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Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal

14th October 2025

Your ref: 12629-2024

Our ref: **HWP/947508/51212372**

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Dear Tribunal

SRA v Mr Christopher Hutchings

12629-2024

The Applicant was asked to confirm by 5pm on 14 October 2025 whether it would or would not be filing a claim for judicial review against the Tribunal's decision to conduct this hearing wholly in private.

The Applicant does not resile from its previously stated position that the maintenance of the anonymisation/privacy regime approved by the SDT on the 19.6.25 was adequate and the minimum disruption to the principle of open justice that is necessary in this particular case in order to protect the privileged material. The Applicant supports these fundamental principles of open justice and transparency and respectfully contends that its previously stated position gives proper effect to those considerations.

However, the Applicant is mindful of the viability of this hearing and does not wish to destabilise the proceedings. Having regard to the interests of justice, the interests of the witnesses and the Respondent in securing an expeditious disposal of this matter, the Applicant will not be challenging the Tribunal's decision as an interlocutory matter. However, the Applicant reserves its position as to the legal consequences that may follow from the Tribunal's decision.

The Applicant considers that given the question of whether the SRA was proposing to challenge the SDT's decision by way of judicial review was ventilated in public session, it is appropriate that the Applicant's decision, given in this correspondence, should be communicated in a public hearing.

Yours sincerely

Hannah Pilkington

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