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Located in one of the world’s key financial, business and commercial property centres, our London office is home to nearly 700 lawyers who act on complex projects for over 30 FTSE 100 companies and more than 50 Global Fortune 500 companies, providing quality, full-service legal advice in the City, throughout the UK and worldwide.

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The King’s speech announced a new Leasehold and Freehold Reform Bill ‘to reform the housing market by making it cheaper and easier for leaseholders to purchase their freehold and tackling the exploitation of millions of homeowners through punitive service charges’. It also addressed some key points in the Renters (Reform) Bill. This note sets out some of the key proposals and commentary in respect of the same.

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Understanding the Data Governance Act: key aspects and challenges

A few weeks ago, on 24 September 2023, the Data Governance Act (Regulation (EU) 2022/868 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2022 on European data governance) (“DGA”) came into force. The DGA aims to bolster the data economy by encouraging public sector bodies to share certain categories of protected data (e.g., personal data and commercially confidential data) and promote data altruism. We set out below an overview of the key aspects of the DGA.
**Revised QCA Corporate Governance Code**

The Quoted Companies Alliance (QCA) has published a revised corporate governance code (Code). The Code is still based around 10 Principles but has been updated to keep pace with evolving investor expectations, particularly around topics like ESG. The revised version takes into greater consideration those inside and outside of the company as well as the make-up of the boardroom. The new Code will apply for financial years beginning on or after 1 April 2024 with the first disclosures against the new Code expected in 2025. There will also be a transitional period of 12 months to allow companies time to adopt the revised principles. The Code is widely applied by quoted companies not on the Premium List with approximately 93% of companies on AIM applying the Code and three-quarters of companies quoted on the Aquis Stock Exchange, a substantial increase over the last 5 years. Companies need to apply the 10 princip...

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**Disputes in Focus: Quick Q&A on Legal Privilege in Group Litigation**

Legal professional privilege is a key issue in any litigation or investigation and each year the courts determine many disputes over its application. It can become less straightforward to manage and protect in multi-party or group proceedings. In this blog, Clare Reeve Curatola provides a brief summary of legal privilege and the rules about sharing privileged material under English law. And, she asks fellow Litigation and Investigations partner, Ravi Nayer, about his recent experience of grappling with issues of legal privilege where there are multiple different parties involved in a dispute and in the context of group actions in the High Court. Short on time? Jump to our key takeaways.