Chambers

High Net Worth
2022

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UK

How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Art and Cultural Property Law

Art and Cultural Property Law
Leading Firms
Band 1
Charles Russell Speechlys
Constantine Cannon LLP
Farrer & Co LLP
Mishcon de Reya LLP
Band 2
Boodle Hatfield LLP
Forsters LLP
Hunters
Stephenson Harwood LLP
Withers LLP
* *Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Art and Cultural Property Law
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Capildeo Rudy *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Carleton James *Farrer & Co LLP*
Fitzpatrick Simon *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *
Foord Roland *Stephenson Harwood LLP* *
Given Davina *RPC (ORL)* ◊
Gray Amanda *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Maxwell Tim *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Parkhouse Adrian *Farrer & Co LLP*
Sanig Karen *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Valentin Pierre *Constantine Cannon LLP*
Band 2
Aguilar Lisette *Keystone Law (ORL)* ◊ *
Barker Sarah *Withers LLP* *
Kleinknecht Gregor *Keystone Law (ORL)* ◊ *
Rogers Fionnuala *Canvas Art Law (ORL)* ◊
Band 3
Gleave Hetty *Fladgate LLP (ORL)* ◊
Hart Richard *Pinsent Masons (ORL)* ◊
Hill Catherine R *Forsters LLP*
Polycarpou Eleni *Withers LLP* *
Silverman Milton C *Streathers Solicitors LLP (ORL)* ◊
Up-and-coming individuals
Paintin Isabel *Farrer & Co LLP*
Star associates
Vere-Hodge Till *Payne Hicks Beach LLP (ORL)* ◊
Associates to watch
Bell Tamara *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Brindley Abby *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Chadwick Simon *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Clark Fred *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *
Foden Rebecca *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *
Neal Laura *Forsters LLP*
Shaw Becky *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *
Warrington Petra *Charles Russell Speechlys*

Band 1

Charles Russell Speechlys

Charles Russell Speechlys is *"the go-to art firm,"* according to an interviewee, who also says: *"They have the best team in the country for art expertise. They always turn out and have a deep bench."* It has a renowned London-based art and luxury asset practice that assists a range of clients, including artists, collectors, galleries and auction houses.

"They have access to resources but feel like a boutique firm. They have a basis for working with a range of stakeholders which gives them an understanding of the field, which I appreciate," explains an interviewee.

Notable practitioners

Rudy Capildeo *"is very knowledgeable on the financing in the art market. He is a real rain-maker and a very impressive solicitor,"* says a commentator. He focuses on non-contentious art matters, advising a range of clients including artists, collectors, galleries and institutions. Another source states: *"He has a very good mind, an immediate grasp of important issues. He is delightful and gives an immediate feeling of support."* **Tim Maxwell** *"is outstanding. He's a fantastic litigator, the calmest presence in the room,"* according to a source who adds: *"He is a great tactician and gives great commercial advice and understands what his clients want. He is absolutely stellar."* Maxwell is highly regarded for handling art litigation, including matters related to ownership, provenance and authenticity. **Tamara Bell** advises artists, collectors, dealers and other key art world clients on contentious matters and financing mandates. *"She is really a superstar – one to watch,"* says a market commentator. Another interviewee states: *"She is great to work with, picks things up quickly, even when they are very complex. She jumps in at the deep end and is enormously efficient."* **Petra Warrington** *"is very good, she's got a lot of good ideas and is really a next generation art lawyer,"* says a source. She handles art matters related to authenticity, ownership and the condition of pieces. *"She's very hard-working and diligent. She has an art background prior to law so she really has that art knowledge in her DNA,"* states an interviewee, and another says: *"She is a terrific lawyer. She is smart, capable and experienced."*

Constantine Cannon LLP

Constantine Cannon has a highly regarded London art practice. *"I think they are leaders in the field and they have a very efficient team who are really committed to what they are doing,"* says a source.

The firm regularly advises key art world clients on market-leading transactional matters and disputes. Another source highlights the team for its *"excellent responsiveness, availability and proactive communication."*

Notable practitioners

Pierre Valentin is *"at the top of his game – he's a go-to person,"* says an interviewee. He remains a leading player in the London market, and reg-

ularly advises galleries, collectors and artists on transactional matters and contentious cases. *"He's a consummate gentlemen. He enjoys what he does. He's a shining example of loving the craft,"* says a market commentator, who adds: *"He's careful with how he deals with the people. He's good at digesting the law and it helps that he's international. His knowledge of art law is great and he's technically sound."*

Farrer & Co LLP

Farrer & Co advises a wide range of art world clients, including dealers and owners, museums, charities and trustees on disputes and transactional matters. *"They are pre-eminent, with impeccable client service. They are delightful to work with whilst being imaginative and creative. They are the best,"* says an industry source.

"They are very, very good. They are very slick, with a huge knowledge of the art and cultural property sector within the team and are very cost effective," observes a commentator, and another interviewee says: *"They are very professional, and have great depth of knowledge in this area and a real expertise."*

Notable practitioners

James Carleton handles art and cultural property matters for dealers, collectors and institutional clients. *"I find that he is somebody who really not just understands legal issues but also the passions and emotions behind the art. He's great at handling clients. He's very empathetic,"* says a fellow solicitor. Another source says that *"he's very seasoned and one of the best people around. He's first-rate."* **Adrian Parkhouse** is a leading litigator who has a fine reputation for regularly advising on difficult art law matters. *"Clients rightly love him, because he gives top-quality service and gets superb results. He's also utterly unflappable in the most extreme circumstances. If I had an art dispute, he'd be the only person I'd consider,"* says an interviewee. *"He's a legend in this field,"* observes another solicitor, who adds that *"he is top-drawer, with a phenomenal brain."* **Isabel Paintin** *"is a superstar. I think she's definitely one of the best in the field,"* says an industry source. She advises individuals and estates on art-related matters in transactional concerns and offers in lieu of tax. Another source states: *"She's diligent and thorough. She understands client needs and is a safe pair of hands. She's very clever."*

