

BUSINESS INTERRUPTION INSURANCE TEST CASE

DRAFT TRANSCRIPT

OF DAY 6 OF TRIAL (28 JULY 2020)

Pursuant to paragraph 30 of the court's order made on 26 June 2020, what follows is a <u>draft</u> transcript.

A final transcript will be published when it is available.

OPUS₂

The Financial Conduct Authority vs. MS Amlin Underwriting Limited and others

Day 6

July 28, 2020

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1 Tuesday, 28 July 2020 1 Now I addressed this in my opening remarks. In the 2 (10.00 am) 2 paradigm situation at which the clause is aimed, the 3 Submissions by MR GAISMAN (continued) 3 restaurant closed as a result of food poisoning, the 4 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Yes, Mr Gaisman. 4 suicide in the adjacent building, there will be no 5 MR GAISMAN: My Lords, a few concluding remarks on 5 difficulty in saying that the restrictions themselves 6 6 causation. I have limited time, as Mr Kealey has just were the cause of the loss, and the objection is simply 7 reminded me. 7 chimerical. 8 I don't need to spend any more time on the 8 Then it is said, thirdly, that there is a problem of 9 counterfactual. The position is set out in 9 artificiality . Your Lordships again know the submission 10 paragraph 330 and 332 of our skeleton and your Lordships 10 that I am going to make here. 11 have read it; your Lordships know where the battle lines 11 The insured peril is removed and, depending on the 12 12 are drawn. But the question I want to ask is this: what facts, that may lead to an artificial hypothetical. In 13 is actually the justification for the FCA's case? 13 a professional negligence case where the court, having 14 My learned friend Mr Kealey on Day 4 dealt with some 14 anathematised the serial negligence and incompetence of 15 of the purported justifications put forward, and I have 15 the hapless solicitor or accountant, then reinvents the 16 16 a few supplementary points. world in which, impossibly, one considers the 17 The first one I am going to call the trade off. One 17 counterfactual of him having competently done the very 18 18 question which the FCA has completely failed to grapple job which he has failed to do competently. 19 19 That is simply an exercise of causation that is so with is this: since these are composite perils, with 20 20 several defined steps all of which have to be satisfied . natural that one hardly considers it. In a sense it's 21 including their causal relations, in other words, quite 21 artificial . But as my learned friend Mr Kealey said, 22 22 limited perils , why, objectively , would the parties have what could be more artificial than imagining a country 23 agreed carefully to circumscribe the insured peril as 23 without COVID or a world without COVID? Counterfactuals 24 24 they have, only to throw away the rule book by allowing in one sense are always artificial , they require an 25 25 the causation exercise dramatically to widen it? artifice . They require one to imagine something that 1 This question, as I say, is not even identified by 1 never happened and, given what did happen, never could 2 FCA, let alone answered. At least, and to its credit, 2 have happened. But in any event, if it is relevant, for 3 the Hiscox interveners see the need to proffer some 3 reasons again which your Lordships are familiar with, we justification . The trouble is it's no justification at 4 4 say that the counterfactual proposed by Hiscox is far 5 5 all. In their skeleton at paragraph 90, $\{1/3/32\}$ which from artificial; it happened in Sweden, it happened 6 I understand my Lord, Lord Justice Flaux may not be able 6 previously in the case of prior pandemics in the UK, and 7 to access, but -- I'm sorry, your Lordship's mute is on. 7 it might have happened here in relation to COVID-19 had 8 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: I've got it in hard copy. 8 Lord Sumption won the day in the public arena. We have 9 9 MR GAISMAN: I'm not sure your Lordship really needs it . dealt with these points in our joint skeleton on 10 What they say is, it won't take long: 10 causation in paragraph 25. 11 "That is the trade off the insurer must make in 11 12 return for forcing the insured to prove a long chain of 12 with in my opening remarks is the alleged difficulty of 13 13 matters and the causal relationship between each of proof point and, again, I don't need to go back through 14 them. The insurer can ask the insured to prove many 14 15 15 things but then, when considering whether 'but for'

Now another alleged justification which I have dealt it. Even if it were made out, it is no sufficient basis to rewrite contracts or ignore legal principle.

But may I just dwell on one point, my Lords. Anyone who has had anything to do with business insurance knows how complicated it can be when it comes to quantification of indemnity. We gave a reference in footnote 364 to chapter 14 of Riley on Business Interruption Insurance; unhelpfully we didn't include the citation, and I am not asking your Lordships to look at it now because I haven't got time. It is $\{J/154/43\}$.

What one sees, if one simply leafs through that chapter, which is called "Claims calculation" and the

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causation is established, those matters must all be

however often I re-read that short paragraph, I can

discern the operation of no known legal principle to

With deference to my learned friend Mr Lynch and

So much for the trade off . The next justification

is alleged absurdity and I have dealt with this, because

the charge that is made, it is an incorrect charge, is

that the cover has no content if Hiscox is right.

stripped away in the counterfactual."

underpin or justify that suggestion.

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ensuing chapter, "Claims, settlements and other considerations" is this is an area, especially with trends clauses, of inescapable complexity. But the various things which have to be taken into account on the trends clauses, even on my learned friend Mr Edelman's construction, statistical trends, comparison with budget, comparative performance, ie comparing the performance of other outlets, post-indemnity period trading, none of this is easy. But the point is that it completely undermines my learned friend Mr Edelman's argument that these are insureds with low limits who couldn't be expected to have gone to the trouble of appointing loss adjusters because the game wouldn't be worth the candle. That point is simply not available to him.

But furthermore, can I just stress, which I know is code for repeat, something I said in my introductory remarks. These clauses, public authority clauses and the like, have been around for a long time and there is no evidence, there is no evidence that they have caused any particular difficulty and, with the greatest of respect to your Lordships, your Lordships are in no position to assume that they do.

I have already argued that in the ordinary case there is no particular reason to suppose that they will .

Of course, if loss adjusters are appointed there will no doubt be the usual toing and froing and the reaching of a compromise, especially where there are low limits, but that is a fact of life in all sorts of insurance claims. None of this can change the meaning and the effect of the contracts.

Thirdly and related to that, my Lords, the FCA approach, insofar as it justifies it at all, is entirely premised on this supposed difficulty of extricability . There is no factual or legal basis for this premise at all. Nobody has attempted in this trial or in this arena to do the exercise of working out what loss has been caused by what; it is not an issue in the action. It is therefore entirely without foundation to suppose that it will be of especial difficulty . There has been no evidence of the sort that Mr Justice Tomlinson heard in The Silver Cloud. And there are obvious ways in which one can approach the point: one looks at matters before restrictions were in place; one looks at what happens afterwards, that may well provide a guide; one may look at other countries such as Sweden, where the anecdotal evidence is that businesses didn't do much

Now, this is an extreme and unprecedented situation and it may be a situation where all or most of the loss

sustained by individual assureds with have been incurred anyway. But that is for a later date. What is for today is that there is no basis whatever for assuming that the enquiry as to what caused loss is so difficult that it's not worth embarking on. And I do ask your Lordships simply not to be influenced by such a concern, because there is no basis for it.

Fourth and lastly under this heading, although it will depend on the facts, if an assured is able to prove the elements of the clause and to raise a prima facie case that its loss has been caused by the insured peril, as your Lordship finds it to be, then the evidential burden may shift to the insurer. And if one looks at the skeletons on the other side, they don't really deal with that point, they just say rather limply: that isn't going to make it any easier or the difficulties we pointed out -- non-existent difficulties -- aren't significantly mitigated by the fact that the burden of proof may be on the insurer. Why not?

That brings me on --

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Sorry, Mr Gaisman, in a very real sense
I think you have put your finger on the point that has
troubled me in relation to this whole causation debate,
that normally causation is an issue which one would be
exploring on given facts; facts that either were going

to be established at trial or had already been established. Because we are looking at this on issues of principle, in one sense, you know, it is difficult to engage in the causation exercise. It may be that the coverage issues that we have to address actually deal with many of these points in themselves, which I think is just another way of putting the same point as you were making a moment ago, which is that if any given assured actually makes good all the various elements of the insured peril in your case, then it may be that you reach a situation where prima facie a loss has been suffered and if the insurer wants to say that a loss hasn't been suffered for whatever reason, then the evidential burden shifts to the insurer. But that is all for another day.

MR GAISMAN: My Lord, I didn't quite say that. What I said was that if the elements of the peril are established and the assured establishes a prima facie case that the loss was caused by those insured perils, then the burden to say, oh, something else, would have shifted, I certainly don't say that the burden is shifted to the insurer merely by the insured establishing the operation of an insured peril, because causation is always for the insured to prove.

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: I understand the point you're making.

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MR GAISMAN: My Lord, it is the FCA in this case which is inviting what we have submitted, and I won't go back over it, is a radical departure from the normal approach to "but for" causation in the context of insurance, and that is, more than any other single issue, the issue which in a sense divides the parties.

I am sure Mr Edelman won't mind me seeing saying that when the FCA first launched the idea of this test case, the causation issue was very much at the forefront of the things which it wanted to have resolved, as one can see from the framework agreement, where there are two fundamental issues which are identified as dividing the parties, one of which is the causation issue.

So I would certainly hope, whether we are right or wrong in the debate which Mr Kealey and I have been having with Mr Edelman over the last several days, I hope that your Lordships will feel able, as it were, to address those questions, because they are absolutely fundamental to the divisions that have arisen.

Mr Edelman tendentiously calls them "road blocks", but that is just another way of saying they are issues between the parties. All we are saying about this is that causation in these cases is to be determined according to orthodox principles.

Mr Edelman, on behalf of the FCA, is inviting your

Lordships to undertake some unorthodox and heretical procedure and he has no justification for doing so, and it is the justifications that I am dealing with at the represent

That takes me on almost to my last substantive topic, which is the question of divisible loss which I said I wanted to come back to. It is inherent, although implicit, in the FCA's case that everything is indivisible, that the different elements of loss cannot be separated. We say there is simply no warrant for treating the loss as indivisible as a matter of fact. Quite apart from anything else, there is no evidence that it is

It can't simply be asserted, it would have to be proved. If my learned friend wants to argue that a particular legal result follows from a particular fact, the first thing he needs to do is to prove the fact.

Now, I mentioned in my opening remarks the case of Rahman v Arearose, $\{K/99/1\}$ and it is instructive to spend a minute on that. That was a case, as your Lordships may remember, where a man was assaulted in a fast food restaurant and he suffered serious injuries . One of those injuries was to his eyes, and due to negligence in a subsequent hospital procedure he lost

the sight in that eye. He also developed complicated psychological disabilities . He sued both his employer and the hospital , and the question was which defendant was responsible for what.

It is instructive to go to paragraph 6 of the judgment on page $\{K/99/6\}$, where Lord Justice Laws sets out the trial judge, Mr Justice Rougier's findings . Your Lordship sees that between letters D and G. The detail doesn't matter, but what the learned judge, Mr Justice Rougier, says at G is this:

"The effects of the two separate incidents, [namely the incident in the fast food restaurant and the incident at the hospital } which have led to the condition I have outlined with entwined around each other like ivy strands round a tree. The court is faced with the daunting task of trying to disentangle various causes and effects and to determine at which door they are to be laid."

That being obviously a case of two wrongdoers. Mr Justice Rougier didn't give up, he reached an apportionment. The Court of Appeal disagreed with it, but reached its own apportionment. It is in that context that the line of Lord Justice Laws that we quote in our skeleton, at paragraph 19 of the judgment, the line that loss qualifies as indivisible only where there

is "simply no rational basis for an objective apportionment for objective responsible for the injury between the tortfeasors".

Therefore, indivisible loss is matter of last resort, and we are not in any such territory in this case.

Now, for example, it is perfectly possible to conceive, over an episode that has lasted already for several months, that different loss will be capable of being analysed as being caused by different things at different times. What could be more normal than that?

Now, my learned friend half recognises the possibility of some form of temporal division , because in the discussion with your Lordships on Day 3 about the approaching hurricane , he recognised that the reduction in turnover before the hurricane has finally hit is not insured , although he argued that it could somehow be recovered in different ways. All I think I need to do, whether that is in advance on the skeleton or not doesn't matter, but can I show your Lordship , the last thing I want to show your Lordship of my learned friend's skeleton is paragraph 276.1 is $\{1/1/108\}$ in my learned friend's skeleton argument. 276.1.

Now, this is a most peculiar paragraph. I may well not have understood it . The language has that tortured

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quality which is more eloquent than anything I could say, so this is by way of illustration . My learned friend says:

"If, in a public authority clause, the trigger public authority action is preceded by a downturn or closure (eg due to voluntary behaviour or government advice [et cetera]) the government action ..."

Then we have a (i) and a (ii), I'm not quite sure if they are the same thing or different things:

"... (i) is the sole cause of any additional interference, interruption or loss not suffered prior to the action, but in any case [and one takes a deep breath here] (ii) takes over or encompasses/absorbs (as an interlinked and so not truly concurrent cause) the prior disease-related causes as the sole proximate and 'but for' cause of interference, interruption or loss."

Now, I think I haven't really got time to do more than leave that paragraph with your Lordships, but either what is being said is that one ignores temporal divisibility and so the interruption has retrospective effect to cover the previous, as it were, approaching hurricane, or alternatively, as we interpret it, in a case where the necessary causal link between the public authority action and the interruption cannot be shown because the interruption preceded the public

authority action. But what the FCA is doing is retrospectively interposing a causal link which never existed. Either way, my Lords, the FCA is, with respect, in a world of its own.

Two more topics, one of which --

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Speaking for myself, Mr Gaisman, if the business has closed before the public authority action, I just don't understand how coverage gets off the ground at all, either as a matter of causation or in any other way, because the interruption simply is not caused by, doesn't follow or result from, or whatever the linking word is, any action of the public authority.

MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: Mr Gaisman, you are on mute, so I have missed its last sentence at least.

MR GAISMAN: Yes. But if one looks at (ii), what appears to being said is that once the interruption happens it sort of takes over. But even though -- I am not going to spend my precious last few minutes. There are some paragraphs which it is only necessary to read to your Lordship, even if they are in one's opponent's skeleton argument.

Can I then say something very quickly about trends clauses. We have explained how these work in our skeleton argument, we have explained how they fit in with the general law, and we have explained in both that

and the joint skeleton how the Orient-Express is right both on the general law and the trends clauses, it having considered both.

I have only got to mention I think, and only briefly, the FCA's big point on some of our trends clauses, it is in a minority of the wordings in fact, 14 out of 40, which don't mention restrictions, but do mention damage.

It is hard to think of a clearer case of what, in the high and far off times, we were allowed to call a falsa demonstratio, but I am going to pose a question that we pose in our skeleton at paragraph 397, for which I am still waiting for an answer from the FCA, and it is this: what possible reason could there be why the parties would have wanted the trends clause to apply differently to claims involving material damage and claims involving non-damage business interruption? Because unless there is an answer to that question, this is a non-point.

To borrow a phrase of my learned friends, I would ask the FCA to consider its position, because these clauses can work both ways, and whilst the FCA submits in a fit of literalism that the clause doesn't apply to a non-damage case unless it mentions restriction, what will it say to an insured restaurant, in a paradigm case

in six months' time, that wishes to rely in its claim against one or other of the insurers on a clause which only mention damage, which wishes to rely upon the fact that it hired a star chef and business was rising by the

This is a terrible point, and the fact that the same mistake occurs not only in some of our clauses but in those of several other insurers shows what a bad point it is.

That is all I want to say about trends clauses; the whole position is set out in the skeleton.

My Lord, that leaves me two minutes, which I am not going to occupy, on "solely and directly". As your Lordship knows, those words are in the stem. I made one submission about the relationship between the interruption and the loss, and there having to be a relationship of sole cause. There are other points and they are contained in our skeleton in paragraphs 421 to 439. If one could imagine a situation in which your Lordships have nothing better to do, I would ask your Lordships to read those for yourselves.

Thank you, my Lords.

23 (10.28 am)

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Thank you, Mr Gaisman.

Who is next? Mr Kealey.

see what is not covered, you will see that item (iii),

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MR KEALEY: I'm afraid it is, my Lord, yes. Can your

followed by an exclusion, excluding that which appears

on the right-hand side of this page. It is item 3, my

"Access to or use of the premises being prevented or

"(a) any action of government, police or a local

authority due to an emergency which could endanger human

If you look on the right-hand side of the page to

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Lords, "Prevention of access -- Non-damage". This

2	Lordships hear me?	2	what is not covered, is:
3	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Yes, thank you.	3	"Closure or restriction in the use of the premises
4	(10.28 am)	4	due to the order or advice of the competent local
5	Submissions by MR KEALEY	5	authority as a result of an occurrence of an infectious
6	MR KEALEY: Good. My Lords, I can hear an echo. I think	6	disease (or the discovery of an organism resulting in or
7	that's very well. Thank you, my Lord.	7	likely to result in the occurrence of an infectious
8	As you know, I appear for the Ecclesiastical and for	8	disease) food poisoning, defective drains or other
9	MSAmlin. My submissions are going to cover both of	9	sanitary arrangements."
10	those insureds.	10	So you have on the left that which is covered, and
11	Your Lordships already, of course, know that I have	11	on the right that which is carved out of that which is
12	dealt in part with causation on behalf of all insurers,	12	covered.
13	and I shall be making some separate submissions on	13	Now, for better or for worse, we have in our
14	causation in relation to both of my insurer clients .	14	skeleton argument described clause 3 in the right-hand
15	I am going to turn first to the Ecclesiastical , my	15	side as the infectious disease carve out. That is
16	Lords. For your bearing, as it were, if you could get	16	a misnomer because it doesn't just carve out infectious
17	your bearings, you need to look at our skeleton	17	diseases, it carves out food poisoning, defective drains
18	argument, which is in divider 12 $\{I/12/1\}$. We begin in	18	or other sanitary arrangements, and also closure or
19	relation to Ecclesiastical EIO at page $\{I/12/38\}$.	19	restriction in the premises due to vermin and a few on
20	I don't know if your screens are now working so you	20	items as well. But I hope you will forgive us if we
21	can see it online as it were, as well as on paper in	21	continue to use the term "infectious disease carve out".
22	writing .	22	My Lords, the first point that we make is that you
23	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Yes, they are now, thank you.	23	can't construe the left and the right-hand columns on
24	MR KEALEY: At page 38 you will see the beginning of the	24	their own, you also have to construe them in the context
25	wording, and it may be more convenient to turn to one of	25	in which they appear in the contract. In this context
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1	these wordings which is in $\{B/4/1\}$.	1	could I take you to $\{B/4/46\}$, where you have the
2	The loss of income section, my Lords, is at page 42.	2	specified disease, murder, food poisoning, defective
3	$\{B/4/42\}.$ You will want to turn to page $\{B/4/45\}$ for	3	sanitation and vermin coverage clause. If you have a
4	the relevant coverage provision . What you see there, my	4	look at the left-hand column of page 46, you will see
5	Lords, at the top of the page is that this is an	5	that the specified diseases are identified .
6	extension:	6	Now, most of those specified diseases, I should
7	"The insurance by this section is extended to cover	7	mention to your Lordship, are in the list of notifiable
8	loss resulting from interruption of or interference with	8	diseases scheduled to the Health Protection
9	your usual activities as a result of the following ."	9	Notifications regulations of 2010; most of them, but not
10	Then if you look at the left-hand column you will	10	all of them. If I could tell your Lordships which are
11	see "What is covered" and in the right-hand column "What	11	not, they are dysentery, legionellosis, leptospirosis,
12	is not covered".	12	meningitis, although a form of meningitis is in the
13	I should mention, my Lords, that in some of the	13	notifiable disease list attached to the regulations of
14	policies what you find is that these columns don't	14	2010, ophthalmia relapsing fever and viral hepatitis .
15	appear, but what you find is what is covered is then	15	All the rest my Lords, are notifiable diseases in the

The list also, my Lord, includes some diseases which are not included in the list attached to the notifiable diseases regulations; those include dysentery, meningitis, relapsing fever and scarlet fever.

list; and you will find that list, incidentally, at

But if your Lordships turn to page $\{B/4/47\}$, in relation to specified diseases, and other matters, you will see what is covered. At the top of page 47 on the left-hand side column you will see that what is covered

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bundle $\{J/11/8\}$.

