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## Temperature rises for employers over holiday pay

The summer holiday season may be a thing of the recent past, but employers should be taking the necessary precautions to avoid getting burnt over holiday pay in the future. Howard Robson, Employment Partner, here explains how the outcome of a recent case means employers are now required to permit holiday entitlement to be carried over for up to 18 months if it has been unused due to sickness.

In the case of *Plumb v Duncan Print Group Limited*, the Employment Appeal Tribunal (EAT) additionally confirmed that an employee does not have to prove they were unable to take the holiday because of their illness during the leave year in question.



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## Cyber crime crisis

The release of the hacked data from an extramarital dating site will have given its customers more than the usual worry that accompanies news of cyber-crime. Geoffrey Sturgess, Company Commercial Consultant Solicitor, explains the different ways in which cyber-crime can occur and advises businesses to carefully review their information risk management regime, assessing their processes with the same rigour as legal, regulatory, financial or operational risk.

**Environmentally** 

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## The customer is always right..?

Arezou Seyed-Rezai, Assistant Solicitor in the Company Commercial team here reviews the new Consumer Rights Act 2015 ("the Act") which comes into force on 1 October 2015 and has been billed as the biggest overhaul of consumer rights in a generation.

Energy

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Friendly but also an unwelcomed Expense?

Efficient,

New Energy Efficiency Regulations have been passed this year in an attempt to meet parliamentary targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and here Charlotte Bunch, Commercial Property Trainee Solicitor, advises landlords of privately rented commercial properties to familiarise themselves with these rules as they are likely to have a significant impact on their properties as well as the tenants who occupy them.

The Energy Act 2011 brought in minimum energy efficiency standards ("MEES") and required the government to set minimum standards for domestic and commercial privately rented property.

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# Dismissal kicks up a stink at the sewage works

A worker who was dismissed after failing to follow new health and safety guidelines has won his claim for unfair dismissal in the Court of Appeal. Emma Wyatt, Employment Law Solicitor, reviews the case and warns businesses that it is not enough to issue new procedures and risk assessment requirements, without making sure that employees are fully aware of the changes and are properly trained.

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### The Modern Slavery Act – Should I be worried?

Alice Samuel, Legal Secretary in the Company Commercial team reviews The Modern Slavery Act which was passed in March 2015 and is intended to tackle modern slavery by consolidating and defining various offences that relate to human trafficking and slavery. It provides for two main offences that relate to holding another person in slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour and arranging or facilitating the travel of another person with the intention of exploiting them.





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are obvious, but there's also the cost of spending time attempting to recover the debt, as well as disruption to any future engagement or projects. If you are owed money for any unpaid invoice(s), whether they are for a product, service or maybe rent arrears, you are entitled to claim this back. Here Jo Thompson, Commercial Litigation Legal Assistant, advises on the best course of action to take in relation to dealing with clients such as these.

If a client of yours is refusing to pay an outstanding bill, the financial implications to your business

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Can't pay, won't pay

This Commercial Brief is edited by Geoffrey Sturgess. For further details on any of the articles, contact Geoffrey at geoffreysturgess@warnergoodman.co.uk.



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- New Location for Consumer Law guidance for businesses
- High Court considers statutory liability of agent who signed contract for company not yet formed
- High Court confirms genuine use of Community trade mark requires use in more than one member state
- IP Enterprise Court grants summary judgment in cake decoration moulds registered designs case

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