



# Hudgell

SOLICITORS

2017/18 | Review



# An introduction from Neil

The legal world is now a very different place to when I first set up shop on 1st September 1997 and so is this law practice.

We started as a local firm and are now a leading specialist litigation practice, representing thousands of clients across the UK.

Our recipe for success is to never be afraid to take an opportunity, never be afraid of change and not to worry about making mischief along the way. At a time of turbulence in our areas of work, this still holds true and I am proud of what we have achieved over the past year and more.

Appointing Amanda Stevens as Chief Executive was a vital part of the vision for the future, and she explains in this review just how much has been done and achieved in a very short time. Our new strategy reflects that we are not content to just keep going as we are, despite our success.

Our collaborative business model, with senior solicitors leading specialist teams, allows us to respond swiftly to our clients and facilitates speedier decision-making across the firm.



## Our clients always come first

**Some things never change though. My mind-set from day one was that my firm was going to be client-led. I find that, all too often, lawyers love the legal work and do not focus on the fact that they are providing a service. Given the kind of work we do, we cannot afford to be like that. Our clients can't afford for us to be like that.**

They could easily find someone else who knows the law. What they want is someone to care about their case and situation, care about looking after their needs and give them the best possible service. More than anything, that is what we stand for.

Hand in hand with that has been our campaigning for improved standards of health care, particularly in care homes, where we have called for greater compassion and dignity for the elderly, whilst many medical negligence cases have resulted in hospital trusts amending policies and procedures to improve care and reduce risk.

Our clients have also been able to tell their stories in newspapers, online, on radio and TV as a result.

We are also proud to be supporting clients who find themselves involved in some of the biggest news stories in the country, such as the families of the four men killed by Stephen Port and victims of the Grenfell fire. More recently we have become involved in representing clients who have become involved in sexual misconduct allegations at the heart of central government.

I am committed to this business being active in its communities. It was a great pleasure to be a business supporter of Hull's City of Culture year throughout 2017, while we also reviewed and refocused the Neil Hudgell Trust, as you'll read in this review.

We have faced many challenges over the years, but never more so than now given the government's reform agenda. Out of adversity though comes opportunity, which we shall look to continue to fully embrace.

We have to maintain our position and strength in the years to come. We are looking at new ways of working, introducing greater efficiencies into the legal process, building new areas of practice and strengthening our team. But all the while, we must keep customer service front and centre.

In the following pages, you will read some examples of what we have achieved for our clients and our community over the past year. I am so proud of our staff for the work they have done, the care they have shown, and their dedication to the cause. But the law never stops.

Stand still and you'll go backwards. That is my message. We must and will keep moving forward.

**Neil Hudgell,**  
Solicitor and Managing Director

# Hudgell in the community

Hudgell Solicitors gets active and involved with the communities where its teams are based in Hull, Leeds and London.

We are delighted to be playing an active role in the communities we support, particularly close to our offices in London, Leeds and Hull. It has seen us supporting the West London Mission, which runs projects to support the homeless and empower some of the most vulnerable people in the capital.

Our staff have helped serve breakfast in the night shelter at the Mission, which is visited by around 100 homeless people every day, whilst we have provided financial support. We have also provided significant sponsorship for Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance, and partnered with the world-famous Ace Cafe London as it marks its 80th anniversary year. Our employees in Leeds also spent the night sleeping out in the elements to support the Simon on the Streets charity, which also operates in Bradford and Huddersfield, to support the homeless community.

In Hull, we used the 20th anniversary of the firm to relaunch the Neil Hudgell Trust with our 'Elephant in the Room' initiative, again turning the focus on the issue of homelessness. We marked this by commissioning urban contemporary artist Laurence Vallières to display a public installation in Hull's Humber Street as part of the City of Culture year.

From a huge pile of recycled cardboard sheets, she created stunning life-sized sculptures of a family of three elephants, symbolising the the issue of homelessness in our cities.