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covers:

hindered by

life or neighbouring property."

in Crowden v QBE, which is at $\{J/135/13\}$, paragraphs 63

intention on the part of Ecclesiastical to provide some

infectious disease cover, but limited to those diseases

identified in clause 6 and within the circumscriptions

Before going further into the detail, we would

provided by clause 6, for example, the 25-mile radius

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2 "Any occurrence of a specified disease [as we have 2 to 65. Delineation of cover 3 just seen] being contracted by a person at the premises 3 Now, the Ecclesiastical says, relying upon the 4 or within a radius of 25 miles of the premises." 4 column of what is not covered in conjunction with the 5 5 Then if you could go just after (d): specified disease clause, that that which has been 6 "Which causes restrictions in the use of the 6 carved out is closure or restriction in the use of the 7 7 premises on the order or advice of the competent local premises due to the order and advice of the competent 8 authority." 8 local authority where the words "competent local q So we have in the specified disease clause, q authority" in that context, and also in the context of 10 10 clause 6, a clause which provides coverage in respect of clause 6, means the authority with competence in the 11 certain specified diseases in relation to occurrences 11 relevant locality . 12 12 contracted by persons not only at the premises but also We say that for a variety of what we consider, in 13 13 within a radius of 25 miles of the premises. our respectful submission, to be very good reasons. But 14 14 before going there I should mention that the FCA We also know that it is not just any occurrence 15 which is covered, it has to be an occurrence, as the 15 suggests that our preferred meaning is, in their words, clause goes on to say, "which causes restrictions in the 16 16 very challenging ". That is in the FCA skeleton at 17 17 paragraph 531, which is $\{1/1/185\}$. use of the premises on the order or advice of the 18 competent local authority " 18 But in our respectful submission, the challenge that 19 19 Just so that you have it well in mind, those last Ecclesiastical faces is more apparent than real. That doesn't make it not challenging, but it is a challenge 20 words are not an exact but an almost exact echo of 20 21 21 similar words in the infectious disease carve out at which is and readily should be overcome. We say this 22 22 page $\{B/4/45\}$. Those last words were: for the following very simple reasons. 23 23 First, it is perfectly obvious that there was an "Which causes restrictions in the use of the 24 premises on the order or advice of the competent local 24 infectious disease carve out from the prevention of 25 authority." 25 access coverage, and the types of infectious diseases to 21 1 And the words at page 45 in clause 3 are: 1 be carved out were unrestricted; they were any and all 2 "Closure or restriction in the use of the premises 2 infectious diseases. It is also apparent that there is 3 due to the order or advice of the competent local 3 a clear connection between the infectious disease carve 4 authority as a result of an occurrence of an infectious 4 out in clause 3 and the specified disease coverage in 5 disease ..." et cetera 5 6 There is a clear echo, as it were, between the 6 Clause 6, as I have mentioned before, contains an 7 7 infectious disease carve out and clause 6, the specified almost but not quite verbatim rendition of the same 8 8 words in the infectious disease carve out: closure or disease clause. 9 Now turning back to the prevention of access -9 restriction in the use of the premises due to the order 10 non-damage clause, my Lords, I should just tell you that 10 or advice of the competent local authority. So it is 11 the ordinary principles of construction apply. You 11 apparent that it was recognised that the coverage 12 don't treat the clause which is under the heading "What 12 provision in is clause 3 was wide enough, unless 13 is not covered" or even if it were to be described as an 13 qualified, to include access to or use of premises being 14 14 exclusion clause, you don't treat that clause as an prevented or hindered by action due to any infectious 15 15 exemption clause, exempting an insurer from liability disease emergency. 16 for negligence or something like that. The clause on 16 But it is, we say, clearly to be implied that: 17 17 the right, under the column on the right, is there, as firstly , there was no wish on Ecclesiastical 's part to 18 much as is the clause on the left , to define and 18 provide such wide infectious disease coverage, hence the 19 circumscribe the scope of the coverage under the policy. 19 carve out; and secondly, that there was a wish and

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LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Delineation of cover.

MR KEALEY: Delineation of cover. I am not going to take

and you will see an excellent analysis by Mr Peter

your Lordship to the cases because time doesn't permit,

but Impact Funding, Lords Hodge and Toulson, $\{J/132/7\}$,

MacDonald Eggers, sitting as a Deputy High Court Judge

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suggest to your Lordships that these clauses should be construed against the relevant legal background. I don't think that that should be too controversial a submission, but I am afraid it has proved to be so. Therefore, I am going to make it good with some very short references, my Lord.

Firstly , if one goes to Lewison at $\{K/202/20\}$ you will see the first substantive paragraph under the heading "6. The Legal Background", what should be a relatively uncontroversial observation:

"Parties do not make contracts in a legal vacuum. They always negotiate against the background of law. It is, therefore, reason to suppose that they take into account the general law in reaching their ultimate consensus. And, accordingly, the proper interpretation of their agreement is properly influenced by the legal background against which it is made."

Now, that is a question of negotiated contracts, but it is a proposition that applies equally to contracts of insurance which might not specifically have been negotiated, and it is perfectly sufficient as a matter of legal principle that the legislative background was reasonably available to the parties.

If you go on to page $\{K/202/26\}$, the first main paragraph at the top which says:

"It is not considered that proof of actual knowledge of the parties is necessary in all cases. Where the legal background in question is English law, it is considered that the principles of English law, if not actually known to the parties, would at least have been reasonably available to them."

That is of course, my Lords, consistent with the principle that the factual matrix includes all the relevant and admissible background that was known or reasonably available to be known to the contracting parties. Your Lordships only need to be referred to paragraph 56.4 of the Ecclesiastical skeleton at {1/12/43}. You don't have to go there.

But one thing is certain , contrary to what the FCA says in its trial skeleton at paragraph 535.3 {I/1/186}, what is certain is that Ecclesiastical does not have to show that the legislative framework was actually known by the insurer or by the average insured . That's what the FCA suggests at paragraph 535.3., and that is wrong as a matter of legal principle .

Now it is of course a fortiori , my Lords, that the legal background will include the legislative background. In fact , we would respectfully suggest that the legislative background is much more part of the acceptable and acknowledged factual matrix than perhaps

legal decisions, which may or may not be very well established. But the legislative background and the legislation of this country, that is to say England and Wales for present purposes, is something which is readily accessible and therefore readily known or deemed to be known to the parties.

Your Lordships can see that from a very simple case in $\{K/137/1\}$. It is a case called Doleman v Shaw. I am not going to take this overlong, my Lords. You can have a look at the headnote because it is particularly easily read. If your Lordships could read the first paragraph of the headnote, and take into account that the judge at first instance held that the guarantee in question fell to be construed in the context of the Insolvency Act 1986. (Pause)

So this is a case of a guarantee in relation to the assignment of a tenancy of a shop. If your Lordships could turn to the judgment of Lord Justice Elias at page 12 of the bundle $\{K/137/12\}$, page 1186 of the report, at paragraph 55, you will see there it says:

"Mr Fancourt QC, counsel for the landlord, contends that in the context of the guarantee agreement, the assignee m must be deemed still to be bound by the tenant's covenants even though he was not so bound in fact. The guarantor is liable as though the assignee

were bound. That is the effect of section 178(4) of the Insolvency Act as construed in the Hindcastle case by Lord Nicholls."

Then going to the next paragraph -- well, one should

"It is of course open to the parties to limit the guarantor's liability so as to terminate on disclaimer, but very clear words are necessary to achieve that objective. Insolvency or bankruptcy are precisely the circumstances when the guarantee is likely to become operative.

Then 56:

"When construing the guarantee agreement, the words used must be read in the context of the common law and the statutory background with the consequences that the liabilities of the assignee are deemed to continue even though they do not continue in fact."

So it was against the context of the Insolvency Act that the legal liability of the guarantor was evaluated and ascertained .

So what is the position of the legislative background in this case, involving Ecclesiastical and infectious diseases?

Now, I don't have the time to go through it all, but it is set out in detail in our skeleton at paragraphs 59

Day 6

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"Access to or use of the premises being prevented or hindered by

"Any action of government, police or a local authority due to an emergency which could endanger human life or neighbouring property."

If you go to the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, to page 1, you will see straightaway that in relation to local arrangements for civil protection -- not directly relevant, but it doesn't matter -- the meaning of "emergency" means an event or situation which threatens serious damage to human welfare in a place in the United Kingdom.

Then subparagraph 2:

"For the purposes of subsection 1(a), an event or situation threatens damage to human welfare only if it involves causes or may cause logs of human life, human illness or injury."

Likewise, if you go to part 2, which is the most relevant part, at page $\{J/8/12\},$ you will see at section 19 exactly the same relevant definition , or almost exactly the same relevant definition , of an emergency.

But in this context what I need to draw to your attention is section 20, $\{J/8/13\}$ "Power to make emergency regulations". Firstly , subsection (1):

"Her Majesty may by order in council make emergency regulations if satisfied that the condition of section 21 are satisfied."

A senior minister of the Crown may similarly do so, my Lords, and that includes the Prime Minister and any of Her Majesty's principal secretaries of State; that is in subsection (3).

Regulations under subsection (5) must be prefaced by a statement by the person making the regulations:

- "(a) specifying the nature of the emergency in respect of which the regulations are made, and.
- "(b) declaring that the person making the regulations ...
- "(ii) is satisfied that the regulations contain only provision which is appropriate for the purpose of preventing, controlling or mitigating an aspect or effect of the emergency in respect of which the

regulations are made."

Then turning the page $\{J/8/14\}$ the conditions are set out in section 21 and the scope of the emergency regulations are set out in section 22.

If one looks at sub-section (2):

- "... emergency regulations may make any provision which the person making the regulations is satisfied is appropriate for the purpose of:
 - "(a) protecting human life, health or safety.
 - "(b) treating human illness or injury."

Further, my Lords, under the Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984, section 45C, the relevant minister may by regulations make provisions to protect against, control or provide a public health response to the instance or spread of infection . If your Lordships could be taken to $\{J/5.1/15\}$ you will see at section 45C.

- (1) The appropriate minister may by regulations make provision for the purpose of preventing, protecting against, controlling or providing a public health response to the incidence or spread of infection or contamination in England and Wales ...
 - (2) The power \dots may be exercised:
- "(a) in relation to infection or contamination generally or in relation to particular forms of

infection or contamination, and

(b) so as to make provision of a general nature, to make contingent provision or to make specific provision in response to a particular set of circumstances."

Now it is apparent, my Lords, from that legislation -- that is the 1984 Act and I'm not going to take you through it, you can see it at paragraph 67.4 of our skeleton -- that the architecture of the legislation contemplates action by central government, local government and other authorised persons, for example Justices of the Peace.

As our skeleton indicates at paragraph 95.3, the legal background shows, firstly, it has never been the case that the only authority competent to act in relation to public health protection, including in relation to infectious diseases, is a local government authority. Secondly, the power to make the most intrusive and invasive orders in fact lies with the courts, particularly magistrates, And thirdly, central government has always been an authority with competence to act in relation to local and indeed wider public health matters and national public health matters.

My Lords, there is no dispute between the parties that this is the effect of the legislative framework. I refer your Lordships, you needn't look it up, to

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transcript {Day3/145:4} to line 5. Your Lordships can also see the reply, that is the FCA's reply, at paragraph 55, which is in {A/14/28}.

So what we say is that at the time of this contract being entered into the parties are to be taken as having had reasonably available to them the legislative framework to which I have just referred. Firstly, because that is necessary to understand which authorities were competent to issue orders or advice as a result of the occurrence of infectious disease, and therefore what the policy meant by "competent local authority"; and secondly, because obviously an understanding of the statutory framework was vital to understanding what cover was provided under clause 6 and what cover was being carved out under the infectious disease carve out in clause 3

 $\begin{array}{lll} 17 & \text{MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: I am no doubt being slow, Mr Kealey,} \\ 18 & \text{but why doesn't the carve out just say "the competent} \\ 19 & \text{authority ", why does it say "the competent local} \\ 20 & \text{authority "?} \end{array}$

MR KEALEY: It could have said the "competent authority",
I accept. I think what it was doing, my Lord, was
identifying the authority which had jurisdiction in the
locality, wherever that was and however extensive it
was, in the locality where there was an infectious

disease. But it could have said, you are absolutely right, my Lord, it could have said "the competent authority". Equally, my Lord, it could have said "the local authority". It didn't have to have the word "competent" there at all. What we would ask your Lordship to do is enquire of yourself, what is the purpose of the additional adjectival qualification of "competent"? Why was the word "competent" added?

If I might answer that straightaway before going on to something else, if I could add that straightaway, if you look at the left-hand column what you find is a variety of authorities; you have got the government, you have got the police and you have got a local, a local authority, with an indefinite article.

So why do you have "the competent local authority" in the right-hand column? Well, the reason why you have the definite article "the", the reason why you have the adjectival qualification "competent", and the reason why you have those two grammatical qualifications to a local authority is because you are not confining yourself to either the government or the police or local authority, it is whatever is the competent local authority. It is not necessarily confined to those three entities or forms of authority in the left-hand column; it is whatever it is which is the competent local authority.

But your Lordship's question is entirely apt. Why didn't it say "the competent authority"? It would make my task much easier had it done so. Regrettably, or not regrettably, depending on one's perspective, it didn't say that. But what it did say was "the competent local authority" and that is exactly, and this is the reason why clause 6 is so important, that is exactly the same phraseology as in clause 6.

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Just following the point through, Mr Kealey. If COVID-19 was a specified disease in clause 6, you would accept that the restrictions which are being imposed by the government, for example closing churches, would fall within the definition "restrictions in the use of the premises on the order or advice of the competent local authority". Because, in context, the authority which was competent to impose such restrictions in the locality was the government.

 $\begin{array}{lll} 18 & \mathsf{MR}\;\mathsf{KEALEY:}\;\;\mathsf{I}\;\mathsf{would.}\;\;\mathsf{And}\;\;\mathsf{I}\;\mathsf{would}\;\;\mathsf{go}\;\;\mathsf{further},\;\mathsf{my}\;\mathsf{Lord.}\;\;\mathsf{Let}\\ 19 & \mathsf{us}\;\;\mathsf{just}\;\;\mathsf{say}\;\;\mathsf{that}\;\;\mathsf{COVID-19}\;\mathsf{had}\;\;\mathsf{been}\;\;\mathsf{mentioned}\;\mathsf{in}\\ 20 & \mathsf{clause}\;\;\mathsf{6.}\;\;\mathsf{Let's}\;\;\mathsf{say}\;\;\mathsf{--} \end{array}$

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: The irony is, of course, the FCA will
 be arguing like Billy -o that the government was
 a competent local authority .

24 MR KEALEY: They might or might not. They have hedged their 25 bets here, and I am going to cover that in a second,

about. But you are absolutely right.

Let us just say that some insured in Leicester made a claim under this policy, with COVID-19 being one of the infectious diseases. I wonder what the FCA would say if my clients, the Ecclesiastical, said: ha, too bad, I'm afraid the central government is not the competent local authority. The regulations that apply to Leicester which have just been made don't give you any coverage at all, because those were central government regulations so "tant pis", as they say in Swaziland or wherever.

Now, the first person who might say that that simply is wholly inappropriate would, in our respectful submission, be the FCA. In fact, the Financial Ombudsman may say: come on, give us a break here. And no doubt some person would come along and say: well, what does "the competent local authority" mean in that context.

In my respectful submission, what it means is when you have a list of infectious diseases, and I am going to come on to the fact that some of them were notifiable diseases, but when you have a list of infectious diseases and you know that regulations can be made and restrictions can be imposed and closures can be enforced, by a whole variety of competent authorities,

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including local government but not exclusive to local government, someone will say in relation to clause 6, "Well, that must include a Justice of the Peace or a magistrate, it must include a Crown Court on appeal from a magistrate, it might even include the High Court in London by way of case stated on appeal from a Crown Court, and why on earth wouldn't it include the appropriate minister?" Is really the insured's coverage under clause 6 going to be really dependent upon whether the closure or restriction came from some bureaucrat in, say, the middle of Leicester as opposed to some government minister in London? And the poor old insured would say, "My goodness me, why didn't the minister look at my policy and direct someone in Leicester to do it instead of doing it himself?" Or herself, as the case may be.

So we do say, my Lord, that clause 6, which does echo, as we have said, restrictions in the use of the premises on the order or advice of the competent local authority, clause 6, which is a clause not very much dealt with by the FCA, they don't dwell on it too much, they dwell it on a tiny little bit but not very much at all, clause 6 in a sense is vital to understanding clause 1

As soon as one identifies the, as it were,

unfairness in clause 6 of confining the competent local authority to some local executive, as soon as one identifies that unfairness, one realises that what happened, in our respectful submission, is that one has a broad phrase "causing restriction on the use of the premises on the order or advice of the competent local authority", a broad phrase in clause 6 which is almost a mirror image of the carve out in cause 1, are, in our respectful submission, intended to mirror each other. In other words, that which is carved out of clause 1 is intended to be mitigated by that which is included in clause 6.

What one finds is that in a different context or in the context of other disease clauses the phrase "competent local authority" seemingly is accepted by the FCA as including central government. Not in the case of the Ecclesiastical, but in other cases.

So, for example, if you go to paragraph 44.5 of the amended points of claim or particulars of claim, or whatever they are to be described as nowadays, at $\{A/2/29\}$, and you go there to paragraph 44.5 -- if we start at the beginning of 44:

"All of the advice, instructions and regulations referred to above in paragraph 18 above were actions of the UK Government and accordingly were ...

"44.5 not of themselves orders or advice of a competent local authority for the purposes of (but only for the purposes of) the exclusion in Ecclesiastical 1.1 and 1.2, where the words 'competent local authority' are used in the exclusion in the context of a clause addressing action of 'government, police or a local authority'. That contextual construction does not dictate the meaning of a similar or the same phrase when used in denial of access cover clauses in Arch1 ('local authority') and MSAmlin1, RSA4, and Zurich1-2 ('competent local authority')."

If you were to go for example to Amlin1 -MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: That is actually a fair point, isn't
it? It is one of the difficulties of looking at lots of
different policies. But here the point against you is
based simply on the fact that the terms of 3(a) use the
word "local authority" and so does the carve out. That
is the point.

MR KEALEY: Yes. That is absolutely right. I would have greater sympathy for that approach and your Lordship's question if the carve out had said "the advice of the local authority". Why did it have to say "the competent local authority"? Why didn't it say "a local authority"? So in fact, whilst I obviously take the point, I am not a complete fool sometimes and I do

actually see the force of the submissions against me. Whilst I ask myself, I say to myself, well, if there was intended to be a reference in the carve out to exactly that which appears in the coverage, then it would say "closure or restriction in the use of the premises due to the order or advice of a local authority". That's what you would actually find.

So whilst of course I understand the tension that your Lordship has just drawn my attention to, for the very first time, I would actually say that that tension is, as I have said originally, more apparent than real. LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: In a sense I understand your answer to my Lord's question, but another way of putting it would be to say that last sentence of 44.5, if it were the case, going back to the point I was putting to you, that COVID was a specified disease in clause 6 of the Ecclesiastical policy, the FCA would be saying that list of policies using the words "competent local authority" would include Ecclesiastical on 1.1 and 1.2.

20 MR KEALEY: Yes, it would.

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: And you would say, or you do say, if "competent local authority" in clause 6 must include, for example, magistrates or a government minister or whoever imposes the relevant restrictions, then those words "competent local authority" must or should at

contextual for this exclusion in this particular policy.

2 A fortiori if what we are dealing with is delineation of 2 Other policies, where it is in the insuring clause, 3 cover rather than exclusion. 3 a different context may have a different meaning, MR KEALEY: That is exactly right, my Lord. It is very 4 4 because Mr Kealey is right about the authorities that 5 5 difficult to improve on the point. can deal with disease." 6 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Yes. It is actually a short point, 6 Then he says: 7 7 "There is really no clue to it being different . 8 MR KEALEY: It is a very short point. It is very difficult 8 I know he relies heavily on extension 6, but one has to g q for the FCA to improve on its point as well, in the look to see whether a reasonable reader of 3 would think 10 10 sense that you just look at both columns and you say: oh that it meant something fundamentally different from 11 my goodness me, impressionistically that is not the 11 what it appears to say. And 6, it has got diseases, but 12 12 government or the police. if you are now assuming a reader with intimate knowledge 13 13 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: It is very badly drafted, with respect. of all the public health legislation , you would think: 14 14 MR KEALEY: It is: yes, well these correspond to the notifiable diseases 15 Can I just make one or two points before moving on, 15 list , but hang on a minute, what is the most recent 16 16 epidemic disease of a type that could, if it resurrected because you are either, as it were, I hope persuaded or, 17 if I am unlucky, unpersuaded. But Mr Edelman or the FCA 17 itself, spread across the country, it's SARS. And it's 18 mentioned in his submissions that Ecclesiastical 18 not there. 19 19 clause 6 is confined to local diseases and local "I'm not saying that it would be conclusive, but there is nothing here that drags you into saying that 20 outbreaks of disease. Now, I am not going to get into 20 21 21 that very much, because when I look at the plague, for it's not local. If the list was unspecified in 6 and it 22 22 example, and measles and rather nasty things which was an insuring clause, one might say -- and that was 23 appear in the specified disease list , it may be that 23 a unitary clause, only dealing with disease, then you 24 they might be confined and it may be, for some reason or 24 might say: if it is only purporting to cover notifiable 25 another, there are an awful lots of rats, we seem to 25 disease and it's not limiting it, well maybe it could 1 have a lots of rats in this case, but there are an awful 1 extend to something else. But that is not what we have 2 2 here. We don't even have in the exclusion to the lot of itinerant rats and their fleas, which may go way 3 beyond 25 miles, I have absolutely no idea. But what 3 extension 3, we don't even have a reference to 4 Mr Edelman also said at $\{Day3/146:1\}$ to page 148 -- and 4 " notifiable disease " ... " Then if you go to page 148 at line 8, $\{Day3/148:8\}$: 5 5 it is probably worth having a quick look at that. 6 6 If you go to page 146 first , he firstly , at line 7, "What I was saying was if you have a notifiable 7 7 agreed with an observation by my Lord disease, an unspecified notifiable disease list, and 8 8 Lord Justice Flaux, that the carve out covers a whole 25 miles and this, it might be open to it. 9 lot of more local things like food poisoning, defective 9 In other words, if you had in clause 6 an 10 drains and other sanitary arrangements. Pausing there, 10 unspecified notifiable disease clause, then you might 11 your Lordships probably now have quite a lot of 11 say that the competent local authority being referred to 12 experience of these clauses, and what you find is that 12 there was not confined to local government. But 13 13 infectious disease clauses are commonly included with actually, in the specified disease list we have 14 14 suicide, murder, sanitary arrangements and a whole lot a multitude of notifiable diseases which are on the 2010 15 of unsavoury things like that, so you shouldn't in any 15 regulations list, we have also a variety of other 16 way be influenced or badly influenced by that. 16 diseases which are not. And Mr Edelman is absolutely

"If you had a clause which had 'competent local authority' and a 25-mile radius in the insuring clause, then you might say: oh well, does that real mean 'local'?

