

Chambers

UK Bar —————

2022

Leading barristers and sets in the UK

Northern Ireland

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Commercial Dispute Resolution

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<i>Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.</i>

Ranked Lawyers

Monye Anyadike-Danes QC (Monye Anyadike-Danes) Monye Anyadike-Danes QC is a highly qualified litigator and mediator who combines her expertise in commercial law with a focus on construction and procurement disputes. **Strengths:** "Vastly experienced and an expert negotiator."

Wayne Atchison (Wayne Atchison) Wayne Atchison has a well-rounded commercial practice and is adept at handling cases concerning company law and insolvency matters. His caseload also includes professional negligence and property work. **Strengths:** "Commercially excellent and academically superb." "His response times are excellent, and his advices are comprehensive and clear."

Richard Coghlin QC (Richard Coghlin) Richard Coghlin QC is frequently involved in cases concerning professional negligence, privacy and questions of jurisdiction. **Strengths:** "An extremely straight-talking and intelligent senior counsel who is quickly able to grasp issues and disseminate them to clients in a client-friendly way." "Very strong on procurement and commercial actions. Excellent on his

feet, on paper and with clients."

Adrian Colmer QC (Adrian Colmer) Adrian Colmer QC has a proven track record in cases concerning banking and insolvency disputes. He is also frequently instructed in complex chancery matters including those related to property disputes.

Strengths: "Insightful and very knowledgeable. Commercially savvy and a pleasure to work with." "Extremely diligent counsel with an eye for detail and a high level of technical competence." "A safe pair of hands with a quietly persuasive manner."

Matthew Corkey (Matthew Corkey) Matthew Corkey is a commercial litigation specialist with notable expertise in construction industry disputes. He also possesses strong knowledge of professional negligence claims. **Strengths:** "Very user-friendly and an expert in judicial review, employment and commercial actions, including professional negligence."

David Dunlop QC (David Dunlop) David Dunlop QC's commercial experience and broad technical expertise have kept him in incredibly high demand among major clients across the sectors in Northern Ireland. His practice includes high-profile property, construction and financial cases. **Strengths:** "A highly intelligent lawyer with a wealth of knowledge and experience in all procurement and EU law matters. A go-to lawyer for contentious procurement disputes and commercial litigation matters." "David is an excellent oral advocate and is also very strong on paper. His work ethic is something to behold." "Intellectually superb, articulate and an excellent advocate. David is highly respected by the entire legal profession. David's response times are excellent, and his advices are comprehensive and clear. He is always willing to assist at short notice."

Jonathan Dunlop (Jonathan Dunlop) Jonathan Dunlop receives instructions across a range of commercial disputes. He draws particular praise for his expertise in cases concerning partnership disagreements. **Strengths:** "Combines strong advocacy skills with detailed commercial knowledge and is very empathetic with clients."

Michael Egan (Michael Desmond Egan) Michael Egan is an experienced barrister who has a broad practice that includes commercial, chancery and property matters. **Strengths:** "Technically astute and particularly strong in technical areas such as financial services and insurance." "A very impressive senior junior. Excellent to work with."

Brian Fee QC (Brian Fee QC) Brian Fee QC is an eminent figure at the Bar who is well known for his excellence in a wide range of commercial matters. He is frequently involved in cases concerning partnership disputes, banking issues and professional negligence. **Strengths:** "Technically strong, very responsive and explains complex legal issues in a very clear way for clients."

Fiona Fee (Fiona Fee) Fiona Fee possesses a burgeoning reputation as a privacy and defamation expert. She is also adept at handling commercial disputes involving breaches of commercial contracts, defective products and professional negligence. She acts for a number of blue-chip commercial clients. **Strengths:** "Excellent technical ability and very

responsive. She provides clear written advice."

Donal Flanagan (Donal Flanagan) Has a broad practice that includes banking, personal injury and professional negligence cases. He is regularly instructed by insurers. **Strengths:** "He has a big, boisterous presence in court and is a very good negotiator."

Alistair Fletcher (Alistair Fletcher) Alistair Fletcher has a strong commercial practice complemented by his work in personal injury and defamation matters. He is praised in the market for his intellect.

Strengths: "Intelligent, with great instincts, excellent with clients and can turn his hand to anything. Very easy to work with." "Academically strong. Efficient and good to work with."

Keith Gibson (Keith Gibson) A top choice for the full range of commercial disputes, Keith Gibson draws particular praise for his expertise in professional negligence matters. He often acts on behalf of banks. **Strengths:** "Very commercial, highly responsive, good with clients and highly committed." "Tenacious, hard-working, a good advocate and extremely responsive." "An experienced and astute advocate, good with judges and with clients, and strong on paper."