Mishcon de Reya LLP

Mishcon de Reya is extremely well known for handling some of the best art and cultural property work in the market. The team advises on transactional matters and represents clients involved in major disputes. *"They are fantastic. They are very well known in the art world and are really good,"* says a source, before adding: *"They are brilliant at dispute work. It is a slick operation and they live and breathe art."*

"They are terrific. They are great. They are extraordinarily precise and thorough. They are just extremely smart and responsive and very talented," observes another commentator, and a barrister says that *"they are the best in the market. It's a great team who go where you want to go."*

Notable practitioners

Amanda Gray advises auction houses, collectors, dealers and institutional clients on contentious and non-contentious art-related matters. *"She's doing incredible things. She is really taking things on in a very impressive way. She's really sharp and excellent at negotiating,"* says an interviewee, and another source states: *"I really like working with Amanda. She is very smart, very creative and very detailed."* **Karen Sanig** remains a hugely respected name in the art law market. She regularly advises clients on transactions and artists' rights and estates, while she also represents parties in art-related disputes concerning authenticity, ownership and attribution. *"I think she's a terrific lawyer. She is such an amazing lawyer. She is so thoughtful, reasonable and knowledgeable,"* enthuses a fellow lawyer. Another interviewee says that *"she has fantastic knowledge of the art market and is a go-to for art dealers. She's well known in this field."* **Abby Brindley** is a managing associate at the firm. She advises clients on art and cultural property disputes, and also has expertise in data protection matters. *"She's really good. She is mainly a litigator but she's an absolute expert on the regulatory side and clients really like her,"* observes a fellow solicitor. *"She's great – fantastic. She's really personable, clients love her. She's really sensible, manages the clients well and makes sure the case doesn't suffer. She's a lovely person to work with,"* explains a commentator. **Simon Chadwick** brings art world experience to his art and cultural property matters. *"He worked for an art dealership for a number of years and that experience is very valuable as a lawyer in this market, as it gives him credibility and knowledge,"* says a fellow solicitor, who adds: *"He's smart and I think very highly of him."* Another source says: *"Simon's drafts are always brilliant. He always gets the point and is really good to work with. He has excellent judgement and handles cases extremely well."*

Band 2

Boodle Hatfield LLP

Boodle Hatfield remains a notable firm for art-related matters, including contentious work, transactional matters and art-related tax and estate planning. *"It's easy to work with them, and they're good at disputes,"* says an interviewee, and another commentator says: *"They are people who help on a wide variety of matters. They are genuinely interested in art rather than just being there as a service provider. They provide integrated services."*

"They are very good, they are a very professional outfit," observes an industry source, who adds: *"They have very high-quality work. They are excellent."*

Notable practitioners

Simon Fitzpatrick (see p.328) is an experienced litigator who advises clients on art disputes, including provenance, authenticity and misattribution matters. *"He is thoroughly immersed in the sector. He understands his client's issues very well and fights their cases very hard. He looks at all the angles and is a very intelligent lawyer,"* observes an interviewee. Another source says that *"he is extremely bright and very forensic, whilst at the same time being very personable."*

Fred Clark (see p.324) advises on commercial art matters, including ownership structures, purchases and sales, and collection management. *"Fred has a keen eye for detail, is most personable and accomplished at explaining complex legal matters in digestible form. I have enjoyed working with him,"* says an interviewee. Another market commentator says that *"he's energetic, keen and proactive in the work he's doing in the art world. He's genuinely interested."* **Rebecca Foden** (see p.328) handles art-related disputes, including title claims, professional negligence matters and cases involving stolen items. *"She is really capable – she is very good and extremely competent and astute,"* observes an interviewee. Another market commentator says that *"she knows her stuff and she's very strong."* **Becky Shaw** (see p.343) handles disputes concerning authenticity, damaged artwork, art financing issues and title claims. *"She is extremely knowledgeable about art law matters, with a keen mind, attention to detail and a practical approach,"* observes an industry commentator. Another source says: *"She handles tough cases. She's efficient and responds well, moving matters forward. She is excellent."*

Forsters LLP

The art and cultural property practice at Forsters brings together lawyers from across the firm. It regularly advises collectors, galleries and auction houses, and is particularly notable for handling estate planning and commercial matters for living artists.

Sources highlight in particular their positive experiences working with the firm's lawyers. *"They are efficient, quick and very good for their clients. They are very approachable and personable. I like them. Not only are they a good firm but their people are very likeable,"* says a interviewee. Another commentator says: *"I can't fault them. They are extremely thorough and approachable, detail-focused and supportive. We enjoy working with them and wouldn't hesitate to recommend them to anyone."*

Notable practitioners

Catherine Hill is *"such great fun – such a personable personality and a hugely good brain. She's one of the best lawyers in her field,"* according to an industry source. She leads the firm's art and cultural property practice and is an expert on advising living artists on tax and estate planning matters. *"Catherine is such a pleasure to deal with – she makes complex things really simple to understand,"* says an interviewee. **Laura Neal** is a senior associate at the firm. Her art and cultural property work includes advising living artsists on succession matters. *"She is extremely adept and approachable lawyer,"* says a commentator, while another interviewee describes her as *"brilliant, diligent and thorough."*

Hunters

Hunters *"are very good. They are efficient and they answer pretty quickly,"* says a source.

Hunters is well known for working with artists, dealers, collectors and institutions on contentious and non-contentious matters. The firm's mandates range from the purchase and sale of art to ownership and restitution matters. *"They are a*

very, very nice firm to work with, and you get good value advice from Hunters," observes a commentator.

Notable practitioners

Mark Stiebel is a key contact.

Stephenson Harwood LLP

Stephenson Harwood advises on transactional matters and complex disputes, including art financings, sales and purchases, insurance claims and litigation concerning authenticity and attribution. *"They are very good. They understand what they are talking about and you can't run rings around them. I have a lot of respect for them,"* says a solicitor.

"They fight cases hard. They are very good at commercial art cases and they are one of the leading teams in this area," observes an interviewee.

