

Chambers

UK Bar —————

2022

Leading barristers and sets in the UK

Telecommunications

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Band 1

Blackstone Chambers

See profile on p.999

THE SET

A very highly regarded chambers with an outstanding bench of silks and juniors, Blackstone Chambers offers an array of expertise in telecoms matters, handling commercial disputes as well as competition and regulatory matters. The barristers frequently represent significant service providers, consumers and regulators before the High Court, the Commercial Court and the Competition Appeal Tribunal. Demonstrating great expertise in EU law, the set regularly advises service providers on EU laws and regulations and the compatibility of Ofcom regulations with EU Directives. They are further proficient in handling intellectual property disputes for multi-

Telecommunications
Leading Juniors
Band 1
Bates Alan Monckton Chambers A *
Jones Tristan Blackstone Chambers
Woolfe Philip Monckton Chambers *
Band 2
Clark Wayne Falcon Chambers
Love Sarah Brick Court Chambers
Mussa Hanif Blackstone Chambers
Neill Emily Blackstone Chambers
Band 3
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Cashman Daniel Blackstone Chambers
Catherwood Shaen Devereux
Gibson Nicholas Matrix Chambers (ORL) D
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Band 4
Banks Fiona Monckton Chambers A
Cochrane Rory Devereux *
Richards Tom Blackstone Chambers
Vinall Mark Blackstone Chambers
Wills Jonathan Landmark Chambers (ORL) D

national technology companies, and in providing representation in relation to FRAND licensing. Members also regularly advise on fixed-line and mobile networks, as well as internet-related matters. A client comments: "Blackstone's commercial awareness is a given, with counsel taking the time out to fully understand the commercial drivers of the corporate client." **Client service:** "The clerks are attentive and responsive." "The client service is excellent." Gary Oliver is the senior clerk.

SILKS

Brian Kennelly QC Brian Kennelly QC is one of the most prominent silks in the telecoms sector owing to his close relationship with a key UK operator. He advises on significant competition law cases, Ofcom investigations and non-contentious compliance mandates. Kennelly is well regarded for his expertise in relation to net neutrality compliance issues. **Strengths:** "He is a fantastically bright barrister whom clients love because he sees things from their perspective."

Dinah Rose QC Dinah Rose QC is widely recognised as a leading public law silk who stands out for her presence in key telecoms regulatory appeals brought before the CAT or the Administrative Court. She maintains an outstanding reputation for her forceful advocacy style and her performance in judicial reviews. Her impressive client base consists of all the significant domestic network operators, as well as regulatory authorities.

Thomas de la Mare QC Thomas de la Mare QC handles public and EU law-inflected cases for an impressive array of clients in the telecoms and media sectors. He has experience in high-profile cases that examine the relationship between data protection laws and the obligation to share telecoms data with UK security services. De la Mare frequently appears

in judicial reviews, as well as cases before the Commercial Court and the ECJ. **Strengths:** "He provides very purposeful advice."

Javan Herberg QC Javan Herberg QC acts in telecoms regulatory and commercial matters as part of a wider administrative law practice that is focused on the financial services sector. He has experience on both the Ofcom and operator sides of investigations and has had involvement in a number of Supreme Court and CAT hearings. He is proficient in handling telecoms mandates containing EU law elements. **Strengths:** "He is very capable working both for and against the regulator. We have used him on matters where the commercial stakes are high." **Recent work:** Advised Vodafone in an Ofcom investigation into the mis-selling of 'pay as you go' top-up credits.

Kieron Beal QC Kieron Beal QC stands out for his work on behalf of key companies seeking to influence Ofcom decisions that are intended to affect competition in the telecoms and media space. He also advises on sensitive compliance topics and acts in cases relating to data and surveillance. **Strengths:** "His intellectual rigour is staggering. He is very pragmatic and creative."

Monica Carss-Frisk QC Monica Carss-Frisk QC has a longstanding reputation as a leading administrative law silk and stands out for the breadth of her practice. She has experience in EU and UK public law cases that relate to the licensing or regulation of telecoms operators. **Strengths:** "I found her to be very articulate and friendly." "She brings a good grasp of technical complexity and an ability to focus on what matters in her advocacy, which makes her persuasive."