Patrick Good QC (Patrick Good) Patrick Good QC's status as a specialist in professional negligence defence makes him a popular choice with insurers, though he also enjoys a reputation as a leading all-round litigator. **Strengths:** "Affable and highly skilled in negotiation."

William Gowdy QC (William Gowdy) William Gowdy QC is mainly instructed in relation to banking and insolvency matters. He also frequently acts in professional negligence cases. **Strengths:** "Technically strong; he is the authority on insolvency matters in Northern Ireland."

Nicolas Hanna QC (Nicolas Hanna) Nicolas Hanna QC is recognised as a top choice across a broad range of commercial issues including banking, professional negligence and IP disputes. He is also praised for his expertise in mediation and ADR. **Strengths:** "Nicolas is an extremely experienced advocate; he is hard-working and industrious and gives excellent client service."

Peter Hopkins (Peter Hopkins) Peter Hopkins is renowned for his expertise in IP cases as well as in matters concerning employment law and insolvency. His corporate clients have included social media companies, among others. **Strengths:** "A very responsive and intelligent barrister, yet also down to earth." "He is an excellent all-rounder. He provides technically excellent advice and brilliant service to clients."

Brett Lockhart QC (Brett Lockhart) Brett Lockhart QC is praised for his handling of commercial disputes and professional negligence cases, and is also frequently instructed in cases concerning defamation issues. He is additionally a very capable mediator.

Strengths: "A very adaptable leading counsel who is particularly good with individual clients, and is the source of very practical and well-reasoned advices. Adept at resolving difficult cases."

James Hugh MacMahon (James Hugh MacMahon) James Hugh MacMahon is a highly experienced commercial barrister who excels in cases concerning

professional negligence and insurance. **Strengths:** “Highly persuasive when on his feet.”

Robert McCausland (Robert McCausland) Robert McCausland is noted for his expertise across a range of subject areas, including procurement, insolvency and wider commercial work. **Strengths:** “Easy to work with and extremely knowledgeable.” “An excellent communicator who is approachable and articulate. His advices are clear and concise, and his client care is excellent.”

Robert Millar (Robert Millar) Robert Millar is a standout barrister who is an expert in professional indemnity matters. He is also a particularly strong choice for cases concerning clinical negligence. **Strengths:** “A very experienced counsel capable of dealing with very complex matters without lead or support. He has particular experience in commercial litigation and professional indemnity.”

Michael Neeson (Michael Neeson) Michael Neeson is proficient in a variety of different commercial disputes, including licensing and banking. He is positively viewed as a consistent performer across the board. **Strengths:** “Affable and intelligent, with great advocacy skills.” “An excellent communicator who is approachable and articulate.”

Francis Philip O'Donoghue QC (Francis Philip O'Donoghue) Francis Philip O'Donoghue QC has a broad commercial practice and is adept at handling cases concerning construction, personal injury and shareholder disputes. **Strengths:** “High-profile and experienced senior counsel.” “Highly pragmatic, tenacious and good to have in your corner.” “Highly respected and a leading commercial QC. Very good with clients.”

Mark Orr QC (Mark Orr) Mark Orr QC is an experienced silk who is known for his expertise in chancery and commercial matters. He is particularly active in cases concerning land disputes or insolvency.

Strengths: “He has a great economy of style and is trusted by judges and effective in court. He has unrivalled experience in chancery law.”

Anna Rowan (Anna Rowan) Anna Rowan is noted for her experience in investment banking, which lends itself well to her budding commercial practice. Her particular interests include insolvency, defamation and negligence claims. **Strengths:** “Anna has a proven record of quality commercial thinking.” “Excellent commercial attitude and speed of response.” “Strong advocacy skills, extremely organised and very responsive.”

Stephen Shaw QC (Stephen Shaw) Stephen Shaw QC is an excellent practitioner who is regularly instructed in cases concerning the financial services and energy sectors. He is adept at handling regulatory disputes, including those related to education and social media. **Strengths:** “Excellent advice and service delivery. Very commercially minded and sensitive to client concerns.” “The Rolls-Royce of counsel. He delivers clear advice and advocacy with authority and charm.” “Probably the most respected QC at the commercial Bar in Northern Ireland. A fantastic orator and strategist. He is well liked by judges for his personable style.”

Gerald Simpson QC (Gerald Simpson) Gerald Simpson QC is an accomplished commercial litigator who is frequently instructed in complex disputes concerning defamation matters. **Strengths:** “Well known for his pragmatic, no-nonsense approach.

