

PNLA & WS SOCIETY ANNUAL CONFERENCE SCOTLAND 2026

Professional Negligence & Liability, Edinburgh Conference

29 October 2026 | 9.00 am – 5.00 pm | The Signet Library, Edinburgh

The Summit of Sgùrr nan Gilleann via West Ridge on the Isle of Skye, Scotland
Picture by Karen Motion

This is another in the series of annual PNLA conferences in Scotland which represent the most specialised forum for solicitors and advocates to address topical issues in the realm of professional negligence and liability in Scotland.

The conference is suitable for all levels of practitioner and this year has content on professional negligence and liability law and practice including analysis of recent case law north and south of the border.

Programme

Time	Session	Speakers
9:00 am – 9.20 am	Registration and Refreshments	
9.20 am – 9.30 am	Welcome and introduction	Tim Edward , Partner, BTO & PNLA Scotland Representative Ashley Jones , Partner Burness Paull & PNLA Scotland Representative
9.30 am – 10.00 am	Keynote Address <i>Regulation of the Scottish Legal Profession</i>	The Rt Hon Lord Ericht WS, Senator of the College of Justice
10.00 am – 10.30 am	<i>The Comino Properties Ltd v DHKK Ltd decision</i>	Sheriff Kenneth Campbell KC Edinburgh Sheriff Court
10.30 am – 10.45 am	Questions and discussion	Tim Edward , Partner, BTO & PNLA Scotland Representative Ashley Jones , Partner Burness Paull & PNLA Scotland Representative
10.45 am – 11.00 am	Refreshments	
11.00 am – 11.40 am	<i>Considering the Resolution of Professional Negligence cases</i>	The Hon. Lady Sarah Wolffe Axiom Advocates

11.40 am – 12.20 pm	<i>Professional Liability and the Rise of AI, from the Perspective of English Law</i>	William Flenley KC Hailsham Chambers
12.20 pm – 12.50 pm	<i>Professional Indemnity Insurance – Claims & Risk Management</i>	Mark Gray, Lockton Companies LLP
12.50 pm – 1.00 pm	Questions and discussion	Tim Edward, Partner, BTO & PNLA Scotland Representative Ashley Jones, Partner Burness Paull & PNLA Scotland Representative
1.00 pm – 2.00 pm	Lunch	
2.00 pm – 2.40 pm	<i>The Defender's Perspective</i>	Lindsay Ogunyemi Partner Beale & Co. Andrew McConnell Partner Beale & Co.
2.40 pm – 3.20 pm	<i>Professional Negligence & Liability Update</i>	Neale Tosh Axiom Advocates
3.20 pm – 3.35 pm	Refreshments	
3.35 pm – 4.00 pm	<i>Litigation funding</i>	Matthew Pascal Director, Head of Commercial, Temple Legal Protection
4.00 pm – 4.30 pm	<i>Accounting/audit negligence litigation, damages and quantification</i>	Graeme Milloy 1Six Chambers
4.30 pm – 5.00 pm	Hot topics panel session followed by, Final Q&A and closing remarks	Tim Edward, Partner, BTO & PNLA Scotland Representative Ashley Jones, Partner Burness Paull & PNLA Scotland Representative Katy Manley, PNLA President & BPE Solicitors LLP

Speakers



Tim Edward, Co-chair

Partner, BTO & PNLA Scotland Representative

Tim is a Solicitor Advocate and qualified mediator in BTO's dispute Resolution team. An accredited specialist in Professional Negligence, and a member of The Legal 500's 'Hall of Fame' for both commercial litigation and professional negligence, Tim has over three decades of litigation experience.

In the Professional Negligence sphere, Tim has handled multiple negligence cases across a range of professions, in particular solicitors' negligence, for both defenders and pursuers.

He has also handled a wide variety of commercial disputes, including insolvency and company disputes. High profile cases handled by Tim include acting for the defenders in *Lloyds TSB Foundation for Scotland v Lloyds Banking Group* [2011] CSIH 87 and *Trustees of Rex Proctor RBS v Scottish Widows* [2015] CSOH 83, and most recently acting for the pursuer in *Gavin Loudon v Stewart Milne Group* [2022] CSIH 3].