Alan Maclean QC Alan Maclean QC is frequently retained by telecoms giants to represent them in competition law mandates, and is also instructed by service providers in relation to commercial disputes. He has notable experience handling issues arising from the EU Framework and Access Directives. **Strengths:** "He provides very sharp commercial advice." **Recent work:** Represented a Gibraltar telecoms company in a statutory appeal against the regulator concerning powers to require the state-owned operator to provide access to its infrastructure.

David Pannick QC David Pannick QC is hugely respected among peers at the Bar for his superb advocacy skills and for his broad practice that takes in significant public and commercial law matters, including telecoms-related cases.

James Segan QC James Segan QC has increasing prominence in the telecoms sphere, and is well known for his work on major competition and intellectual property law cases that require a deep understanding of telecoms technology. He has notable experience acting in major FRAND trials. Segan also assists with administrative appeals on behalf of telecoms service providers. **Strengths:** "James's work is excellent; he is very user-friendly and he is able to distil complex points of law and procedure into client-friendly terms." "He has been against heavyweight silks and held his own with ease." **Recent work:** Acted for Huawei in protracted litigation with Unwired Planet and Conversant, concerning the FRAND licensing of standard-essential patents.

JUNIORS

Tristan Jones Tristan Jones acts for both operators and Ofcom in high-profile and complex telecommunications cases on issues ranging from dark fibre and licence fees to spectrum auctions. He draws praise for his significant telecoms regulatory knowledge and his complementary strength in competition law matters, and often acts for regulatory authorities. **Strengths:** "He is a very good barrister who is measured and sensible and gives good practical advice on how to manage issues." "He was hands-on and efficient."

Hanif Mussa Hanif Mussa is regularly chosen by leading silks within chambers to support commercial litigation, arbitration or regulatory mandates. He is also instructed as sole counsel in commercial disputes between telecoms operators. He has particular experience representing the regulatory body in spectrum auction matters. **Strengths:** "He is a safe pair of hands and is user friendly."

Emily Neill Emily Neill stands out for her presence on either side of many of the most important Court of Appeal cases in the telecoms sector in recent years, covering market-defining issues including access to dark fibre. She is a popular choice among silks both within chambers and in other sets to act as a junior in administrative appeals that have significant financial implications for telecoms operators, such as matters relating to the determination of annual licence fees. She is also often directly instructed by key clients to advise on diverse compliance topics. **Strengths:** "Her strengths are that she takes the time to understand the context in which the advice is sought, and that she provides clear, well thought out and practical advice." "She has a collaborative approach to the work and works well with solicitors. Her written work is also excellent."

Jessica Boyd Jessica Boyd frequently acts on the regulator side of key telecoms judicial review cases. She has appeared in a number of notable telecoms matters, frequently representing the regulator. Boyd is well versed in providing advice to the regulatory body on spectrum auctions, the Freedom of Information Act and a number of other issues. **Strengths:** "She is a super intelligent barrister; she works very quickly, drafts like a dream and is very easy to work with."

Daniel Cashman Daniel Cashman appears in significant cases in the telecoms sector. He acts for both the regulator and key telecoms operators, and is frequently led by prominent silks. Cashman is noted for his adept handling of matters that contain EU law elements. **Strengths:** "He is right up there with the strongest public law barristers." **Recent work:** Represented Three against Ofcom's appeal relating to the £120 million restitution award to the Mobile Network Operators.

Tom Richards Tom Richards advises telecoms operators on sensitive competition law and judicial review cases, including those that intersect with media and broadcasting law. He has represented mobile network operators as sole counsel before the CAT. **Strengths:** "He is a super bright barrister and is fantastic to work with." **Recent work:** Acted for Telefonica in the Court of Appeal case of Ofcom v Vodafone and others.

Mark Vinall Mark Vinall has experience on the defendant side of CAT, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court cases that challenge Ofcom decisions on key aspects of telecoms regulation. He is well equipped to handle cases at the intersection of telecoms and media regulation. **Strengths:** "He is very good at

digging into highly complex technical areas and distilling them into something that the court could understand."

Monckton Chambers

See profile on p.1071

THE SET

Monckton Chambers handles the full spread of telecommunications law work, and is particularly well known for its strength in competition cases. It is a strong choice for advice on reforming telecoms legislation and for representation in regulatory disputes, and further boasts intellectual property expertise, having appeared in numerous key cases relating to standard-essential patents in the technology sector. Members here have noted EU law expertise and are known for their adroit handling of EU competition law cases, as well as their superior advice on EU regulatory frameworks. The barristers' clients include significant telecoms companies, content providers and both UK and overseas regulatory bodies including Ofcom. One instructing solicitor enthuses: "Monckton is an extremely impressive chambers in terms of its market presence." **Client service:** "David Hockney, senior clerk, and John Keegan, deputy senior clerk, are brilliant." "The clerks are very good and very understanding of the issues." "They are good, user-friendly and efficient at doing their billings."