Notable practitioners

Roland Foord (see p.328) is an experienced commercial litigator and the firm's senior partner. *"He's extremely wise and extremely experienced. He has a real sense of what does and doesn't matter. He's always calm and utterly devoted to his clients. He's an extremely seasoned litigator who knows this area very well,"* explains a source. Another interviewee says that *"he is very personable, knowledgeable and good at negotiating matters."*

Withers LLP

Withers has a multidisciplinary art and cultural property practice that advises clients on a broad range of matters. Its work includes assisting with tax issues arising during purchases and disputes concerning provenance, title and contracts. *"They are good. They are focused and experts on art matters. They also have experience in other areas which makes them an excellent firm to work with,"* states a commentator.

"I've always thought Withers are extremely good. They are well resourced and extremely competent," observes a barrister.

Notable practitioners

Sarah Barker (see p.320) advises luxury brands, as well as collectors, galleries and artists. Her art practice includes transactional matters, such as loans and acquisitons and disposals. *"She's commercial and proactive. She's impressive, really. I like her,"* says a fellow solicitor, and another commentator says: *"She is great, has really good knowledge and is very helpful and responsive."* **Eleni Polycarpou** (see p.340) *"has good experience in the art world. She's sensible and good at getting the facts and handling clients,"* according to an interviewee. Her practice includes litigation and matters such as title disputes and restitution matters. Another source says that *"she's enthusiastic, responsive and helpful."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Lisette Aguilar (see p.318) of Keystone Lawwas an in-house lawyer at Sotheby's for over a decade and she brings this significant art industry experience to transactional and contentious art and cultural property matters. *"Lisette is somebody I have nothing but praise for. She's building her own art law practice and it's doing very well,"* says an interviewee, who adds: *"She's doing a lot of transactional stuff and she will be doing litigation. I think she's an excellent person who is very committed to her clients and she's very bright and clever."* Anothercommenator says: *"She's very calm and does the right thing. She listens and then explains. She does a great job and she understands the art world. You feel she's there for you 100%. She's done a fantastic job. She has a good manner and she's great at explaining things. She's thoughtful, kind and amenable."*

Davina Given of RPC *"knows a lot about the area and art. She's got the knowledge. She's doing a really good job,* according to a barrister. Another industry source says that *"she's incredibly intelligent and really good to work with. She's constructive, she is very thoughtful and easy to get along with, but highly intelligent."* Given brings a wealth of experience to her art and cultural property disputes, including matters concerning ownership, provenance and attribution. She also represents clients in art-related criminal matters, such as illegal export and money laundering cases. *"I think she's absolutely fantastic. It's very important in this area to have genuine interest and knowledge about the subject and Davina has certainly got it,"* observes a commentator.

Hetty Gleave of Fladgate LLP *"is excellent. She's a very intelligent and kind person. She's very efficient and good to deal with,"* says an interviewee, and another commentator states: *"She has a lot of art experience. She has good judgement, does things efficiently and does a great job."* Gleave handles contentious matters concerning title, authenticity and looted art, and is also an experienced family lawyer.

Richard Hart of Pinsent Masons *"is incredibly responsive and has an extremely creative and proactive approach to any situation,"* says a source, who adds: *"He is truly dedicated to supporting the client in the best way possible. He's also a great colleague."* Hart assists ultra-wealthy clients with a diverse range of matters, including those relating to their art collections. *"His work is excellent. He's very well known for his international expertise and he's incredibly resilient and deals with his clients very well,"* observes a fellow solicitor.

Gregor Kleinknecht (see p.334) of Keystone Law is a well-regarded art lawyer who handles contentious and non-contentious matters, including restitution cases. *"I really admire and respect Gregor's practice,"* says an industry source, adding: *"He is very knowledgeable, practical and strategic in his approach."* Another interviewee states: *"He's very good. He is extremely diligent and clear. When he explains legal concepts or theory he is very clear."*

Fionnuala Rogers is *"very impressive – she is very knowledgeable in the art and antiquity arena,"* observes a commentator. She assists a broad range of art world clients, including collectors, artists, galleries and dealers, and is experienced in handling matters relating to the Middle East. A source describes Rogers as *"brilliant, professional, kind and knowledgeable."*

Milton Silverman of Streathers Solicitors LLP is notable for handling art litigation matters. *"I think he's really excellent. He is a pleasure to work with and knows the field incredibly well,"* says a fellow lawyer, and another interviewee states that *"Milton is very experienced in art world issues and gives very commercial advice."*

Till Vere-Hodge of Payne Hicks Beach LLP is a noted expert in restitution cases. *"He's fantastic. He's so experienced in Nazi looted cases. He really knows that area. He's got a good head for regulation and policy. He's got great commercial sense,"* states a source. Another interviewee says: *"He is very competent in a technical field of law and is also pragmatic, approachable, available and proactive in communicating with the client."*

Art and Cultural Property Law London

Art and Cultural Property Law

Leading Silks

Band 1

Cooper Gilead *Wilberforce Chambers*

Legge Henry *5 Stone Buildings*

Smouha Joe *Essex Court Chambers*

Band 2

Cumming Edward *XXIV Old Buildings*

Harwood Richard *39 Essex Chambers*

Onslow Andrew *3 Verulam Buildings*

New Silks

Wood Emily *Essex Court Chambers*

Leading Juniors

Band 1

Harris Luke *5 Stone Buildings*

Band 2

Bruce Andrew *Serle Court*

Franses Jessica *The 36 Group*

Friedman Bobby *Wilberforce Chambers*

Martin Harry *5 Stone Buildings*

Band 3

Holland Jordan *5 Stone Buildings*

Renton Claudia *Essex Court Chambers*

Start Angharad *3 Verulam Buildings*

Wickenden Stephanie *Serle Court*

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Ranked Lawyers

Andrew Bruce (Serle Court) of Serle Court has a broad practice that includes significant art and cultural property matters. *"He will always call it straight. If you want to know if something is wrong with a case he will tell you,"* says an interviewee, who adds: *"He will give you a warts-and-all analysis. He provides you with a blueprint of how to move forward. He's resolute and a really good sounding board."*