Once again Hudgell Solicitors sponsored the Humber Bridge Half Marathon – an event which raises thousands of pounds for charities and good causes across the region.

As an event run purely by volunteers and organised by both the Hull Rotary Club with the Rotary Club of Barton, sponsorship and in-kind support are crucial to ensure the race, which attracts more than 2,000 runners, can be staged.

We are long-term partners with the Paul for Brain Recovery charity in Hull, having supported brain injury victim Paul Spence to secure charity status and premises for his drop-in support centre.

We continue to support local boxer Tommy Coyle through sponsorship of his Box Clever programme for schoolchildren and the academies he set up to provide free training for under-17s across the city.





# Our Work at a glance

Hudgell Solicitors had an exceptional 2017/18, leading the way in protecting ordinary people who found themselves up against the big and the powerful, whether the police, the NHS, insurers or large companies.

Medical negligence is a central core of our work. Legal advice is just part of the package; those who have suffered as a result of a medical mistake – both the victim and their families – often need a huge amount of support. That support has been there when they have turned to us.

A £14.3 million damages settlement was secured for a boy left brain-damaged after midwives failed to properly monitor his heart-rate during birth and therefore didn't realise he was starved of oxygen.

The boy, now 17, needed resuscitating after being born. The consequent brain damage means that he suffers with significant cognitive and motor impairment, finding it difficult to carry out simple everyday tasks such as dressing and feeding himself. Experts say this will only worsen as he gets older.

At a time when politicians and insurance companies are pressuring the government to reduce the amount of compensation injured people receive, this is the type of case where – though the figure looks big – the money is vital to secure the care and support our client needs for the rest of his life. The settlement will reach £14.3m only if the boy lives to his life expectancy.

We see in our work day to day that routine procedures can go tragically wrong. One such case has seen us acting for the family of 71-year-old Sheila Mary Hynes, who died after a surgeon implanted a heart valve the wrong way up. This particular case led to changes in practices at hospitals.

If mistakes are made by medical professions, which independent experts feel could and should have been avoided,

it is very distressing, such as the case in which we acted for the family of a successful businessman who took his own life by jumping from a multi-storey car park after suffering a mental health breakdown..

Graeme Price had been discharged home weeks earlier from the mental health assessment unit at Bedford Hospital, but the specialist and dedicated home treatment and support that had been promised did not materialise.

Our clients often want to speak out about their experiences to ensure that others don't suffer from the same failings, something we assist them in doing by arranging media coverage of their case.



Take the Stringfellow family, which used the case of daughter Katrina to highlight gaps in the treatment and knowledge of how to care for epileptic patients in hospital.

Errors made by doctors when treating Katrina following, an epileptic seizure, contributed to her suffering a string of additional long-term health problems for which she now requires round-the-clock care.

Despite having learning difficulties, Katrina, 35, managed the condition so well that she'd not had an epileptic episode for 16 years. However, following a rare series of fits, she was rushed to Calderdale Royal Hospital in West Yorkshire. Doctors' failure to give her the doses of seizure-controlling medication she needed will have life-long consequences. We secured a five-figure sum in compensation to help with Katrina's future needs and care.

We continue to campaign on behalf of our clients who were patients of the rogue consultant breast surgeon Ian Paterson, who was jailed for 20 years last year, having carried out needless surgery on patients. The national inquiry instituted by the government has serious questions to answer.

As we see it, part of our role is to highlight remedies to the problems that have affected our clients.

We called for the tighter regulation of dentists after securing £35,000 damages for mother-of-two Georgie Feder. Her dentist had failed to properly care for her – causing her years of excruciating pain and the loss of six teeth.

With our civil liberties and police misconduct work we continue to act for the families of the four men murdered by Stephen Port, working to identify if institutional failings and discrimination within the Metropolitan Police Service played a role in their deaths.

Such cases can be drawn out as you often have to wait for bodies such as the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) to investigate what happened, but this can be a vital step. For example, we welcomed the decision to bring misconduct cases against 19 officers and staff of West Midlands Police over multiple failings in their investigation of the murder of Jacqueline Oakes by her partner Marcus Musgrove. We are acting for her daughter, Jenny, and considering legal action against the police.