SILKS

Daniel Beard QC Daniel Beard QC regularly instructed by leading UK telecoms operators on their most important competition law-based regulatory appeals. He also handles competition law cases for operators based in continental Europe, and represents government bodies in relation to national security legislation in the telecoms field. Beard regularly handles market-defining cases in the sphere, including matters relating to the 5G spectrum and dark fibre. **Strengths:** "He is extremely good on the regulations." **Recent work:** Acted for the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs in a case on telecommunications data interception and retention under EU rules.

Josh Holmes QC Josh Holmes QC is among the counsel of choice for Ofcom and other regulatory bodies, and regularly advises on competition law challenges to decisions on key aspects of telecoms or media sector regulation. Holmes is highly regarded for his sector expertise and courtroom demeanour. He frequently acts in telecoms matters that contain multi-jurisdictional elements, and receives particular praise for his European law expertise. **Strengths:** "He is super intelligent, very strategic, drafts like a dream and is a deft advocate both in submissions and cross-examination." "A superb lawyer in competition and regulation." **Recent work:** Acted for Ofcom in a cross-jurisdictional litigation between satellite rivals Viasat and Inmarsat.

Meredith Pickford QC Meredith Pickford QC has an impressive client list that includes many of the largest global telecoms operators and electronics manufacturers. He handles competition law and complex intellectual property disputes, including Court of Appeal cases that clarify the meaning of FRAND terms in the licensing of standard-essential patents. **Strengths:** "He is one of the leading intellects at the Bar. His ability to distil complex issues into simple propositions is second to none." **Recent work:** Represented Google in the General Court of the European Union in an appeal relating to a fine of

EUR4 billion by a regulator concerning the licensing of the Android operating system.

Jon Turner QC (see p.948) Jon Turner QC is a barrister with a well-established reputation as one of the most important telecoms silks in the UK, he advises on challenges to Ofcom decisions before the CAT, Administrative Court and Court of Appeal. Turner has been involved in some of the most high-profile matters in the telecoms sector, including defining cases relating to standard-essential patents and the spectrum auction. His varied client base includes significant telco service providers, tech giants and delivery companies. **Strengths:** "He is a formidable opponent. He is the best in the business." **Recent work:** Acted for Google in relation to a complaint made to the European Commission by Foundem, a rival price comparison website, alleging Google had demoted the complainant in its search listings.

Tim Ward QC (see p.952) Tim Ward QC is a popular choice among London solicitors and in-house counsel at UK and international telecoms companies faced with sensitive regulatory disputes. Interviewees highlight his advocacy skills. Ward showcases his expertise when advising government entities on reforming telecoms legislation. He regularly acts in international matters. **Strengths:** "He is an exceptional advocate. He has an amazing ability to distil issues in a digestible way, but he is also incredibly persuasive and engaging." "I am always impressed by how insightful he is and how he can take complicated strategic issues and come up with a sound assessment." **Recent work:** Represented Telenor, a Norwegian telecoms operator, in its appeal to the EFTA Court against a EUR100 million fine imposed for alleged abuse of dominance in relation to the supply of wholesale data.

Robert Palmer QC Robert Palmer QC is noted for his increasing prominence in important cases in the telecoms sector. He handles complex advisory matters, regulatory appeals and court proceedings before the CAT, Supreme Court and ECJ. His client list includes leading telecoms operators and public authorities. Palmer is noted for his experience in acting for intelligence agencies in relation to protecting their data collection rights for intelligence and investigatory purposes. **Strengths:** "His sector knowledge is second to none." "He is good at evaluating the strength of different arguments. He also thinks laterally and will think about different ways to approach an issue." **Recent work:** Acted for BT in Vodafone and TalkTalk v Ofcom, defending Ofcom's decision to deregulate BT's business connectivity services in the central London market.