Gilead Cooper QC (Wilberforce Chambers) of Wilberforce Chambers is well known for handling major chancery cases and he is also a respected figure in the art law market. *"He's great. He is a technician. He is very considered and thoughtful. He is very knowledgeable when it comes to art as he has a genuine interest,"* observes an art lawyer, and another says: *"I can't speak highly enough about him. His knowledge and attention to detail are second to none. He's client-friendly and user-friendly and gets to the problem very quickly."*

Edward Cumming QC (XXIV Old Buildings) of XXIV Old Buildings is well known for his significant chancery work and is also instructed in major art cases. *"He is fantastic. Whenever you get him you get top quality. He has an amazing brain,"* states a solicitor, adding: *"He is my favourite barrister. He's great with the law and is commercial. He gets things naturally."* A fellow barrister says: *"He is seriously impressive. He is just phenomenally bright. His written work is mind-blowingly brilliant and he's absolutely phenomenal. He's articulate and a powerhouse advocate."*

Jessica Franses (The 36 Group) of The 36 Group regularly works with key art world clients, including dealers, galleries and museums, on a broad range of transactional and contentious matters. *"She understands the market. She's clearly involved and she has initiative. She is an excellent drafter, very bright and has commercial knowledge,"* observes a market commentator.

Bobby Friedman (Wilberforce Chambers) of Wilberforce Chambers maintains a commercial practice of fraud, insolvency and shareholder disputes, and also advises on complex art matters. *"Bobby is impressive. He's got a lot of art experience and he is a good advocate,"* according to an interviewee.

Luke Harris (5 Stone Buildings) of 5 Stone Buildings remains a leading choice for difficult art law cases. *"He is definitely known in the art world. He's great on ownership issues. He's easy and a joy to work with, he's very personable. He lives and breathes the art world,"* observes a solicitor. Another interviewee says: *"He's the go-to junior. He has a stellar reputation in this field."*

Richard Harwood QC (39 Essex Chambers) of 39 Essex Chambers is a notable figure who is especially well known for export and listed building matters. *"He is very well respected. He's very good on listed buildings and monuments,"* says a fellow barrister. Another says: *"He is incredibly knowledgeable. He has an encyclopaedic knowledge of art. He is very highly regarded and respected, one of the best advocates in his field. His work is absolutely first class."*

Jordan Holland (5 Stone Buildings) of 5 Stone Buildings advises on title claims, provenance and authenticity. *"He's really good,"* says a solicitor, adding: *"He talks common sense, is concise and gets to the point."*

Henry Legge QC (5 Stone Buildings) of 5 Stone Buildings is a highly regarded silk who is active in art and cultural property-related cases. *"He's a formidable, dogged advocate who knows this area extremely well. He's determined and undoubtedly has a formidable reputation,"* states a source. Another says: *"Clients like him because he talks the art market language. Clients know him and trust him."*

Harry Martin (5 Stone Buildings) of 5 Stone Buildings is a popular Chancery barrister who also advises on impressive art and cultural property matters. *"He is fantastic. Strategically, he is very good and his written submission are first-rate. He is absolutely first-class,"* says a fellow barrister. *"I'm a big fan of Harry,"* says a solicitor, who adds: *"He's very bright and very commercial in his advice."*

Andrew Onslow QC (3 Verulam Buildings) of 3 Verulam Buildings *"is an absolutely top man. He's a superb advocate. What I like about working with him is he's a team player with his clients. He's easy to work with and very effective,"* states a source. His art practice includes title disputes and negligence claims. Another source states: *"He's great. He is very thorough, passionate about the subject when it involves art and he conveys that in his advocacy. He was strong and forceful. He is quick on his feet."*

Claudia Renton (Essex Court Chambers) of Essex Court Chambers advises on breaches of contract, counterfeits and commission agreements. *"She's very much all over the detail and will put every effort into a case. She pulls out all the stops,"* observes an interviewee, and another says: *"She's very smart, has got a lot of experience and really does specialise in the art field."*

Joe Smouha QC (Essex Court Chambers) of Essex Court Chambers has a superb reputation for his work as a commercial silk, including art-related matters concerning authenticity, title and commission cases. *"He's a powerhouse silk – absolutely first-class, a stellar advocate. He is phenomenally intelligent and a brilliant strategist,"* says another barrister, adding: *"He is a very charming individual and he just gets it. He takes the complicated issues and presents them as the simplest issues in the world."* A solicitor states: *"He is commercial, bright, nimble and he looks at all angles and takes a commercial view."*

Angharad Start (3 Verulam Buildings) of 3 Verulam Buildings is known for her work related to art fraud disputes, provenance and ownership matters. *"She's very good and very experienced, she has done a lot of art work. She's very bright and very experienced,"* states a source.

Stephanie Wickenden (Serle Court) of Serle Court is regularly involved in intellectual property matters and brings this experience to her art and cultural property work. *"She is very good. She has a real understanding of the sector and it comes across in the advice she gives. She's been incredibly user-friendly and it's been a pleasure working with her,"* explains an interviewee.

Emily Wood QC (Essex Court Chambers) of Essex Court Chambers brings a background in complex commercial cases to difficult art law matters. *"She is extremely smart, very intelligent. Judges and clients love her and she's extremely composed – cool as a cucumber and always in control,"* says an interviewee.

