



About BLM

Clear concise advice



'The firm delivers consistently,
with substantial depth of
knowledge and prompt
response times.'

Chambers & Partners 2010

Berrymans Lace Mawer LLP
is in the 'premier league,
covering all lines of business
for general insurance with
coverage for the whole of
England and Wales.'

Legal 500, 2009

www.blm-law.com

Solicitors with offices in Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Southampton and Stockton-on-Tees. Berrymans Lace Mawer is a trading name of Berrymans Lace Mawer LLP, a limited liability partnership registered in England under number OC340981, which is regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and accredited to quality standards ISO 9001 and Lexcel. The registered office is at King's House, 42 King Street West, Manchester M3 2NU where a list of members is available for inspection. Information is correct at the time of release.

About the firm

Delivering clear concise advice

Berrymans Lace Mawer LLP (BLM) is a leading national law firm, renowned for its dispute resolution and insurance expertise. Clients are drawn from across the commercial sector, FTSE 100 companies, the insurance industry, professional services, local authorities and other public sector organisations. It is these clients that help drive BLM's ambition to be a leader in its field, working in partnership with businesses by providing a seamless service to help them achieve their goals. The firm's commitment and determination has led to its description in independent legal directories and client surveys as a firm that has its finger on the 'pulse of the market'.

BLM provides an extensive range of legal services in almost 50 areas of law, grouped broadly into nine market sectors: business and legal risk services, construction and property, healthcare, insurance and indemnity, leisure, media and technology, public sector, retail, and transport.

BLM offers a truly national presence and unified partnership in Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Southampton and Stockton-on-Tees. The firm is over 1,200 strong, with over 120 partners and more than 500 additional legal professionals.

In addition to receiving an excellent legal service, of increasing importance to our clients is that we keep them informed of policy, regulatory and legislative consultations and assist them in participating in the debate on reform proposals. We take an early and proactive approach which means we can work closely with clients so they understand the likely outcomes and impacts on their businesses and can plan accordingly.



Our vision

Our vision is to be recognised as the most progressive legal firm that:

- leads the field in all aspects of our practice
- understands what drives our clients' business
- delivers practical legal advice that makes our clients more competitive.

We value

- People working in partnership.
- Practical experience.
- Entrepreneurial solutions.
- Acting with integrity.
- Communicating effectively.
- Developing the law.

Expertise

Over a century of quality, diligence and technical excellence has ensured that our firm can continue to build a strong reputation with clients and establish a flourishing dispute-resolution practice – one of the largest in the UK and among the top two working in insurance law according to *Post Magazine's* 2008 Defendant Law Firm rankings.

We provide a range of services in addition to insurance which are grouped into a portfolio for each of the following market sectors:

- Business and legal risk services.
- Construction & property.
- Healthcare.
- Insurance & indemnity.
- Leisure.
- Media & technology.
- Public sector.
- Retail.
- Transport.



What we do by sector

Business and legal risk services

We help our clients to comply with increasingly prescriptive regulatory requirements, the demands of good corporate governance and to defend themselves against a range of threats to their businesses.

For businesses facing a broad range of issues, we deliver sound legal solutions that meet the commercial goals of mitigating risk, reducing liability and avoiding litigation wherever possible.

We understand the market and regulatory forces at work in our clients' business areas and work with them, where appropriate, to make representations to industry bodies, regulators and government policymakers.

Construction & property

Our specialist teams deal with a range of issues from the initial contracts covering construction or refurbishment, to the occupation of a built structure. Construction remains a dangerous business, and our group calls on expertise from colleagues to handle health and safety, personal injury, recovery and policy interpretation issues.

As the pressure grows to build more houses – many on brownfield sites – environmental considerations are

increasingly important. The property insurance and recovery team works with property and all-risks insurers on issues of policy interpretation and recovery.

Claims vary from multi-million-pound cases to much smaller disputes, and the team delivers cost-effective results by choosing the best dispute-resolution technique whether it be adjudication, arbitration, negotiation or litigation.

Healthcare

Chambers & Partners describes our department as being appreciated by clients for its thorough and diligent approach to cases, demonstrating its 'willingness to get to grips with issues' and its provision of 'clear and helpful advice'.