Also an excellent mediator who commands the respect of his peers.”

Jacqueline Simpson QC (Jacqueline Simpson) In addition to her commercial expertise, Jacqueline Simpson QC frequently advises on chancery matters and professional negligence cases. She is a popular choice for significant banking clients. **Strengths:** “Great on strategy and handles complex banking disputes with ease.” “Commercially astute and very good with clients.”

William Sinton (William Sinton) William Sinton runs a broad practice with a particular focus on company and commercial law. He is notably experienced in cases concerning consumer credit and banking matters. **Strengths:** “Academically strong and good on his feet.”

Douglas Stevenson (The Bar Library) Douglas Stevenson began his legal career as a solicitor specialising in property law and draws on that expertise at the Bar. He is also experienced in professional negligence cases. **Strengths:** “Very experienced junior counsel with excellent client management skills. He is adept at providing sound strategic advice.” “Intellectually superb, articulate and approachable. Douglas is an experienced barrister dealing with a wide range of litigation matters in the Chancery Court. Douglas's advices are comprehensive and clear in what can be very technical property litigation matters.”

Licensing

Licensing
Leading Silks
Band 1
Beattie Stewart <i>The Bar Library</i>
Montague Turlough <i>Turlough Marius Montague QC</i>
<i>Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.</i>

Ranked Lawyers

Stewart Beattie QC (The Bar Library) A pre-eminent expert in liquor licensing in Northern Ireland, widely renowned for his skilled handling of some of the most complex licensing cases. He is universally acknowledged as an expert in challenging licensing applications. **Strengths:** “He is regarded as a top senior counsel and expert in this field.” “His knowledge of the area is second to none.”

Turlough Montague QC (Turlough Marius Montague QC) One of the top barristers in Northern Ireland, frequently involved in major licensing cases. He is known for his assured approach and excellent rapport with clients. **Strengths:** “He is very timely and is an excellent advocate, as well as having excellent knowledge of the law.” “He is absolutely fantastic – calm, knowledgeable and practical.”

Personal Injury

Personal Injury
Leading Silks
Band 1
Fee Brian <i>Brian Fee QC</i>
Fee Dermot <i>Dermot Fee</i>
Montague Turlough <i>Turlough Marius Montague QC</i>
O'Donoghue Francis Philip <i>Francis Philip</i>
Potter Gary <i>Gary Potter</i>
Ringland David <i>David Ringland QC</i>
Spence Stuart <i>Stuart Adrian Spence</i>
Band 2
Dunlop David <i>David Dunlop</i>
Hunt Niall <i>Niall Joseph Hunt</i>
Keenan Colm Joseph <i>Colm Joseph Keenan QC</i>
McCollum Liam Gerard <i>Liam Gerard McCollum</i>
Leading Juniors
Band 1
McGuinness Andrew <i>The Bar Library</i>
O'Hare John <i>John O'Hare</i>
Band 2
Egan Michael <i>Michael Desmond Egan</i>
Fee Fiona <i>Fiona Fee</i>
McGinley Helen <i>Helen McGinley</i>

Ranked Lawyers

David Dunlop QC (David Dunlop) David Dunlop QC is applauded for the commercial focus he brings to every case. Market sources also attest to his extensive experience in personal injury matters.

Michael Egan (Michael Desmond Egan) Michael Egan is a well-regarded junior with experience handling a wide range of personal injury claims.

Brian Fee QC (Brian Fee QC) Brian Fee QC is a talented senior barrister who is highly reputed for his handling of a wide range of personal injury issues. His expertise includes product and employers' liability

claims as well as psychiatric injuries. **Strengths:** "He has all the attributes you would look for in a top advocate."

Dermot Fee QC (Dermot Fee) Dermot Fee QC is a talented silk who represents both claimants and defendants in a variety of personal injury matters. He is experienced in the handling of medical negligence and disease claims. **Strengths:** "He brings a huge amount of experience to his cases and has all the attributes to put him at the top."

Fiona Fee (Fiona Fee) Fiona Fee advises both claimants and defendants on a wide range of different matters including fatal accident cases as well as workplace and RTA claims. She also regularly acts on cases involving significant public liability, including those that concern government departments.

Niall Hunt QC (Niall Joseph Hunt) Niall Hunt QC is a highly regarded silk noted for his experience across a broad range of personal injury work.