Our team is also helping the family of Lewis Skelton, 31, discover how he came to be shot dead by police in Hull in late 2016.

Civil liberties take many forms and we are representing Billal Hartford who is suing Radox Testing Services whose inaccurate testing led to his wrongful conviction for drug-driving, as a result of which he lost his job. A retest found his sample clear, leading to the conviction being quashed. Growing numbers have since been contacting the firm regarding inaccurate forensic sampling, leading to a growing group action for the firm.

Hudgell Solicitors built its reputation on personal injury work and some of the cases we dealt with in 2017 show how careless employers, motorists, councils and the like can be. Nonetheless, the government wants to remove the involvement of lawyers from what it sees as minor claims, but there are plenty of reasons why this is a bad idea for injured people.

Take our work for a truck driver who has been unable to return to work after suffering a neck injury whilst carrying out his job. His employer did not have a system to hold products securely in the trailer and as a result they fell on him. Initially he was offered £5,000 in compensation, but after we assessed the long-term impact on his health and psychological state, the offer rose to £225,000.

The case took about 18 months before an admission was secured, but did result in changes in working practices at the company to prevent such an injury happening to an employee again. This shows that claims are not just about the compensation, but also that proper legal representation ensures people are not taken advantage of.

The variety of injury cases is also striking. We supported the family of 80-year-old Kathleen Waters, who suffers from dementia and had to undergo a four hour operation after suffering second degree burns on a care home radiator. She was found slumped against the uncovered radiator in her bathroom in the home.

Our holiday litigation team is acting for families who suffered from a serious illness outbreak when staying at hotels on the Boa Vista island of Cape Verde last summer, ruining their eagerly-awaited holiday breaks.

We deal frequently with the most sensitive subjects possible, such as acting for people alleging that a former Shropshire doctor sexually abused them during the 1960s and 1970s.

Dr Gerard Rogerson died in 2000 and we are representing alleged victims in pursuing legal action through the government's Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority (CICA), with some cases already settled.

This case is also a good illustration of how we use the media for the benefit of our clients. We worked with the first courageous gentleman to make public his allegations, and helped broadcasters remain updated on the case, which led to many more coming forward and the police becoming involved.



Our client's cases and causes are featured in newspapers, online, social media, radio and television – highlighting wrongdoing and showing that the system of restitution and compensation works. The news outlets that share our stories can be quite influential.

Footnote: All clients named gave their consent to us telling their story

**Hudgell**  
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[hudgellsolicitors.co.uk](http://hudgellsolicitors.co.uk)



# A year of growth – Hudgell on the move

**Hudgell Solicitors has been on the move in many ways this year.**

We took ownership of our new headquarters on Hull's Fruit Market. The 10,500 sq ft offices overlook the city's new amphitheatre, created within the historic former Central Dry Dock, and The Deep tourist attraction.

Managing Director Neil Hudgell says: "As a business with its roots firmly set in Hull, and with a large number of staff who live in the city and have their lives engrained in it, we are very proud to have moved into such an impressive building on a key area of redevelopment.

"By purchasing these impressive premises, we have demonstrated our long-term commitment to the city. It reflects our belief that Hull is a great place to do business, and it certainly has been for us for 20 years now."

The move followed the purchase of new premises, in both London and Leeds, in 2016.

It also came ahead of Neil celebrating 20 years since he set up the practice; it is now one of the top 150 law firms in the UK with a turnover of more than £12m. He has completed nearly 50 deals since he set up the website 'webuyanyfiles.co.uk' in 2011, enabling other law firms that wanted to leave personal injury and clinical negligence work to move their cases to Hudgell Solicitors. Around 6,000 files have been bought, at a cost of £5 million.

This was backed up by Hudgell Solicitors securing a landmark Court of Appeal ruling, in the case of Budana, that a "no win, no fee" agreement can be validly transferred from one law firm to another.