Our breadth of experience is reflected by the diverse range of clients which includes clinical negligence indemnifiers, Royal Colleges, complementary medicine practitioners, private hospitals and clinics and their insurers.

The team defends healthcare professionals facing clinical negligence claims across all practice areas. On the disciplinary side we represent healthcare professionals before Primary Care Trusts and the Family Health Service Appeal Authority, General Medical Council, General Dental Council, Health Professions Council, General Optical Council, psychotherapy and counselling regulators and complementary healthcare regulators.



Outstanding
client care and
cost-efficient,
high-quality work.
Chambers &
Partners 2010

Insurance & indemnity

We have a well-established reputation within the insurance sector. Our insurance specialists are regularly called upon to advise clients in relation to policy drafting, scope of coverage and indemnity issues, including issues of non-disclosure, misrepresentation and fraud. Our professional indemnity team is described in *Chambers & Partners* as having 'a strong reputation in the professional indemnity arena'. Expertise covers the widest possible selection of professions, going beyond the traditional core of solicitors and accountants to include barristers, surveyors, engineering professionals, insurance brokers and estate agents.

What makes us unique is the breadth of expertise: we combine a genuinely national and international capability with breadth and depth of experience.

Clients include all the major insurers, Lloyd's syndicates, brokers, loss adjusters and other insurance intermediaries. We are increasingly working with large self-insured enterprises (FTSE 100 companies and government departments). They come to us for a market-leading service that has expertise, innovation and awareness of commercial realities as its cornerstones.

Leisure

Whilst increasing its dominance of the UK economy, this service sector has also attracted increased levels of litigation. Claims

The advice given
by the partners is
always first-rate.

Chambers &
Partners 2010



can be broadly categorised into industrial injuries, food safety issues, public liability, robberies and accidents involving leisure equipment.

We work for many organisations in both the public and private sectors including children's theme parks, international hotel chains, local authority leisure centres, national catering suppliers, public houses and restaurant chains.

Media & technology

Communication and the movement of electronic information is becoming more widespread and faster through email, mobile technology and the internet. The law is moving at an equally rapid pace.

As access to information and the storage and use of information expands, the dangers of falling foul of the Data Protection Act increase. Our specialists can advise not only on the strict requirements of the law but also on best practice in the storage and use of data.

In addition to data protection, the team specialises in the related areas of privacy, defamation, intellectual property and freedom of information.

Public sector

The public sector attracts its fair share of claims from those seeking redress from providers of education, social services,

social housing, policing and a host of other services.

Perhaps too much has to be taken from operational budgets to meet the increasing cost of settling claims. Given the broad range of potential claims, the public sector will have to factor in settlements as a significant expenditure item in all future budget planning.

Whilst claims can never be completely eliminated, they can be significantly reduced by adopting best practice and using experienced lawyers to provide a legal perspective on risk management.

Our dedicated group is experienced in handling claims brought against various departments of local government. We provide a national and local service backed by the collective experience of working with clients in the public sector across the country.

Retail

The team has a wealth of experience dealing with claims brought against businesses operating in this sector. The

requirements of the insured and their insurers go far beyond litigation and procedural matters, so as well as legal expertise, our specialists also provide advice on health and safety issues, risk management, human resources and training.

We develop a dynamic working relationship with our clients (and their insurers) to ensure the smooth running of claims and the best commercial outcome. We work for a broad range of retail organisations covering fast-food outlets, major national high street chains and supermarkets.

Transport

The UK's transportation network is vast and diverse. It covers public transport in the form of the overland and underground railways, airlines, buses and coaches, as well as private transportation of people and goods on land, sea and air.

Strong links have been forged with both public and private transport operators resulting in extensive experience in handling their claims. Therefore our

national presence means that we are ideally placed to offer legal solutions for transportation-related issues.

Our experienced and motivated team offers a service that can equally and easily deal with individual claims, class actions or catastrophic accidents.

More information

We serve each of the sectors by offering a diverse range of expertise in the areas detailed below.