Well, that is what you have got in clause 6, my Lord. So I would in fact ask myself: does that really mean "local". He goes on to say:

Then he goes on at line 17:

least mean the same in the carve out in clause 3.

"So I am making it clear that this is purely 42

terribly important, in another context. That is the \$44\$

right, we don't have SARS, no doubt because

made its bed, it must now lie on it.

Ecclesiastical didn't want to insure against SARS. But

that is its choice and it might be said, well, it has

But what we are saying in relation to clause 6,

my Lord, is that clause 6 is not confined, other than by

reason of the 25-mile restriction, to something which is

necessarily local. Of course the 25-mile restriction is

nis is purely $25\,$ terribly important, in a

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1	first thing.	1	exclusion or the disease carve out, but before I go on
2	Secondly, even if it were confined to local or	2	to causation, my Lord, there is one matter I need to
3	locality, it may be hindsight but hindsight is sometimes	3	address arising from my submissions on Thursday.
4	a very useful indication of what could have been	4	I have a concern that in the course of my
5	contemplated at the time, just look at Leicester,	5	submissions in relation particularly to the
6	central government can make any variety of fairly	6	Orient-Express, I might have suggested that Mr Edelman
7	draconian orders in a locality within 25 miles or	7	was somehow deliberately misleading the court in some of
8	smaller .	8	his submissions on the insured peril, and I am concerned
9	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: If there were an outbreak of a plague,	9	about that. That certainly was not my intention.
10	one might expect that central government would be	10	I have looked at the transcript
11	involved with, let alone some of these other diseases .	11	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: I didn't pick up any such sense at all.
12	We had this debate at the second case management	12	MR KEALEY: Good.
13	conference, and Mr Edelman is right that some of these	13	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: I am pretty certain that (a) I don't
14	diseases would be unlikely to lead to as it were	14	think you would have dreamt of saying anything of the
15	widespread outbreaks. Legionnaires' disease is	15	kind and (b) if you had, I am sure one or other of us
16	a classic example; that is likely to be localised, isn't	16	would have picked it up and upbraided you. So I don't
17	it? But some of the others at least have the potential	17	think you need have a concern about that. And if
18	to lead to quite serious outbreaks, and we know that,	18	concern has been expressed by others, then any fears can
19	for example, from measles and mumps, let alone anything	19	be allayed by the fact the court doesn't I can't
20	else . I mean, I don't know about scarlet fever . TB, if	20	speak for my Lord, but I am sure he would agree with me.
21	there were a serious outbreak of TB somewhere in the	21	MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: I certainly didn't understand that you
22	North of England, say, that is something one would	22	were making any such suggestion.
23	expect to be dealt with not by the local council	23	MR KEALEY: Good. I'm very grateful, my Lords.
24 24	necessarily but by central government.	24	I will continue with causation. My Lords, last week
2 4 25	MR KEALEY: What I can say is that one can reasonably expect	25	I explained, on Thursday, how one reverses only the
20	WIN NEALET. What I can say is that one can reasonably expect	20	r explained, on ritursday, now one reverses only the
	45		47
1	that it won't necessarily be confined to local	1	causal chain that embodies the insured peril, and in the
2	government.	2	rat example I explained one doesn't reverse the rats for
3	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: That's your point.	3	all intents and purposes, you only reverse the closure
4	MR KEALEY: So I can't positively say that central	4	as caused by government action as caused by rats . And
5	government will be involved, but it might be	5	you certainly don't reverse the rats insofar as they
6	a dereliction of duty on the part of the	6	feature in a different causal chain; and that is because
7	Secretary of State for Health, Mr Hancock, if the plague	7	a different combination in which the rats feature may
8	broke out in Newcastle and if he rang up the head of the	8	exist and may cause loss, and the loss caused by that
9	council in Newcastle and said, "Oh well, you're probably	9	combination is not covered. So you distinguish between
10	a member of the Labour Party, I will let you get on with	10	the loss caused by one combination and compare it with
11	it and see how well you do". I suspect Mr Hancock would	11	the loss caused by another combination.
12	say, "This is really quite serious, I am going to send	12	If one looks at the EIO wording, my Lords, the only
13	people up there and I am going to take a personal	13	combination to be reversed is loss caused by prevention
14	interest ". If he didn't, I am sure that The Guardian	14	or hindrance of access or use, as caused by action of
15	would tell him off.	15	government, police or local authority, as caused by the
16	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Is that a convenient moment, Mr Kealey?	16	emergency. No other combination featuring the emergency
17	MR KEALEY: Yes, it is, my Lord.	17	is to be reversed.
18	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Ten minutes.	18	If I could take you very briefly to paragraph 71 to
19	(11.20 am)	19	paragraph 80 of the Ecclesiastical 's skeleton, which is
20	(Short break)	20	in $\{1/12/54\}$. I am not going to read all of this out,
21	(11.30 am)	21	of course, but I will ask your Lordships to bear in mind
22	MR KEALEY: My Lord, many thanks.	22	some very important paragraphs.
23	I am going to go on to causation in relation to	23	At 71, we have broken down the clause into its
24	Ecclesiastical , if I may. I have dealt with the	24	constituent elements. You will see that there are three

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critical elements. And we say in 72 that the scope of

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application , in our respectful submission , of the

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the cover and what triggers the cover is to be discerned by a process of construing the clause, and you have to identify the specific role performed by each phrase within the clause, having regard to its relationship with every other.

Then what you find at 75 -- I think this was criticised by Mr Edelman, because we talk about the essence of the insured peril; we don't in any way apologise, because it is the essence of the insured peril -- is:

"... access prevention [as defined] where that has occurred by the specified reason (viz by reason of the action of government etc) in specified circumstances (viz due to an emergency etc)."

So we say that the interrelationship and the connections between the different parts of the clause are very straightforward .

This is a point that Mr Gaisman made, I think, that you look at the clause, and each part essentially narrows the clause as it goes along. So for example, phrase 1 requires access prevention, but it is not every access prevention which qualifies for cover. Phrase 2 defines and qualifies phrase 1, in that it is only prevention or hindrance of access or use which is by reason of action of government that can trigger the

clause. But it is not all action of government which counts; phrase 3 has been included to qualify and define the type of phase 2 action. So it is not just any action of government, police or local authority, it has to be action due to an emergency which could endanger human life or neighbouring property. We give an example, and I needn't go to that now.

At 77 we say, in a paragraph which has attracted criticism by the FCA, or by Mr Edelman, $\{I/12/56\}$, we say:

"... the scheme of the clause is tolerably clear. The essence of the insured peril is stated at the outset of the clause (viz access prevention, et cetera ...) but the remainder of the clause serves to ..."

He didn't like all of these verbs. He doesn't like the fact that I am a vocabularist by nature, but it:

"... serve to define, refine, qualify and restrict the type of access prevention etc which qualifies ..."

In fact, my Lords, if one looks at all those four verbs, they are all apposite and they don't completely all overlap, so they are totally appropriate.

So starting again, it is access prevention; but it is not just any old access prevention, it is access prevention due to action of government; but it is not any old action of government, it is action of government

due to an emergency. So definition , refinement, $\label{eq:qualification} \mbox{qualification and restriction} \; .$

If you go to paragraph 79, there is what we say, perhaps a little self - servingly, it's a limited sub-category of access prevention, but it is access prevention when caused by action of government and then only where the action of government which is only in response to a specified type of emergency.

My Lords, if we could read paragraph 30, where we embody our submissions, yet again, it might be said, if one wishes to be overcritical.

12 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Paragraph 30 or 80?

MR KEALEY: I meant 80, not 30. Forgive me, my Lords. 80. 14 (Pause)

15 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: We need to go over the page.

 $16 \qquad \text{MR KEALEY: Right, thank you. } \{\text{I}/12/57\}.$

Then we make a number of what we suggest are compellingly obvious points, my Lord. But they are so obvious that maybe they haven't been necessarily picked up by our opponents.

Firstly , at paragraph 82, the insured peril is not the emergency. That is the first point.

The emergency's function, as we say in 82.3, was to identify that to which the action of government must be a response if it is to be a qualifying action within

phrase 2. That is it. So, for example, there could be an emergency with no government action; not covered. Or government action, et cetera, with no emergency; not covered

As we say at 82.4, it is only where there is government action, et cetera, which is due to the emergency and such action causes access prevention, et cetera, that the cover is triggered. The second point, obvious.

The insured peril cannot become the emergency by the back door. In other words, just because it is mentioned in the clause doesn't mean to say that it is the insured peril or that it has to be altogether reversed by applying the counterfactual.

So the peril can't be converted just because it is mentioned. Secondly, paragraph 83.2, it can't be converted into the emergency by the back door of causation. In other words, you can't say because the emergency is mentioned therefore it is part of the counterfactual and the whole emergency has to be reversed:

Then we say, thirdly , at page 61, paragraph 83.3 $\{I/12/61\}$:

of government 25 emergency by the b

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For example, 83.3(c), it is a point that Mr Gaisman kindly addressed, I think possibly even this morning:

"According to the FCA, none of the disease, the public authority action [et cetera] can be separated out from any other."

It is all part of some indivisible and interlinked strategy and package of national measures.

My Lords, that is a highly controversial statement, and not least because I think some people would suggest that the government reactions have hardly been part of any one strategy. Quite apart from the fact that even if they are part of a strategy, they can somehow or other be determined as being indivisible.

But if you look at (e) at the bottom, the public authority actions are clearly not indivisible among themselves, any more than the actions are not indivisible from disease, and distinctions can and must be made

The third obvious point, at paragraph 84:

"The insured peril must ultimately be determined by construing the policy wording carefully ."

We refer to Lord Justice Clarke in AstraZeneca, in an appeal from my Lord Lord Justice Flaux, where his judgment was upheld, speaks about the occurrence being the shell within which the pearl of liability is to be

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found.

But if the peril were to include the emergency in its own right, as the FCA suggests, then insurers would be taken to have provided insurance for all the consequences of the emergency. But that is no what we agreed to insure, the Ecclesiastical agreed to insure. It is rather like saying the more elements you include, in the chain of causes, the more you agree to insure. Whereas in fact it is the contrary that is normally the case. The more elements in the chain of causation which qualify and narrow the peril, the narrower the insured peril.

Now, in our opening, my Lords, at paragraph 86 at page 63 {I/12/63} we pose the example of a wealthy donor whose giving to the church stopped because his restaurant had been closed due to COVID-19. If your Lordships look at paragraph 86 and paragraph 86.1, we postulated the donor making the donation by standing order. The donor was the owner of the local restaurant. In fact, when the church had been closed in the preceding year, the donation had continued. In other words, the donor didn't have to go to church to make his donation, he did it electronically at a distance.

At the end of March 2020 the generous donor wrote, stopping the monthly donation and attributing it to his

own loss of income caused by his restaurant being shut down by COVID-19. His donation represents 25% of the church's income and we asked the question: was that caused by the insured peril?

Now Mr Edelman, on the first day of this trial , page 112 at lines 6 to 17, {Day1/112:6} was politely dismissive of this example. He said that this example failed at the first hurdle because the interruption or interference , that is the closure due to the emergency, was neither a "but for" nor a proximate cause of stopping the donation; lines 8 to 10.

Now, in our respectful submission that is actually a very important concession. In our example, the church was closed at the time when the donation was stopped, so there was hindrance of use caused by government action caused by an emergency.

As Mr Edelman would suggest, the trigger conditions for recovery were all met. Then, on the FCA's pleaded case, since all the elements of the trigger have been met, the correct counterfactual is a situation in which there was no COVID-19 in the UK, no government advice, orders, laws or other measures in relation to COVID-19. That, my Lords, is paragraph 77 of the particulars of claim. $\{A/2/45\}$. It is also paragraph 10.3 of the FCA's trial skeleton, $\{I/1/10\}$.

So according to the FCA's counterfactual, you assume that there is no emergency. Of course, if there were no COVID-19 in the UK, no government action of any kind, the church would still be open, the restaurant would be open, the restaurant owner, the restaurateur, would still have its income, so the church would still be receiving the monthly donation by standing order.

So the loss of income was caused by the COVID-19 emergency and wouldn't have been suffered if you assume no COVID-19 in the UK and no government action.

Therefore, on the FCA's pleaded case it ought to be recoverable.

But Mr Edelman accepts that it is not recoverable because, as he puts it, the closure due to the emergency had nothing to do with the church losing this income.

So the insured peril is not a mere trigger; it is not a gateway which, when crossed, permits the recovery of broader losses. If that were true Mr Edelman would permit the church to recover the lost donation.

It also reveals Ms Mulcahy's mistake. She said that the boundaries of the insured peril do not need to be the boundaries of what is subtracted for the purposes of the "but for" test {Day2/63: 6} to line 9. In other words, you reverse more. But if you reverse more, if, as the FCA pleads, you reverse the entire emergency, the

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church would recover the lost donation, because the church was closed and the loss of the donation was caused by the COVID-19 emergency.

But when Mr Edelman dismisses this example, he actually concedes his pleaded case. He concedes that first you have to work out what loss was actually caused by the closure due to the emergency. And secondly, in order to do that, you don't reverse all the effects of the emergency; what you do, and all you do, is reverse the closure as caused by the government action, as caused by the emergency. When you reverse that combination, that single causal strand, you don't reverse the emergency if and insofar as the emergency was the source or beginning of a different causal strand. You don't reverse that, so you don't reverse loss of donation, caused by donor's loss of restaurant income, caused by the COVID emergency.

Let's change the example slightly. Assume the same wealthy parishioner never gave by monthly standing order but actually attended church every Sunday and put money into the collection plate at the weekly service. This is the collection of the service example given by Mr Edelman at $\{Day1/115:1\}$. The church was closed, the services didn't take place and so the wealthy parishioner stopped giving money, putting the money in

the plate. But the wealthy parishioner had lost his income because his restaurant was closed because of COVID-19. So he wouldn't have given any money in the collection plate even if the church had remained open. Can the church recover the loss? It is no surprise to find that the church can't. The insured peril is not the emergency but is prevention of access caused by government action caused by the emergency, and the loss of income had nothing to do with the church being

MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: Suppose had he been there, had he been in church, he would have thought: even though my income has gone down I will actually make the effort and, as it were give, my widow's mite, but as he is not there he never does that.

MR KEALEY: You're postulating the possibility that if he were there in person, he would have given something, let's call it 10% of what he normally gives. Well, if that were the case then it might be the case that the 10% that he would otherwise have given, which has been denied the church as a result of the closure, as caused by the government, as caused by the emergency, is recoverable. But the 90% which represents, say, the greater proportion of the donation less the widow's mite is not recoverable.

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MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: We are here talking about then an analysis of each and every member of the congregation's motivation and what they would have done differently MR KEALEY: Well, what you are talking about is, it's rather like the question that you asked me on Thursday last, and indeed asked in a different way Mr Gaisman either yesterday or this morning, which is that what the church will have to do is identify what it says its loss of income is and explain how its loss of income has been caused by the closure. But if it is turns out, my Lord, that the loss of income has not been caused by the closure, then it doesn't recover pro tanto that loss of

It is all very well to say that it all depends upon what each parishioner or whatever it happens to be or what each congregant would have done, of course it does, because what you are looking at is the collection plate, and the collection plate and its contents will depend on is what is given at the service. And of course it might be said that if no one can attend a service, nothing will be in the collection place. But if nothing would have been in the collection plate irrespective of the service, then no loss of income has been suffered.

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: If in any given case the church is closed, just assume the church is closed and as a result

there is no collection and nobody gives anything, the church makes a claim for loss of income of č1,000 a week for whatever period of time it is, on the basis that nobody has given any money, and they have not given any money because the church is closed, and the church is close had because of the restriction imposed by the government as a result of the emergency.

Why isn't that, at least on the face of it, sufficient to establish a loss resulting from the interruption or interference with the insured activities ?

12 MR KEALEY: Well --

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: And why doesn't the burden then pass to the insurer? If the insurer wants to say, "Well, actually, nobody would ever have given any money anyway. even if the church had remained open throughout, because they were all down on their uppers as a result of COVID", why isn't the burden on the insurer to say that, rather than on the insured to, as it were, make good 20 what is otherwise a prima facie case of loss? MR KEALEY: My Lord, on Thursday I think I was asked almost

the same question by my Lord Mr Justice Butcher.

23 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Yes

24 MR KEALEY: And the answer I gave Mr Justice Butcher 25 I myself remember vaguely and therefore I will try and

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repeat it without --
                                                                                  church could seek to recover is 80% of the 100.
LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Yes. No, in all seriousness, this is
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                                                                              LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Subject to Mr Edelman's ingenious
    a point in relation to your clients, specifically your
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                                                                                  point, I think we both follow that.
    clients, Ecclesiastical, which troubles both of us. It
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                                                                              MR KEALEY: Right.
    is a matter we have discussed. So I would welcome your
                                                                              LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: It is the difference between the 80 and
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    assistance on this point, Mr Kealey.
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                                                                                  the zero in my Lord's example.
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MR KEALEY: Well, my Lord, as I indicated on Thursday, if
                                                                              MR KEALEY: Let's just say that the church comes along and
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                                                                                  says: well, it was down to 80%, I was then closed,
    for example there is a prima facie case so that let us
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    just say that the church regularly received č1,000 per
                                                                                  I couldn't recover anything, I couldn't get anything
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    week and did so through its collection plate. The
                                                                                  from my parishioners, they all stopped coming because
    church was closed, so no one attended church. So each
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                                                                                  I couldn't receive them, therefore there was nothing in
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    week the church was closed the church did not receive
                                                                                  the collection plate. That might give rise to an
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    č1.000
                                                                                   evential burden, as I have said before, on the insurer
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        The church, in those circumstances, would be able to
                                                                                  to say: yes, that certainly ostensibly appears to be the
    establish a prima facie case that there was an emergency
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                                                                                  case, but in fact what we can show or what we have
                                                                                  evidence to show is that even if the church had remained
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    that caused police or authority action, that prevented
    or hindered access. And assume that the emergency
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                                                                                  open and the parishioners had all come into church.
    didn't affect the situation of the parishioners in any
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                                                                                   nevertheless, for example, 25% of your income was
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    other way than that they couldn't attend church and did
                                                                                   attributable to the restaurateur, well he hasn't got any
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    not, therefore, give their donations. In that case,
                                                                                  business left, in fact, so far as we can see he has
    I would accept that the loss of income is highly likely
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                                                                                   actually put up his restaurant for sale and he might
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    to have been caused by the prevention of access caused
                                                                                  even go into administration, and therefore, if you
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    by the action, because there is unlikely to be any
                                                                                   actually ascribe 25% of your income to the wealthy
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    alternative cause, on those very simple facts where the
                                                                                   parishioner, we, the insurer, will suggest to you that
    emergency has not affected the situation of the
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                                                                                  the reason why you are not getting his 25% is not
    parishioners in any other way.
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In other words, the insured would be able to make out a prima facie case of coverage and that the insured peril had not only operated but also had caused the church loss, the č1,000 a week.

However, if you have a situation which is slightly different , where you have a widespread situation affecting the whole of society and not just the insured church, which has separate and independent effects on the lives and the financial situation of many parishioners, it may be that the church will not be able to make out a prima facie case. And even if it does make out what on the face of it looks like a good case for (a) coverage and (b) caused loss, causation may become a real issue.

MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: Let me understand that. You are saying that if the takings had gone down, let's say, from last year, down to 80% by 23 March, and then fall from 80% to zero on 23 March, you are saying there won't be a prima facie case, or Ecclesiastical 's position is that there won't be a prima facie case of loss because of the extent of the economic effects of COVID in the country. MR KEALEY: I will take it in stages.

If the income had fallen from 100 to 80 by the time of the closure of the church, firstly , the best that the

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because of the closure of the church, but actually is 2 because of the fact that --

MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: I understand that, Mr Kealey. What I was trying to get at was: are you saying that there won't even be a shifting of the evidential burden because of the general effects of COVID on the economy, and that Ecclesiastical can as it were say: no, there isn't even a prima facie case, because of these general effects? That is what I was rather falteringly trying 10 to get at.

MR KEALEY: I am sorry, it was probably my fault. No, I am not saying that necessarily . And I want to make it absolutely plain it is not necessarily. Every single case will depend upon its facts, obviously, and it may be that some cases are much clearer than others. Some cases will have, cases where you have got a parishioner, et cetera, who accounts for 25%, and let's say he's noticeably without funds. So I am not saying necessarily that in every case the evidential burden will shift, totally, and I am not saying that in every single case, just because there is a situation of an emergency there, that the evidential burden will not shift. These are exactly the points that arise in any business interruption case where there are possible reasons why the losses have been sustained, which are

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not those attributable to the insured peril . That is precisely why you have loss adjusters $\ensuremath{\mathsf{.}}$

And by the way, your Lordships think that this may be Ecclesiastical 's, the church is a small relatively small insured, but actually there are wordings which are being discussed in this case, for example the Resilience Marsh wording, which have, not in this case but have insureds whose insurances are tens of millions or hundreds of millions of pounds here. So you shouldn't think that, oh, this is a case where loss adjusters are coming in and there is a poor little church out there, and how can a church have a loss adjuster and incur all this money. You should take that out of your mind for a minute. Business interruption losses are a highly complex area of administration and of insurance.

Disputes arise often -- or issues arise, let me put it that way. Issues arise often between insureds and insurers as to what losses have genuinely been sustained as a result of the insured peril and what losses would have been sustained in any event.

This is one of the main reasons why you have such a complex trends clause. This is one of the main reasons why Riley has such complicated chapters, one of which Mr Gaisman alluded to this morning, on how you work out trends clauses and their application.

