

## IN CONVERSATION WITH THE CHAPLAINCY



### REVIEW

Latest panel conversation in our Ethics Series, held in September and our theme was 'The Challenge of sustaining Corporate Culture and Ethics During Covid-19'.

These panel conversations are organized jointly by the Chaplaincy and a group known as the 'G30 Conduct and Cultural Interest Group'. A number of the leading companies in Canary Wharf are members of this group which initially was formed after a conference exploring the 'G30 Report – Banking Conduct and Culture'. Clifford Chance kindly provided the platform for hosting this virtual latest panel discussion in our series.

We were delighted to have the following distinguished panelists from different sectors within financial services: James Bardrick, Head of Citi UK; Katherine Savage, Partner in the People Advisory Service at EY; Alex Edmans, Professor of Finance at London Business School, who is a leading authority on reforming businesses to serve the common good and is author of 'Grow the Pie'. The panel was moderated by Chinwe Odimba- Chapman, Partner in the Employment group at Clifford Chance.

Chinwe Odimba-Chapman skillfully guided the discussion to explore whether it is really possible to sustain a good corporate culture and ethics during the current pandemic given all the unexpected challenges facing businesses. She began the conversation by asking James Bardrick and Katherine Savage what their companies might mean when they refer to a social corporate and ethical culture. She then moved the conversation on to give Prof Edmans an opportunity to explain his Grow the Pie mentality and framework for his approach to business. This led into a conversation around how companies in practical terms have approached key relationships in their business during the pandemic with key stakeholders, employees, clients, shareholders and their responsibility as a business to serve the common good for the wider community. Finally, Prof Edmans outlined how his Grow the Pie principles can be applied. We also learnt a new word 'Pieconomics'.

The panel conversation was lively and needs to be listened in order to get the full richness of the discussion. However, one of the challenges that struck me was that we should not think of ethics in terms of 'do no harm', but 'actively doing good'. To listen to the discussion, follow this [link](#).

### NEW CHAPLAINCY ACTIVITIES

As a chaplaincy it has been relatively easy to move all our 'normal' activities online over the last six months. Now like many organisations we are looking at not how to maintain the status quo, but actively what we need to be doing going forward to support the business community, in providing good pastoral care as well as spiritual support. From the beginning of November, the chaplains will be taking it in turns to provide a short 'Thought for the Week' via a podcast. We have heard from many of you that you feel your whole lives revolve around a screen and have suggested podcasts instead. So, we are trailing this weekly and hope that you find them helpful.

### EDITORIAL

Last Sunday the clocks changed signaling the end of summer and the beginning of autumn and winter.

The last seven months or so we have all had to make adjustments to our working and home lives; for some this has become a blur. In many ways adapting for the last 6 months has been made more bearable as we had the summer with good weather, long warm days to go for walks after work. However, now the weather is getting colder and the nights are drawing in and there seems to be no sign of the Covid pandemic receding anytime soon. Indeed, we are beginning to see tighter social restrictions again.

During this month was World Mental Health Awareness Day, and it is a timely reminder we are in this strange new world of Covid for the long haul and we need to be gentle and take care of our own mental health as we care for our families and colleagues.

**CHAT TO A CHAPLAIN** – Just to remind you even if we are not always visible in Canary Wharf, we are still happy to catch up over a coffee either in person or virtually! Contact us via our contacts page on the website.

[www.canarywharfchaplaincy.co.uk](http://www.canarywharfchaplaincy.co.uk)