

# THE LEGAL BRIEF

## Top News Stories of the Month

**F**urther 15,000 cuts announced by Airbus, including 1,700 jobs in the UK (**Daily Telegraph, Alan Tovey**) and Easyjet to close bases at Stansted, Southend and Newcastle airports and cut 2,000 staff (**The Times, Robert Lea**). *The restrictions of COVID-19 continues to deter holiday-goers and evaporates all demand for air-travel. These businesses will need to wait out to benefit from the uptick of demand that will eventually come post-lockdown. However, it is not only plane manufacturers and airlines which are suffering, but those that supply and support them will also struggle in the meantime.*

**R**ishi Sunak unveils £2bn grant ‘kickstart scheme’ to support young people and avoid youth jobless disaster. As part of this, the Treasury plans to pay the minimum wage for up to 300,000 people aged 16-24 for six months starting from next month (**Financial Times, George Parker and Chris Giles**). *Due to the heavy impact of COVID-19 on certain sectors in the UK which are primarily dominated by young workers, under-25s are said to be suffering more than the older generation.*

**S**eventeen City law firms pledge to ‘identify and attack’ career obstacles facing BAME lawyers by using data analysis to improve the recruitment and retention rates of black, asian and ethnic minority lawyers (**Legal Cheek, Adam Mawardi**). *In light of the recent BLM movements across the globe, some of the UK’s top City law firms are taking action to reduce inequalities across all levels of the firm. Using “data-driven techniques”, diversity specialist Rare Recruitment will monitor and analyse the legal career journeys of BAME lawyers - from recruitment to senior promotion. This data can then be used to “identify and attack the points at which BAME lawyers are unfairly falling behind their peers”.*



**U**S investors try to buy TikTok from Chinese owner. These investors, led by venture capital (VC) firms General Atlantic and Sequoia Capital, are in discussion with the US Treasury and other regulators about buying out TikTok from ByteDance and firewalling it, leaving the Chinese owner with a minority stake and non-voting shares (**Financial Times, Henry Sender, Arash Massoudi, Miles Kruppa and Hannah Murphy**). *On the weekend of 18th July, Donald Trump’s election campaign placed ads on Facebook suggesting that TikTok (and therefore, China) were “spying” on US users, a claim which*

*ByteDance has denied. In the same week the House voted to ban federal employees from downloading TikTok onto government-issued phones to protect their data. If the US investors are successful, they will have control of one of the most popular tech right now, furthering their dominance in this market.*

**F**ormula One strikes Zoom deal in bet on virtual corporate hospitality. Zoom, the video meeting platform are making their first move into creating a virtual substitute for the corporate hospitality business, Paddock Club, that disappeared during lockdown. This business generated \$358m of F1's \$2bn revenue in 2019 with some tickets costing \$3,800 for two days. However, Zoom's new initiative doesn't intend to replace the Club, but will offer benefits such as virtual access to certain locations, the ability to vote in polls and hear the F1 drivers and management across the weekend (**Financial Times, Samuel Agini**). *This idea has potential to generate an audience base now from which it may grow in the future, demonstrating that there may be more growth potential in other sports if businesses can develop new ways to give fans access.*

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## **BPP - Baffling, Pandemic, Panic**

**T**he recent and over-whelming demand for a refund from the legal educator, BPP, has not gone unnoticed. Unsurprisingly, these students have stated they were "dissatisfied" with BPP's programme management and charging full fees during the pandemic. As a result, many have developed mistrust and a sense of anxiety towards the acclaimed law school.

The sense of panic started in the escalation of COVID-19 where class sizes had multiplied more than expected: from 15 students to 70 students. Additionally, after starting SFH (studying from home), LPC and Master's students claimed to have faced further issues when attempting to study as they had not been provided physical copies of the teaching materials. On the other hand, its competitor, The University of Law, successfully managed to ensure their LPC students had received their materials on time with no further expense.

Making matters worse, the move to online exams did not go as smoothly as planned. After several IT failures and irregular responses from the law school staff, students were left with severe anxiety. Understanding the frustration of LPC students having to chase their teaching materials whilst dealing with exams, job searching and training contract applications, BPP's inefficient management deserves to be addressed appropriately.