So the answer is that there are causation issues that can and will arise . And my Lords, I should say this is not just me spouting this . The FCA accepts that there are and can be perfectly legitimate causation issues . If you look at Mr Edelman's submissions, Mr Edelman accepted, for example -- we gave an example in our opening of the social group for elderly people in the church hall . Do your Lordships recall that? It is paragraph 87 at $\{1/12/64\}$. Yes, page 64. It is paragraph 87.

There was a social group for elderly people in the church hall, for which rental income was paid. We postulate there the organisers deciding to suspend their meetings before the government regulations, and we postulate the suggestion that even were the church to re-open, the group's leader suggests that it is unlikely that the group will ever reconvene, not only because some of them don't exist any more, but also because of shielding.

If your Lordship could look at transcript {Day1/113:1}. We can start at 113 at line 18:

"Now that poses a straight causal question ... it is simply a question of 'but for' the interruption or interference, would the rent payments have been received? And it is going to be a question of fact

where there is a casual income like this, and the answer will depend on the facts. If the 16 March order to stay at home and minimise travel and shield amounts to qualifying interference or interruption or interference, and the cancellation was after 16 March, then the loss may result from the interruption or interference, depending on the reasons of the group for cancelling.

"If the 16 March to stay at home and minimise travel was not interruption or interference, then the income stopped before, and it wasn't the result."

Then he goes on to look at collections , and I have already discussed collections .

But what we are acknowledging among ourselves, including the FCA, my Lord, is that you have to ask yourself whether as a matter of fact the loss actually was caused by the interruption or interference.

As Mr Edelman says at line 4 on page 114, it depends on the reasons of the group for cancelling . And Mr Edelman himself, my Lord, gave the example of the restaurant whose Michelin starred celebrity chef gave in his notice the day before a fire . It is $\{Day2/114:21\}$. He says:

"The classic example of a restaurant would be the head chef had already given in his notice.

"He had already given in his notice but he was

working out his notice when the fire happens, and the insured presents to the insurer his turnover figures for the period up to the fire and says: look how well I was doing. But there had been a circumstance before the fire, the chef that was the main attraction, his reputation had spread far and wide, has just been poached by a Michelin star restaurant.

"And afterwards, the day after the chef gives in his notice he says, 'I am terribly story to let you down at this terrible moment, but I was always going to go, I had already been negotiating and I was going to go anyway'. So the insurers are entitled to say: the minute the people heard about the fact that your chef was going, your turnover would have decreased, your past figures this those circumstances are no reliable guide to what your position would have been but for the fire."

So it is accepted, my Lord, that in assessing the insured's BI loss, caused by damage caused by the fire, there has to be a stripping out of the indemnity the extent of the turnover that would have been attributed to the loss of the celebrity chef. That may or may not be an easy exercise, it may be that the loss adjusters would have to ask themselves what attraction precisely was represented by this chef, how many people actually went to this restaurant because of the chef, or because

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of the nourriture produced by the chef, or because he used to be at the door with his huge great chef's hat with typical bonhomie and saying in typical French "Do come in", or whatever it happens to be. But he is not there any more, so the loss adjuster is going to say: how do I calculate this? And no doubt the loss adjuster for the insured will say, "Actually he wasn't that good", et cetera, "and we have a very good chef", or whatever it happens to be. But these are matters that have to be gone into in the ordinary, typical business interruption evaluation and ascertainment of loss exercise.

Coming back to my Lord Mr Justice Butcher's question, and looking at Mr Edelman's own example, Mr Edelman would be able to say: fire, loss of income, compare it with last year, I have suffered, I made 10,000 a day. I am now making nothing per day, I want 10,000, a day. The insurer gets to learn or is told that the chef was leaving anyway, the insurer says: hang on a second, your chef was leaving, therefore your 10,000 would immediately have reduced to 2., after people got to know that the chef wasn't there, then you might have brought in a new chef, et cetera. There would be a debate, a discussion, an evaluation. That is exactly what happens.

So is there a prima facie case? Well, coming back to mv Lord Mr Justice Butcher's example, or question: you have the service being interrupted, in other words, stopped, closed; you have what might be described as a prima facie loss because the collections simply are not being collected . And I have to say, if I were advising the insurer, I would have to say, well, ostensibly it looks as though that which the church previously received is not now being received because of the closure of the church. However, I would also have to advise the insurers that you have to take into account that even though the church was closed, we all know that people were not going to be gathering socially together and, moreover, people were not permitted to gather socially together, and so even if the church had remained open and therefore people could have gone there, members of the congregation would not have gone there, or if they had gone there, they would have gone there in vastly reduced numbers.

Therefore, the closure has not caused the insured the loss for which it claims, and the loss adjusters would get into it and if there is a dispute the evidence at trial would determine the issue.

The one thing that is terribly important in relation to the questions that I am now being asked is that it is

not legitimate to conflate issues of fact with issues of legal principle .

Of course evidential issues may arise, and indeed they may be difficult to resolve. But they don't necessarily arise, firstly; and secondly, even if they do or are likely to arise, that is not any justification for expanding the limits of the insuring clause or, for that matter, changing the rules of causation that do apply.

And we say a fortiori this is a case where the court is being asked to deliver -- and I really don't envy you -- a judgment for legal certainty. If you are looking for legal certainty, the one thing that you shouldn't be doing is delving into hypothetical facts like that and basically saying: can the insured prove, or show, rather, a prima facie case because of the existing situation of COVID-19 in the country? I don't know in any given case whether the insured can show a prima facie case unless and until the insured makes a claim and shows what case it has and what evidence it has.

But taking the very basic church closure case, if a church is able to say, "On average I made č10 a week and now I am making nothing because nobody is turning up because they can't turn up", then I would probably have

to accept that that looks like a prima facie case. It is then, as I indicated on Thursday, I am not saying that it is necessarily correct totally but it would then probably be for the insurer to say, "Well, actually your congregation had all died of COVID-19 and therefore your closure is an irrelevance".

I can't go into --

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Or postulating another example, if you had an inner city church in a deprived area, the insurer might be able to say "Well, in a actual fact een if your church had remained open and people could have come to it, all the people in the town who would have come to your church are now unemployed as a result of COVID".

MR KEALEY: That could well be right, my Lord, and indeed the insurer would be entirely within his rights to say that and have it investigated.

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: As you rightly say, those are all factual issues with which we are not concerned.

MR KEALEY: That's what you shouldn't be concerned with, and I don't see how you can be concerned with. As Mr Gaisman said, we have worked long and hard on assumed facts, none of which has actually broken through the ice to get to your Lordships. But if one wanted to have a whole lot of assumed facts and one could make those assumptions, you could therefore deliver a judgment on

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the basis of the assumption, for example, that half of the congregation were deprived of their income and therefore did not turn up and therefore even if the closure of church had not occurred they wouldn't have given much, if any, money.

These are all assumptions that can be made, but your Lordships cannot determine at this trial that either an insured can make out a prima facie case or that an insured can't. For my part, I think it is quite difficult for a court to do that.

Of course the court can say that in the very simple example, closure of church, no income, no collection plate, therefore on the face of it, on that evidence alone, if there is nothing else, then the insured may have a prima facie case and may succeed. But ...

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: It seems to me, obviously, you know, I'm open to persuasion, we are both open to persuasion, but I think this is A point that I made to Mr Gaisman this morning -- on reflection, rather badly I think -- that what I had in mind was really the fact that we are not dealing with any given factual scenario, and actually it might be said it would be dangerous for us to stray into assumed factual scenarios. All we can really do is to deal with the issue of principle in relation to causation, which is essentially whether you

are right in the submission you, on behalf of the insurers, made on Thursday as to what it is, for example, that you reverse out of any counterfactual exercise. Then when the court has determined what the answer to that question is, it will be for the individual insureds and insurers hereafter to make of that what they will in relation to individual claims. MR KEALEY: I would suggest that, and that is vitally important. And it shouldn't be thought that that is in any way not doing as much as you can. In fact, it is doing exactly what a court should do in these circumstances, where the essence of the FCA's case is that on the counterfactual you reverse everything, and the essence of insurers' case is that that simply is unprincipled and unthought out, and you have to be slightly more intellectually logical and astute and actually work out what these contracts are about.

That is the key issue in this case, in fact. I mean there are of course other issues on particular wordings, what does "interruption" mean, what does "interference" mean and things like that, but one of the key issues in this case, this is what this case is likely to be referred to hereafter for, is the question of causation in insurance law with reference to these contracts. In other words, not just -- it will be what are the

relevant insurance principles that apply and contractual principles that apply, and then, having established as it were the academic side, which is absolutely critical, then how do you apply that to the particular words with which one is confronted.

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: But you might say, or one might say that that question, at least in part, is determined by identification on the particular wording that one is considering and what the insured peril is. And once you have identified what the insured peril is, you would submit and you did submit on Thursday, applying normal principles of causation in contract law generally, never mind in insurance law specifically, you reverse out of your "but for" consideration, if I can put it that way, the insured peril, but you don't reverse out everything else.

 $17~{\rm MR}$ KEALEY: That is correct, and that is a fundamental issue $18~{\rm in}$ this case .

19 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Yes.

MR KEALEY: It is not answered in the way that the FCA might suggest sometimes, which is: oh well, we don't have to go there, we can just look and see what the insuring clause says, and we can envisage what it contemplated, and we can identify the insured peril but do what Ms Mulcahy says, which is add on a little bit to the

insured peril for the purposes of reversals . Those are fundamental issues with which this court is confronted. They are fundamental law, not just construction of

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: No, understood.

MR KEALEY: My Lord, there is one last point on causation on Ecclesiastical before I move to Amlin, if I may. It is a very short point.

The EIO clause with which we are concerned, my Lord, related to prevention or hindrance due to a certain character of government action, namely action due to an emergency. I paraphrase. But the reference to the emergency, as I have said really ad nauseam, is a form of qualification, and the FCA says the emergency should be reversed in the counterfactual, we say that is wrong. But let's test it just briefly in another way.

Assume that the clause gave can much broader coverage to the insured, and let's say that the clause covered prevention, losses, et cetera, resulting from prevention or hindrance due to any government action. Full stop. That would be a clause providing really quite wide coverage. Now, that clause wouldn't refer to any emergency at all. It is nowhere near the clause. No reference to it at all. Presumably, therefore, the FCA would accept that for the purposes of the counterfactual

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you don't reverse the emergency, you only reverse, according to the FCA, the elements to which the clause refers. Therefore, in what would be a far broader clause for coverage purposes, the emergency and all the other effects of the emergency remain.

Now, what is paradoxical is that if the coverage is narrower, because the clause says "prevention or hindrance caused by government action caused by an emergency", and therefore the coverage is far narrower, the FCA says you reverse the emergency just because it is referred to. And by reversing the emergency, in what was a far narrower coverage clause, you actually give the insured a hugely increased scope of coverage.

What you have done is made the insured peril even bigger than the insured peril produced by a coverage clause covering prevention or hindrance due to any government action, full stop. Because in that last clause, if you wanted to work out what but for the government action or but for the closure caused by government action, what loss was caused by that, you would necessarily take into account everything of the emergency and all the effects of the emergency. And if the effects of the emergency therefore meant that the insured had suffered no loss, then the insured would recover nothing. But under the narrower coverage

clause, the FCA says: a ha, the emergency is referred to, we reverse the entirety of the emergency. And therefore the insured ends up with hugely expanded coverage.

That proves that the insured, in this case the FCA, has simply got its wires crossed.

I hope I have made that point clear, my Lords.

MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: Very clear, Mr Kealey.

MR KEALEY: Then I am going to move on from the

Ecclesiastical to Amlin, if I may.

Now, my Lords, there are as it were two clauses in Amlin1 that are relevant, they are clauses 1 and 6. My Lords will find those in {B/10/65} and 66. I think I have got things mixed up here, my Lords. No, 65 and 66, I think that is right. It is right. 65 and 66. LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Yes, business interruption cover in

17 Amlin1.18 MR KEALEY: That is right.

What your Lordships find is that in clause 1 you have "Action of competent authorities" and in clause 6 you have "Notifiable disease, vermin defective sanitary arrangements, murder and suicide". My Lords, I am going to take clause 6 first because it is common to Amlin1 and Amlin2.

My Lords, clause 6 says:

"consequential loss as a result of interruption of or interference with the business carried on by you at the premises following ..."

(a)(iii):

"Any notifiable disease within a radius of 25 miles of the premises."

I addressed the significant causation issues that arise in relation to this clause on Thursday.

The Amlin clause defines "Notifiable Disease" or the Amlin contract defines "Notifiable Disease" at page 58 {B/10/58}. Notifiable disease is:

" Illness sustained by any person resulting from ...
"(b) any human infectious or contagious disease ...

an outbreak of which the competent local authority has stipulated will be notified to them."

So this clause, my Lord, clause 6, requires actual people with actual illness within the 25-mile radius. It is not looking to the situation beyond the 25-mile radius area, there may or may not be people there with the same or a different disease, the policy is simply not interested in them.

The issue that arises , my Lord, is whether the loss in this case was following the proved cases of the disease within the 25-mile radius area. If one applies the "but for" test, one simply removes the proved cases

of the illness within the 25-mile radius area. That assumes, my Lord, that the word "following" is causal. And we say it is at least causal, and the FCA agrees that the word "following" requires a degree of causal connection. We say that because it is causal and requires at least a degree of causal connection, it requires at least the satisfaction of the "but for" test, otherwise it is not a cause, let alone a contributing cause, it is no cause at all.

Now as I have said, the FCA accepts that the word "following" requires some degree of causal connection; it doesn't contend that the word only provides a temporal requirement. You can see that, my Lords, if your Lordships go to bundle $\{A/2/40\}$, paragraph 60 of the amended particulars of claim of the FCA:

"Further or alternatively , the word 'following' deliberately connotes an event which is part of the factual background and represents a looser causal connection than 'resulting from' and similar."

If your Lordships could go, please, to {Dav3/112:10}, you will see there:

"Now Hiscox, and we would say rightly, accepts that 'following' is a looser causal connection, although it requires more than simply a temporal successiveness or a temporal connection."

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Then it tells you what Zurich would suggest it

If you go then to the FCA's trial skeleton and you go to paragraph 893 at page 287 $\{I/1/287\}$, the FCA says at 287:

"MSAmlin assert that in respect of prevention of access clauses 'following' means proximately caused by or, alternatively, having a significant causal connection with. The latter is closer to the correct position, which is that there must be a temporal connection and a causal connection looser than proximate cause: see paragraphs 325.3 and 385 above. The 'iigsaw idea -- that the government was responding to all actual and anticipated cases of COVID-19 in the country -- is sufficient for these purposes to link the case within 25 miles to the interruption or loss."

So what seems to be suggested there is that, firstly, "following" does not mean proximately caused by, according to the FCA. It has a meaning which is closer to significant causal connection, it is looser than a proximate cause, but the jigsaw idea, which is that when the government was promulgating its regulations or taking action or giving advice, it was responding to all actual and anticipated cases, and that is sufficient, for those purposes, to link the case

within 25 miles to the interruption or loss.

Ms Mulcahy developed the FCA's case further during her oral submissions, when she said that "' following' imports a causal connection". But it is not one that requires a direct and "but for" link, rather it is more of a causal contribution . That is $\{\mathsf{Day3}/113\text{:}6\}$ to line 8. That appears, my Lords, to be a refrain from paragraph 215.2(b) of the FCA's skeleton at $\{I/1/87\}$.

At the top of page 87 in $\{1/1/87\}$:

"They fail [that is insurers] to apply the correct causation analysis in that they fail to recognise that the presence of COVID-19 in each locality is an integral part of one single broad and/or indivisible cause, being little COVID-19 pandemic, or alternatively that the outbreak in each locality made its own concurrent causative contribution to the overall of a pandemic which prompted the government response."

In fact, my Lords, and I just mention this for your note, it was not until the FCA's trial skeleton at paragraphs 779 and 899, that it was suggested by the FCA that the word "following" while requiring some degree of causal connection, did not import a "but for" test. That is not part of the FCA's pleaded case.

Now, what we say, my Lord, is that in reality this issue does not turn on the difference between proximate

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cause and some less strong cause than proximate cause; 2 it turns on the difference between cause and non-cause. 3 By non-cause I mean something that has not even passed the "but for" test. 4

MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: But you are begging a very big question 5 6 there. Suppose you had an outbreak in the locality and 7 the competent authorities, wherever they are, said: yes, 8 we are going to respond to that, that is what we are q responding to, that is our motivation in imposing these 10 restrictions . And yet it could also be said that they 11 would have done the same thing a bit later because of 12 other outbreaks. There is at least a significant 13 argument that the restrictions were imposed following 14 and because of the local outbreak, even though they 15 don't actually meet the "but for" test. 16

MR KEALEY: Well, I think, firstly , if you have a causal connection like making a causal contribution, then what you need to have is something that if it did not exist, would not have resulted in whatever it is it is said to

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Putting that another way, what you are really saying, do I get this right, is that however loose the causal connection can be said to be, it has to satisfy the "but for" test otherwise it is not causal at

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MR KEALEY: That is exactly what I am saying. It makes no 1 2 causal contribution at all.

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Well, that is a point that has troubled me, that was puzzling me, because "but for" is certainly not the same thing as proximate cause.

6 MR KEALEY: No, it is very much not.

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: So what is something that is more than temporal successiveness or connection, but as it were some looser causal effect that doesn't satisfy the "but for" test? It is very difficult to discern what that

MR KEALEY: In our submission, even if you look at the cases

which talk about material contribution. like Bonnington.

12 MR KEALEY: I don't believe it is -- or there is .

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: No. 13

> which is in the bundle, which is a tort case, if you look at anything which is described as making a material causal contribution, it is either something which satisfies the "but for" test or, in the tortious context, is something which falls within the Fairchild Enclave or an acknowledged and recognised exception to the "but for" test. But to say that something has

23 a causal contribution in circumstances where, if it did

24 not exist, it would make absolutely no difference to the

25 result, is in our submission misusing the words. It's

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not making any causal contribution at all .

If one is talking about a question of temporal succession, then one would be in a completely different area of investigation. But since we are not purely in an arena of temporal succession, we are in an arena of causation, cause and consequence, if something makes absolutely no difference to the consequence, then it is not a cause of that consequence.

That is the whole debate about "but for" in, for example, areas like Fairchild and everywhere else, where it is acknowledged it could not be proved, in that very exceptional area of investigation, the negligence of the manufacturer or whoever it was, the employer, had any causal connection with the ultimate disease, and because the "but for" test could not be satisfied.

What we submit, my Lord, is that what I was suggesting, and my Lord Mr Justice Butcher took issue with me, is that if you can't even get over the "but for" test you are not into cause.

MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: That I do have difficulty with. There are various different ways you can look at cause, and one is to have a direct effect. The hypothesis I was putting to you, there is a direct effect; it is the disease within the locality which leads the authority to impose the restriction.

MR KEALEY: Then that --

MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: That is the effect. It could actually be shown, though, that that restriction might have been imposed or would have been imposed for other reasons later. There, you can say that there is a direct effect even though it is not a "but for" cause, because the restrictions would have been implemented later.

MR KEALEY: I would answer that in a variety of ways.

It depends which area of law you are in. That's the first thing. For example, if you are in the area of fraudulent representation or fraudulent misrepresentation, then what the law does is to say that you don't have to prove, for cases of fraudulent misrepresentation, that but for the fraudulent misrepresentation the representee would have done something other than that which the representee did. It is sufficient for fraudulent misrepresentation, for example, that that which was fraudulently misrepresented was in the forefront or in part of the representee 's mind when determining what to do or what not to do.

But here we are in a completely different area of legal investigation. Here we are in the area internally to a contract, before one even gets to proximate causation, of asking oneself whether, as a matter of the proper interpretation of this contract, the word

"following" has a causative connotation and requires a causal recollection; and if so, what that causal connection is required to be. And in a contractual framework such as the framework with which we are confronting, we say that the word "following" has a causal connection and must therefore satisfy the "but for" test

I am going to take you to the contract in a moment and to the word "following" so you can see it in its proper context, because our primary case is that the word "following" in the contract is the same as "as a result of" or "in consequence of", in other words, is the same as a proximate cause or a direct cause.

Your Lordships --

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: This wording doesn't in fact mention
 government action at all, does it, clause 6?
 MR KEALEY: No, this wording doesn't, my Lord. This

MR KEALEY: No, this wording doesn't, my Lord. This wording --

 $\begin{array}{lll} 19 & {\hbox{LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Interruption or interference with the}} \\ 20 & {\hbox{business following any notifiable disease within}} \\ 21 & {\hbox{a 25-mile radius}} \, . \end{array}$

MR KEALEY: Yes, that is right, my Lord. That is exactly 23 what --

24 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: It may be that government action, or 25 whatever, leading to interruption or interference is to

be inferred, but it is not actually referred to at all.

MR KEALEY: No, it is not. Government action is not referred to in this particular clause. Nevertheless, what we say is that "following" in this clause means, means, and your Lordships will see how we put it, means "directly or proximately caused by the notifiable disease within that radius". And what you are looking at is the consequential loss as a result of interruption or interference with the business following that disease.

We say that there has to be a direct causal connection between that notifiable disease, in other words, as we have mentioned, the sickness, the actual sickness, sustained or contracted by a person or persons within the radius of 25 miles of the premises, and the interruption of or interference with the business carried on at those premises.

It is not good enough, in our submission, that the notifiable disease or the sickness within that area was something which occurred but which doesn't have the satisfactory or necessary causal connection with the interruption .

Just because the government in London says, on a jigsaw basis, as the FCA suggests, "Well, we have got to stop the disease from spreading" or "We've got to

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stop the NHS from being overrun or overwhelmed", that doesn't mean, in our respectful submission, that a sickness within that radius had the impact which it is required to have for the purposes of satisfaction of that clause.

