Christopher Easton

Easton Bevins

Position Consultant

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PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors - 1985
Member of the Chartered Association of Building Engineers - 1985
Governor of the Expert Witness Institute - 2009

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

I rose to a full equity partner in the Survey Valuation & Development department of Alder King and then I resigned my position to set up my own practice. I was involved in surveys and valuations as well as being responsible for that department. In view of my experience at that time I concentrated on Project Management and advice on residential developments.

A number of substantial clients retained my practice to advise them on development and refurbishment of residential and commercial buildings including many of which were Listed, converting them into flats, and houses from initial specification to final account.

I am now in charge of the litigation department of the partnership and regional manager, I supervise 20 Chartered Building Surveyors, Structural Engineer, Chartered Architect and other support staff. We regularly undertake Detailed Building Inspections and RICS Home Buyer Reports as well as undertaking defect investigations, building pathology and analysis of residential and commercial structures.

I now act as an advisor to a number of national developers dealing with alleged claims against them and advising them on all property and building construction matters.

I oversee the project management for the conversion, development, and construction of residential, commercial and industrial buildings, from design inception through statutory consents, specification, drawings, tender and supervision to final account. We cover the areas of South West England, Midlands, and South Wales. The Schemes involve obtaining Listed Building Consent, Planning Permission and Building Regulation Approvals as well as writing specifications, preparing drawings, taking the scheme to tender and supervising the works and agreeing the Final Account. Projects range from £5,000.00 subsidence repairs to £2,500,000.00 refurbishments.

As a practice, we are now regularly involved in advising in connection with asbestos and Disability Discrimination Audits, Health & Safety Assessment and Risk Assessments and Energy Performance Certificates for companies ranging from small contractors to large multi occupied blocks, commercial buildings including hospitals, schools, etc.

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Approximately 20 years ago I became heavily involved in litigation and arbitration and act regularly as an Expert Witness in building construction, contract disputes and negligence claims in the Technology and Construction Division of the High Court.

I regularly produce reports as an Expert Witness on all matters of building construction relating to the contractual arrangements, the physical construction, the regulations governing the construction, or the duties of the various experts involved. I often provide costs of remedial works, or value of works undertaken. I am regularly involved in landlord and tenant disputes, both residential and commercial, and I am conversant and experienced in Housing Act matters. I attend County and High Court regularly, and I am trained in report writing, court attendance, and single joint expert responsibilities.

I have attended lectures, seminars, and training courses in respect of the Construction (Design & Management) Regulations and was qualified as a Planning Supervisor under those Regulations but no longer act personally in that role but supervise others. I have also attended conferences, seminars, and appropriate training pursuant to the Civil Procedure Rules, effective from April 1999, including single joint expert.

I am regularly updated with current legislation, and I am familiar with and have considerable experience of The Housing Grants, Construction & Regeneration Act 1996, having been involved in many adjudications.

I am now contained in the Law Society's list of Expert Witnesses, I am a member of the Society of Expert Witnesses, and contained within the RICS Expert Witness Registration Scheme.

I was invited to become a Governor of the Expert Witness Institute in 2009, which I accepted.

In the summer of 2016, I was invited to become an External Visiting Examiner at the University of the West of England, Built Environment, which I accepted.