The crucial and fundamental point here is that these students are being demanded to pay for a service that was not adequately provided. Being a long-established law school, BPP should be well informed about the particular pressure students face during their studies, especially during the period of results interval. Taking a contrary approach and threatening to withhold the results of students who have been unable to complete payment for their tuition fees is an unfair commodity.

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**'Students have stated they were "dissatisfied" with BPP's programme management.'**

## Recent Job Opportunities

### 1 PQE Private Equity Associate - Top US Firm

*The new hire will join the private equity team in London. You will receive a varied workload and whilst working within a small and close-knit team in London, your individual input will be valued. The London private equity team also works closely with other departments in London and throughout Europe and the United States.*

**Location:** London, UK

**Job Type:** Full time



### 4-6 PQE Private Equity Associate - Top US Firm

*Searching for an associate with lots of relevant Private Equity experience; bit of a self-starter; Business Development Skills; Associates who want a challenge; Hard-working entrepreneurial Associate.*

**Location:** London, UK

**Job type:** Full time

### Elite US Law Firm - Leveraged Finance - 2-4 PE

*The team advise a range of market participants on leveraged finance deals including private equity sponsors and funds. The Global Finance team is made up of over 20 Partners and fee-earners and focuses on sponsor and borrower-side work.*

**Location:** London, UK

**Job Type:** Full time

### White Shoe Law Firm - Private Funds Associate - 2-4 PQE

*The practice has a broad spread however is renowned for private equity fund formation and fundraising. The practice's strategy is to continue to develop the international element of the practice, often with a focus on the emerging markets.*

**Location:** London, UK

**Job Type:** Full time

### TMT Associate - 0-3 PQE

*This ambitious Associate will join the highly regarded TMT team in London. You will receive a varied workload within IP, IT, Commercial Contracts and Data Protection, whilst working within a small and close-knit team in London, your individual input will be valued. The London TMT team also works closely with other departments in London and throughout Europe and the United States.*

**Location:** London UK

**Job Type:** Full time

### Construction Associate Non-Contentious 1-4 PQE

*This opportunity comes with business development opportunities; hands-on varied workload; impressive clientele; flexible lifestyle balance; progression and promotion opportunities; award winning culture.*

**Location:** London, UK

**Job Type:** Full time

**4 - 6PQE Private Equity Associate**

*The new hire will join the private equity team in London. You will receive a varied workload and whilst working within a small and close-knit team in London, your individual input will be valued. The London private equity team also works closely with other departments in London and throughout Europe and the United States.*

**Location:** London, UK

**Job Type:** Full time

**Elite US Law Firm - Leveraged Finance - 2-4 PE**

*The firm are leaders with extraordinary win records who are seeking a Junior (1-3 PQE) Associate to join their well established International Arbitration group. Requirements include stellar academics, experiences in (both/either or) Commercial Arbitration & Investment Treaty, and languages are preferred.*

**Location:** London, UK

**Job Type:** Full time

## “We Are More Than Legal Recruitment”

- THE KISSOON CARR TEAM

For more information, please see our website <https://www.kissooncarr.com/jobs/> and get in touch with us.

**IP/Commercial Associate 0-2 PQE - US Powerhouse**

**Location:** London, UK

**Job Type:** Full time

**International Arbitration (commercial & investment treaty) & Litigation - 2-6 PQE US Disputes Powerhouse**

**Location:** London, UK

**Job Type:** Full time

## Rob's Regards

### FAILURE AND LEARNING TO LIVE WITH FAILURE

**B**elieve it or not, I have failed, and continue to fail, a lot. I'm not afraid to admit it. My first attempt at recording the Legally Speaking Podcast was a complete and utter flop, and during my first recruitment job I was one of the weakest performers in my team. However, I follow my passions, refuse to give up and will always strive to learn and improve.

As we have seen from recent new stories, many current businesses are also struggling to succeed under the current circumstances. Failure may seem like the obvious path right now. But individuals and businesses must not lose hope. Normality will resume (even if our view of 'normal' has evolved ever-so-slightly) and businesses who have adapted to these new changes — and continue to develop with them — will see an uptick in sales and growth. Striving to learn, develop and improve is key to long term success.

“Believe it or not, I fail a lot... However, I follow my passions, refuse to give up and will always strive to learn and improve.”

- ROBERT HANNA, FOUNDER OF KISSOON CARR

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