



REFRESHING LAW

Down to Earth

Employment law Q & A

Anna Denton-Jones 24th November 2021

Today

- Themes what's been crossing my desk
- Questions already received
- Questions anyone wants to ask today





Employment tribunals

• Only 7% cases that start Early Conciliation leads to a tribunal hearing



Wellbeing/Mental Health







- Employee expectations vs manager expectations
- Furlough history
- Increased grievances



Unfair selection for redundancy

- Selection for redundancy
 - Because asked to be furloughed (Equality Act issues)
 - Because been on furlough
- Adjustments to selection scoring to cancel out period of furlough so comparing candidates equally





First batch Covid ET cases

• Judges balancing act





Cancer = disability

• Make sure you get advice

• www.macmillan.org.uk





Electronic signatures

- Use either:
 - Signing software like Docusign or function in Adobe Pro
 - Scan 'wet' signature page and document and save as PDF
- Avoid typed names

• Deeds need witnessing (IPR)





Homeworking

- Employer needs contractual right to access property to:
 - Do H&S risk assessments
 - Sickness absence meetings
 - Collect and maintain property
- Can put this in a homeworking policy but either contract needs to refer to the policy or policy needs section within it to be contractual



GDPR

 Emails auto forwarding from work email address to personal email address





Redundancy

- Pools
- Selection criteria:
 - Disciplinary record
 - Qualifications
 - Leadership skills
 - Productivity
 - Cost to the business
 - Experience
 - Absence
 - Attitude, flexibility and potential





Mental health

 Is there anything we can do as employers to prevent problems from happening before they start?





Essential training for employees

• Values of the organisation and what that really means: culture

• 'Dignity at work'

Conflict management





 Are there any best practices in inductions that can help with retention and happy employees?





Menopause

• Weave it into everything





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