Ashley Jones, Co-chair

Partner Burness Paul & PNLA Scotland Representative

Ashley is a partner within our [Dispute Resolution team](#) who specialises in the field of [professional negligence](#). She heads the firm's centre of excellence for professional negligence disputes.

A seasoned commercial litigator for almost 20 years, Ashley has a successful track record of acting for both professional indemnity insurers and commercial clients in high value, complex, professional negligence claims. She brings her knowledge and experience of acting for insurers to both the pursuit and defence of claims.

Ashley has successfully handled complex and high value professional liability disputes across a wide range of industry sectors including construction, property, corporate finance, financial services, pensions and insolvency.

Clients include insurers, professional services firms, commercial clients and private individuals. She has acted in disputes involving lawyers, accountants, engineers, insolvency practitioners, architects, surveyors and construction professionals.

In addition to her first class credentials in the professional liability arena, Ashley has significant experience of advising on insurance policy coverage disputes, shareholder disputes and contractual disputes. She has particular experience of cases involving allegations of fraud, breach of trust and breach of fiduciary duties.

Ashley is accredited by the Law Society of Scotland as a specialist in Professional Negligence law as well as being recognised for that work in both Chambers & Partners and Legal 500.



The Right Honourable Lord Ericht

Judge of Inner House of the Court of Session

After qualifying as a solicitor in 1988 and practising with Clifford Chance and Tods Murray WS, he became an advocate in 1996. He was Standing Junior Counsel to the UK government Department of Trade and Industry from 2000 to 2009 and was clerk of the Faculty of Advocates) from 2003 to 2009.

After being appointed as a Queen's Counsel in 2009 he served as an Advocate Depute prosecuting serious crime until 2013 then returned to independent practice in mainly commercial and public law. He was also a visiting lecturer at the Université de Lorraine, France. His publications include being editor of Session Cases.

In December 2025 he was appointed as Regulatory Judge to provide support to the Lord President on regulatory matters and consider the detail of the implementation of the Regulation of Legal Services (Scotland) Act 2025.



Sheriff Kenneth Campbell KC

Edinburgh Sheriff Court

Sheriff Campbell was appointed as a Sheriff on 14th September 2020. Prior to calling to the Bar in 1996, Mr Campbell trained with Dickson Minto before working as a civil litigation solicitor with Brodies. He took silk in 2011 and is a practising member of the English Bar.



The Hon. Lady Sarah Wolffe

Axiom Advocates

Sarah Wolffe is a member of Axiom, accepting arbitral appointments and opinion work.

Appointed to the Court of Session bench in 2014, Sarah sat as one of the specialist Commercial Judges for a total of 5 years (2016-17, 2018-2021). This included sitting as an insolvency judge and as an arbitration judge for those years, dealing with cases under the Arbitration (Scotland) Act 2010.

As senior counsel, she was also involved in some of the earliest cases coming to the Court of Session under the 2010 Act. In 2023 Sarah was appointed as the President of the Court of the Scottish Arbitration

Centre ('SAC'). In that capacity, she has also contributed to training days under the auspices of the SAC.



William Flenley KC

Hailsham Chambers

William Flenley KC was born and brought up in Edinburgh. Regrettably, he now lives in London, but he visits Scotland several times each year. He specialises in professional liability and professional indemnity insurance. He is co-author, with Mr Justice Leech, of *The Law of Solicitors' Liabilities*, and a Bencher of the Middle Temple.

Chambers Directory 2024 - "William is the best professional negligence barrister in the UK. His approach (beyond meticulous) and manner (friendly and affable whilst brutally honest when needed) are both perfect for the kind of work we do"



Mark Gray

Service Leader Mid-Market PI Lockton

For more than half of Mark's nearly 40-year career in insurance he has been involved, in one advisory capacity or another, with the Law Society of Scotland Master Policy providing valuable support and guidance to the Scottish legal profession.

Joining Sun Alliance (now RSA) in 1985, Mark worked for many years as a claims underwriter dealing with claims against the Master Policy. Following a period of time as a loss adjuster Mark then moved to Marsh in 1998 where he led their Finpro National Claims Team then based in Edinburgh. In this role he provided claims advocacy advice, assisting in the resolution of contentious claims. Mark also had responsibility for the auditing and monitoring of the Master Policy's lead and Co Insurers Claims Protocol.