Chancery Traditional London

Chancery: Traditional

Leading Sets

Band 1

XXIV Old Buildings
Serle Court
5 Stone Buildings
Ten Old Square
Wilberforce Chambers

Band 2

Radcliffe Chambers

Band 3

Maitland Chambers
New Square Chambers

Senior Statespeople

Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners

McCall Christopher *Maitland Chambers*

Leading Silks

Star individuals

Green Brian *Wilberforce Chambers*
Reed Penelope *5 Stone Buildings*
Talbot Rice Elspeth *XXIV Old Buildings*
Taube Simon *Ten Old Square*

Band 1

Angus Tracey *5 Stone Buildings*
Barlow Francis *Ten Old Square*
Brownbill David *XXIV Old Buildings*
Cooper Gilead *Wilberforce Chambers*
Cumming Edward *XXIV Old Buildings*
Dumont Thomas *Radcliffe Chambers*
Furness Michael *Wilberforce Chambers*
Hagen Dakis *Serle Court*
Ham Robert *Wilberforce Chambers*
Hilliard Jonathan *Wilberforce Chambers*
Jones Elizabeth *Serle Court*
Le Poidevin Nicholas *New Square Chambers*
Legge Henry *5 Stone Buildings*
Rajah Eason *Ten Old Square*
Stanley Clare *Wilberforce Chambers*
Steinfeld Alan *XXIV Old Buildings*
Warnock-Smith Shân *5 Stone Buildings*
Wilson Richard *Serle Court*

Band 2

Laurence George *New Square Chambers*
McDonnell Constance *Serle Court*
Moeran Fenner *Wilberforce Chambers*
Pearce Robert *Radcliffe Chambers*
Rees David *5 Stone Buildings*
Rowley Keith *Radcliffe Chambers*
Scott Tiffany *Wilberforce Chambers*
Stevens-Hoare Brie *Gatehouse Chambers (ORL) ◊ [A]*

Band 3

Barton Zoe *Wilberforce Chambers*
Clarke Ian *Selborne Chambers (ORL) ◊*
Darton Clifford *Selborne Chambers (ORL) ◊*
Davey Jonathan *Wilberforce Chambers*
Haren Sarah *5 Stone Buildings*
Learmonth Alexander *New Square Chambers*
Machell John *Serle Court*
Mold Andrew *Wilberforce Chambers*
Selway Kate *Radcliffe Chambers*
Tidmarsh Christopher *5 Stone Buildings*
Tregear Francis *XXIV Old Buildings*

New Silks

Richardson Giles *Serle Court*

Chancery: Traditional

Leading Juniors

Star individuals

Dew Richard *Ten Old Square*
Henderson William *Serle Court*
Tucker Lynton *New Square Chambers*

Band 1

Bedworth Georgia *Ten Old Square*
Brightwell James *Serle Court*
Campbell Emily *Wilberforce Chambers*
Child Andrew J *Wilberforce Chambers*
Holden Andrew *XXIV Old Buildings*
Meadway Susannah *Ten Old Square*
Rich Barbara *5 Stone Buildings*
Shah Bajul *XXIV Old Buildings*
Weaver Elizabeth *XXIV Old Buildings*

Band 2

Cloherty Adam *XXIV Old Buildings*
Feltham Piers *Radcliffe Chambers*
Fletcher Thomas *Maitland Chambers*
Hargreaves Emma *Serle Court*
Hewitt Edward *5 Stone Buildings*
Holland Jordan *5 Stone Buildings*
Hubbard Mark *New Square Chambers*
Moffett William *Radcliffe Chambers*
Sartin Leon *5 Stone Buildings*

Band 3

Allardice Miranda *5 Stone Buildings*
Arnfield Robert *Ten Old Square*
Baxter Mark *5 Stone Buildings*
Bishop Toby *5 Stone Buildings*
Brown Rory *9 Stone Buildings (ORL) ◊*
Burton Daniel *Radcliffe Chambers*
East William *5 Stone Buildings*
Harris Luke *5 Stone Buildings*
Holmes Justin *Radcliffe Chambers*
Hughes Ruth *5 Stone Buildings*
Lewison Josh *Radcliffe Chambers*
MacDougald James *Ten Old Square*
McQuail Katherine *Radcliffe Chambers*
O'Sullivan Michael *5 Stone Buildings*
Pickering Leon *Ten Old Square*
Quint Francesca *Radcliffe Chambers*
Rogers Sophia *Radcliffe Chambers*
Sherwin Tim *XXIV Old Buildings*
Weale James *Serle Court*

Band 4

Arkush Jonathan *Enterprise Chambers (ORL) ◊*
Ashdown Michael *Wilberforce Chambers*
Beer Julia *Selborne Chambers (ORL) ◊*
Briggs Aidan *New Square Chambers*
Chandler Sam *5 Stone Buildings*
Drapkin Alexander *5 Stone Buildings*
Eagling Eliza *5 Stone Buildings*
Flavin Marcus *Radcliffe Chambers*
Hicks Edward *Radcliffe Chambers*
Hilton Oliver *Radcliffe Chambers*
Holbech Charles *Radcliffe Chambers*
Jenkins Philip *Ten Old Square*
Jones Oliver *Serle Court*
Martin Harry *5 Stone Buildings*
Mullis Roger *Radcliffe Chambers*
Ng Francis *5 Stone Buildings*
Seaman Jennifer *Wilberforce Chambers*
Warents Daniel *XXIV Old Buildings*
Wells Nathan *Radcliffe Chambers*

Up-and-coming individuals

Bryan Zahler *Serle Court*
Coe Rupert *Three Stone (ORL) ◊*
Cumber Hugh *5 Stone Buildings*
Edwards Jonathan *Radcliffe Chambers*
Fetherstonhaugh Rose *5 Stone Buildings*
Goodwin James *Wilberforce Chambers*
Ingham Oliver *3PB Barristers (ORL) ◊*
Poole James *Ten Old Square*
Thompson Stephanie *Serle Court*

[A] *direct access.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

XXIV Old Buildings

XXIV Old Buildings is *"an exceptional set, with accessible expertise in their barristers and talented clerks and practice managers,"* reports a source. The set has a comprehensive chancery offering, with particular expertise in contested probate disputes and offshore litigation. An interviewee says: *"They are traditional chancery specialists and have a team that covers all dimensions of this category."* The set houses *"a really great bunch of clerks"* who are *"pragmatic, sensible and nice to chat with,"* observes a source. Paul Horsfield is the head of clerking.