Another case of widespread significance was Porter v Barts Health NHS Trust. This concerned an interim award of £2.4m for a 12-year-old girl severely disabled by errors made during birth. The law on damages for so-called 'accommodation' claims had been upset by the change in the personal injury discount rate, but the judge found a way through to award our client what she needed to buy and adapt a new home for her needs.

This continued success led to nominations for the Law Firm of the Year at the Yorkshire Law Awards, and both Claimant Personal Injury and

Clinical Negligence Team of the Year at the Eclipse Proclaim Personal Injury Awards.

Our work with Thomas, featured later in this review, saw Hudgell Solicitors shortlisted in the Rehabilitation First Awards, which recognise the very best rehabilitation support provided to those most in need. We were named in the collaboration category for Rehabilitation Initiative of the Year, recognising the role insurer Hastings Direct played in his recovery.



There was even more success at the 2017 Modern Claims Awards, where our civil liberties and human rights specialist Andrew Petherbridge was named the Rising Star of the claims profession. The firm was also highly commended in the Law Firm of the Year category.

Andrew's success came on the back of his work in many high-profile cases, such as for the families of the four victims of murderer Stephen Port. Andrew has grown the practice quickly and with skill, and was joined last year by new recruit Cyralia Davies Knight as deputy head of civil liberties to extend the practice to London.

Cyralia has experience of working on behalf of families who lost loved ones in the Hillsborough disaster, and also acted for the mother and children of Mark Duggan, whose death at the hands of the police sparked the 2011 London riots.

Another senior new recruit was Paul McClorry, brought in to develop our travel litigation business, assisting victims of serious illness and accidents abroad. Paul previously headed up internationally renowned travel litigation teams at other leading law firms.



We were also very pleased to bring in Jodi Newton, who has great experience not only in handling serious medical negligence injuries, but in running claims departments. Josie Robinson, who specialises in sports injuries, and Malcolm Johnson, with his expertise in the sensitive but vital field of child abuse and safeguarding issues.



Congratulations go to Samuel McFadyen and Matthew Tuff, who reached the rank of Senior Litigator as assessed by the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers. In addition, Samuel has been shortlisted for the Unsung Claims Hero of the Year award at The Claims Awards 2018, in recognition of his work in ensuring his clients benefit from the very best rehabilitation support.



It is invidious to pick out the work of individuals when so many of our staff do such great work, but Renu Daly and Victoria Neale do deserve a special mention. They have done superb work supporting the victims of sexual abuse and working with them to publicise what has happened and the measures needed to prevent such crimes recurring.

The work they have each done has helped many more victims come forward and get the support they need. Our help has helped them find some closure from what happened to them.





## OUR CASES

# Supporting and campaigning with a mother who lost her baby boy

We acted for Gaynor McConnell in a tragic case where she lost her baby boy to meningitis due to mistakes made by hospital doctors.

Cayden McConnell had been born with spina bifida and was placed under the care of neurosurgeons at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridgeshire. Despite this, Gaynor was told there were no major concerns over his health.

But Cayden had been constantly ill throughout his short life, suffering from repeated infections and flu-like colds, so much so that his mother was convinced something more serious was wrong. Doctors dismissed these as being common illnesses.

Even after Cayden overcame a first bout of meningitis at four months, no further treatment was provided despite a tumour on his spine. Treatment at that point would have made a return of the illness very unlikely. Instead, 10 months later, he contracted meningitis again and died.

After we took legal action, the hospital eventually admitted that it failed to take appropriate medical action which would have prevented the second bout of meningitis.

Gaynor, from Manchester, decided to share her story, and pictures showing Cayden fighting for his life in hospital, in the hope it would make other parents demand more from doctors when a child was repeatedly ill for an extended period of time. Her story was covered widely in newspapers and she appeared on the Victoria Derbyshire Show on BBC1. We also helped Gaynor set up a Facebook awareness page and website.