Gerry Facenna QC (see p.832) Gerry Facenna QC has acted in several important public law cases that test the relationship between data privacy and the obligation on telecoms providers to store and disclose data in the interests of counter-terrorism. He also handles data privacy cases regarding EU data rules for search engines. Facenna frequently appears before the ECJ and ECHR. His clients include significant telecoms and technology companies, as well as government bodies. **Recent work:** Acted for the claimant in a class action against YouTube and Google concerning the processing of children's personal data by online media companies.

Kassie Smith QC Kassie Smith QC is best known for her work on important cases that test the relationship between the protection of IP rights and the use of standard-essential patents in mobile telecoms technology. She also advises on media and telecoms-related competition law cases, including

in foreign jurisdictions, and further provides regulatory advice in the sector. Her client base includes government bodies and telecoms equipment companies. **Strengths:** “She guided us through a very challenging process with an extremely calm and measured approach, demonstrating clear judgement as to how best to conduct our defence. Despite her seniority, she was very approachable and receptive to additional viewpoints and discussions as to how the case should be managed.” **Recent work:** Instructed by the Competition and Markets Authority in an appeal brought before the CAT by Tobii concerning a merger decision.

Anneli Howard QC (see p.859) Anneli Howard QC is an outstanding silk often instructed in both advisory and contentious mandates. A top choice for UK operators in competition law cases, she is an expert in the competition law implications of decisions made by UK public bodies, and handles challenges to those decisions before the CAT and ECJ. She also assists telecoms operators with appeals against EC fines, and is well experienced in providing regulatory advice in relation to broadband rollouts at leasehold properties. **Strengths:** “A great personality, hard-working, both flexible and resistant, with remarkable knowledge of EU procedures.” “She is approachable, engaged and willing to think laterally.” **Recent work:** Represented BT Openreach in an investigation commenced by Ofcom into its compliance with the Universal Service Obligation.

JUNIORS

Alan Bates (see p.786) Alan Bates is best known for his work on competition law and state aid matters, including sensitive cases that involve clients in the telecoms sector. He acts for prominent telecoms operators and telecoms service providers. Having spent a year on secondment to Ofcom, Bates is able to provide especially insightful advice on Ofcom decisions and inquiries to service providers. **Strengths:** “He is a very knowledgeable and very pragmatic barrister. His advice is simple and clear.” “He is carving out a growing reputation.” “He has a good style of advocacy which is very effective.” **Recent work:** Represented TalkTalk in a dispute with Openreach over £16 million of unpaid charges for wholesale ethernet services.

Philip Woolfe (see p.963) Philip Woolfe draws praise for his outstanding technical knowledge and ability, and plays a prominent role in important judicial review proceedings on behalf of various key operator clients, having been led by renowned telecoms silks both within chambers and in other sets. Woolfe further stands out for his instruction as sole counsel in competition law cases that inform Ofcom decisions on dark fibre access. **Strengths:** “He is a terrific barrister and a rock-solid telecoms expert.” “He rolled up his sleeves and was super helpful.” **Recent work:** Acted for EE in the High Court and Court of Appeal in its claim seeking restitution of approximately £90 million in spectrum licence fees.

Stefan Kuppen Stefan Kuppen is recognised as a valuable resource both for his advisory work relating to difficult points of telecoms regulation and on the defendant side of regulatory investigations. He is experienced at providing insightful advice on legislation relating to data protection and the interception of communications. Kuppen attracts particular attention for his experience gained working within the financial services sector. **Strengths:** “He has been particularly helpful and is a barrister who delivers things in a timely way.” “He is a very good technician.”

Ben Lask Ben Lask is a well-regarded barrister in the telecommunications sector. He frequently acts in competition-related cases, and has a broad client list that includes telecoms operators and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. He is considered by peers to be a strong choice as a barrister for Ofcom matters. Lask appears frequently in cases before the CAT, High Court and Court of Appeal. **Strengths:** “He had a very good eye for detail and was quite dogged in rooting out the points that could take us forward.” **Recent work:** Instructed by BT in a claim for damages in the Competition Appeal Tribunal relating to the Trucks cartel.

Fiona Banks Fiona Banks has a growing practice in the telecommunications sector, and enjoys strong endorsement from fellow barristers and clients alike. Her broad-based telecommunications practice sees her handling competition and state aid matters for telco service providers, as well as representing clients in challenging Ofcom decisions. **Strengths:** “She is a very bright barrister and has the intellectual horsepower to handle anything. She has the ability to really get into the details when there are very complex issues and can really cut to the heart of the analysis.” **Recent work:** Acted for Viasat in a Court of Appeal action related to a decision taken by Ofcom in relation to the licensing of ground-based networks of one of Viasat’s competitors, Inmarsat, for the provision of broadband services to aircraft over Europe.

