# Recent developments in Financial Institutions' Liabilities Nicholas Davidson QC

FOUR NEW SQUARE

LINCOLN'S INN

# The pilot, The plutocrat, and The punter



"I have no doubt that it is stressful to be exposed to substantial losses from spread betting."



R. (On the application of Heather Moor & Edgecomb Ltd) v. Financial Ombudsman Service [2008] EWCA Civ. 642.



#### Part XVI of FSMA 2000



#### The £100,000 limit



### The £100,000 limit Heads I win, tails I don't lose



The £100,000 limit

Heads I win, tails I don't lose

Fair and reasonable yardstick



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(Lord Chancellor's foot??)



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Judicial review



Taking the law into account



• "Unfortunately, the assumed growth rate of 9% per annum was not achieved.



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- B) That construction was in any event necessary to avoid infringement of ECHR Article 6 and Article 1 of the First Protocol
- C) The Ombudsman had not followed those rules of law



- A) the Act required the Ombudsman to determine complaints in accordance with common law
- B) That construction was in any event necessary to avoid infringement of ECHR Article 6 and Article 1 of the First Protocol
- C) The Ombudsman had not followed those rules of law
- D) The advisers had not been negligent so no award should have been made



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 "He is free to depart from the common law."



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 "... but if he does so he should say so in his decision and say why."

FOUR NEW provided that they comply with the relevant law, regulations, regulators' rules and guidance and standards, relevant codes of practice and, where appropriate, good industry practice



• "... in an age of commerce between merchants ..."



transparency, consistency and accessibility as to the principles which inform the ombudsman's determinations



#### It allows us to look beyond the law,



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#### J P Morgan Chase Bank v. Springwell Navigation Corporation [2008] EWHC 1186 (Comm)



## Commissioners of Customs and Excise v. Barclays Bank [2006] UKHL 28



• "... (Springwell's expert) conducted a highly academic exercise in subjecting the portfolio to sophisticated portfolio management analysis.



• "... (Springwell's expert) conducted a highly academic exercise in subjecting the portfolio to sophisticated portfolio management analysis. But this was ..was not one which [the person doing the work could have been expected to have undertaken."



### Spreadex Ltd v. Sekhon [2008] EWHC Ch 1136



#### 14 September 2006



#### 14 September 2006

5 October 2006

