



Ben Johnston

Solicitor



Areas of Law: Health and Safety, Healthcare

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Background

Ben obtained a degree in Medicine in 2008 before gaining a Masters in Law from Queen's University Belfast in 2014. Ben completed his training contract with Carson McDowell LLP, qualifying in September 2016.

Ben joined Carson McDowell's Health and Safety Team in 2016 as an Assistant Solicitor. Ben regularly assists Carson McDowell's Healthcare team in relation to regulatory matters.

Ben is a Member of the Northern Ireland Safety Group; IOSH; and the Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers.

Experience

Examples of work in which Ben has assisted includes:

Health and Safety

- Advising in relation to a number of significant health and safety investigations for companies and individuals involved in construction, waste management, food manufacture, and commercial landlords as well as employees facing individual liability.
- Providing health and safety compliance advice through requests for technical advice and policy reviews.
- Advising in relation to the appeal of improvement and prohibition notices served by HSE/Local Authorities.
- Proactive health and safety compliance advice notably through requests for technical advice, policy reviews and drafting and legal audits
- Providing health and safety training to directors and senior managers

- Provision of corporate support on due diligence projects and compilation of key issues reports for health and safety matters.

Food Law

- Acting for companies in relation to food safety investigations
- Provision of corporate support on due diligence projects and compilation of key issues reports for food safety matters.

Healthcare

- Representing clients at all stages of the General Medical Council process, including Fitness to Practise Panel Hearings and Interim Orders Panel Hearings in misconduct, health and performance cases.
- Representing clients at all stages of General Dental Council cases, including Interim Orders Committee and Practice Committee Hearings.
- Advising clients on all aspects of HSC Trust Disciplinary procedures. This includes providing advice on the application of Maintaining High Professional Standards in the Modern HPSS, assisting clients in preparing for Investigatory Meetings, drafting submissions in relation to Investigation Reports, preparing for Disciplinary Hearings, drafting Grounds of Appeal and preparation for Appeal Hearings.