Band 2

Brick Court Chambers

See profile on p.1001

THE SET

Brick Court Chambers is a highly esteemed commercial set which provides high-end advice and representation on a broad range of matters in the telecommunications sphere. It can boast significant expertise in competition matters, and frequently represents telecoms operators before the Competition Appeal Tribunal. Barristers at the set are also regularly instructed by telecoms companies to appeal Ofcom decisions, and are further proficient in handling cases that involve both telecommunications and intellectual property elements, such as those concerning the meaning of FRAND. The set possesses expertise in both UK and Irish telecommunications law. **Client service:** “Very good clerking. They look after us and always come up with solutions when there are issues.” Tony Burgess and Paul Denison are the joint senior clerks.

SILKS

Sarah Ford QC Sarah Ford QC is regularly instructed in important competition law cases in the telecoms sphere. Her practice also extends to IP matters within the telecoms sector, principally cases involving standard-essential patents. She handles regulatory and advisory mandates for leading telecoms operators. **Strengths:** “Gets on top of things very efficiently, gets to the issues straight away, and presents very effectively in court.” **Recent work:** Acted for Unwired Planet in a Supreme Court case concerning the meaning of the obligation on standard-essential patent holders to grant licences on FRAND terms.

Sarah Lee QC Sarah Lee QC has impressive experience advising telecommunications operators on competition law and spectrum matters. She is a good choice for both regulatory work and commercial disputes arising in the sector. **Strengths:** “She is an

incredible advocate.”

Robert O’Donoghue QC Robert O’Donoghue QC is a competition law-focused silk who has demonstrable experience in telecoms sector cases. He defends network operators in EC investigations and in subsequent ECJ appeals, and is noted for having particular knowledge of the Irish telecoms regulatory landscape. **Strengths:** “He has an excellent understanding of the telecoms business environment and the operational grid. His legal advice always strikes the right balance of commercial awareness with legal risks.” **Recent work:** Advised the Irish Commission for Communications Regulations in relation to its 5G spectrum auction.

JUNIORS

Sarah Love Sarah Love is an increasingly prominent regulatory specialist barrister who advises on key telecoms regulatory legislation and frequently plays a role in prominent telecoms appeals. She has extensive experience of representing interveners in appeals against Ofcom decisions. **Strengths:** “Clients get on with her really well. She is also really good with strategy.” “She is a real expert and has an in-depth knowledge of judgments.” **Recent work:** Acted in Optis Cellular Technology and others v Apple Retail UK. The case concerned the obligations of standard-essential patent holders to grant licences on FRAND terms.

Devereux

See profile on p.1013

THE SET

Devereux is a highly respected chambers whose barristers handle a broad variety of telecommunications cases, including commercial as well as competition and regulatory law matters. Its members demonstrate notable expertise in disputes concerning the new Electronic Communications Code, and frequently represent clients before the Upper Tribunal. This expertise extends to acting for clients from the real estate sector in issues arising as a result of the transition between the old and the new Electronic Communications Code. Barristers at the set are also active in cases relating to Artificial Inflation of Traffic and its contractual consequences. The set’s varied client base includes both UK-based and overseas mobile service providers, as well as infrastructure service companies. **Client service:** “The clerks are very efficient and reliable, particularly Glenn Billenness, senior practice manager. They are always quick to come back to us and are very helpful when we have further questions.” “The clerks are incredibly helpful and have dealt with all of my enquiries promptly and professionally. I was particularly impressed with Cyrus Biggs, senior practice manager.”

SILKS

Graham Read QC (see p.919) Graham Read QC is a hugely knowledgeable telecoms specialist who benefits from vast experience in the sector and a close relationship with key client BT. He handles diverse matters that span sensitive advisory topics, appeals against Ofcom decisions, commercial litigation between telecoms operators, and matters relating to the Artificial Inflation of Traffic. Read has acted for several telecoms operators in high-profile test cases regarding the new Electronic Communications Code concerning the status of telecoms masts. **Strengths:** “He has an encyclopedic knowledge of the Code and has approached matters with impressive levels of precision.” “He has a thorough grasp of the nuances

of the telecommunications industry and is quick to provide commercial guidance." **Recent work:** Acted in *Cornerstone Telecommunications v University of Arts London*, a test case to determine the terms that can be imposed under the new under the Electronic Communications Code.