"Losing Cayden has made me feel passionate about the need to better educate parents about meningitis and the many different strains of it, how to look out for them and how dangerous they can be. Cayden had the warning signs which sadly the doctors ignored," she says.

"It was never about compensation, it was about getting answers and I wouldn't have got the answers as to why Cayden died if it wasn't for Hudgegill Solicitors and Renu Daly in particular. She has been there to support me all the way and has worked around the clock to hold people to account and get the full story. I can't speak highly enough of Hudgegill Solicitors. They have been there for me when I needed them.

"We light candles for Cayden and have a birthday cake on what would be his birthday, and we always light candles and release balloons on the anniversary of his death. We shouldn't be doing this though - he should be here. Our memories and this are all we have been left with."

"Renu Daly has been there to support me all the way and has worked around the clock to hold people to account and get the full story."

# The importance of rehabilitation

We have a particular commitment to early rehabilitation so that our clients can make the best of their new circumstances and get on with their lives.

When our client Thomas was hit by a car on a pedestrian crossing, his life was forever changed in an instant. Aged 26 at the time, he had a busy social life, working as an assistant manager in a city centre cocktail bar and spending the majority of his time in the company of others.

Thomas suffered a head injury, chest injury, fractured ribs and pneumothorax, fractured left tibia and fibula, a fractured left scapular, damage to the liver and a perforated bowel. When eventually leaving hospital two months after his accident, Thomas found himself isolated and alone in his city centre Birmingham flat.

He was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder and was suffering from a high degree of anxiety. His speech was affected, leaving him with a bad stutter, and he had problems with memory, organisation and planning, each of which had a major impact on his life and his recovery prospects at that stage.

Hudgell Solicitors took on Thomas' case from another law firm and, at that stage, rehabilitation support had been minimal. As his physical treatment continued, it was clear he required a complete package of emotional and psychological support.

We sought support from the outset from the driver's insurer to cover the costs of rehabilitation. Despite liability for the accident not being admitted at that stage, the insurer agreed to put the needs of Thomas first and cover the cost of his full rehabilitation.

With advice from a specialist rehabilitation case manager, a dedicated team of supporting specialists was established to ensure Thomas had the support he required in all aspects of his life.

Almost four years on from his accident, Thomas has made remarkable progress. He is now in the second year of a degree course in occupational therapy at Coventry University and hopes to use his qualification and experience to help others in similar situations in the future.

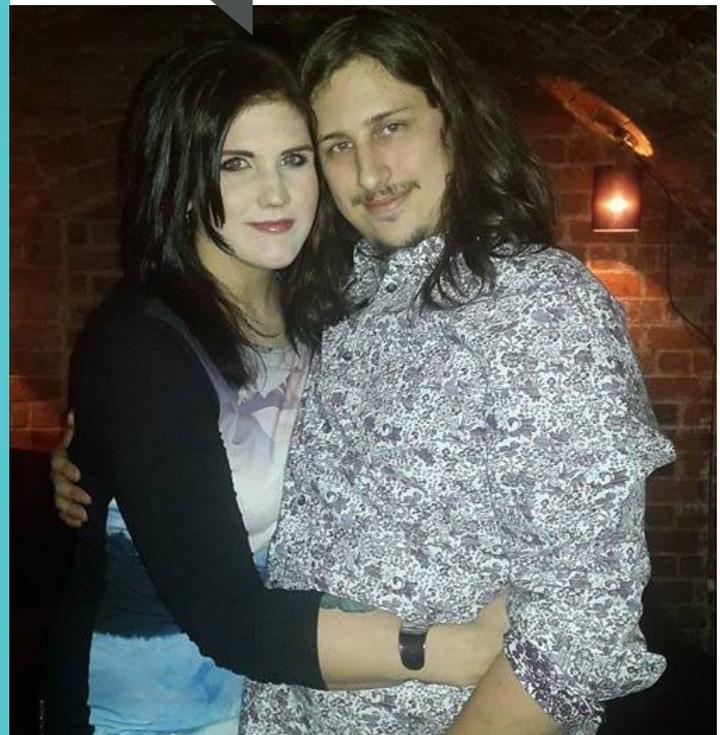
Despite the huge progress, Thomas's physical injuries are still impacting on him today – he recently had further surgery on his leg – and his psychological struggles continue too.