Now, as I have mentioned, we say that "following", in the context in which it appears, is intended to equate to direct or proximate cause.

Mr Edelman suggested that the word "following" and "resulting from" had only been used interchangeably on one occasion, on the Welcome page and in the BI insuring clause. He said that at {Dav3/130:1}.

Can I take your Lordship to the contract more specifically . If you go to $\{B/10/59\}$ you will see that "Insuring clause" says:

"For each item in the schedule, we will pay you for any interruption or interference with the business resulting from damage to property used by you at the premises for the purposes of the business ..."

So there the words "resulting from damage" are used. If you go down on the same page to the basis of

settlement provision, and you go to gross profit, you will see that under paragraphs 1 and 2, "for reduction in turnover" and "for increase in cost of working", the use of the word "following the damage".

So, for example, if you look at 1:

"For reduction in turnover, the sum produced by applying the rate of gross profit to the amount by which the turnover during the indemnity period will following the damage fall short of the standard turnover."

If you go to paragraph 2:

"For increase in cost of working, the additional expenditure necessarily and reasonably incurred for the sole purpose of avoiding or diminishing the reduction in turnover which, but for that expenditure, would have taken place during the indemnity period following the damage but not exceeding the total of ..."

What we say, my Lord, is that the word "following ", used there in both contexts of paragraphs 1 and 2, reflect the same causation requirement as appears in the main business interruption clause imported by the use of the words "as a result of" or "resulting from".

The word "following" in the "Claims Basis of Settlement A -- Gross Profit", is not intended to have a different or looser causal connecting meaning. It is the different word of course, but it means the same in the context.

If you go to page $\{B/10/60\}$ and you go to "Rent Receivable" under paragraph 1:

"For loss of rent receivable $\,\dots\,$ the amount by which

the rent receivable during the indemnity period will, following the damage, fall short of the standard rent receivable."

It is the same causal connection link . It is also the case, as Mr Edelman pointed out, that we rely on what is said at the Welcome page, which is $\{B/10/3\}$. This is a Welcome page. This is your instant, et cetera, policy, and it sets out the details of your insurance contract:

"It must be read [this document] ... any endorsements, et cetera, must be read together as one contract as they form your policy. In return for payment of the premium shown in the schedule we agree to insure you against ..."

The second bullet point:

"Loss resulting from interruption or interference with the business following damage."

Just to remind your Lordships about the top of page 59 $\{B/10/59\}$, when it comes to the actual insuring clause, at the top of 59:

"We will pay you for any interruption or interference with the business resulting from damage."

There is no intention, my Lords, to have a different causal requirement. As you see there, the Welcome page says "following damage"; the top of 59 says "resulting

from damage"; the bases of settlement clauses refer to "following damage".

These are words that we say are used interchangeably .

It is also relevant, in our submission, to have regard to the definition of "consequential loss". The definition , my Lord, is at page 11 $\{B/10/11\}$:

"Consequential loss is defined as loss resulting from interruption or interference with the business carried on by you at the premises in consequence of damage to property used by you at the premises for the purpose of the business."

Now, the words "resulting from" were not used. Rather the phrase "in consequence of" was used. "Resulting from" was in the first line. Perhaps for elegance of prose it decided, or the person drafting this, decided not to use the words "resulting from damage" in the second line having used it in the first line. I know not.

But if you go to clause 6, the clause with which we are concerned $\{B/10/59\}$, you will see -- perhaps one should start at the top of page $\{65\}$:

"Additional cover provided as standard.

"We will pay you for ", and then go to clause 6:

"Consequential loss as a result of interruption of

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or interference with the business carried on by you at the premises following any notifiable $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right)$ disease ."

Now if you transpose the words from the definition "consequential loss", there is a certain element of duplication and superfluity because "consequential loss means:

"Loss resulting from interruption of or interference with the business carried on by you at the premises in consequence of damage to property", and then one would continue:

"As a result of interruption of or interference with the business carried on by you following any notifiable disease "

Of course as one reads that out one recognises that if the definition of "consequential loss" was applied strictly in accordance with its terms clause 6 would never be triggered, because notifiable disease would never have caused damage to property. So that can't have been intended

So what must have been intended is that some deft and sensible verbal manipulation should take place such that "damage" is read as referring to the insured peril . And indeed that appears to be common ground: FCA's trial skeleton $\{1/1/259\}$.

So on that basis it is clear, we would respectfully

suggest, that the phrase "in consequence of" in the definition of "consequential loss", is being used interchangeably with the word "following" in the disease clause, MSA 1, clause 6.

So you have there clear indications wherever the word "following" is used, that it is used in the same sense as "as a result of" or "resulting from", or "in consequence of". All three phrases or words have the same meaning.

The same analysis, my Lords, I should say applies to Amlin2. I can deal with this I suppose more quickly because I have just dealt with it in Amlin1. But if you go to $\{B/11/44\}$ what is covered is at the top:

"For each item in the schedule we will pay you for any interruption or interference with the business resulting from damage to property used by you for the purposes of the business occurring during the period of the insurance caused by an insured event ..."

Then you go down to the "Gross Profit", and you see under paragraphs 1 and 2 the same use of the words "following the damage".

We again refer your Lordships to the Welcome page, which is at page 4, the second bullet point:

"Loss resulting from interruption or interference with the business following damage."

I will refer you again to the "consequential loss" definition at page 42 $\{B/11/42\}$:

"Loss resulting from interruption ... [et cetera] carried on by you following damage."

So we say again that these clauses reflect the cover provided under the main BI provision and use the word or the term "following" interchangeably or meaning the same as "resulting from".

So our primary argument on the wording is that "following" is the same as proximate causation. It is not a looser causal connection. But if it is a looser causal connection than proximate cause then we make the submission that it still doesn't assist the FCA in displacing the "but for" test.

MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: Even if it does displace the "but for" test does it make any difference?

Wouldn't you say that whatever causal significance you give to the word "following", it is not met by the disease within the 25-mile radius, because to take -- and I have put the point about but for to you before, Mr Kealey and I am not going to do it again -- but this is not a case where you can even say that, that because of the 25-mile radius that had any specific effect in relation to the interference with the business.

MR KEALEY: That is exactly what we say. We respectfully

adopt, and your Lordships will see it in QBE's skeleton, I think it is, I think it is QBE's skeleton, which really dispatches the point, if I might very respectfully say so, with huge skill and elegance all at the same time, QBE's skeleton despatches any idea that any disease within any particular radius -- I should mention it is in $\{1/17/36\}$ -- it despatches any idea that anything going on, any of these illnesses , whatever they were, within whatever radius it is, and the greatest one is a 25-mile radius, had any causative impact whatsoever on any interruption or interference, any interruption of or interference with the business of any insured.

I was going to let Mr Howard make his submissions in due course, of course. But if one looks at $\{I/17/37\}$ for a moment. If we could go to page 37, one should read really -- one should actually read paragraph 85 of my learned friends ', who acts for QBE, their skeleton . You should read 85 through to 90.

20 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Why don't we read those to ourselves
 21 over the lunch break. We can break now until 2 o'clock.
 22 How much longer have you got, Mr Kealey?

MR KEALEY: I have got probably another hour or so, I think, 24 an hour to an hour and a half.

 $25\,$ LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Is that in accordance with the plan or

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is there a slin?

-	is there a sup.
2	MR KEALEY: I think that is my allowance.
3	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Right, okay. Fine, jolly good.
4	2 o'clock then.
5	MR KEALEY: Thank you, my Lord.
6	(1.00 pm)
7	(The short adjournment)
8	(2.00 pm)
9	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: When you are ready, Mr Kealey.
10	MR KEALEY: Thank you, my Lord.
11	I am going the move to Amlin, clause 1, which
12	my Lords you will find in $\{B/10/65\}$.
13	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: I think you mean clause 3.
14	MR KEALEY: I hope not.
15	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: No, you are quite right. I beg your
16	pardon, I am looking at the wrong thing.
17	MR KEALEY: That's lucky, because I was thinking maybe I had
18	spent the last few days researching the wrong clause.
19	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: That would be really unfortunate.
20	MR KEALEY: Still, I could make it up as I go along.
21	Clause 1, my Lord, headed "Action of competent
22	authorities ":
23	"Loss resulting from interruption or interference
24	with the business following action by the police or
25	other competent local, civil or military authority
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following a danger or disturbance in the vicinity of the premises where access will be prevented ... "

It obviously speaks of authority action where access will be prevented.

We say the words "will be prevented", the tense used is simply looking to the result or the effect on the premises of the authority action. That, we say, is the only significance of the tense used.

Now, in terms of the necessary result or effect of the action, it doesn't talk about access being hindered, it only talks about access being prevented. It doesn't talk about use being prevented and it doesn't talk about use being hindered; in fact, it doesn't talk about use at all. So the only concept in terms of the effect of the action with which we are concerned is access being prevented.

If you compare that with clause 7, at page 67 of the same file $\{B/10/67\}$, you will see under the heading "Prevention of access":

"Consequential loss as a result of damage to property near the premises which prevents or hinders the use of the premises or access to them will be deemed to be damage."

So clause 7 envisages both access being prevented or hindered, and also use being prevented or hindered. The

parties obviously know the difference between access and use, and the difference between prevention and hindrance. Out of the four possibilities envisaged in clause 7, only one appears in clause 1., namely access will be prevented.

Therefore, when the parties used only one of the four possibilities in clause 1, we would respectfully suggest that that has to be given effect to as a matter of construction . We make these points, for your reference , my Lords, at paragraphs 144 to 145 of our skeleton . You needn't look it up, it is in $\{1/12/94\}$.

So we are not talking about hindrance and we are not talking about use. We say that in that context "prevention", prevention of access that is, means an impossibility of gaining physical access to the premises. That impossibility may be the physical effect of the authority action or a legal effect, but nothing short of impossibility will do.

Now, if that provides only limited cover, then so be it. That is not a reason for expanding the cover. If a situation arises in which it is made more difficult but not impossible to gain physical access to the premises, that is not prevention of access, that is hindrance of access. That is not covered.

If a situation arises in which you can get to the

premises and access them, but you can only use some part of the premises when you get there, because use of some part of the premises is impossible when you get there, that is not prevention off access; that is prevention or hindrance of use. That is not covered, because nothing short of prevention of access is.

The fact that loss has to result from interruption of or interference with the business, with the emphasis in this context on interference, does not dilute the meaning of prevention of access. A business may well be interfered with, and not interrupted, as a result of prevention of access to its premises. For example, a business may have several premises. One of those premises might suffer from enforced prevention of access. That might interfere with a carrying on by the insured of its business as a whole. For example, if access is prevented to warehouse A, containing raw materials which are required by the factory at location B, the factory at location B may be interfered with but not interrupted, because it can still receive some materials from warehouse C.

"Business", I should mention is defined at $\{B/10/10\}.$ The business is :

"The business specified in the schedule conducted solely within the territorial limits \dots "

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So "Business" there contemplates a business with just one premises or with several premises. So as I say, if one of those premises cannot be accessed, in other words, access is prevented, if it has raw materials required by the factory at premises B, the inability to gain access to A and extract raw materials for the purposes of the business carried on at premises B will interfere or may interfere with the business, but will not necessarily interrupt it.

Moreover, perhaps a simpler example, a business to whose premises access is prevented may nonetheless be capable of being carried on away from the premises. A professional services business, for example, may be able to work from home, but because access to its premises might be prevented that might affect its turnover. That is interference with the business as a result of prevention of access.

Now in our case, my Lord, in our submission, for much the same reasons as given by Mr Gaisman earlier yesterday, there was no prevention of access to the premises even insofar as the lockdown regulations meant that customers were not allowed to go there.

Mr Gaisman gave the example of the tailor who was able to conduct her tailoring business from home. Because the materials and equipment are essential, she

can't conduct her business -- sorry, she can't conduct her business were home because the materials and equipment are essential and they are only at the premises. That business, my Lord -- that is $\{J/16/4\}$ -was never required by the regulations to close. It was always permitted by rule 6(2)(f), always permitted for the tailor to travel to work because she couldn't undertake her business at home.

We take into account in making these submissions, my Lords, that none of the government advice was mandatory or compulsory. We make that point at paragraphs 31 and following in our opening skeleton $\{1/12/23\}$. It is worth just reminding ourselves what Lord Sumption said. What he said was in The Times newspaper, it is in $\{1/12/28\}$, that is paragraph 33.6. At the foot of the page, at thee 3.6 he says:

"... in his press conference Boris Johnson purported to place most citizens under virtual house arrest through the terms of a press conference and a statement on the government website said to have 'immediate effect'. These pronouncements are no doubt valuable as 'advice', even 'strong advice'. But under our constitution neither has the slightest legal effect without statutory authority."

Then if you could read the rest of the passage from

his piece at page 29, I would be grateful , my Lord. $\{1/12/29\}$.

My Lords, we say, therefore, for access to be prevented by any action of any authority within the meaning of this clause, that means any action, generally speaking, having the force of law. So nothing done by any authority by way of advice, instructions or announcement legally prevented access to any premises.

Now, as you know, the FCA says, see its reply at paragraph 13.1, that is $\{A/14/8\}$, that prohibition does not require legal force, it requires that something is forbidden by someone with authority. The FCA continues and says that the government did prohibit through guidance and announcements, and would have been so understood by Mr Gaisman's Jacobean reasonable citizen . They go so far as to say that:

"All the advice [et cetera] given on 16 March and on many occasions subsequently amounted for all businesses to prevention of access to the premises."

That is paragraph 46 of the amended points of claim, that is $\{A/2/30\}.$

Now, we have dealt with that in considerable detail, mainly by reference to constitutional law and very high authority, at paragraphs 33 and following of our opening submissions; that is $\{1/12/23\}$ and following. It is

worth just remarking that Boris Johnson is not Maximilien Robespierre or George Danton, he is not the president of the Committee of Public Safety, we don't live in a dictatorship or a totalitarian regime. The idea that Boris Johnson, also known as Robespierre, can issue an instruction without any legal validity or force, and that is translated as a legal prohibition or a prohibition by someone with authority, has only to be stated, we say, to be rejected.

Now, the fact that some members of the citizenry of this country, if one wants to borrow from the French revolution, might have been taken in and might have chosen to live by the Prime Ministerial announcements or guidance rather than by the regulations is neither here nor there. There was government guidances that went beyond the government regulations, and the latter are binding and the former are not. It is as simple as that.

If one takes the documents in the bundle, that is just for your reference $\{C/2/287\}$, according to what Mr Edelman would say, all citizens were prohibited from exercising more than once a day because the government said so. But actually the regulations said absolutely nothing about how many times a day you could exercise. You can have a look at that, it is regulation 6(2)(f),

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 $\{1/16/4\}.$

2	Moving on from the legal perspective, if one is told
3	to close one's business that does not prevent access to
4	the premises. What it does is it prevents the use of
5	the premises for that business. The proprietor could
6	still gain access to the premises, even if there was
7	a complete prohibition or prevention of use from or at
8	those premises for the purposes of conducting the
9	insured business. What you cannot do is transform
10	a prevention of access cover into a prevention of use
11	cover. If, however, we are wrong on that
12	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: So you say this clause doesn't bite at
13	all .
14	MR KEALEY: No, we say that exactly.
15	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: I mean, if one looks at it and tries to
16	think about what it really directed at, and again it is
L7	very a local cover, isn't it, "danger or disturbance in
18	the vicinity of the premises", so it is looking, for
19	example, if there were, I don't know, an oil spill which
20	caused a danger, and government or the police say you
21	are issue instructions , leaving aside your point
22	about what has as it were legal effect, but assume they
23	issue some form of instructions that is legally binding
24	that requires someone not to go to the premises.
25	MR KFALFY: Correct

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2 24 hours, then there is cover. 3 MR KEALEY: That is exactly right, my Lord. So you have 4 a bomb scare, you have a gas leak, you have a terrorist 5 event, you have a water main bursting, a flood, whatever 6 it is 7 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Actually on the face of it, it is 8 fairly narrow cover, isn't it? 9 MR KEALEY: Yes, it is. 10 11

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Provided that it lasts for at least

If we are wrong about all of that, which we are not, but perchance we might be, and this is really a prevention of use cover, despite what it says, then the position becomes much more detailed and complicated, because it will turn upon what the regulations said about different types of business. There were many businesses about which the regulations were silent because they were neither required to close nor expressly essential to remain open. That is very important to us, my Lord, because Amlin1 was predominantly, though not exclusively, used for businesses of a type which in the event were not required to close; barristers 'chambers, solicitors ' firms, accountancy firms and the like.

The reason we say that clause 1 is actually narrow is because it is to be inferred that Amlin was only

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prepared to offer limited non-damage cover. This, of course, is an extension to the extension.

3 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: So in the case of those, as it were, 4 typical insured, you say the FCA doesn't even get to 5 first base.

6 MR KEALEY: Correct, my Lord.

7 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Because there is no question of anybody 8 being prevented from going into your chambers or into q your solicitor 's office or whatever. The fact that you 10 choose not to, and choose to work from home is your 11 choice.

MR KEALEY: That's right. Yes. I'm afraid we take a very simple approach to this. When it says access is prevented, we think access is prevented. I can't really say it more than once. You can't gain access.

If it is suggested: oh well, maybe you can -- there are instances where -- this is I think one of Mr Edelman's examples: well, you can get into the premises but the fifth floor, for example, is closed. We say that is not prevention of access to the premises, that is a prevention or hindrance of use of the fifth floor

We give some examples, there are two of them. I am not going to take your Lordship to them now because we don't have the time and you probably, just like I, won't

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have the interest . But at paragraph 159 of our opening submissions at $\{1/12/96\}$, we give two examples which are relevant, including one applying all category five businesses mutatis mutandis.

So my Lords, that really deals with the essential kernel of this clause. We can't pass by completely without saying that a danger in the vicinity is something that obviously you have to look at. We say a danger requires an acute risk of harm. I mean, a risk we appreciate or a threat we appreciate. We also recognise that in the vicinity requires that the acute risk of harm be in the neighbourhood of the premises. But in terms of neighbourhood, that is an elastic concept.

15 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: For example, the example we have looked at or talked about many times, a measles outbreak in the town, and the local authority impose a prevention of access on all the schools in the town or something of that kind, that would probably be a danger in the 20 vicinity of the premises

21 MR KEALEY: I think we would accept that, my Lord, ves.

22 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Yes.

23 MR KEALEY: We would. The fact that it is a disease or an 24 illness doesn't make any difference.

25 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: It doesn't stop it from being a danger. 108

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It is not a disturbance but it is a danger. respectful submission, where you have interference or 2 MR KEALEY: That is absolutely right, my Lord. Equally, an 2 interruption of business following action by the police, 3 outbreak of weasels as opposed to measles could be 3 that is not sequential, that means as a result of. So 4 a danger, depending on the ferocity of the weasels 4 I can't really take it any further than that. LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Well, you say it is a further 5 5 concerned. 6 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Not so likely, Mr Kealey. 6 indication that "resulting from" and "following" are 7 7 MR KEALEY: What we can say is set out in our written used interchangeably in this policy. submissions at paragraphs 177 to 185, including as to 8 8 MR KEALEY: Yes, my Lord, that's right. q q the causation requirement; in other words, the danger I think I have dealt with Amlin1 now and could 10 10 obviously has to cause the government action, and that I move on to Amlin2. 11 is built into the clause. That, for my Lords' 11 I have already dealt with Amlin2 the disease clause. 12 12 reference, is to be found at $\{1/12/100\}$ to page 102. which is clause 6, because that is the same as Amlin1. 13 13 But we can't go any further into this, my Lords, save to one extent. The disease clause, my Lord, is at 14 because in terms of causation and in terms of whether 14 {B/11/47}. 15 this clause responds to anything, further than I have 15 I am reminded that the FCA makes one additional 16 16 point at paragraph 906 of its trial skeleton, so that is already indicated, it is a question about dates, 17 17 in $\{1/1/290\}$. At paragraph 906, the third line, it is locations and facts as to whether there was a danger in 18 the vicinity, as to what the vicinity is. The vicinity 18 said: 19 "There is no requirement in MSAmlin2 for 19 of, say, Islington or a road in Islington will probably 20 occupy really quite a small area compared to the 20 'interruption or interference 'at all." 21 21 vicinity of a rural hotel in the middle of Unless serious surgery is done to transplant 22 22 Northumberland. It is all depends upon the context in a modified form of the property damage-related 23 23 consequential loss definition, all that is required is which the premises are to be located and found. 24 24 loss following the notifiable disease. That is where it So I can't say any more than that at the moment. 25 Certainly if it is suggested that the vicinity means 25 begins and ends. But if one could just go back, if we 109 111

a place where, if something happens it can reasonably be expected to have an impact on the premises, that is such a broad and indefinite and unhelpful definition that one doesn't really know what to say about it. I suppose the next time that there is an outbreak of some unknown virus in China, that might be said to be in the vicinity of Westminster, simply because there might be a reasonable expectation that if things aren't done properly it could extend to Westminster. But I don't think that anyone in his or her right mind or their right mind would say that what is going on in China really is in the vicinity of Westminster.

My Lords, I move on swiftly to the question, which I'm not going to answer because I have answered it already, as to the meaning of "following", because it won't have escaped your eagle eyes that the causal connecting linkage in clause 1 is "following". So you have to interruption or interference with business following action by the police or other competent local, civil or military authority following a danger.

