



01242 680000

hannah.griffin@hazlewoods.co.uk

Hannah Griffin

Bsc (Hons), FCA, MAE

Hannah is a Fellow of the ICAEW and Head of the Forensic Accounting team at Hazlewoods.

She has specialised in litigation support services since 2005 and has given expert evidence in the High Court.

Hannah has worked on claims ranging from £50,000 to £100 million. She has been instructed by claimants and defendants and as a SJE. Hannah has also acted in complex group litigation.

Hannah joined Hazlewoods in 2021 following 10 years with EY leading its Compulsory Purchase and Business Disturbance team. Prior to this she spent eight years in the forensic team at Grant Thornton.

Hannah has provided expert advice to companies (listed and private), partnerships, individuals, government bodies and local authorities.

Hannah is experienced in assessing losses arising from:

- Commercial and contractual disputes;
- Business interruption and disturbance;
- Professional negligence;
- Shareholder disputes; and
- Divorce proceedings.

Hannah has investigated fraud in the UK and overseas.

She is regularly instructed to undertake contentious business valuations and co-authored 'Company Valuation, The Experts' View' published by Resolution.

In her spare time Hannah enjoys horse riding, running and skiing as well as cooking for family and friends.

Acting on behalf of 435 claimants, "Her evidence was thorough, measured and fair..."

**Mr Justice Foxton
4VVV Ltd & Ors v Spence & Ors [2024]**

"Your comprehensive work and reporting helped us achieve the outcome."

Defendant - commercial litigation – business valuation and account of profit assessment

"It was a pleasure working with Hannah within a tight timescale and difficult circumstances."

**Instructing solicitor – commercial litigation
- loss of profit assessment**

"The report was comprehensive....impressed with the way in which the report was set out... Hannah was professional in all of her communications;

Instructing solicitor - matrimonial proceedings – business valuation

"Many thanks for your report which was excellent."

Instructing surveyor - CPO – assessment of disturbance losses

"...QC and ... [claimant] are very impressed with your report."

**Instructing solicitor - professional negligence
– business valuation and consequential losses**

Illustrative case experience

Expert for 435 claimants in the reported case *4 VVV Ltd & Ors v Spence & Ors* [2024]. The claim involved allegations of fraudulent misrepresentation around the sale of investment properties. Hannah gave evidence in the High Court in May 2024 at a trial heard by Mr Justice Foxton who concluded that the lead claimants were successful in their claims for deceit and unlawful means conspiracy and that the investment schemes amounted to unregulated collective investment schemes. My support included assessing the financial viability of multiple property investment schemes and whether the investment schemes were asset backed as alleged.

Acting as a party expert for the claimants in a commercial case to quantify the losses arising from the alleged diversion of sales by an employee. Hannah was required to assess the lost profits sustained by the claimant on the basis the defendant accepted the sales had been diverted. Her findings were presented in a Part 35 expert report and the case settled shortly before trial.

Acting as a single joint expert in divorce proceedings to value two companies (and shares) and a partnership at two valuation dates. Consideration of sustainable income and liquidity and tax liabilities which would arise on disposals / dissolution. Hannah prepared a Part 25 expert report and responded to questions on the expert report.

Acting the defendant in a dispute involving the alleged breach of a joint venture ('JV') agreement. My involvement included quantifying the hypothetical value of the JV and an account of profits made by the claimant and the defendant from the sale of allegedly competing products. I also supported at mediation and in advising on an appropriate part 36 offer which had been made 15 months earlier and was accepted shortly before trial commenced.

Quantification of the losses suffered by a professional services firm following a cyber-attack.

Acting on behalf of a respondent in an unfair prejudice matter. The work included preparing valuations of several businesses, in the health and care sector, at two valuation dates, as well as valuations of minority shareholdings with, and without, a minority discount. In addition to the valuations, Hannah provided support to the instructing solicitors on strategy and approach to be taken at mediation.

Advising an automotive business in respect of a claim against its solicitors for professional negligence. The negligence is alleged to have resulted in the failure of the claimant to secure a franchised motor dealership. The work included valuing the lost business opportunity.

Acting on behalf of a public entity to quantify the disturbance losses associated with the extinguishment of a fast-food drive thru franchise in the Northwest. Losses were assessed by reference to value to owner and included preparing market valuations and considering the extent of mitigation.

Acting on behalf of a pub chain to value the disturbance losses associated with the extinguishment of its operations as a result of a city centre development. Work included preparation of an expert report, business valuations, loss of profit claim, meeting of experts and conference with Counsel.

Acting in an international arbitration in relation to a contractor's recoverable costs associated with the completion of an infrastructure project in the Far East. Work included testing the cost claims and considering potential for inappropriate cost inflation or manipulation.

Acting on behalf of an insurer to quantify trading losses sustained by a business, in the travel and tourism sector, which was damaged following an explosion.

Advising a landlord on the rent review clauses in a draft rental agreement, including advice on the rent review mechanism in the draft rental agreement and the process envisaged in the contract should the parties not agree.

Acting on behalf of a US SEC listed business in respect of a potential acquisition of a business with operations in the UK. Hannah led the UK team which performed reviews of the target company's key contracts to enable an assessment of the financial performance of the contracts and the contracting compliance environment.

Supporting a land developer negotiate a forward-looking disturbance agreement with a retailer. The disturbance agreement sought to compensate the retailer for any disruption to normal trading resulting from the future development of a retail park in London.