JUNIORS

Shaen Catherwood Shaen Catherwood specialises in disputes relating to the installation or removal of telecoms apparatus. He is regularly instructed to act for leading telecoms operators in cases that require a strong understanding both of the Electronic Communications Code (ECC) and of real estate issues. Catherwood has acted in several test cases relating to the updated ECC and draws praise from interviewees for his knowledge of the Code. He is also well regarded for his experience in representing service providers in relation to commercial disputes. **Strengths:** "He is technically very good. He has an excellent knowledge of the Code, and his advice is tailored to the client and their needs. He is easy to communicate with and always meets deadlines." **Recent work:** Acted in *Cornerstone Telecommunications v University of Arts London*, a test case to determine the terms that can be imposed under the new ECC.

Georgina Hirsch (see p.856) Georgina Hirsch is a highly capable barrister who regularly appears in cases before the Court of Appeal and CAT regarding telecommunications regulatory matters, and counts BT among her clients. She provides expert advice on the new Electronic Communications Code. **Strengths:** "She is an excellent team player and is very good with clients. She can handle very challenging situations and is good at taking the initiative." **Recent work:** Acted for BT in a case concerning alleged breaches of BT's ex ante obligations to ensure that certain prices for ethernet products were based on a cost orientation formula.

Rory Cochrane (see p.811) Rory Cochrane is noted for his handling of commercial disputes in the telecoms sector, as well as regulatory matters relating to the Electronic Communications Code (ECC). He benefits from a wealth of prior experience gathered as a solicitor advocate at a prominent international firm. **Strengths:** "He has encyclopedic knowledge of the Code." **Recent work:** Instructed by EE and Hutchinson 3G in an application under paragraph 26 of the ECC for interim rights to St Michael's Lodge to allow for network infrastructure activities.

Band 3

Falcon Chambers

See profile on p.1029

THE SET

Falcon Chambers is a market-leading real estate set that leverages its property law expertise in telecommunications sector disputes. Its barristers act in cases at the intersection of property law and telecoms, and regularly advise landowners and service providers with regard to the application of the new Electronic Communications Code. Their broad-based expertise encompasses cases relating to the installation of electronic communications apparatus, as well as matters concerning lease renewals and equipment allocations. Both silks and juniors frequently appear before the Upper Tribunal, as well as the Court of Appeal. **Client service:** "I consider that our firm has good links with the clerking team, who are always very friendly and efficient and go the extra

mile to push through urgent work." Johnathan Stannard is the senior clerk.

SILKS

Stephanie Tozer QC Stephanie Tozer QC is noted for her expertise in handling disputes concerning the installation of telecoms apparatus on land. Combining her strong skills in property litigation and her expert understanding of the Electronic Communications Code, she frequently represents high-profile service providers and mobile infrastructure companies in their disputes with landowners. **Strengths:** "She is very approachable, extremely bright and a strategic thinker." "She is excellent in her technical abilities, but also has a very professional and likeable manner when addressing the tribunal or giving advice to clients." **Recent work:** Instructed by Vodafone in a lease renewal dispute with Portsmouth Water over a mast site.

Oliver Radley-Gardner QC Oliver Radley-Gardner QC is highlighted as an excellent choice for real estate-linked telecoms cases. His proven sector knowledge also earns him roles on the operator side of advisory mandates relating to the implementation of the new Electronic Communications Code. Radley-Gardner earns praise for his knowledge of the Code and for his advocacy skills. **Strengths:** "He is extremely knowledgeable in the telecommunications sector and is very client-friendly; he always makes clients feel comfortable when advising in conferences." "He is really strong in his advocacy." "He has a very deep understanding of the Code and really thinks through the best way to approach the point." **Recent work:** Acted for Cornerstone in *University of London v Cornerstone Telecommunications Infrastructure*, a Court of Appeal case. The decision established the right to inspect as a precursor to seeking agreement to install apparatus.