Now, you have heard our submissions on "following" in a completely different context. We would say, and indeed the FCA acknowledges I think, that "following" denotes some causal connection. But the obvious causal connection in this context is caused by, in our

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may, to $\{B/11/47\}$, "Consequential Loss" is a defined term. The definition of "Consequential Loss", my Lords, is at page $\{B/11/42\}.$ We have looked at this before, I think, in the earlier policy. "Consequential Loss" is defined as:

"Loss resulting from interruption of or interference with the business \dots "

To put that definition into the context of clause 6 at page 47, obviously a certain degree of verbal manipulation is required, because the definition of "Consequential Loss" is following damage to property, and of course we are in with one of the non-damage extensions. But there is no doubt about it, my Lords, that the emboldened "consequential loss" in clause 6 at page 47 takes its meaning from the definition, as one would expect, and the definition includes "loss resulting from interruption of or interference with the business".

So when the FCA says that there is no requirement in MSAmlin2 for interruption or interference at all, they have got it wrong. And when they talk about serious surgery done to transplant a modified form, it is not that serious surgery, all it requires is a little bit of skill and deftness and elegance and we know exactly what it means; it means "loss resulting from interruption of

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or interference with the business carried on by you at the premises following any occurrence ..." et cetera, et cetera, or following any notifiable disease. It is hardly brain surgery.

My Lords, we move on now to "Prevention of access --non-damage" clause, that is number 8. That is at $\{B/11/48\}$. You have seen a remarkably similar version to this in the Hiscox NDDA clause. This is the incident within a 1 mile radius resulting in a denial of access or hindrance in access, et cetera.

Now, we adopt everything and anything that Mr Gaisman said in relation to this clause, mutatis mutandis. There is only one extra point that I would like to make, which gives us a little more weight, as it were. As you will see, going back to page 46 $\{B/11/46\}$, at the top it says:

"We will pay you for ..."

Then if you go to page $\{B/11/47\}$ — well, if you stay on page 46, forgive me, you will see that the words "consequential loss", in bold, are used very frequently in, for example, clauses 2, 3, and then if one turns the page to $\{B/11/47\}$, 4, 6, 7, and in fact later on at page $\{B/11/48\}$, 11, 12 and 13. What you find is that clause 8 does not say "consequential loss", so one asks oneself why has the defined term not been used, why have

the parties used different language?

Well, there are two reasons, as Mr Gaisman said yesterday in relation to a similar point. Instead of covering loss just resulting from, on this occasion it covers only loss resulting solely and directly from.

The second reason, which is a more powerful point than Mr Gaisman was able to make, simply because I have better fortune in my wording than he does, is that clause 8 does not cover interruption of or interference with the business, it only covers interruption to the business. So there is no contamination here by any thought of interference with the business, we only have interruption to the business.

That reinforces the fact, my Lords, that in this clause the parties said what they meant and meant what they said in referring only to interruption. No room exists for conflating "interruption" with "interference", given the way in which clause 8 has been prepared and drafted.

On that note, I will leave this clause and simply adopt everything that Mr Gaisman said.

That leads me naturally, as it were, to Amlin3, which I am going to take very swiftly, perhaps even as swiftly as Mr Edelman took Amlin3. It is at {B/12/1}.

 $\label{long} \mbox{LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Is it used by anyone other than forges?}$

 $1\,$ $\,$ MR KEALEY: Not that I'm aware of, my Lord, no.

 $2\,$ LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Does anybody know what happened to

forges during lockdown?

 $4\,$ $\,$ MR KEALEY: Well, they were businesses that were never

required to close.

 $6 \quad \mathsf{LORD} \ \mathsf{JUSTICE} \ \mathsf{FLAUX} \colon \ \mathsf{Yes}.$

MR KEALEY: They --

 $\begin{array}{ll} 8 & \text{LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Insofar as forges, in one sense, is} \\ 9 & \text{a rural concept, the requirements for those things which} \end{array}$

are made in forges continued throughout the lockdown.

11 MR KEALEY: Indeed. It is quite difficult to take your 12 furnace and everything home and start making iron works 13 and weathervanes and goodness knows what from one's

and weathervanes and goodness knows what from one's drawing room.

15 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Horseshoes, agricultural machinery, 16 implements, I suppose. Anyway ...

17 MR KEALEY: Horseshoes are much more farriers. You don't 18 normally go to a forge.

19 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: No, I suppose that's true.

 $20\,$ $\,$ MR KEALEY: Your farrier normally comes to your horse.

21 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Well, you would know.

22 MR KEALEY: Anyway --

 $23\,$ $\,$ MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: Doesn't the forge have to make the

 $24\,$ horseshoe which the farrier then shoes the horse with?

25 MR KEALEY: Not necessarily, no, my Lord. If you ever come

across a farrier, you will find that the horseshoes there, they may be made but normally the farrier will have made them himself. Whether he has a personal forge or not, I don't know, but of course he then heats them up very considerably and moulds them to your horse's hoof and hammers away, and normally gets bitten by the

horse, or at least does in my case.

Anyway, I should say there are no claims of which

Amlin is aware, but that is neither nor there, you have

the wording and --

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: It shows in the wording.

12 MR KEALEY: What I am going to do on this is, I just don't
13 see the profit, with the amount of time that we have, to
14 go into any detail. My written submissions stand. Your
15 Lordships will see them.

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Unless you want to add anything to your written submissions, we will take them as read,

18 Mr Kealey.

MR KEALEY: I'm grateful.

I am just going to take your Lordship then -- I am coming towards the end, but not quite, because I still have some causation issues to take, very shortly, and maybe just a word or two about trends clauses. But I am aware of my learned friends, who are, to use the same analogy, champing at the bit to get into court, as it

were, before your Lordship. I don't know whether my Lord Lord Justice -- you are still there. I can't hear your Lordship. I am trying to lipread and I think I probably have worked it out. LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: I was just saying that I seem to have gone back to the other camera. I have got two cameras and one of them that was working this morning has now q q stopped working, but not to worry. MR KEALEY: Good. I am going to take causation quite swiftly . I want to take a very simple insuring clause for BI loss. Business interruption loss caused by prevention of access on to the premises, caused by public authority action due to an incident within a 1 mile radius. For your reference, it is the joint skeleton. paragraphs 63 to 80, pages 68 to 75. All I want to address is the issue of independent and interdependent causes in that last example -- or that last clause. The authority action and the incident are interdependent in the sense only that the incident caused the authority action. Without the incident the public authority would not have taken action. The relevant question, however, is whether the loss, that is interruption to or interference with the business

resulting from prevention of access, was caused by those interdependent causes; in other words, by their combination.

The insuring clause only provides cover where those causes are operating in combination. That is the combination or causal chain which the insurance clause requires. There has to be both an incident and authority action due to the incident for the insuring clause to be triggered. But the mere existence in combination of the incident and the authority action does not necessarily prove that the loss was caused by that combination. If the accident or the incident was the start of another causal chain in which it combined with something else to cause the loss, that something else would be an independent cause of the loss, capable of causing the loss, independently of the combination, which the insuring clause defines as the peril.

So if the incident gave rise to public reaction separate and apart from government action, and if the public reaction was such as to cause the same business interruption loss irrespective of the government action, the loss was not caused by the incident in combination with the government action. That is because that combination doesn't pass the "but for" test.

As between insured and insurer, the loss is regarded

as caused by a separate combination, the causal chain containing the incident and the public reaction to the incident.

So a loss is only caused by interdependent causes when both causes operate in combination and caused the loss. In that situation, both causes satisfy the "but for" test. That was the case in The B Atlantic; drugs on the hull of the ship, and the seizure by the customs authorities. There was a combination of causes. There was an interdependence of causes. There was no other potential cause of the loss.

Here there is something additional and independent going on from the clause that I have just identified .

If you assume that COVID-19 caused customers to stay away, regardless of government action, that is a cause independent of the combination of interdependent causes located in the insured peril. Though the interdependent causes exist and are essential for the insured peril, they simply didn't cause the insured loss, because there was a further independent cause, the operation of which means that the insured combination, at least pro tanto, failed the "but for" test.

Now, it is said against us that that makes no commercial sense.

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: That would, of course, depend on the

 $\begin{array}{lll} 1 & & \text{facts in any given case, would it not?} \\ 2 & & \text{MR KEALEY: That is absolutely right, my Lord. Absolutely} \\ 3 & & & \text{right} \, . \end{array}$

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: So all we can do in terms of issues of principle is to determine whether or not, in your example, the fact that customers are staying away as a consequence of COVID-19, irrespective of government advice, would amount to an independent cause.

MR KEALEY: Yes. That is correct. That is absolutely right .

Don't get me wrong, this can work in favour of the insured. Let's say you have got an access road, and a jogger is stabbed along the side of the road. Let's hope he doesn't die, but anyway, he's stabbed. He doesn't block any road, he happens to be injured by the side of the road, but the police close the road and it is a crime scene for several days. The prevention of access isn't caused by the incident, it is caused by the public authority action. The public authority action was itself caused by the incident, and the insured gets cover.

That is the sort of case which the clause covers. The prevention of access is caused by the authority action due to the incident. There is no other independent cause operating, so there is nothing to stop

loss is regarded 25 independent cause oper

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the insured combination, which are interdependent causes, from passing the "but for" test and being regarded as the proximate cause of the loss.

My Lords, that is Amlin and that is causation.

The last item is trends. I have only got a little while to go, and I am going to take this quite shortly because it hasn't detained many of the participants in these proceedings, but it would be remiss of me not to say something. I could, if I were lazy, simply refer your Lordships to our skeleton at paragraphs 255-278, $\{1/12/129\}$ to 148. All I will do is emphasise one or two matters.

The trends clauses generally reject the causal requirements in the relevant insuring clauses, all of which require the application of the "but for" test. The general rule or the general practice that you will see reflected in all these insurance contracts with which you are concerned, not just mine, is that the trends clauses make explicit that which was already implicit as a matter of law.

Secondly, it cannot have been intended that the policies do not provide any method for quantifying an insured's loss under the non-damage business interruption extensions.

So even though the trends clauses almost all appear

in the context of business interruption loss caused by physical damage, it is obvious when one reads the policies that the trends clauses, likewise the gross profit or standard turnover or increased expense of working, all those clauses were intended to apply to business interruption losses which were provided by extension beyond the physical damage business interruption sections of the policy. And the right and sensible conclusion for the purposes of the application of the trends clauses, in I think all these policies, is simply to substitute for the word "damage", where it appears, "the insured peril ", in the context of the non-damage BI extensions.

Thirdly, Mr Edelman made submissions on Day 2 as to the breadth and meaning of trends clauses, and submitted that they could only be used to adjust for extraneous matters unconnected with the cause of the insured peril . Now, we have addressed that in writing, paragraphs 276 to 278 of our skeleton at $\{I/12/144\}$. What I will do is simply make my submissions by reference to trends clauses in Ecclesiastical type 1.2., which is accepted by the FCA to apply.

Your Lordships will go there, it is in $\{B/5/39\}$. If your Lordships go to the "Standard Revenue", the bottom left , it means:

"The revenue during the period corresponding with the indemnity period of the 12 months immediately before the date of the damage appropriately adjusted where the indemnity period exceeds 12 months to which such adjustments will be made as may be necessary to provide for the trend of the business and for variations in or other circumstances affecting the business either before or after the damage or which would have affected the business had the damage not occurred so that the figures thus adjusted shall represent as nearly as may be reasonably practicable the results which but for the damage would have been obtained during the relative period after the damage."

My Lords, as I read that, although it sounds complicated, nothing could be clearer than the objective or the purpose of the clause. In fact, it is explicit. Everything is to go into the mix so that upon adjustment, taking into account everything, the figures shall represent as nearly as may be reasonably practicable the results which but for the damage, or in our case but for the insured peril, would have been obtained during the relative period after the damage.

It is as simple as that. These words are plainly broad enough to encompass the uninsured effects on the insured's business of the cause or causes of the insured

peril. In other words, not the insured peril, but that which underlies or underlines the insured peril.

As in the Orient-Express in the business interruption section, where the insured peril was physical damage, as we know, it takes into account the cause of the insured peril, the insured event; in other words, the hurricane.

No restrictions whatsoever are placed on the type or nature of trends, variations or other circumstances. They can, and not only can but they must be taken into account so long as they either affected the business or would have affected the business had the insured peril not occurred.

It does not say on the tin, which Mr Edelman has, see transcript $\{Day2/109:17\}$ to line 19, it does not say on the tin that it is all about the ordinary vicissitudes of life. That neither appears under the ingredients nor under any of the health warnings that might be apparent on the tin.

All that the trends clause is concerned about is to make sure that but for the insured peril, everything is taken into account. So that the insured business is put into exactly the same position as it would have been in had the insured peril not occurred.

There is absolutely nothing on the tin which says

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you must not adjust for extraneous matters or you can only adjust for extraneous matters unconnected with the cause of the damage. That is an assertion by the FCA, $\{Day2/94/1\}$ to 95 and 107, and it has no proper or actual regard to the words used in the trends clauses .

Now, Mr Edelman sought to highlight the heading of the "trends clause" in Orient-Express, {Day2/95:1}. None of the Ecclesiastical or for that matter Amlin policies has such a heading, but in any event, the heading cannot be used for reading the actual words used. There is nothing illogical or unintended about adjusting, under the trends clauses, for the underlying cause giving rise to the insured peril. If the underlying cause were intended to be part of the insured peril , as an insured peril on its own, the clause would have said so.

All that the trends clauses do is merely give effect to the "but for the insured peril" requirement. That is consistent with the causation requirement in the BI insuring clauses and would be applicable even in the absence of the trends clauses.

In our respectful submission, the approach of the tribunal in the Orient-Express and the approach of Mr Justice Hamblen as then he was, to construing the trends clauses, was undoubtedly correct and should be

applied here. It would be wrong to depart from that case on the basis of some general a priori assessment of the sort of factors that properly come into play in a trends clause.

My Lords, that is mainly what I want to say. There is just one additional point.

Mr Edelman said in the course of his oral submissions, that is $\{Day3/153:6\}$ to line 7, that the Ecclesiastical type 1.1 policies have no specific trends clause. Perhaps it is easier in this context if I simply take you to our skeleton argument, because we fear that Mr Edelman has fallen into error .

If one goes in our skeleton argument to paragraph 261, $\{1/12/131\}$ this is the easiest way of doing it. Paragraph 261 identifies the lead wording for EIO1.1 is the ME857 Parish Plus wording. It did not contain a trends clause in its traditional form, but it contains wording in the loss of income clause in its "Basis of settlement" section .

There you have it, "Loss of income":

"We will pay the difference between the income you would have received during the indemnity period if there had been no damage and the income you actually received during that period ..."

In other words, but for the damage.

Of the nine other policies included, only one other is in similar form to that wording; the remaining eight are similar to one another and contain a trends clause in its traditional form. Those are addressed in the following section. It is important to note, therefore, that so far as the basis of settlement provisions and trends clauses are concerned, the policies included in EOI type 1.1 are not all similar to the lead policy wording.

So we say, returning to the loss of income clause, the underlying wording, in similar terms to that found in a trends clause and requires the court to assess the insured's loss by reference to the income it would have earned but for the damage.

That applies, we say in 264, and we go on and do that. It becomes quite detailed, and I am not going to go to on any further. Suffice it to say that the absence of a heading called "Trends clause" is neither here nor there.

I should mention, in fact, that Riley doesn't even refer to them all the time as trends clauses, it refers to them by means of a whole variety of other descriptions, and "trends clauses" may be one of them, but they are referred to in Riley as clauses, "other circumstances clauses" is one, and a variety of other

titles or descriptions .

There is no magic in the words "trends clause", although if they are there, then that is fine, and if they are not there, look at the words actually used, and if the words actually used have the same effect as a traditional trends clause or an effective trends clause, it's all right, you don't have to worry about the absence of the magic words "the trends clause" or "the trends terms" or whatever it is, because they are not really magic words.

My Lords, I think I have despatched what I need to despatch.

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: If you think of it in terms of -- I am just looking at this clause on paragraph 261 and going back to the example of reduction in income as a result of concerns about COVID before any government restrictions were imposed. You would say: well, in my Lord's example you have already had a reduction from 100 to 80, that in calculating any loss that had been suffered by the church in question, you couldn't start at 100%, because you would say there is 20% of this that you would have suffered anyway even if the insured peril hadn't operated.

24 MR KEALEY: Correct, my Lord.

 $25\,$ LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: I mean in a sense, unless Mr Edelman is

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1	right about his point about "in anticipation of the
2	hurricane", the one follows from the other, doesn't it?
3	MR KEALEY: Yes.
4	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Because as in Orient-Express the
5	hurricane itself is not insured, so here the effects of
6	COVID, in general terms, are not insured until there is
7	a restriction or whatever it happens to be.
8	MR KEALEY: And even then they are not an insured peril in
9	their own name or in their own right; they are only
10	a predicate for, say, government action and thereafter
11	a prevention. In other words, they are a cause of, they
12	are one of the ingredients in a combination which
13	amounts to the insured peril .
14	If COVID-19 or infectious disease were an insured
15	peril, then that is all you need. It is the government
16	action which must actually cause the loss, and the
17	government action must be coming from an insured peril .
18	You have heard me on this before.
19	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Yes. Okay.
20	MR KEALEY: My Lords, if I can assist you further please
21	don't hesitate to cross-examine me, but otherwise I am
22	departing.
23	LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: I don't think we need to cross-examine
24	you any more than we already have done, Mr Kealey.
25	MR KEALEY: My Lords, my clients are grateful, as am I.

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LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Thank you very much. 2 Right. Who is next? 3 MR LOCKEY: Good afternoon, my Lord, I appear for Arch. 4 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Not yet you don't. 5 There you are. Yes, hello. 6 (2.57 pm) 7 Submissions by MR LOCKEY 8 MR LOCKEY: My Lords, the policy wordings written by Arch 9 that the court is asked to consider are to be found in 10 three Arch policies; there is a commercial combined 11 policy, a retailers policy and an offices and surgeries 12 policy. They are at bundle B tab 2, tab 23 and tab 24, 13 but we will only be looking at $\{B/2/1\}$, the commercial 14 combined policy, which has been designated as the lead 15 Arch1 policy. The key provisions which fall for consideration at 16 17 this hearing, in particular the government and local 18 authority action extension, are materially the same in 19 each of the three policies . So I am in the fortunate 20 position of only having to address your Lordships on 21 a single relevant extension, and we will do that by 22 reference to the Arch combined commercial policy. I am

also in the fortunate position that it is common ground

between Arch and the FCA that the trends clause in the

Arch combined commercial policy applies to the relevant

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extension, and that similar or equivalent language requiring "but for" causation, which appears in the retailers ' policy and in the offices and surgeries policy, also apply to claims under the extension.

Now, what we have done, and I hope your Lordships recall reading our skeleton, we have set out three annexes.

Annex A, which is bundle $\{I/8/1\}$, explains our position on the seven categories of business which have been referred to by the FCA, and with which your Lordships are now very familiar. Annex A summarises evidence which is set out in Ms Valder's witness statement, she is the head of claims at Arch, which is at $\{D/1/1\}$ and which is not challenged by the FCA. That statement sets out what Arch's interests are in the various categories of business so far as concerns the Arch1 policy.

It is fair do say that Arch, in common with other insurers, has a much greater interest in category 5 than, say, category 1, pubs and clubs and cafes. We are also interested in particular in category 3, because of the Arch retail policy in particular, and we are, as I said, not especially interested in category 1, where only 0.4% of our policyholders would fall. Therefore, although the FCA spent a quite a lot of time in their

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submissions against Arch developing interesting debates about take-aways, we are not really interested in take-aways, at least in any legal sense.

We have no category 6 policies and we have only two policyholders who fall within category 7, so I am not going to say much at all about that.

That is annex A to our skeleton; that sets out in detail our position on the seven categories of business and I do commend re-reading that document.

Annex B to our skeleton sets out our response to the FCA's assumed facts scenario under the Arch wording. Now, your Lordships may recall, when reading the FCA skeleton, that interspersed in the sections which deal with each insurer there are assumed fact scenarios. They appear to have received, so far as I can recall. virtually no or indeed possibly none, no attention at all in the FCA's oral submissions. But we set out in annex B our response to the FCA's assumed facts scenario under the Arch wording, which appears in the FCA's skeleton at $\{1/1/173\}$. Time will probably not permit me to go through that example in detail, but I do recommend undertaking the exercise of comparing the assumed fact scenario with Arch's response, because it reveals, we would suggest, a number of errors in the FCA's construction of the relevant clause and also in the

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application of the relevant principles of causation. If I could start, my Lords, by inviting your Lordships' attention again to the Arch1 policy, the lead policy, $\{B/2/1\}$. If we could look at page $\{B/2/9\}$ first, just to pick up the definitions of "The Business" and "The Premises". Your Lordships will see from the left-hand column towards the foot of the page that "The Business" is defined as:

" Activities directly connected with the business

schedule."

Then "The Premises" are:

"The premises as stated in the statement of fact and specified in the schedule."

described in the statement of fact and specified in the

What is obvious is that we are here concerned, in the government and local authority action extension and indeed with the business interruption provisions generally, we are concerned with business premises. And so far as the government and local authority action clause is concerned, we are concerned with whether there has been a qualifying prevention of access to business premises.

So we have not sought to suggest that where insured premises were required to close under the regulations,

or where closure was advised in the days before the regulations, that there was no prevention of access, because the policyholder could have had access to the premises to conduct repairs or to start a different new business from them. We hope we have taken, and I suggest and submit that we have taken, a sensible commercial approach to the construction of the clauses.

Could I then move to the business interruption section , which starts at page $\{B/2/32\}$ of the policy , and if we could turn to the key business interruption insuring provision under Arch1, which is at page $\{B/2/34\}$.

We are not concerned with the book debts cover, cover 2, which is over the page, we are concerned with the loss of gross profits cover, item 1.

It is accepted by the FCA and by Arch that the loss of gross profit cover which you see here is the relevant cover for a claim under the extensions, including the government and local authority action clause, as well as for the main business interruption cover. I will show you in a moment why that is common ground.