SILKS

Elspeth Talbot Rice QC is revered throughout the market as a leading practitioner in significant trusts disputes that often span various jurisdictions. *"She is absolutely at the top of the game, due to the strength of her advocacy and decisiveness and her commerciality,"* reports a commentator, who adds: *"Myself and the market would agree that she is a star individual."* A litigator remarks: *"I have run out of superlatives for her, she is a brilliant person to have on your team. Her energy is unbelievable and her focus is steadfast, she also has a great rapport with the judge."*

David Brownbill QC has distinct expertise in offshore litigation and dispute resolution. A source views Brownbill as *"technically excellent, with an ability to see the whole picture, however complicated,"* continuing: *"He is a go-to for knotty trusts issues."* A legal professional also recognises that he is *"extremely competent, with a lifetime of experience to call upon."*

Edward Cumming QC maintains an excellent market reputation for his approach to complex chancery cases. *"He has an incredible intellect and knowledge of the law,"* acknowledges an interviewee, who adds: *"He leaves no stone unturned in his investigations and advice and his written work and tactical approach are sublime."* Another commentator concludes that Cumming is *"truly one of the best barristers in the areas he operates within. His charm and down-to-earth approach is welcomed by clients."*

Alan Steinfeld QC has an enviable chancery practice and is often involved in significant offshore trust litigation. *"Alan is first class,"* declares a commentator, who continues: *"As well as having a wealth of legal knowledge and judgement, he perceives the heart of the issue readily, and knows instinctively which points to take and which to leave. A more personable and easy-going counsel you would be hard pushed to find."*

Francis Tregear QC represents wealthy clients in major domestic and offshore commercial litigation and trusts disputes. *"Francis is great to work with and has a nice, calm approach,"* says an interviewee, while another source confirms that he is *"extremely focused, commercial and intelligent."*

JUNIORS

Andrew Holden tackles complex matters concerning probate, estate administration and trusts and is often involved in multi-jurisdictional cases. *"Andrew is a top trusts lawyer,"* says a source, adding: *"He is an extremely agile thinker about issues and an extremely good lawyer, he works very hard. He is top of the bunch for juniors."* Equally impressed interviewees also note that Holden *"is one of those barristers who is old beyond his years of call"* and that *"his care, dedication, legal knowledge and tactics are rare qualities to find combined in one person."*

Bajul Shah is an expert in trusts, probate and charities disputes in which validity issues and conflict of law challenges can arise. *"He is very easy to work with,"* remarks an interviewee, who highlights that Shah is *"client-friendly, very bright and excellent at distilling complex legal problems."* A solicitor is similarly appreciative of Shah's approach: *"He is a lovely guy, he is a really clever man. Sharp as a tack and knows chancery stuff backwards. He is a very effective advocate and a softly spoken individual but he gives off an endless air of reason."*

Elizabeth Weaver is a respected chancery junior who handles complex trusts and probate disputes, often representing trustees, beneficiaries and executors in such matters. According to an interviewee, Weaver *"has a phenomenal ability to get on top of paperwork and issues very quickly,"* which complements her *"excellent client-handling skills."* Another source says: *"Liz has a very calm demeanour, she is unflappable and provides coherent and well-thought-through advice."*

Adam Cloherty handles disputes work related to trusts, estates and financial services. An impressed source notes: *"He is really good to work with, he is good with clients and has a unique personal approach. He delivers succinct points that encapsulate a dilemma for clients."*

Tim Sherwin is *"an excellent junior and would always be a top choice for complex multi-jurisdictional private wealth disputes. He is an excellent strategic thinker,"* reports an interviewee. Sherwin's practice centres on handling trusts litigation and often tricky will disputes, as well as commercial litigation. *"Tim is future silk material and is very robust in the opinions he gives,"* observes a litigator, who concludes: *"I am always confident that he will help to achieve the best potential outcome."*

Daniel Warents is *"a quality practitioner with a real knack for getting to the important issues,"* observes a commentator, who adds that he is *"a pleasure to deal with."* Warents assists in sizeable trusts and probate disputes and has built a reputation as a junior who is *"brilliant with clients, always goes the extra mile and is very much a team player,"* as an interviewee reports.

Serle Court

Serle Court maintains an impressive reputation in the market for its members' high-value chancery work. *"They are a first-class set, particularly in offshore trust and commercial chancery work,"* remarks an interviewee, adding: *"They tend to have the best barristers."* Another source appreciates the dynamic approach taken by barristers throughout the set, saying: *"Whenever I have worked with barristers from Serle Court, they have always been exceptionally proactive in taking responsibility for moving the matter along and finding solutions. They are fantastically responsive."*

Steven Whitaker is the head clerk at the set. A commentator says: *"The clerking team is very good, responsive and go out of their way to ensure excellent service."*

SILKS

Dakis Hagen QC is *"an absolute genius: cultured, eloquent and a stunning advocate,"* observes a litigator, who adds: *"He has a command of history which has proved to be incredibly useful in cases. If there is a better advocate out there I would like to meet them."* Hagen continues to handle complex trusts disputes, as well as challenges relating to wills and estates, with enviable offshore expertise. *"Dakis possesses the most remarkable flair and his intelligence is simply unrivalled,"* says a source, who continues: *"He brings his cases together in the most compelling and masterful ways."*

Elizabeth Jones QC handles both traditional and commercial chancery matters and is proficient in overseeing significant offshore trusts litigation. She is viewed by one commentator as a *"superb advocate"* with an *"astonishing command of detail,"* while being *"incisive and to the point."* Jones is well respected among peers. *"She is an absolute star,"* says a solicitor; *"if I were in trouble I would go to her, which is always a mark for lawyers. She is robust when she needs to be and is seamless across every level of court."* Jones is also an accredited mediator.

