



Dispute Resolution Newsletter

Edition 1
March 2019

Welcome to the first edition of our Dispute Resolution newsletter. We bring to you our team of experts and some useful industry information and news.

What is dispute resolution?

Dispute Resolution essentially means the process of resolving disputes between parties. Disputes can be resolved in a numerous amount of ways without having to resort to litigation, these include (to name a few) - mediation, negotiation, correspondence with a view to both parties reaching an agreement. If disputes are not settled, that is when civil Court litigation is required, hence the term 'Civil Litigation'.

Civil law is concerned with the rights and property of individual people or organisations; issues that might not be protected by criminal laws. If matters are not protected by criminal laws, quite often the Police will advise you to seek legal advice as it is a 'civil' matter rather than criminal. Civil proceedings will settle specific disputes between individuals and organisations. The Court has a discretion as to the relief it awards the Claimant, but more often than not it involves compensation being awarded. Civil law matters can include boundary disputes, personal injury cases, breach of contract, harassment. Our team can assist with the following (not an exclusive list):

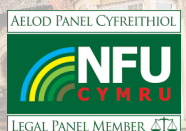
- Consumer issues and contract disputes;
- Land and boundary disputes including rights of way;
- Landlord and tenant dispute;
- Mediation;
- Negligence including professional negligence;
- Insolvency and bankruptcy;
- Probate disputes;
- Debt Recovery;
- Personal injury.

Courts Electronic Filing System

The Courts Electronic Filing System (CE-File) becomes mandatory in the regional Business and Property Courts (Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester and Newcastle) for professional users as from 30th April 2019 and all professional users will be required to issue all new proceedings electronically using CE-File.



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What is harassment?

The Protection from Harassment Act 1997 states that the act of harassment involves a course of conduct which amounts to harassment of another and which he/she ought to know amounts to harassment of the other.

Harassment therefore amounts to a course of conduct which causes another person to suffer distress, feel threatened. To prove a course of conduct means that there must be more than two events. Course of conduct could involve letters, texts/emails, social media or any other means of communicating.

Harassment is a civil cause of action and also is a criminal offence. If a claim is brought as a civil claim then the claimant (the victim in the matter) might be awarded damages for the stress, anxiety and any financial loss resulting from the harassment and possibly an injunction.

The definition of harassment is wide-ranging therefore providing the opportunity for judgement on a case-by-case basis.

If you believe that you have suffered or are suffering from a course of conduct which amounts to harassment, you are feeling anxious, or distressed by the conduct then please get in touch with one of our experts and we will assist you with any potential claim.

Our team



Our dispute resolution team has extensive experience gained over many years whilst acting for clients involved in civil litigation. We can act for both private and commercial clients. Due to our experience and expertise, we are the NFU legal panel firm for North and Mid Wales. The team consists of:

- Gwenno Price-Jones
- John Partington
- Tracey Powell
- Catrin Williams
- Stephen Foote
- Roxanna Richardson

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