Thomas says: "After four very difficult years, I do feel positive now. The support I have received has been fantastic. It has actually helped me to identify a new goal in my life and given me a career ambition to become an occupational therapist, which I would never have considered before having my accident.

"Without doubt the speech and language therapy has been crucial to my recovery and confidence. I know I still face many difficulties ahead and due to the impact of my injuries many aspects of my life are uncertain, but I am looking forward now."

Thomas' partner, Eve, adds: "Without the support Tom has benefitted from as a result of his legal claim, he would not have been where he is today. Motivation has been a key part of his recovery, as at times his motivation has dropped, but all those around him have been there to lift him.

"He now wants to go out every day and push himself. This would never have been possible without all of the support he has had from Hudgell Solicitors and all of those involved in his case."





“When Hudgell Solicitors and Samuel McFadyen was assigned to my case, everything started to happen. Everything I needed was taken into consideration and provided for me.”

## Providing hope for the future after serious injury

Hudgell Solicitors is working with Aviva Insurance to ensure a complete package of at-home rehabilitation support is being provided to 57-year-old Angela Menzies, after she suffered life-changing injuries in a road traffic accident.

Solicitor Samuel McFadyen has coordinated a personal injury claim on her behalf, with Aviva representing the defendant, agreeing from an early stage and before any liability was admitted to fully fund rehabilitation costs and provide an extensive package of physical, psychological and financial support.

This collaboration – which led to the early appointment of a dedicated case manager from a specialist rehabilitation provider – has ensured complete focus has been placed on helping Angela make the best possible recovery.

Angela, of Leeds, broke both legs, both her knees and hips and nine ribs in the head-on road accident. She also fractured her pelvis, sternum, right clavicle, toes, punctured her lung and suffered tissue damage to her stomach.

She spent more than four months in hospital and was in an induced coma for a month. It was clear that her family’s three-bedroom semi-detached home was not suitable; she needed immediate help as she was confined to her living room sofa day and night, and suffering from night terrors linked to the accident.

In consultation with Aviva and the case manager, various adaptations were made to the home, to help Angela gradually develop more

independence. She was also referred to psychological services and occupational therapy. All issues impacting on her quality of life and recovery were considered, including bed positioning, pain management, kitchen activities, and personal care and hygiene.

Although still facing further surgery and a long recovery period, Angela is now comfortable at home and in a very positive frame of mind about her future recovery, having made tremendous progress over the past 12 months. She is now able to access her full home and is back sleeping in a bed upstairs, and not on the sofa.

A specially purchased self-powered wheelchair that raises and tilts has given her much more independence, enabling her to get into her kitchen and reach worktops. Indeed, such has been the progress that she has made, she was able to make Christmas dinner for her entire family in 2017 – a major milestone in her recovery.

Although doctors have not yet been able to give assurances, Angela is now in a frame of mind where she is determined to walk unaided again, and return to work.

Angela says: “When I called Hudgell Solicitors and Samuel McFadyen was assigned to my case, everything started to happen for me all of a sudden. Everything I needed was taken into consideration and provided for me. Every detail has been taken into consideration for me and Samuel is always in contact with me checking that all is as should be and whether I need anything.”

# Ensuring employer was held to account for accident at work

Sadly, accidents at work are still very common and in 2017 we represented a man who suffered a serious accident at work but, then faced accusations from the business involved that he was making up the claim.