Richard Wilson QC is an expert in private client trusts and probate work, often assisting various parties in trust litigation and estate administration disputes. *"He is a real pleasure to work with,"* reports an interviewee, who continues: *"He is an able litigator with an affable court manner that swiftly establishes rapport with the judge."* A solicitor also appreciates Wilson's approach, adding: *"He is very astute, he has good communication skills, boundless patience and works really hard."*

Constance McDonnell QC is a distinguished chancery barrister who advises on significant probate matters and international trusts issues. Peers speak very highly of McDonnell. *"I am not sure if there are enough superlatives for her, she just always gets it right,"* says a litigator; *"she just knows the law inside out and is practical in her approach, her advocacy is spot-on."* Another commentator feels that she is *"an absolute star and a dream to work with,"* owing to the fact that she is *"meticulous and sensible with very good instincts."*

John Machell QC is *"fabulous to work with"* and is perceived as the *"fountain of all knowledge in international trusts disputes"* by an interviewee. A litigator describes Machell as *"fantastic – one of my main go-to silks,"* citing the *"breadth of his practice as very impressive."* The source continues: *"Private wealth disputes, group litigation, his legal analysis is always on the money."*

Giles Richardson QC has a strong traditional chancery practice, handling a range of contentious trust and probate matters, such as family disputes and succession issues that often span multiple jurisdictions. *"It is effortless advocacy, gracefully delivered – he is an absolute joy to work with,"* enthuses a commentator, who concludes: *"Nothing is ever too much trouble for Giles."* Another source reports: *"He is so unquestionably talented yet humble, so technically able, and also a delight. He has a phenomenal practice. He covers the full gamut of traditional chancery advice and is a real superstar."*

JUNIORS

William Henderson has a considerable amount of experience in complex trusts, estates, probate and charities cases. An interviewee describes him as *"a master of complex problem solving for charities, with a lifetime of experience to call on."* Another source shares similar views, adding: *"He is a very authoritative figure in charities cases, it is hard to best him in terms of technical knowledge."*

James Brightwell is an expert in trusts and estates disputes that often span various jurisdictions. A litigator remarks that *"his approach to contentious matters is organised and very relatable,"* adding: *"He is nothing short of outstanding."* Another commentator says that Brightwell is a *"top trusts junior"* who *"absolutely knows his trusts law."*

Emma Hargreaves is *"a walking encyclopaedia, a total ball of energy and really hard-working,"* enthuses a source, who adds: *"She is a very good drafts person and will always drop everything for you."* Hargreaves continues to build an impressive reputation in contentious trust and probate matters. A litigator describes her as *"a force of nature – one of the best junior barristers out there."* Another equally impressed interviewee remarks: *"Emma's recall of information and attention to detail is at times unbelievable. She is very, very impressive and can tackle the most complex issues in an instant."*

James Weale's private client practice centres on handling contentious matters such as trustee removal and professional negligence claims. A litigator observes: *"He is brilliant and offers support legally and strategically that I always look for in a barrister. I cannot recommend him highly enough."* Another source acknowledges Weale's well-rounded approach to cases, noting that he is *"excellent on every level"* due to his *"superb relationships with clients, skilled arguments, and appreciation of wider elements."*

Oliver Jones is *"a real rising star"* observes an interviewee, who continues: *"He projects an air of calm authority and has the legal knowledge to match. His interpersonal skills are absolutely first-*

rate and he is a great team player. You can throw any job his way and be absolutely confident that he will handle it extremely well." Jones often represents trustees and administrators in high-value matters and is regarded as a *"consummate team player"* by a fellow professional, who adds: *"He is really impressive on his feet in court and also strategically and is operating well above his call."*

Zahler Bryan handles offshore trusts disputes and is renowned for her forensic approach to cases. A source says that Bryan is *"extremely astute with an ability to identify and advise clearly on key points and tactics early."* They continue: *"She is very hard-working, having delivered some complicated drafting in a very tight timeframe.""She is going to be a superstar,"* predicts another source.

Stephanie Thompson is an up-and-coming junior who has made an impression in the market, particularly for her work in offshore trust litigation. A commentator describes her as *"one of the most impressive and pleasant barristers that I have ever worked with,"* adding: *"Her commitment and dedication is of the highest degree and her intellect is unparalleled."* A similarly impressed barrister remarks: *"Stephanie is absolutely fantastic, no two ways about it. She is a complete superstar, worth so much more than her years call. She is very hard-working, bright and can break down complicated situations."*

5 Stone Buildings

5 Stone Buildings has *"the market-leading silks, but this is backed up by a particularly strong contingent of juniors, who punch well above their weight and can handle the most complex matters in their own right,"* observes an interviewee. Its members are highly sought after for a range of domestic and offshore trusts, estates and probate matters. *"On the more traditional chancery work, they are the market leaders,"* concludes a source, who continues: *"If you have a will dispute, you would have them at the top of the list. The set is packed with market-leading specialists."*

Senior clerk Paul Jennings leads the set's well-regarded clerking team. *"The clerks at 5 Stone Buildings are fantastic – in particular Charlie Firmin and Paul Jennings, who are responsive, on the ball and a pleasure to work with,"* states a commentator. A similarly impressed solicitor remarks: *"I have a good relationship with the clerks Charlie and Paul over there, they always deliver exactly what I need. They deliver the correct people time and time again."*

SILKS

Penelope Reed QC is *"simply the best in the business,"* enthuses a market commentator. She is a distinguished figure in private wealth matters, particularly Inheritance Act claims and will interpretation disputes. A private client litigator remarks that Reed is *"absolutely outstanding in her field,"* adding: *"She has a really enviable both domestic and offshore practice, she will always be a go-to for us."*

Tracey Angus QC represents clients in complex contentious probate and Family Division work. *"Tracey is simply brilliant,"* remarks an interviewee, who continues: *"She has all of the detail at her fingertips, is absolutely clear and helpful in dealing with the bigger strategy questions and is exceptional on her feet in court."* An equally impressed market commentator views Angus as the *"perfect private client barrister – she is exceptionally clever and experienced, great with clients and is a lot of fun to work with."*

