomas, Goodwin Procter (UK) LLP

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

Kevin Hart, CLLS

- 1 Opening of meeting.
- The minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020 were approved.
- 3 Current consultations/proposals

Terms of reference	Working party	Comments/Update
A. FCA consultation on guidance for insolvency practitioners on how to approach regulated firms		Closing date 18 January 2021
https://www.fca.org.uk/publication/guidance- consultation/gc20-05.pdf		Noted by the Committee, no response submitted.
B. HM Treasury consultation: Insolvency changes for payment and electronic money institutions		Closing date for responses: 21 January 2021
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/govern ment/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/ file/940738/201202_Lapwing_consultation_doc ument_with_annexes.pdf		Noted by the Committee, no response submitted.
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/govern ment/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/ file/946911/Insolvency_changes_for_payment_		

and electronic money institutions consultation supplementary annex 003 .pdf	
C. European Commission consultation on Insolvency laws: increasing convergence of national laws to encourage cross-border investment  https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12592-Enhancing-the-convergence-of-insolvency-laws-/public-consultation	Closing date 26 March 2021  Noted by the Committee, members will ensure European colleagues are aware.
D. Insolvency Service consultation on changes to the monetary eligibility criteria for debt relief orders <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/debt-relief-orders/debt-relief-orders-consultation-on-changes-to-the-monetary-eligibility-criteria">https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/debt-relief-orders/debt-relief-orders-consultation-on-changes-to-the-monetary-eligibility-criteria</a> **The provided HTML Representation on changes to the monetary eligibility criteria or debt relief orders.  **The provided HTML Representation on changes to the monetary eligibility criteria for debt relief orders.  **The provided HTML Representation on changes to the monetary eligibility criteria for debt relief orders.  **The provided HTML Representation on changes to the monetary eligibility criteria for debt relief orders.  **The provided HTML Representation on changes to the monetary eligibility elig	Closing date 26 February 2021  Noted by the Committee, no response to be submitted.

# 4 Brexit – implications for restructuring and insolvency

<u>Insolvency Service guidance: Cross-border Insolvencies: Recognition and Enforcement</u> in EU Member States from 1 January 2021

Noted by the Committee as a very useful publication which illustrated that most remaining member states have a process broadly equivalent to the UNCITRAL model law on cross-border insolvency for recognition and relief, and others have jurisdiction tests that will be applied.

## 5 HMRC policy paper: HMRC as a preferential creditor

Noted by the Committee.

# 6 Pension Schemes Bill

CLLS/ILA letter of Insolvency Service 10 January 2020:



CLLS response to Pension schemes bill -

ILA letter to Public Bill Committee 20 October 2020:



ILA.Pension\_Schemes\_ Bill\_20192020-\_Writter

The Committee noted that both Houses have agreed on the text of the Bill and that no amendments have been made in response to the concerns raised by the CLLS and ILA. Royal Assent is yet to be scheduled. A consultation on guidance on the Act is expected.

## 7 Insolvency Statistics, November and December 2020

https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/monthly-insolvency-statistics-november-2020

https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/monthly-insolvency-statistics-december-2020

Noted by the Committee.

## 8 Some recent cases noted by the Committee:

Leite v Amicorp (UK) Ltd [2020] EWHC 3560 (Ch)

ING Bank NV and another v Banco Santander SA [2020] EWHC 3561

Re DeepOcean 1 UK Ltd [2020] EWHC 3549 (Ch)

Re Sunbird Business Services Ltd [2020] EWHC 3459 (Ch)

Gate Group part 26A restructuring scheme

Malaysian Airlines part 26A restructuring scheme

### 9 Any other business

Kevin Hart (i) reminded the Committee of the CLLS online event for committee members on 28<sup>th</sup> January, and (ii) noted the chair of the CLLS and specialist committee chairs had a meeting scheduled on 22<sup>nd</sup> January and invited committee members to put forward any matter for discussion.

## 10 Next meeting

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021, to be hosted by Stuart Frith, Stephenson Harwood LLP, at 12.30pm, expected to be held by via zoom call.