Our client was a 48-year-old painter sub contracted to work on the inside of a modular unit standing on a 'step up' to reach the ceiling. Surprised by sparks suddenly coming through a hole in the wall, our client fell backwards

An independent medical expert concluded he had suffered a 'massive rotator cuff tear' of tendons and ligaments in his shoulder as a result, causing a long-term injury preventing him working above shoulder height again. When the case was heard in court, a judge was satisfied by evidence provided by Hudgell Solicitors supporting the worker and ruled that the painter and decorator be awarded £320,000.

Our specialist personal injury solicitor Leanne Stephenson described the approach from the employer as 'appalling'. The firm sought to hide from its responsibilities leaving a man unable to work at all for two years after the accident, and unable to return to a job he had done for 25 years.

The legal claim alleged the firm had failed to carry out appropriate risk assessments and had failed to provide a safe system or place to work, and exposed him to 'foreseeable risk of injury' by allowing him to decorate inside a unit on which cutting work was being conducted on the exterior.

In court, the judge ruled the firm had failed to protect the worker by having suitable safety measures in place, and had ultimately been at fault for the accident, and the end of the man's ability to work.

## An overview from our Chief Executive, Amanda Stevens



I had high hopes for the firm after becoming chief executive in May 2017, but still did not expect the pace of positive improvement that we have achieved in the past 12 months.

Hudgell Solicitors had to change – not because there was anything wrong, but because of the amount of reform forced onto the world of litigation by an unsympathetic government.

The firm's 20th anniversary also provided a good time for reflection, and out of this, we have implemented a new strategy based on five core themes.

First, quite simply, we wish to see ongoing growth through taking on more cases. To do that we have actively recruited senior solicitors with loyal clients, as well as continuing the success of the [webuyanyfiles.co.uk](http://webuyanyfiles.co.uk) initiative to take on cases from those leaving the personal injury and clinical negligence market. We also want to help staff develop their business development skills.

This leads to the second pillar: engagement and staff development. Everyone wants to be valued and listened to, and we have worked hard to make sure that, as a management team, we do both. Whether it's naming an employee of the month or introducing the Ideas Box – which has seen staff put forward more than 150 practical ways to improve what we do – we want our staff to know that communication is genuinely a two-way process.

Staff are also involved with managers in a variety of project groups, ranging from reviewing our overheads to improving the quality of our advocacy in courts and tribunals. A culture of continual improvement is vital.

Third, we have introduced a new management structure. Hudgell Solicitors has reached a size where you need a strong senior management team as a key building block for further growth. The lawyers also need to be sure that they have high-level support; recruiting the likes of Denise Kitchener, a renowned figure in the legal world, as our new head of business development, is testament to that.

The fourth pillar has been building on our IT platform, recognising that – as government proposes to cut legal fees – some areas of work will become increasingly process driven to ensure they remain viable.

This is linked to the fifth, profitability. We are reviewing everything we do, from supplier contracts and internal efficiencies, to what and how we charge our clients. This does not mean higher prices – and indeed may lead to some lower prices – but ensuring that we have a sustainable business that can continue to work for the communities it serves.

Already I believe that Hudgell Solicitors has a very different look and feel as a result of the new strategy. It has been an exciting time, made possible by Neil's leadership and positive forward-thinking and staff who are committed to their clients. I am sure we have very positive, successful and exciting times ahead.

# Hudgell in the news



**INDEPENDENT**

**Stephen Port: 'Damning' report on investigation into deaths of Grindr serial killer expected to find multiple failures and missed opportunities**



**Catford custody death man's family 'want answers'**



**'Tremendous victory' for PI claimants over transferred claim**

**The Guardian**

**Gwyn Williams accused of racist bullying by fourth former Chelsea player**



**'Extremely active' grandmother, 71, died following a routine operation when her blundering surgeon put in a heart valve upside down**



**Decorator paid £320,000 compensation after work accident ends his career**



**£14.3m settlement for boy left brain damaged after Hemel Hempstead Hospital failures**



**'I WILL NEVER FORGIVE DOCTORS'** Devastated mum releases heartbreaking last picture of her 14-month-old son who died from meningitis after 'multiple failings' by medics

# Hudgell

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