For further information please visit:

www.blm-law.com

or contact:

linda.coppell@blm-law.com

or call Linda on:

0151 471 5477

Areas of expertise

Abuse

Adjudication

Arbitration

Catastrophic injury

Claimant services

Claims management

Clinical negligence

Commercial litigation

Construction

Costs

Data protection

Debt recovery

Defamation

Disciplinary

Education

Electoral law

Employers' liability

Employment

Environment

Fraud

Freedom of information

Group actions

Housing

Inquiries

Insurance & re-insurance

Intellectual property

Legal risk services

Leisure

Local authorities

Mediation

Motor

Occupational disease

Police/emergency services

Policy development

Privacy

Product liability

Product management

Professional discipline

Professional negligence

Property insurance and recovery

Public law

Public liability

Retail

RTA prosecutions

Safety, Health & Environment

Stress and harassment

Transport





Our history

Our practice today is the result of the 1997 merger of Berrymans with Lace Mawer, followed by the 2003 incorporation of Jackson's Insurance Law.

The origins of the firm date back to the 18th century, when Joshua Lace gave his name to an already established law firm in Liverpool. In 1901, Frederic Berryman began the practice of Berrymans in the City of London and, in 1946, Arthur Mawer founded AW Mawer & Co in Manchester.

From the very beginning the founding firms were steeped in insurance law practices.

This remains true today. BLM is one of the largest insurance law firms in the country with 95% of turnover from dispute resolution and litigation relating to insurance matters.



Contact details for an in-depth discussion on any of our services

Terry Renouf, BLM London - *national senior partner*, terry.renouf@blm-law.com or 020 7638 2811

Birmingham

Christopher Wiggin, *senior partner*

chris.wiggin@blm-law.com

63 Temple Row

Birmingham

B2 5LS

T 0121 643 8777

F 0121 643 4909

Bristol

Matthew Harrington, *senior partner*

matthew.harrington@blm-law.com

Broad Quay House

Prince Street

Bristol BS1 4DJ

T 0117 975 8649

F 0117 905 8810

Cardiff

Matthew Harrington, *senior partner*

matthew.harrington@blm-law.com

23 Neptune Court

Vanguard Way

Cardiff CF24 5PJ

T 02920 447 667

F 02920 489 041

Leeds

Christopher Coughlin, *senior partner*

chris.coughlin@blm-law.com

Park Row House

19–20 Park Row

Leeds LS1 5JF

T 0113 236 2002

F 0113 244 2002

Liverpool

David Evans, *senior partner*

david.evans@blm-law.com

Castle Chambers

43 Castle Street

Liverpool L2 9SU

T 0151 236 2002

F 0151 236 2585

London

Gary Allison, *senior partner*

gary.allison@blm-law.com

Salisbury House

London Wall

London EC2M 5QN

T 020 7638 2811

F 020 7920 0361

Manchester

Jonathan Clay, *senior partner*

jonathan.clay@blm-law.com

King's House

42 King Street West

Manchester M3 2NU

T 0161 236 2002

F 0161 832 7956

Southampton

Andrew Hibbert, *senior partner*

andrew.hibbert@blm-law.com

2 Charlotte Place

Southampton

SO14 0TB

T 023 8023 6464

F 023 8023 6117

Stockton-on-Tees

Tony Walton, *senior partner*

tony.walton@blm-law.com

Innovation House

Yarm Road

Stockton-on-Tees TS18 3TN

T 01642 661 630

F 01642 661 631



BLM accreditations



Berrymans Lace Mawer is a trading name of Berrymans Lace Mawer LLP which is regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority and accredited to quality standards ISO 9001 and Lexcel



This booklet is printed in line with BLM's environmental policy.
Visit www.blm-law.com for electronic copies.



publication

Josh Marks

CarbonNeutral.com

CO₂ emissions reduced to net zero in accordance with The CarbonNeutral Protocol



Mixed Sources

Product group from well-managed forests and other controlled sources
www.fsc.org Cert no. SGS-COC-0620
© 1996 Forest Stewardship Council

Offices

Birmingham

Bristol

Cardiff

Leeds

Liverpool

London

Manchester

Southampton

Stockton-on-Tees

www.blm-law.com