You will see from the left-hand column under the heading "Gross Profit" that the indemnity is expressed as follows:

"In respect of each item in the schedule, we will

indemnify you in respect of any interruption or interference with the business as a result of damage occurring during the period of insurance by

"(1) any cause not excluded by the terms of the property damage and/or theft sections of your policy." We will come to look at the definition of "Damage' in a moment.

If you look in the right-hand column under the heading above (i) in the right-hand column:

"The amount payable will be

"(i) in respect of reduction in turnover the sum produced by applying the rate of gross profit to the amount by which due to the damage, the standard turnover exceeds the turnover during the indemnity period."

Familiar concepts. And then a provision in relation to:

"... increase in cost of working ... [incurred] solely to prevent or limit a reduction in turnover during the indemnity period which but for such additional expenses would have taken place due to the damage."

So, so far as the loss of gross profit cover is concerned, the typical formulation, I would suggest, applying the rate of gross profit to the reduction in turnover which has been caused by the damage.

If we turn back to page $\{B/2/33\}$ you will see the definition of "Damage" in the left-hand column:

"Accidental loss or destruction of or damage to property used by you at the premises for the purposes of the business."

So we would submit that it is plain that for the purposes of the main BI cover, the insured peril is accidental damage to property used by the policyholder at the premises for the purposes of the business. And in order to be indemnifiable, the loss of gross profit must be caused by such damage.

If we could then look at the right-hand column on this page $\{B/2/33\}$, you will see the definitions of "Indemnity Period", "Gross Profit", "Rate of Gross Profit" and "Standard Turnover". My Lords, we don't need to focus on the detail of these provisions , which are fairly standard and your Lordships will be very familiar with them.

At the foot of the page we find the trends language. We have referred to it as "trends language" because it doesn't appear set out at a separate clause. As I said at the beginning of my remarks, it is common ground between the FCA and Arch that the trends language applies to the government and local authority action extension.

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You will see:

"Rate of gross profit and standard turnover may be adjusted to reflect any [and I emphasise 'any'] trends or circumstances which

"(i) affect the business before or after the damage.
"(ii) [or] would have affected the business had the damage not occurred."

If we could go to the next page $\{B/2/34\},$ in the top left $\mbox{corner:}$

"The adjusted figures will represent, as near as possible, the results which would have been achieved during the same period had the damage not occurred."

So we would submit that it is clear that the trends language confirms that "but for" causation is required by the Arch policy. The adjustment exercise is aimed at arriving at an answer to the question: what would have been the financial results for the business during the indemnity period if the damage had not occurred?

In the case of the main business interruption cover under this policy, therefore, the enquiry is into what would have been the results for the business if the damage to insured property had not been incurred. And we would respectfully suggest that the analysis is indistinguishable from that applied in the Orient-Express case.

And the counterfactual is logically the same, where any of the business interruption extensions apply, reading "damage" in the context of the trends language to mean the operation of the relevant insured peril under the applicable extension.

If we could go back to page 33 $\{B/2/33\}$, just to pick up on the trends language at the foot of the page, I emphasise that it is any trends or circumstances, in our trends language. Plainly, "trends" suggests patterns, patterns affecting the business, and it is sensible to look at patterns affecting the business because the standard turnover will only be a snapshot for a particular 12-month period, it won't tell you whether the business was growing or shrinking over a period of years.

So far as concerns "circumstances", that, we suggest, plainly means anything else which has an effect on the business. And "any", I would respectfully suggest, means "any". It is very difficult, we would suggest to see why "any circumstances" should be limited to what Mr Edelman described as ordinary business vicissitudes, whatever they might be.

Mr Kealey has just made submissions to you on this point and I am not going to repeat them. Can I just note that it doesn't even appear to have been argued in

the Orient-Express case that the trends clause in that case, that the special circumstances were limited to ordinary business vicissitudes. It doesn't appear to have been argued that the hurricane was not an ordinary business vicissitude and could not, for that reason, be a relevant circumstance.

With that introduction to the indemnity provisions and the business interruption section in mind, can we move then to the extensions in the policy, the extensions to the business interruption provisions. They are called "clauses" in this policy for some reason, but they are extensions.

If we could start on bundle $\{B/2/35\}$ with the stem, to use Mr Gaisman's helpful words, the stem under the heading "Clauses" in the right-hand column:

"We will also indemnify you in respect of reduction in turnover and increase in cost of working as insured under this section resulting from ..."

It is the words "as insured under this section" which confirm -- and as I said, this is common ground -- that the loss of gross profits provisions, including the trends language which we have been looking at, apply as much to these extensions in the Arch policy as they do to the main business interruption cover.

I don't really need to say anything more about

"resulting from"; it indicates that the loss of gross profit must result from the insured peril. In other words, the insured peril must be a proximate cause of the loss of gross profit.

I am going to look carefully in a moment at the government and local authority action extension, which is the only extension upon which the FCA places reliance. But before we get to it, it is helpful just to look at some of the extensions which are not relied upon, simply to identify the provisions by reference to which coverage would attach.

The first clause I invite your attention to is clause 1, "Prevention of Access", and this only applies in an event of damage to property in the vicinity of the premises. But the words that I invite your particular attention to are "hinders or prevents access to the premises". You will note that this clause includes the word "hinders".

We then have clause 3, the "Disease, Infestation and Defective Sanitation" clause. This is not relied on by the FCA and if I can just say the reason why; it is because item (c), notifiable human infectious or contagious disease, the definition of that term contains a closed list which does not include COVID-19. But that is not the reason for showing you the clause. The

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reason I am showing you the clause is because you will see that the peril insured against involves the use of the premises being restricted on the order or advice of the competent authority. So this is a restriction of use clause .

If we then turn over the page we get to the relevant provision for the purposes of the FCA's claim $\{B/2/36\}$, which is clause 7, "Government or Local Authority Action".

Can I just draw your Lordships' attention very briefly to the next clause, clause 8, the "Loss of attraction " clause, the extension at clause 8, which insures against a loss of gross profit by reason of reduced customer footfall as a result of damage to the property in the vicinity of the premises. As we pointed out in our written skeleton, this provision is relevant because it shows that the policy, in specific provisions, does deal with the limited circumstances in which a loss of customer footfall may give rise to a business interruption claim under one of the extensions. We will come to look in due course at regulation 6, and the suggestion or contention by the FCA that the movement restrictions which led to a reduction in customer footfall in some way involves a prevention of access, and we submit plainly it

doesn't.

If we then look, finally, with that rather long build-up, at the relevant provision, the "Government or Local Authority Action" provision which your Lordships will see at the top on the right-hand column. Our case in a nutshell is that this extension provides that if the policyholder's premises cannot be accessed for the purposes of the carrying on of the Business, capital B, by reason of the order or advice of government or local authority in response to a qualifying emergency, the policy will pay for the loss of gross profit caused by that prevention of access. And we submit that that is the natural, indeed only reasonable and sensible construction of the first three lines of the clause.

So if we identify what it is that goes to make up the insured peril, the insured peril requires each of the following. Firstly, it requires a qualifying emergency, an emergency likely to endanger life or property. Second, it requires government or local authority action or advice, taken in response to the qualifying emergency. Thirdly, the effect of that action or advice must be to require or recommend the prevention of access to the premises.

To repeat a point which I think all insurers have made at various stages, this is obviously not pandemic

cover. The emergency is the first step, but the emergency obviously doesn't trigger any right to an indemnity.

This extension does not purport to provide, and no reasonable reader of the clause could conclude that it provides, cover for loss of gross profit due to an emergency. The extension provides cover for loss of gross profit caused by a particular category of prevention of access to the premises, namely one which is the result of an order or advice of government or local authority, which is some turn a response to an emergency of a particular type.

So the insured peril is no more and no less than the prevention of access to the premises as a result of governmental action or advice taken in response to a qualifying emergency.

 $17\,$ LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Is that a convenient moment, Mr Lockey?

18 MR LOCKEY: Yes.

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: We will break until 3.30, ten minutes.

 $20 \qquad {\rm MR\ LOCKEY:\ Very\ good.}$

21 (3.20 pm)

22 (Short break)

23 (3.30 pm)

24 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Right.

25 MR LOCKEY: My Lords, if I can resume.

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Yes.

MR LOCKEY: If we could have the "Government or Local Authority Action" clause on the screen again $\{B/2/36\}$. There is no dispute about the emergency, and there is no dispute about the meaning of "actions or advice of a government or local authority".

The dispute at the coverage stage, and it is the principal dispute, is about the meaning of "prevention of access to the premises". There is a limit to how many times one can make the same point. The premises are defined; they are the location or location stated in the policy schedule, the place where the policyholder carries on his business.

"Access to the premises" refers to the means by which entry is made to the premises. That is the natural meaning of the phrase and it is also essentially what the FCA says at paragraph 153 of their skeleton . I will give you the reference but we don't need to look it up, $\{1/1/60\}$.

Therefore, reading the clause as a whole, we say that government action or advice which prevents access to the premises is government action or advice which requires, recommends, that the means of accessing the premises are no longer to be used.

In practical terms, therefore, we do submit that

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nothing short of action or advice, the effect of which is to require or recommend closure of the premises, will suffice to lead to a prevention of access to the premises.

If I could make some very simple points to show where we differ from the FCA on the construction of this clause. The points are very straightforward and rather obvious, and to a certain extent they have been made by other insurers in connection with other clauses, but nevertheless they fall to be made by reference to this clause for Arch.

The first obvious point is that the clause is concerned with access to the premises. It is not concerned with restrictions on the use which may be made of the premises. That is the first obvious point.

The second is that the clause is concerned with prevention of access to the premises, not hindrance of access to the premises. You will have seen the earlier prevention of access clause, clause 1 in the extensions. You have also seen reference in the skeleton arguments to the difference between "prevention" and "hindrance", when similar words are used in force majeure clause.

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: You say there is no reason why we shouldn't give effect to those cases like Tennants v

Wilson, and Westfalische Central-Genossenschaft, merely $145 \label{eq:45}$

 $\begin{array}{lll} 1 & & \text{because they are dealing with force majeure clauses} \\ 2 & & \text{rather than insurance disputes} \, . \end{array}$

MR LOCKEY: Absolutely. They reflect the ordinary use, we would suggest, of "prevention" and "hindrance".

5 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Yes.

MR LOCKEY: Thirdly, or the next obvious point is that the clause is concerned with "prevention of access to the premises", not prevention of access to the premises or to any part thereof. It is an obvious point, but the FCA argues that the clause does not say complete prevention of access to the premises, but that is obviously what the words used do mean. By the same token, it is impossible to see how "prevention of access to the premises" can be read to mean partial prevention of access, which is another FCA variant. We struggle with the concept of the partial prevention, but in any event that as it were is by-the-by, it is "prevention of access to the premises" which is required.

 $\label{eq:Jumping ahead to the facts} \mbox{ slightly , this is } \\ \mbox{a particularly important --}$

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Mr Lockey, just as a matter of presentation , you have sort of disappeared off the right of our screen . I think you need to move very slightly to your right .

MR LOCKEY: I do want your Lordship to see me.

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: I know I'm a fine one to talk, but ... MR LOCKEY: My chair has wheels.

 $\begin{array}{ll} 3 & {\sf LORD\ JUSTICE\ FLAUX:\ I\ hate\ seeing\ only\ a\ part\ of\ your\ face.} \\ 4 & {\sf MR\ LOCKEY:\ What\ I\ was\ going\ to\ say,\ jumping\ ahead\ to\ the} \end{array}$

facts, and this is particularly important for category 3 and category 5 businesses, this clause is not triggered by restrictions placed on the free movement of those who may use the premises, whether it is the business owner, his or her employees, or his or her customers or clients. Those restrictions, the restrictions which we see in regulation 6, are not directed at the means of accessing the premises and do not prevent access to the premises.

Therefore, our position so far as categories 3 and 5 are concerned is clear and, we would submit, clearly correct. Those businesses were neither required nor even advised to close, and so there is no question of a prevention of access to the premises.

MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: I see the point about categories 3 and
5. Is there any tension between the concept of
prevention of access and the idea that this can be due
to advice?

MR LOCKEY: The fact that it can be due to advice means that the prevention of access doesn't need to be legally or practically impossible. That is what I would suggest is

the way of resolving any tension from, or explaining how actions and advice relate to prevention. That is why we don't argue that it must be a physical legal

impossibility . It is enough that the advice recommends closure of the premises .

MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: But the advice has to recommend total closure, as it were, and it doesn't matter that people could ignore the advice.

MR LOCKEY: Exactly. Absolutely. Yes. We don't say that the fact that the advice could be ignored makes a difference. Nor do we say, and having explained already that we accept that it is prevention of access to business premises, we don't go so far as to say that access for the limited purpose, which wouldn't involve a breach of the regulations, for example to switch off the electricity or to do urgent maintenance work during the period when the premises were required to be closed, meant there was no prevention of access. We don't take such an absolutist point. We take the point that it is access to the premises for the purposes of carrying on the business which must be prevented.

So far as regulation 6 is concerned, this does not on any view, we would submit, represent or constitute a prevention of access to the premises of any insured business. It doesn't actually amount -- and this is

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a point I think made by Mr Gaisman — it doesn't even amount to a prevention of egress from the uninsured premises where the owners or employees or customers live .

But the focus of the clause is not on the access of customers or the access of employees or the access of the business owners. The FCA's point that the clause does not say whose access must be prevented is, in our respectful submission, a non-point. It is addressing the wrong question. The clause tells us what must be prevented; it must be access to the premises which must be prevented. It is not a relevant enquiry to investigate whose access must be prevented, it is the access to the premises.

Therefore, the answer to the FCA's argument that advice and social distancing advice, followed by action placing restrictions on movement constitutes prevention of access, is that such advice or actions have no effect on the means of access to the premises, and therefore does not fall within the scope of our clause.

The FCA also argues --

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: It might amount to a hindrance of access. Just to test the point.

24 MR LOCKEY: Possibly, although --

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Going back to Mr Gaisman's point about

queuing outside Waitrose for 45 minutes because you can only go in one at a time, for these purposes, just looking at what is hindrance or prevention, you might say access to the premises there are hindered, but they are clearly not prevented.

MR LOCKEY: No. And we will come on --

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: If the shops close because they have been told to close, then access is prevented by everybody.

MR LOCKEY: Yes. The FCA also argues that the clause must be read commercially, and that access and its prevention has to be assessed by reference to the effects on revenue, to quote the transcript from {Day3/27:18}.

I don't think we need to turn that up.

We respectfully submit that, again, that is looking at the wrong target. The proper construction of the clause does not involve any assumption that any reduction in revenue must be the result of a prevention of access to the premises. The clause has nothing -- the insured peril is not dependent or driven by revenue effects on the advice or action; it requires a particular result or effect of the advice or action.

If I could just then run through the various categories of business and how the clause applies to the facts . We say that the only advice which meets the

requirement of preventing access to certain types of premises is the advice given by the Prime Minister on 20 March 2020 and on 23 March 2020, advising or instructing certain categories of business premises to be closed. If I can just give you the cross- references, it is rows 46, 53 and 54 of the table in Agreed Facts 1, at $\{C/1/21\}$ and pages 26 to 27. But we don't need to look those up, you will remember the transcript of the Prime Minister's speeches.

There is one point on the facts where there is a disagreement as to whether it constitutes relevant and that concerns the Prime Minister's advice on 16 March. 2020, entry 33 at $\{C/1/12\}$ to page 14. You will recall this advice, my Lords. This was the advice, advising people to work from home where possible and not to go to pubs or clubs. This advice did not, we would respectfully submit, recommend the closure of any premises. It is one thing to tell people not to go to pubs or clubs; it is something else to advise the pubs and clubs to close. I am not going to give evidence, but your Lordships may well remember, at least from the newspapers that week, reporting on the fact that many pubs and clubs did remain open after the speech on 16 March 2020 and people continued to flock to them all that week. But on the FCA's case --

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: I think, from recollection, there was a sort of booze-fest on the basis that any day now he's going to close them down, which is what happened.

MR LOCKEY: On the FCA's case there was already a prevention of access for those pubs and clubs that were benefiting from the booze-fest.

So we don't accept the FCA's case that the social distancing advice or advice to work from home where possible given by the Prime Minister on 16 March 2020 constituted advice preventing access to insured premises. That advice did not recommend closure of insured premises.

But we do accept, as with the advice given on 20 March and on 23 March, that the regulations which followed hot on the heels of that advice also qualify is as actions preventing access to certain types of premises. But it is only those regulations which required closure of premises, or closure of a business carried on at the premises, which qualify. That is why we get to the seven categories of business. Perhaps I could just take this briefly from annex A to our skeleton, which is at {1/8/1}.

If we could go over the page $\{1/8/2\}$. I apologise that the formatting may cause some difficulty if you are looking at this on a small screen.

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Category 1, I will take this very quickly because, as I said, although the FCA are obsessed with take-aways, Arch has very few policyholders in category 1, and in our submission the point is extremely straightforward .

Access to the premises of a pub, bar, club or restaurant was only prevented by the 20 March advice and then by the 21 March regulations and followed by the 26 March regulations, if the pub, bar, club or restaurant did not offer take-away services as part of its Business, with a capital B.

For those businesses, we would accept that the effect of the advice and subsequent regulations was that the premises could not be open to customers without the policyholder making a fundamental change to its business; in other words, a different business to that referred to in the schedule and the statement of facts or the proposals. We have not taken the position that where a policyholder in category 1 could start a new business which is permitted, that there is no prevention of access to the premises.

So we don't suggest, for example, that Gordon Ramsey's restaurant could re-open as a take-away and therefore there was no relevant prevention of access. But by the same token, we would not accept that

there was a prevention of access to McDonalds, which prior to the regulations did have a significant and substantial take-away business.

Could I just note that --

MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: Does it matter that it was significant and substantial?

MR LOCKEY: I think it needs to be more than de minimis.

Can I just note in this context that the FCA relies on the duty to mitigate losses and the reasonable precautions provision, but in our submission those provisions have no bearing on what triggers the extension.

If I can move quickly on to category 2. We accept that there was a prevention of access to the premises where the premises were used for businesses which would fall within category 2 and which were required to cease those businesses under regulation 2.4 of the 21 March regulations and regulation 4.4 of the 26 March regulations.

The FCA suggested there was some sort of inconsistency in our position, even though we have accepted, to all intents and purposes, that category 2 involves closure, because they say that under the regulations a theatre could still put on a performance for remote audiences or, perhaps even more bizarrely,

could host blood donation sessions. But there is no inconsistency in our position. There is a prevention of access for theatres because neither of those permitted activities would have formed part of the Business, capital B, of a policyholder as set out in the statement of fact.

Category 3. Now this is important to Arch, but the FCA skates over it. They skate over category 5, but they also skate over category 3 and it is very important for Arch because 70% of the Arch retail policyholders operate businesses which fall within category 3. And category 3, as you know, is the category of business where there was no requirement to close. On the contrary, they were expressly permitted by the regulations to remain open. That is regulation 5.1 at J16; we don't need to turn it up, you are familiar with it.

How, we ask, can there be a relevant prevention of access to the premises of businesses by government action or advice, where the government action or advice is to the effect that such businesses are expressly permitted to remain open? And we submit that the FCA's case is really, really hopeless on this point. It is just difficult to see how it even passes the red face test. Those premises were expressly permitted to remain

open.

Even if it is relevant, which it is not, to look at the position of employees or customers, the position is equally clear. Regulation 6.2(f) provided that it would be a reasonable excuse for a person to leave the place where they are living to travel for the purposes of work where it was not reasonably possible for that person to work from the place where they were living. That clearly meant that business owners and employees were not prevented from accessing category 3 premises. Equally, customers of category 3 businesses were not prevented from leaving home to shop at category 3 premises.

The FCA's case appears to boil down to this: that access was prevented merely because it was more expensive for the businesses to operate because of social distancing advice or because footfall was less than usual.

And please bear in mind when you look back at the FCA's case on this topic, that the FCA's case on category 3 is not limited to shops in category 3 which chose to close, it includes all those shops in category 3 which remained open through the lockdown. You can see that from their skeleton at section 151.3, and you will also note it from Ms Mulcahy's oral

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submissions on $\{Day3/34{:}1\}.$ There is no need to turn that up.

Category 4, we can deal with that fairly quickly. We say this is fact- sensitive, and certainly the FCA is not entitled to any sort of blanket declaration. This is probably the category into which the somewhat quaint or homespun example of the tailor might fall, but one would also include, perhaps more realistically in category 4, the example of a high street estate agent or letting agent whose business includes operations carried on online. The regulations didn't require the estate agent' premises to be closed if used for those purposes. Likewise, movement restrictions in regulation 6 would not prohibit attendance at premises by the estate agent if this was reasonably necessary, for example to update the website, if that was something that couldn't be done from home, or to access paper files.

Category 5, you heard something on this from Mr Gaisman and also from Mr Kealey. I don't want to repeat their submissions. Category 5 businesses are of great importance to Arch as well; it represents 38% of the total. These businesses were not required or advised to close, and we submit that there was no prevention of access to those premises; the premises in question remained fully accessible throughout.

Category 6 is not relevant to Arch.

Category 7, we have the sum total of two businesses in category 7, two policies , so I am not going to develop any submissions on that orally .

Where does that take us? You will see that we have accepted, and this has been our position prior to this litigation, we have accepted that where businesses where advised to close or required to close pursuant to the regulations, and did close, that the extension has been triggered for those policyholders. That has not been disputed or doubted by Arch. On the contrary, that is the position we have taken.

The point which then arises, which is also a point which the FCA seeks to deal with by way of these broad declarations, concerns the calculation of the indemnity where the clause has been triggered.