Since 2008 Lockton clients have benefited from Mark's extensive experience, skill, expertise and influence with Insurers. As Service Leader of our National Professions Practice, Mark engenders a harmonised approach to our service delivery for clients ensuring that our associates put clients front and centre of everything we do.

Mark leads the Lockton team dedicated to the Broking and Administration of the Master Policy. He also has close bonds and trusted relationships with the Leadership at the Law Society, with the Panel Solicitors to the Master policy and provides valuable liaison with the SLCC.



Lindsay Ogunyemi

Partner Beale & Co

Lindsay specialises in defending professional negligence claims against professionals including solicitors, architects, surveyors, accountants and IFAs.

She has specialised in this area for 20 years, during which time she has adopted an intuitive approach to resolving professional negligence claims against a wide spectrum of professionals including solicitors, brokers, accountants, architects, surveyors and construction professionals. Lindsay is described by her clients as being a “*tenacious litigator*” with “*exemplary and unrivalled*” knowledge and expertise in her field.

While Lindsay has a strong litigation background, she is a keen advocate of mediation as a forum for resolving disputes and has represented clients at a variety of mediations ranging from high value surveyor negligence claims to complicated multi-party disputes.

Lindsay is ranked by Chambers & Partners and recognised by Legal 500 as a “*Leading Individual*” in the field of Professional Indemnity. She is also a member of the Forum of Insurance Lawyers (FOIL) for Scotland, Professional Indemnity.



Neale Tosh

Axiom Advocates

Neale handles a wide range of commercial disputes with a particular emphasis on commercial contracts, corporate, property and insolvency litigation. He is standing junior counsel to the Advocate General for Scotland. He acts mainly for HMRC in tax tribunal and insolvency litigation, the Insolvency Service in proceedings under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986, and the Home Office in applications for judicial review.

Neale is a reporter for *Session Cases*, an Associate Member (ACI Arb) of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, a member of the Insolvency Practitioners Association and a member of the Association of Business Recovery Professionals (R3). He has a keen interest in technology and sits on the Faculty of Advocates’ AI Working Group. In 2019, Neale won the Mike Jones Excellence in Advocacy Award.

<https://www.axiomadvocates.com/advocate/neale-tosh/>

**Matthew Pascall**

Legal Director – Head of Commercial - Temple Legal Protection

Matthew was called to the Bar in 1984 and joined Guildford Chambers two years later. Spending more than 30 years in practice there, he was listed as a Legal 500 Tier One barrister.

He joined the commercial team at Temple Legal Protection as Senior Underwriting Manager in 2017.

Matthew was appointed to Temple's Board in December 2022 as Legal Director and Head of Commercial.

His knowledge of the commercial legal sector and litigation practice is invaluable to the business and our clients, providing specialist experience to lead the commercial litigation insurance team.

**Graeme Milloy**

1Six Chambers

Graeme called to the Bar in 2025 as a Lord Hope Scholar after five years in private practice as a solicitor. He specialises in commercial, insurance and professional negligence disputes. His other areas of practice are clinical negligence, property litigation and public law.

As a solicitor, Graeme gained extensive experience pursuing and defending claims involving accountants, architects, auditors, engineers and surveyors. He particularly specialised in disputes involving lawyers and dealt with a wide range of such cases. He also acted for construction professionals in high value infrastructure disputes.

While devilling, Graeme gained further exposure to a wide variety of commercial, insolvency, insurance and property disputes. Additionally, he developed his interests in clinical negligence and public law.

Graeme has experience of litigating in the Commercial Court, the Outer and Inner Houses of the Court of Session and the Sheriff Courts, conducting debates and substantive hearings in the latter while a solicitor.

**Katy Manley**

PNLA President - BPE Solicitors LLP

Katy is a well-recognised expert solicitor and a leading name for claimant professional negligence work. She brings a wealth of experience and connections to the team, who have known and worked with Katy for some time.

