## Giving hope to the 'hopeless'

Hoping to sell her convenience store, Kondje Selim put it on the market with RTA (Business Consultants) Limited.

I've told before how this lot have a habit of suing clients for fees even when they fail to find a buyer for their business. Which is exactly what happened with Kondje.

The store in Huntingdon was marketed at almost £500,000, even though the RTA sales rep had not looked at the company accounts.

No buyer was found, in fact there was not even a single viewing, and two years later it was sold through a different firm of business transfer agents for a far more realistic £305,000.

RTA sued Kondje personally for its supposed lost commission, demanding £10,000. Cambridge county court threw out the claim last week after hearing how Kondje said a new clause was written into the contract after she signed it.

The RTA sales rep did not turn up to give evidence so could not be questioned about the claim.

Kondje was represented by Anthony Reeves, of Sommerfield Browne Solicitors, who said: "The judge was not impressed by the lack of any evidence from RTA

as to what they actually did, apart from preparing sales particulars of the property.

"There was no evidence that any marketing activity was undertaken."

Last week RTA boss Paul O'Reilly described encouraging anyone to fight its demands for payment as "a hopeless crusade".

Doesn't look that way this week.

GET IN TOUCH If you're the victim of sharp practice I want to hear about it. Email investigate@mirror.co.uk or write to Penman Investigates, Dally Mirror, One Canada Square, London E14 5AP. I can't respond to every letter but can promise to read them all. Please, no SAEs or original documents.

AUSE

O'Reilly

Paul