

LEEDS FINANCIAL AND FINTECH LAW CONFERENCE 2023

Transforming FinTech in Leeds: Lessons
from the U.S. and Singaporean Models

Hosted by the Centre for Business Law and Practice, in
collaboration with the Singapore Management University
Centre for AI and Data Governance.



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Thursday, 11 May 2023, 8:30-17:00

University of Leeds, School of Law

[Liberty Building, Lecture Theatre LG.06, Leeds LS3 1DB](#)

Introduction

Hosted by the [Centre for Business Law and Practice](#) (CBLP), in collaboration with the [Singapore Management University Centre for AI and Data Governance](#) (CAIDG), and partly sponsored by the [Michael Beverly Innovation Fellowship Programme](#), this pioneer international conference will identify the key elements of success of secondary financial and FinTech centres in the U.K., the U.S. and Singapore in order to make legal-regulatory and policy recommendations for U.K. regulators and policymakers.

The conference will focus on the Leeds Financial and FinTech Centre. The chief aim of the conference is to facilitate a regional networking across academia, legal services, financial and FinTech industry, regulators, and policymakers, and ultimately, to facilitate to the UK's becoming the most innovative jurisdiction and economy in terms of financial regulation and FinTech while also protecting the stability of its rapidly transforming financial services sector. Secondary financial and FinTech centres have not received much attention from a legal-regulatory perspective to date.

The Leeds Financial and FinTech Centre

Over the past 15 years, building upon strong financial services presence, Leeds has become a financial and FinTech centre for companies across many areas of specialisation. The number of investment funds funding FinTech companies has also multiplied in recent years. Leeds-based FinTech companies provide, among others, businesses with affordable ways to process card payments, crowdfunding platforms where people invest in property, regulation platforms for fraud prevention, anti-money laundering, and identity verification. These services create value; they can save money and time for both customers and financial institutions. Therefore, they have a positive impact on the economy.

This is a free in-person event, though registration is required via Eventbrite. REGISTER [HERE](#).

PROGRAMME

Thursday, 11th May 2023

08:30 – 09:00 **Coffee and Welcome**

09:00 – 09:30 **Opening** - [Peter Whelan](#) (Director, CBLP, Professor of Law, University of Leeds School of Law)

[Virág Blazsek](#) (Lecturer in Commercial, Corporate and Banking Law, CBLP, University of Leeds School of Law)

[Julian Wells](#) (Director, Whitecap Consulting Ltd, Leeds) “*Leeds City Region FinTech Report 2023*”

[Richelle Schuster](#) (Head of Innovation - Design and Impact, Leeds City Council) and [Martyn Long](#) (Head of Employment and Skills Development, Leeds City Council)

09:30 – 10:00 **Keynote Speech** - [Sir Roger Marsh OBE DL](#) (Senior Business and Strategy Adviser, Squire, Patton, Boggs LLP, Leeds; Chair, NP11 group of Northern Local Enterprise Partnerships; Chair, Piece Hall Trust; Commissioner, The Global Britain Commission)

10:00 – 10:15 **Coffee break**

10:15 – 12:00 **Panel 1: The Systematisation and Systemic Aspects of the FinTech Sector**

Panel discussion and Q/A chaired by [Karina Patricia Ferreira Lima](#) (Lecturer in Commercial Law, University of Leeds School of Law)

Speakers:

1. [Virág Blazsek](#) (Lecturer in Commercial, Corporate and Banking Law, University of Leeds School of Law): “*Secondary Financial and FinTech Centres: A comparative focus on the Leeds Financial and FinTech Hub (US-UK-Singapore)*”
2. [Aurelio Gurrea Martinez](#) (Associate Professor of Law, Singapore Management University Yong Pung How School of Law): “*Building a Fintech Hub: Lessons from Singapore and Hong Kong*”
3. [Richard Squire](#) (Fordham University School of Law, New York, NY; Liberty Fellow 2023, CBLP, University of Leeds School of Law): “*New Technologies and Old-Fashioned Bank Runs*”
4. [Andrew Campbell](#) (Emeritus Professor of International Banking and Finance Law, University of Leeds School of Law): “*Non-crypto FinTech and Anti-money Laundering*”

12:00 – 12:45 **Sandwich lunch**

12:45 – 14:30 **Panel 2: The Regulators’ and Policymakers’ Perspective**

Panel discussion and Q/A chaired by [Steven Montagu-Cairns](#) (Lecturer in Commercial, Corporate and Banking Law, University of Leeds School of Law)

Speakers:

1. [Iain Clacher](#) (Professor, Pro Dean – International, Leeds University Business School) (“TBC”)
2. [Paul Anderson](#) (Partner, Financial Services, Squire Patton Boggs LLP, Leeds) (“TBC”)
3. [Christopher Sier](#) (Chairman of Fintech North, Professor of Financial Technology, University of Leeds) (“TBC”)
4. [Pedro Magalhães Batista](#) (Lecturer in Commercial, Corporate, and Banking Law, University of Leeds School of Law): *“Supervisory Architecture for Digital Finance”*
5. [Alison Lui](#) (Reader in Corporate and Financial Law, Liverpool John Moores University School of Law): *“Enhancing access to digital financial payment services for women and minority groups in urban-rural areas of Nigeria”: Learnings for the Leeds financial and FinTech Centre”*

14:30 – 15:00 **Coffee break**

15:00 – 16:45 **Panel 3: The Financial and FinTech Sector’s Perspective**

Panel discussion and Q/A chaired by [Alvaro Pereira](#) (Lecturer in Commercial, Corporate and Banking Law, University of Leeds School of Law)

Speakers:

1. [Nydia Remolina Leon](#) (Assistant Professor of Law; Head of Industry Relations and Fintech track Lead, Centre for AI and Data Governance (CAIDG), Singapore Management University Yong Pung How School of Law): *“Open Finance: Lessons from Singapore”*
2. [Stephen Harris](#) (Regional Director, Head of SME & Mid Corporate North East & Yorkshire, Lloyds Banking Group) (“TBC”)
3. [Andrew Northage](#) (Regulatory & Compliance Partner, Head of International Trade, Walker Morris LLP, Leeds) (*“Key regulatory issues currently facing UK FinTech businesses”*)
4. [Nabi Omidvar](#) (Leeds University Business School) (*“AI and its Regulatory Implications and Limitations”*)

16:45-16:50 **Closing Remarks, followed by Refreshments - [Virág Blazsek](#)**

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