



Association
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Lawyers



PR update report

Monthly report: July/August 2026

3 pages

Summary:

The summer months of July and August have been no less busy for ACL activity, with a mixture of reactive press comment and our ongoing PR work.

The costs aspects of Prince Harry's case against the *Daily Mail* was fruitful, with comment drafted on behalf of David Bailey-Vella in the wake of the substantive ruling covered by *City AM*, *The Times* and *Solicitors Journal*. More comment was issued following the costs judgment and was published in *The Guardian* and *The Times* and also reported by the Press Association (PA) newswire. As a result of PA, the ACL received more than 120 mentions in publications in the UK and around the world. We even got close to an appearance on the BBC 6 O'Clock News!

Elsewhere, a press release regarding the ACL's response to the CJC consultation on reforms to the *Solicitors Act 1974* was picked up by *Legal Futures*, *New Law Journal* and *Solicitors Journal*.

We have worked with Council members to deliver our regular schedule of commissioned articles for *Litigation Funding*, *Thomson Reuters Dispute Resolution Blog* and *New Law Journal*. We also continued outreach to ACL members to produce case studies for the ACL website, with one new case study interview with Mark Carlisle of Checkmylegalfees completed, currently being drafted and others in the pipeline.

The finishing touches were put on plans for September's annual roundtable event, with the logistics and attendees confirmed. We will also present our Annual PR Presentation to Council in late September.

Releases/comments:

Daily Mail v Prince Harry, part 2 – the battle for legal costs, release drafted and distributed on 8/7.

ACL proposes alternative to Legal Ombudsman taking on costs disputes, release drafted and distributed on 21/7.

Daily Mail v Prince Harry – now for the legal costs, release drafted and distributed on 28/7.

Comment on the *Daily Mail v Prince Harry* costs ruling, drafted and distributed on 21/8.

Coverage:

[City AM](#) (9/7)

[The Times](#) (9/7)



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[Solicitors Journal](#) (22/7)

[New Law Journal](#) (23/7)

[Solicitors Journal](#) (29/7)

[El Balad](#) (29/7)

[New Law Journal](#) (31/7)

[Edward Fennell's Legal Diary](#) (31/7)

Litigation Funding (Aug) – PDF only

[Thomson Reuters Practical Law](#) (13/8)

[City AM](#) (21/8)

PA News (21/8) – email only

[The Guardian](#) (21/8)

[The Times](#) (21/8)

[The Standard](#) (21/8)

[Legal Futures](#) (25/8)

[New Law Journal](#) (25/8)

+ 121 pieces of coverage using Prince Harry comment – can detail on request

Additional activity:

1/7: Corresponded with potential ACL website case study (Sarah Tatton). She is waiting for internal approvals from her firm.

1/7: Corresponded with editor of *Litigation Funding* re: ACL's response to CJC consultation on *Solicitors Act* reforms. ACL will be submitting a response closer to the consultation closing date (16/7)

7/7: Liaising with *Thomson Reuters* Dispute Resolution blog to confirm August ACL article topic.

8/7: Liaising with *Litigation Funding* to confirm August ACL article topic.

10/7: Further suggested names for roundtable distributed to DVB/CC.

13/7: Confirmed article topic and deadline for *Thomson Reuters* Dispute Resolution ACL article.

13/7: Rescheduling ACL website case study (Mike Renville). MR has suggested August dates.

13/7: Scheduled PRAM meeting for August.

13/7: Liaising with *New Law Journal* to confirm August/September article topic.



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14/7: Suggested additional names for roundtable agreed and invites sent.

20/7: Sent chasers for roundtable.

20/7: Contacted two new potential case studies (Joanne Powell and Simon Fisher)

21/7: Contacted potential case study (Mark Carlisle)

21/7: Corresponded with editor of *Litigation Funding* re: ACL's response to CJC consultation, providing details of ACL's response.

27/7: Edited *New Law Journal* August/September article draft.

28/7: Confirmed date for annual roundtable on 15/9 and informed all contributors.

28/7: Edited August/September article for *New Law Journal* for VMH. Sent to VMH on 29/7.

29/7: Contacted potential case study (Mark Carlisle) to arrange interview, planned for mid-August.

30/7: Further work on VMH's *New Law Journal* article and sent for internal approval.

30/7: Followed up with potential case studies (Joanne Powell and Simon Fisher).

31/7: Received and edited JR's August article for *Thomson Reuters Dispute Resolution Blog*. Final copy to be filed 3/8. Liaised with editor.

3/8: Final version of JR's article sent to *Thomson Reuters Dispute Resolution Blog*.

10/8: Followed up with potential case study (Mark Carlisle).

17/8: Spoke to CC re: apprenticeships and agreed to update holding statement to reflect current position.

18/8: Updated statement sent to CC on apprenticeships for approval.

19/8: Sent feedback to NN on *Litigation Funding* draft.

19/8: Interviewed website case study Mark Carlisle.

24/8: Liaised with producer for *BBC Six O'Clock News*, for a potential ACL appearance (Prince Harry costs case). Arranged Council members on standby for interview. BBC went with other commentator instead and eventually did not use them anyway.

25/8: Liaised with a potential ACL case study (Mike Renville).

27/8: Followed up with NN on editing *Litigation Funding* draft.

Planned activity for September:

- Annual PR presentation to Council on 29/9.
- Host annual roundtable on 15/9.
- Produce and publish case study for ACL website
- Edit and submit NN's article for *Litigation Funding*



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- Arrange NC's upcoming article for *New Law Journal*
- Arrange further case study interview/s