Colm Joseph Keenan QC (Colm Joseph Keenan QC) Colm Joseph Keenan QC is a well-regarded silk with experience in a broad range of personal injury work. He is consistently noted for his great skill in handling noise-induced hearing loss cases.

Liam Gerard McCollum QC (Liam Gerard McCollum) Liam Gerard McCollum QC is a highly experienced silk with a significant practice in personal injury. He is also well regarded for his expert handling of clinical negligence matters. **Strengths:** "Liam is well thought of for his oral advocacy and negotiation skills."

Helen McGinley (Helen McGinley) Helen McGinley is noted for her expertise in personal injury claims.

Andrew McGuinness (The Bar Library) Andrew McGuinness is an experienced personal injury junior noted for his thorough approach to matters and his work for the state. He bolsters his practice with his additional expertise in professional negligence.

Turlough Montague QC (Turlough Marius Montague

QC) Turlough Montague QC is a top silk who is well known for his skill in defending personal injury claims. He has a particular reputation for representing government departments during litigation and is also regularly involved in public inquiries. **Strengths:** "Very pleasant to deal with and very good with clients."

Francis Philip O'Donoghue QC (Francis Philip O'Donoghue) Francis Philip O'Donoghue QC is a leading silk in the Northern Irish market and is noted for his abilities in a broad range of matters including industrial disease, employers' liability and RTA claims. **Strengths:** "A fabulous advocate - he has the ability to put people at ease."

John O'Hare (John O'Hare) John O'Hare is an outstanding barrister with a strong personal injury practice. He is held in high regard for the high quality of his advocacy.

Gary Potter (Gary Potter) Gary Potter is a highly esteemed barrister able to advise both claimants and defendants, including insurance companies. He shows strong expertise in a broad range of industrial disease work that encompasses claims for asbestos conditions, hand-arm vibration syndrome and RSI, among others. **Strengths:** "He has strong drafting skills and is good at getting cases settled efficiently and pragmatically."

David Ringland QC (David Ringland QC) David Ringland QC is a prominent silk who enjoys a thriving personal injury defence practice. He acts for a number of well-known insurers.

Stuart Spence (Stuart Adrian Spence) Stuart Spence is an impressive junior barrister offering expertise across a wide range of personal injury claims. He regularly acts on behalf of insurance companies.

Real Estate Litigation

Real Estate Litigation
Leading Silks
Band 1
Colmer Adrian <i>Adrian Colmer</i>
Dunlop David <i>David Dunlop</i>
Shaw Stephen <i>Stephen Shaw</i>
Band 2
Fletcher Alastair <i>Alastair Fletcher</i>
Rowan Anna <i>Anna Rowan</i>
Leading Juniors
Band 1
Gibson Keith <i>Keith Gibson</i>
Stevenson Douglas <i>The Bar Library</i>
<i>Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.</i>

Ranked Lawyers

Adrian Colmer QC (Adrian Colmer) Adrian Colmer QC is an acclaimed commercial barrister who manages a broad practice that encompasses real estate, professional negligence, insolvency and construction law. He has acted in a number of landlord and tenant disputes and also has experience of dealing with cases that contain banking and human rights issues.

David Dunlop QC (David Dunlop) David Dunlop QC is well-regarded advocate with a broad-ranging practice encompassing property as well as other areas of commercial law. He frequently acts in landlord and tenant disputes as well as cases concerning such topics as easements and adverse possession. **Strengths:** "He has a proven track record and has achieved numerous successful outcomes for clients."

Alastair Fletcher (Alastair Fletcher) Alastair Fletcher is a capable barrister with a practice comprising commercial and property matters. He regularly appears in both the County Court and the High Court. **Strengths:** "He is responsive and engaged, and provides clear and well thought out advice."

Keith Gibson (Keith Gibson) Keith Gibson is an adept

advocate who handles cases arising from land registration and repossession, as well as property-related professional negligence claims. He also capably handles boundary disputes.

Anna Rowan (Anna Rowan) Anna Rowan is a strong junior barrister with a broad practice encompassing property and construction law, as well as other commercial cases. She has a wealth of experience in both the County Court and High Court. **Strengths:** "She provides clear and concise advice in line with the client's requirements."

Stephen Shaw QC (Stephen Shaw) Stephen Shaw QC is a well-respected silk whose work encompasses both advisory work and complex litigation. He is respected in the market for his handling of high-value cases. **Strengths:** "A safe pair of hands and great to work with."

Douglas Stevenson (The Bar Library) Douglas Stevenson applies a sound understanding of the complexities of commercial property law in his advocacy. He draws particular acclaim for his expertise in landlord and tenant work.