JUNIORS

Wayne Clark Wayne Clark is well regarded for his expertise in cases relating to the Electronic Communications Code (ECC), and draws praise for his high level of technical knowledge and written contributions on the subject. He provides strategic advice on the ECC and frequently acts in tribunal cases for both telecoms operators and landowners. **Strengths:** "A very good manner with clients." "His experience and knowledge acting for landowners under the new Code is unrivalled." "A hugely respected and experienced barrister with wide and vast experience including a strong reputation in telecommunications." **Recent work:** Acted for Compton Beauchamp in a case clarifying the application of the ECC in imposing conditions upon landowners.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Alex Charlton QC (4 Pump Court) Alex Charlton QC receives significant praise for his handling of commercial disputes arising under outsourcing, maintenance and other telecoms or IT service contracts. He has wide-ranging experience of handling litigation, arbitration and mediation on behalf of telecoms providers and technology companies. His recent work has seen him undertake a number of cross-border disputes. **Strengths:** "He has the gravitas to be able to strike fear into any opponent, and is able to weigh up the litigation risks in a coherent and straightforward way." "He was very good at cross-examining witnesses and very good on his feet." **Recent work:**

Advised BT in an £80 million claim arising out of the supply of defective equipment incorporated into its copper network.

Jonathan Crow QC (see p.818) (4 Stone Buildings) Jonathan Crow QC is a hugely respected silk with a proven capacity to handle disputes between mobile network operators, including major cases heard before the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal. He has handled matters relating to a number of high-profile issues in the telecoms space, including the 3G auction and spectrum disputes. **Recent work:** Continued to act for the defendant in *BT Plc v Telefonica UK*, a case concerning charges for calls made to 08 numbers. The litigation raised questions of competition law among other issues.

Nicholas Gibson (Matrix Chambers) Nicholas Gibson acts both for longstanding operator clients and for relevant public authorities. He receives direct instruction to advise on matters and frequently appears before the Court of Appeal. Gibson has both regulatory and competition law expertise. **Strengths:** "He is super hard-working and responsive."

Matthew Lavy (see p.877) (4 Pump Court) Matthew Lavy a leading IT law barrister with a valuable background in software development, who draws praise for the technical understanding with which he approaches cases. His broader practice often crosses into the telecoms sector and related areas of IP law or general commercial litigation. Due to his understanding of the technology industry, he is especially proficient in representing equipment manufacturers in multi-jurisdictional disputes. **Strengths:** "His standout strength is his familiarity with technical issues, processing and making simple the technical evidence. He also had extremely sharp legal skills." "He is an outstanding barrister with an analytical mind that is able to penetrate straight to the particular issue." **Recent work:** Instructed by BT in a dispute with Tii Technologies over allegedly defective equipment.

Michael Lazarus (3 Verulam Buildings) Michael Lazarus is a hugely experienced commercial litigator with a broad practice that extends from the IT sector into telecoms contractual disputes, including those relating to disputed service contracts. He regularly represents leading telecoms service providers in high-profile cases. **Strengths:** "He is very good, he really understands the technology." **Recent work:** Instructed by Vodafone in a £10 million claim by Sim Local relating to a distribution/agency agreement.

Juliette Levy (Cerulean Chambers) Juliette Levy features among a select list of barristers with a strong focus on telecoms infrastructure disputes. She acts both for landowners and telecoms operators undertaking advisory and contentious matters relating to the treatment of wayleaves and network sharing agreements under the new Electronic Communications Code. She acts for both national and international clients.

Rhodri Thompson QC (Matrix Chambers) Rhodri Thompson QC benefits from a strong relationship with BT, which regularly appoints him to lead major regulatory appeals and handle sensitive advisory matters. He is able to bring his considerable knowledge of EU and competition law to bear in complex telecoms cases. Thompson has been involved in numerous cases relating to key issues in telecoms, including the rollout of superfast broadband and the digital communications review. **Strengths:** "He is composed and reassuring and has a great knowledge of competition law." "An outstanding advocate." **Recent work:** Acted in *Unlocked v Google*, a claim

alleging abuse of dominant position by Google for threatening to withdraw access to Google Play and Admob.

Jonathan Wills (Landmark Chambers) Jonathan Wills has noted experience in cases interpreting the new Electronics Communications Code (ECC) and regularly represents landowners. He has acted in the Upper Tribunal and the Court of Appeal. He has an impressive knowledge of the interaction between the ECC and the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954.

Strengths: "He is commercial and practical, and knows how things work on the ground." "He is a good advocate who is thorough in his written work."

Recent work: Acted for AP Wireless in a case which clarified the interplay between the new ECC and the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954.