Katy originally qualified as a solicitor in 1989 and worked in London until moving to the west country in 1991. She was made an equity partner in a leading Bristol practice in 1995 becoming Head of the

Professional Negligence team. Katy formed Manley Turnbull Limited solicitors in 2006 and has now joined BPE.



Andrew McConnell

Partner Beale&Co

Andrew is recognised as a “Rising Star” in the Legal 500 and “Up and Coming” by Chambers in the field of professional negligence.

Andrew acts exclusively for professional indemnity insurance clients and regularly handles high value, complex claims giving succinct advice on all matters concerning liability, causation and quantum.

Andrew now specialises in the PI construction field and has acted in a significant number of construction claims representing various construction professionals such as architects, structural engineers, M&E engineers and D&B contractors. Clients have remarked that Andrew is the “go-to” solicitor in Scotland for all professional indemnity construction matters. Andrew continues to significantly expand his knowledge of the PI construction market dealing with highly complex claims including multi-jurisdictional cases together with high value coverage declinature claims.

Andrew also provides bespoke training to Insurer and broker clients covering subjects such as prescription and construction law topics in Scotland.

Pricing & Booking

Delegate rates

Writer to the Signet/PNLA members: £250 plus VAT

Standard rate: £300 plus VAT

Trainee solicitors/law students: £120 plus VAT

All rates include breakfast, lunch and refreshments at the Signet Library.

Booking

Tickets are available [here](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/professional-negligence-law-conference-2026-tickets-1990552284467) (<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/professional-negligence-law-conference-2026-tickets-1990552284467>).

For information on booking, please contact yvonne.fairbrother@pnla.org.uk.

Contact

For information on the venue, please contact Sophie Mills: smills@wssociety.co.uk or call 0131 220 3249.

Terms and conditions

Terms and conditions in relation to courses, seminars and conferences ('events') provided by The Professional Negligence Lawyers' Association (PNLA) and organised by PNLA Training Ltd. (PNLA Training)

1. The full fee invoice for the conference ticket is payable.
2. For conferences taking place at a venue on a fixed date, if cancellation is received in writing at least 21 working days before the event the fee will be credited less a £75 administration charge. Substitutions are welcome at any time subject to any variation in price that might be payable if the substitute is not entitled to a discount as a PNLA member or specialist.
3. For virtual conferences the ticket(s) purchased are for the individual delegate(s) named in the booking. If a delegate gives access to the recorded speaker programme to others, then they agree to pay for a ticket at the full fee for all those delegates who watch the programme deriving from such access.
4. The booking constitutes a legally binding contract. The delegate and their employer/partnership/other practice entity are jointly and severally liable for payment of all the fees due.
5. The PNLA and PNLA Training reserve the right without prior notice to vary or cancel an event where the occasion necessitates including changing the password for virtual conference programmes.
6. The PNLA and PNLA Training accept no liability if, for whatever reason, the event does not take place or access online is not possible.
7. Large print versions of the handouts can be made available by prior request. If sufficient notice is not received, it will be provided as soon as possible after the event.
8. If there are insufficient rooms in the hotel to accommodate all delegates who require one when an overnight stay is involved, we will try to arrange for rooms of a similar quality in a nearby hotel, but the organisers cannot be held responsible if such rooms are not available. Any additional cost will be invoiced to the delegate.
9. To the extent permitted by law, it is agreed that the PNLA, PNLA Training Limited presenters and speakers will not be liable by reason of breach of contract, negligence or otherwise for any loss or consequential loss occasioned to any person acting, omitting to act or refraining from acting in reliance upon the course material or presentation of the event, or, except to the extent that any such loss does not exceed the price of the event, arising from or connected with any error or omission in the material or presentation of the event. Consequential loss shall be deemed to include, but not limited to, any loss of profits or anticipated profits, damage to reputation or goodwill, loss of business or anticipated business, damages, costs, expenses incurred or payable to any third party or any other indirect or consequential losses.
10. The personal information provided by you will be held on a database and you may be contacted from time to time by The PNLA and PNLA Training with details of events and services that may be of interest to you. If you do not wish your details to be used for this purpose, please write to: The Database Manager, PNLA, PO Box 1685, Congresbury, Bristol, BS 49 5WQ or email: yvonne.fairbrother@pnla.org.uk.