Our main point on causation is essentially a point that goes to the determination of the appropriate indemnity, rather than to the operation of the insured peril . Our point is a fairly obvious one and you can see it coming: a policyholder whose premises have been closed is not entitled to claim from Arch a loss of gross profits which the policyholder would not have made if the premises had remained open.

What the FCA is seeking to do by the broad

declarations sought in these proceedings is to prevent Arch from adjusting claims on the basis that some or all of its policyholders under Arch1 would not have realised their expected profit even if their premises had not been closed, because of the economic effects of the pandemic, including the reduction in footfall caused by the lockdown restrictions, but also by the general fear of COVID and the general lack of consumer confidence. None of which comprise the insured peril.

Despite having set out to prove this, we say that the FCA has singularly failed to prove a rule of law which makes that argument unavailable to Arch simply as a matter of principle.

So we say it is a necessary part of the policyholder's burden of proving that a reduction in gross profit has been proximately caused by the operation of the insured peril, to show that the loss would not have been suffered or, in other words, the gross profit would have been earned if the insured peril had not operated. And the fact that the emergency is the first link in the chain of causation in the insured peril does not mean that the other effects of the emergency fall to be excluded from consideration when examining what would be the position if the insured peril had not operated. There is no principle of law

which requires the cause of the insured peril to be ignored

To pick up a point that was addressed by Mr Kealey in his submissions, I think on Ecclesiastical1, it is not entirely clear from the FCA's submissions on the Arch policy whether the FCA's position on the counterfactual turns on the fact that the emergency is one of the stipulated requirements for cover under our clause, extension 7.

So one could test this point, as indeed Mr Kealey did, by asking what would be the FCA's position if the clause had simply stopped at government or local authority action or advice. So that the clause would apply, the extension would be operative, irrespective of what it was that caused the government or local authority to respond.

If one assumes the facts are the same, that you have got the emergency, which leads to the government or local authority actual advice in this case, would the FCA accept that in those circumstances, where the emergency is not referred to in the insured peril, one could have regard to the economic effects of the emergency when assessing what the results would have been if the premises had not been closed?

It seems, certainly from some parts of the FCA's

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submissions, and Ms Mulcahy's submissions in particular on Arch, that the point is said to arise because extension 7 is a composite peril . But in truth, the point can't depend on whether there is a particular cause identified in the peril or not.

It seems to us that the FCA's case has to go further, and it is the heretical proposition that any and all causes of the operation of an insured peril are to be excluded from consideration, whether those causes are identified in the insuring clause or otherwise. And it can't be a point which turns on whether there is a composite insured peril clause or not.

We respectfully submit that there is nothing in insurance law or in the law of causation more generally in contract to support that proposition.

The second point we make is that "but for" causation is expressly required by the trends language in the lead Arch commercial combined policy, which we looked at a few minutes ago, and similar "but for" language which is common ground appears in the other two forms of Arch policy. This language requires the making of an assumption that the insured peril has not occurred, but everything else remains the same.

So in short, the indemnity, where the extension has been triggered, is to be calculated assuming that the

premises had not been a required or advised to close, but everything else remains equal.

Can I just deal now with the assertion that it is or may be impossible to distinguish between the loss caused by the closure and loss which was caused by the pandemic or the restrictions on movement, the recession, et cetera.

Mr Kealey has addressed this point this morning, and I don't want to go over all of that ground again.

What I would draw your attention to are the following practical points. We know that for many businesses they did suffer a reduction in turnover before the closure advice and closure orders were made. It is one of the agreed facts; the reference is paragraph 1 in Agreed Facts 8 at {C/14/2}. Not wishing to go over well trodden turf, on any view the gross profit on that loss of turnover, turnover before the advice and closure orders were made, is not recoverable. The cause of that loss of turnover was the emergency, it wasn't the subsequent closure advice nor indeed the anticipation of the closure advice or orders. Therefore, the reduced turnover for policyholders in the days and indeed weeks before 20 March will form part of the available evidence that even if the premises had been permitted to remain open after 20 March, the

budgeted gross profit would not have been achieved.

The second practical point is that we know that many businesses which were permitted to remain open after 20 March also suffered a loss of turnover compared to the same period last year, because of the economic recession, the lack of consumer confidence and the restrictions on movement. There is plenty of publicly available data about the drastic reductions in daily travel by bus, train and road during the lockdown period and subsequently. There are reams of economic data published by the ONS and other sources, and this doesn't require the evidence of social scientists or mind readers.

Finally, the third practical point is that we know that many businesses which were required to close and which have since reopened, since the relaxation of the regulations, have suffered a loss of turnover for the period following re-opening compared to the same period last year, because of the economic recession and the lack of consumer confidence.

That is not an agreed fact, but anyone who has read the newspapers will know it to be true, at least in general terms. Therefore, the policyholders' results for the period following the end of the closure period will also be available and will assist in showing the

extent to which the emergency, and its effects on the economy, rather than the closure, has been responsible for the loss of turnover and the loss of gross profit during the closure period.

These are all issues which we say we are entitled to raise in an assessment or adjustment of what, if any, loss of gross profit has been caused by the closure order for any particular insured, and the FCA is simply not entitled to declaratory relief which seeks to rule out this exercise. And the fact that there is an extension sub-limit of č25,000 does not change the legal position.

If I can close by making one final point, which is that adjustment exercises are often far from straightforward, because one is seeking to establish hypothetical trading results. The point was made by the tribunal in the award in the Orient-Express, if you just note paragraph 20 of the award, which is set out at $\{J/106/5\}$:

"All claims for business interruption raise hypothetical issues, and whilst the tribunal would acknowledge that the evaluation required on the facts of the present dispute is more difficult than most, this cannot affect what is the correct approach in principle."

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duplicating points that have already been made by other

I will endeavour in my submissions to avoid

things] standard turnover, adjustments will be made as 168

"Notes to the special definitions ". Your Lordships will

"In respect of the definitions of [among other

government.

insurers .

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may be necessary to provide for the trend of the business and for variations in or other circumstances affecting the business either before or after the incident which would have affected the business had the incident not occurred so that the figures thus adjusted will represent as nearly as may be reasonably practicable the results which but for the incident would have been obtained ..."

Your Lordships have seen similar wording in trends clauses in other insurers $\dot{}$ policies .

Now, my Lords, could we then go to the extensions to the primary business insurance cover, and they begin at page 34. $\{B/22/34\}$. All of these are governed by the introductory words, the stem appears towards the top of page 34.

"Additional cover extensions applicable to subsection B1 \dots

"Any loss as insured under this section resulting from interruption of or interference with the business in consequence of:

"(a) damage at any situation or to any property shown below; or

"(b) any of the under-noted contingencies
" will be deemed to be an incident."

So the obvious purpose of that is to deem the

contingencies under each extension to be an incident, which then brings it within the scope of the basic business interruption insuring clause and engages the quantification machinery.

The first extension is what we call the AOCA extension, the action of competent authorities extension. That is the wording that I have already identified to your Lordships.

I should, while I'm on this, just make this point in relation to the indemnity period. The maximum indemnity period is 12 months. "Indemnity Period" is defined on page $\{B/22/28\}$ towards the bottom of page 28, as being:

"The period beginning with the occurrence of the incident and ending not later than the maximum indemnity period thereafter during which the results of the business are affected in consequence of the incident."

I draw that to your Lordship's attention because the FCA in their skeleton have taken a bad point against us. They suggest that the reference to 12 months indemnity period suggests that this clause is contemplating a danger or disturbance which could last for 12 months. That is clearly not the case. The indemnity period is looking to the period during which the business' results are affected, not the period during which the danger or disturbance continues.

Other relevant extensions are the loss of attraction extension on page $\{B/22/35\}$, which engages damage to property within the vicinity of the premises. Then the notifiable diseases and vermin extension, number 8, on page 35:

"Loss resulting from interruption of or interference with the business at the premises resulting from

"(a)(i) any occurrence of a notifiable disease at the premises."

And so on:

"which causes restrictions on the use of the premises on the order or advice of the competent local authority ."

Importantly, in this policy, if your Lordships go over to page $\{B/22/36\},$ towards the top, as part of the notifiable disease extension, your Lordships will see an exclusion:

"Excluding:

"(i) any infectious diseases which have been declared as a pandemic by the World Health Organisation."

22 So it is for that reason common ground between us 23 and the FCA that this extension is not engaged.

I should also ask your Lordships to note that "Notifiable Disease" is defined; we don't need to go to

it , it's at page $\{B/22/29\}$ and it is a closed $\mbox{ list }.$

Then finally on these extensions that are relevant the prevention of access extension on page $\{B/22/36\}$ number 10, that is engaged where:

"Property in the vicinity of the premises is damaged, damage to which will prevent or hinder the use of the premises or access thereto, whether your premises or property therein sustain damage or not ..."

Now I don't propose to take your Lordships to Zurich1, because Ms Mulcahy has already done that. That, as I have said, comprises a policy document and a schedule. It is in materially similar terms, except for this: the notifiable disease extension does not include the exclusion that appears in this policy.

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: But it is limited in any event, isn't it, to occurrence at the premises?

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Yes.

21 MR ORR: My Lords, a number of preliminary points fall to be 22 made at the outset about the provisions I have 23 identified .

First, the Zurich policies draw a clear distinction between three matters. First of all, access to the

between three matters. Firs 172

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premises and use of the premises. They also distinguish between access to the premises being prevented, and access to the premises being hindered. Thirdly, they also distinguish between access to the premises being prevented and use of the premises being hindered or becoming subject to restrictions.

So these are the same distinctions that have been made by insurers preceding me.

The second preliminary point is that the phrase "vicinity", "in the vicinity of the premises" or "within the vicinity of the premises" is used not only in the AOCA extension but also in the loss of attraction and the prevention of access extensions. We say that this phrase has the same meaning in each of the extensions, namely that it means in the immediate locality of the premises; it requires the relevant event to have occurred within close spatial proximity of the premises, ie close to or nearby the premises. That is especially clear from the prevention of access extension. Unless the damaged property is near or close to the insured's premises, the damage to that property would not or would be unlikely to prevent or hinder access to the insured's premises.

The third preliminary point is that the extensions to the business interruption cover provide pockets of

cover, each one of which is limited by its own specific requirements; there is no blanket coverage, for example, in respect of danger or notifiable diseases. That is particularly apparent from the notifiable diseases extensions.

The same circumscription of cover is apparent, we submit, from the AOCA extension. The circumscription includes the geographical location of the danger or disturbance; it must be in the vicinity. Secondly, the requirement that the danger or disturbance in the vicinity must cause the action by the relevant authority, ie the one must follow from the other. And thirdly, the type of public authority action which triggers cover, namely that it must prevent access to the premises.

Those limitations are fundamental, but they are ignored by the FCA in their arguments.

We also emphasise at this stage that the vicinity limitation, and accordingly the causal link between the vicinity and the authority action, is an important distinction between the Zurich wording and the government authority clause in Arch's wording.

My final preliminary point is to note the composition of Zurich's policyholders . As Ms Mulcahy informed your Lordships, the Zurich1 and 2 wordings were

purchased by insureds falling within all seven categories of business identified by the FCA, but with a heavy leaning towards category 5.

Now, in fact 84% of the policies in issue were purchased by policyholders in category 5., that is service businesses and manufacturers. The relevant figures are in a table at bundle H, tab 44, page 15, {H/44/15}. That is a schedule that has been compiled by the FCA on the basis of information from insurers, and your Lordship will see there on the right-hand side, the final column, a box containing the various percentages of policyholders across all Zurich wordings.

Of course none of the business, as your Lordships know, in category 5 were required to cease or close their premises.

My Lords, we also echo Mr Kealey's observation that these policies were not all sold to SMEs. Zurich1 policies, for example, are sold mainly to mid-market companies with substantial turnovers, and not SMEs. That is a point that is made in our skeleton at paragraph 41.

My Lords, can I then turn to the construction issues .

Before focusing on the main two issues I make this general point about the AOCA extension. Reading the

clause as a whole, it is clearly directed to occurrence of a danger or disturbance in the immediate locality of the insured's premises which leads to the police or other relevant authority taking action to prevent access to the insured's premises. And it is common ground, as others have told your Lordships, that "access" in this clause means the means to approach or enter the premises. Access is therefore agreed to be a physical concept; the clause is concerned with obstruction to the physical means of the approaching or entering the premises.

The paradigm case contemplated by the clause is a bomb scare, a brawl, a serious traffic accident. In response, the police or other relevant authority takes action which prevents access to the premises, ie shuts off access altogether for all purposes, because access to the premises is unsafe or needs to be kept clear for the emergency services or for police investigations. That is the vanilla risk that is insured by this clause.

Now, as explained by Riley on Business Interruption Insurance, in a passage that we have cited in our skeleton in a footnote to paragraph 66, which is at $\{1/19/33\}$, this type of extension arose out of terrorist activity in the UK in the 1980s and 1990s. If we could have bundle $\{1/19/33\}$ up, that may help. Thank you.

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Now, that terrorist activity, as mentioned in the footnote there, involved not only devices which did explode, but also bomb hoaxes to which the authorities were bound to react by cordoning off areas, thereby preventing access to premises. In the absence of material damage, other business interruption cover would not respond, because ordinary denial of access or loss of attraction cover depends upon such damage, as indeed is the case in the Zurich policies .

So the objective intent of the AOCA extension could not be clearer, it contemplates a local kind of incident which causes the police or other relevant authorities to obstruct the physical means of approaching or entering the premises. That, of course, is a very long way from the COVID-19 pandemic and the national measures implemented by the UK Government on a nationwide basis to deal with that pandemic.

If one were drafting an extension to apply to the government measures taken in response to the pandemic, it would certainly not look like the AOCA extension. In our submission, no reasonable reader reading that extension would think that it covered the COVID-19 pandemic or the wholly unprecedented measures introduced by the UK Government to deal with the pandemic.

By arguing the contrary, the FCA is trying to force

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a square peg into a round hole. Many of the difficulties encountered in this case, including how does a policyholder prove danger, what expert evidence is required, and the artificiality of the jigsaw argument that is relied upon by the FCA, all stem from the fact that the FCA is attempting to use this clause to achieve an objective it was never intended to achieve.

But the FCA nevertheless goes so far as to say that it was contemplated, at least in Zurich2, that the AOCA extension might be triggered by pandemics, as the reasonable reader would understand. In our submission, that is plainly wrong.

The FCA seeks to make a virtue of the express exclusion for pandemics in the notifiable diseases extension in Zurich2. Thus, it pleads in its amended particulars of claim, at paragraph 33, and its reply at paragraph 43, that the presence of the pandemic's exclusion in the notifiable diseases extension would be taken by a reasonable reader to demonstrate a deliberate decision by the draftsman not to exclude pandemics from the scope of the AOCA extension, which should therefore be taken to encompass pandemics. In our submission, that is fallacious reasoning.

The true position, the correct position is the

opposite. The reasonable reader reading either of the Zurich policies would infer that if cover was afforded by any of the extensions for infectious disease pandemics, it would be found in the notifiable disease extension. But since that extension doesn't apply there is no cover.

Zurich doesn't contend that the extensions are mutually exclusive and that there is therefore only one door for any event. The extensions are not mutually exclusive in a strict sense except where they specify otherwise.

However, where a particular extension is directed to a particular kind of event, as for example the notifiable diseases extension, it is unlikely that it was intended that the restrictions set out in that extension could be side-stepped by a policyholder's reliance on general wording in another extension.

My Lords, there is one further point to make at this

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Is that right in this sense, that certainly other insurers, and in relation to other wordings, accepted, I think Mr Kealey accepted that danger in the vicinity of the premises could encompass an occurrence of a disease, say measles or whatever, in the locality, and that the real thrust of the point

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1 about this clause is it is dealing with local incidents, 2 local dangers, local disturbances?

3 MR ORR: My Lords, we entirely agree that the real thrust is 4 on the local nature of the incident, of the danger or 5 the disturbance

6 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Yes.

MR ORR: We do have a point of construction on danger which I will come to tomorrow. It is a short point. Your Lordships will either be with us or not. It is the one 10 point on which we disagree with Mr Kealey. But otherwise we entirely endorse everything that he has

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: The point to my recollection was that 13 14 you did disagree with Mr Kealey, and I was just trying 15 to test the point. It is probably better to test it in 16 the morning rather than now.

17 MR ORR: Yes, my Lord. I won't take me long. Can I just 18 finish off this point?

19 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Yes, sure.

20 MR ORR: It is this: that having positively relied in its 21 pleadings upon the notifiable diseases extension in 22 Zurich2, the FCA now appears in its skeleton to be 23 trying to distance itself from the other extensions in 24 the Zurich policies .

We deal with this in paragraphs 61 to 63 of our

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skeleton. I don't need to take your Lordships there now. But our short point is that we submit that the court can and should have regard to the other extensions in the Zurich policies as well as the other provisions of those policies when construing the Zurich wordings.

The two policies before the court are those in tabs 21 and 22 of bundle B. $\{B/21/1\}$ and $\{B/22/1\}$. Those are the policies that have been selected to be tested in these proceedings.

The FCA, as I have said, has relied on other extensions and provisions in those policies to support its case and we must be entitled to do the same.

So it is not open, in our submission, to the FCA to say, well, a particular policyholder might not have purchased a notifiable disease extension, therefore the court shouldn't take that into account.

My Lord, as I say, we have to construe the policies that are before the court.

My Lords, is that a convenient moment?

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Yes, that is a convenient moment.

Now, is there any need to start earlier tomorrow morning?

MR ORR: My Lords, I have been asked if we could prevail upon your Lordships to do so in order to make sure that insurers do finish tomorrow.

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: I am conscious also that, you know, you obviously won't be that long, but we haven't heard from Mr Howard or Mr Salzedo yet.

MR ORR: No, my Lord. In terms of allotment I have another hour left .

6 LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Yes, okay. In that case subject to
7 Mr Justice Butcher disagreeing I will say 10.00 am. Are
8 you happy with that?

9 MR JUSTICE BUTCHER: Yes, certainly.

MR EDELMAN: My Lord, can I just say something.

We have been faced with 850 pages of written submissions and a full four days of argument. They have had their extra half an hour on two days, which is what we had. Why they should now require four days to reply to only three days of our submissions in circumstances where we also had to spend some time, for example, going through the legislation to explain that to the court, leaves us in a state of some bemusement.

There has been a good deal of repetition from insurers on the causation issues. Even though Mr Kealey was supposed to be dealing exclusively with that we have been hearing the same argument repeated and developed and they in a sense have wasted their own time and not done what they were supposed to do in accordance with the framework agreement.

 $1 \hspace{1cm} \text{It is a matter for the court, but I put down} \\ 2 \hspace{1cm} \text{a marker as to why this extra time is necessary.} \\ 3 \hspace{1cm} \text{MR ORR: My Lords} --$

 $4\,$ $\,$ LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Does anybody want to say anything about

that on behalf of insurers before I say anything?

MR ORR: My Lords, could I just say this. Obviously it is

complex case. Each insurer needs to look at its

individual wording. I certainly will endeavour

overnight to cut out whatever duplication I can. But we $10 \hspace{1.5cm} \text{each have to present our own arguments to some extent.} \\$

11 As I say, that is a complex process. We are just asking 12 for half an hour to ensure that we are able to finish 13 tomorrow.

 $14~\,$ LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Well, two things. First of all,

15 I detected -- I don't know about Mr Justice Butcher -- I certainly detected less repetition orally than there was in writing. So I don't think any criticism of insurers on that basis is warranted.

Secondly, I think from the court's perspective it is extremely important firstly that everybody who is separately represented has the opportunity to make the submissions on behalf of their clients, so that everybody feels that they have had a fair trial, and secondly that we complete this case in its totality by 4.30 on Thursday.

Given that there is a risk -- and there has always been a risk in relation to the timing of the whole exercise -- it seems to me giving you an extra half an hour tomorrow morning is probably wise, because once we get to 4.30 on Thursday requests, for example, to sit late on Thursday will not be met kindly, and requests to sit on Friday will be met with the short answer "no", because I have another hearing on Friday.

So I am very anxious that we do finish this case by 4.30 on Thursday. To ensure that we will sit at 10.00 am tomorrow. We will see you in the morning.

MR EDELMAN: Will my Lord also then be sitting at 10.00 am on Thursday?

 $14 \qquad \text{LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Quite possibly. We will see where we} \\ 15 \qquad \qquad \text{get to tomorrow, Mr Edelman.}$

 $\begin{array}{lll} 16 & \text{MR EDELMAN: I assume that insurers will take the full day.} \\ 17 & \text{Obviously if they don't take a full day and they finish} \\ 18 & \text{half an hour early then we won't need to.} \end{array}$

LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: We might not need to sit at 10.00 am on 20 Thursday.

21 MR EDELMAN: Yes, my Lord, but if they do take a full day, 22 as I anticipate they will, then we would want our extra

23 time on Thursday as well . I think there would be some
24 disquiet if we weren't -- having felt that we were

pressed with our three days to fit everything in, and we

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will be pressed on Thursday, that there ought to be at
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         least equality between the parties, which there will not
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         be if we don't get the extra half an hour on Thursday.
     LORD JUSTICE FLAUX: Subject to anything anybody wants to
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         say at close of business tomorrow, I will be prepared --
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         and again subject to Mr Justice Butcher -- to sit at
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         10.00 am on Thursday, to avoid any more forensic
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         ping-pong about who has had whatever length of time.
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             I understand the point you make, Mr Edelman, but
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         I must say I am not overimpressed. But we will sit at
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         10\ \text{o'clock} both days running as necessary, and we will
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         see you at 10.00 am tomorrow.
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         (The hearing adjourned until 10.00 am on Wednesday,
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                           29 July 2020)
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