Henry Legge QC is *"supremely clever and personable,"* notes a commentator. His practice covers trusts, estates, pensions and fraud, often advising on high-value litigation both domestically and abroad. *"He has the gravitas and vision to make incredibly complex matters appear straightforward,"* observes an interviewee, while a litigator adds that as a *"great tactician"* Legge *"inspires such confidence both in solicitors and clients and is completely unflappable."*

Shân Warnock-Smith QC handles a range of complex private client work, often involving offshore estates, trust validity disputes and guardianship advice. *"Shân is sheer excellence,"* a market commentator says, continuing *"on her feet in court, with careful advice and in front of clients. She is a joy to work with."* A solicitor adds that *"Shân Warnock-Smith is at the top of the game."*

David Rees QC is *"everything you want from a QC – charming and eloquent with clients, with a massive brain,"* remarks an interviewee. Rees is well known for his Court of Protection expertise, with a source noting that he is *"unsurpassed when it comes to knowledge in this area."* A litigator adds: *"I absolutely adore working with him. He is very bright and excellent with clients."*

Sarah Haren QC is renowned for her work in contentious and non-contentious chancery work, including will disputes and Court of Protection matters. A commentator says that Haren is *"just absolutely excellent and incredibly personable. My favourite thing is that she will always make a judgement call, she really directs."* As a *"very highly regarded silk,"* as one source mentions, Haren *"knows the law inside-out"* and is *"a brilliant advocate."*

Christopher Tidmarsh QC has a broad chancery practice that includes handling variation of trusts work and breach of trust claims. He is regarded as an *"excellent, experienced counsel"* by an interviewee.

JUNIORS

Barbara Rich is an expert in trusts and family inheritance disputes. She is also a distinguished mediator and is viewed as the *"go-to lawyer for complex Court of Protection matters"* by a market commentator. *"I think she is very knowledgeable, she has a really strong knowledge of the history of the law too,"* observes another source.

Edward Hewitt advises on trusts litigation and contentious probate disputes. He is viewed by one interviewee as *"a dream to work with; commercial, responsive, totally unflappable and great with clients."* Equally impressed sources also note that his *"written work is exceptional"* and complements his ability as a *"very impressive advocate on his feet.""He is very collaborative and clients invariably feel that they are in a safe pair of hands,"* a source confirms.

Jordan Holland is *"quickly becoming one of the best in his field,"* remarks a solicitor, who continues: *"He is amazing to work with, very bright; he sees the bigger picture and his toughness always sends the other side running. I love working with him."* Holland is proficient in handling contentious probate disputes. *"Jordan provides a consistently high level of service. No matter how complex the matter, his advice is both definitive and reliable,"* remarks an interviewee.

Leon Sartin is *"simply brilliant,"* enthuses a solicitor, who continues: *"He has a stellar reputation for advising on complex tax issues in chancery matters."* Sartin's practice covers trusts and estates planning as well as disputed inheritance matters. An interviewee adds that he is *"technically excellent"* and is a *"first port of call for difficult trust issues, particularly where tax is concerned."*

Miranda Allardice is an expert in trusts disputes and probate actions. A fellow barrister remarks: *"Miranda is that perfect blend of focused intelligence and experience when faced with opposing counsel, coupled with the compassion necessary to deal with clients in a way which creates confidence."* She often handles 1975 Act claims and is revered as a *"first-class mediation advocate"* in her capacity as a distinguished trusts mediator.

Mark Baxter is *"utterly brilliant"* and is *"an outstanding and tenacious advocate"* for his clients, a source comments. He has considerable contentious probate expertise and often represents clients before the Court of Appeal. Baxter's composed approach is commended by a fellow barrister, who says: *"Mark is generally the calmest voice in any room. He keeps a cool head while advising his clients on options. He will draw lines where needed and gives ground where necessary."*

Toby Bishop continues to make strides in the market, particularly for contentious probate matters. Solicitors and barristers speak very highly of Bishop. *"Toby Bishop is exceptionally bright and thorough, considering all angles of the case. He thrives on pursuing the path with most strategic merit,"* says one solicitor; *"he is also incredibly approachable and responsive."* An equally impressed barrister adds: *"Toby delivers the perfect balance between written advice and advocacy. He goes beyond simply a safe pair of hands, with an element of natural humour and charisma to put any client at ease and the knowledge and experience to stand face-to-face against any opponent. Toby represents everything an instructing solicitor looks for when instructing counsel."*

William East is *"going to be a real star of the Chancery Bar,"* predicts a solicitor, who continues: *"He is extremely knowledgeable, really excellent with clients (including difficult clients), very thoughtful and effective on his feet."* His chancery practice centres on significant probate work, Inheritance Act claims and Court of Protection matters. A solicitor remarks: *"Will ticks all of the boxes. He is forward-thinking, his advice is consistently definitive, he has very strong advocacy skills and he is personable too!"*

Luke Harris' chancery practice includes handling estate administration and proprietary estoppel matters. He often acts in will disputes and has notable expertise in cultural property law. *"Luke always impresses me,"* remarks a solicitor, adding: *"He takes such care in considering all the angles, including tax. It is comforting to know that he will draft something to a high standard when needed."*

Another interviewee shares similar sentiments: *"Luke Harris is a super intelligent counsel with great attention to detail. His knowledge of the law in this field is exceptional."*

Ruth Hughes centres her chancery practice on litigation related to trusts and estates matters, such as often high-profile contentious probate cases. *"Ruth's knowledge and experience is astounding for her call,"* remarks an interviewee, who continues: *"She can deliver strongly in her advice and her advocacy."* A solicitor feels that she is *"excellent all round,"* noting that she *"has a detailed and coherent grasp of a wide range of subjects and can be relied upon to advocate fiercely on behalf of her clients.""It is hard to find a barrister you can trust to get the job done more than Ruth Hughes,"* says an impressed source.

Michael O'Sullivan is a richly experienced barrister who regularly handles sophisticated trusts and inheritance matters. He represents clients in will disputes and Court of Protection cases. Sources appreciate that as a *"forthright and effective advocate"* he is *"very clear and quite robust in his approach."* Another interviewee acknowledges O'Sullivan's *"brilliant breadth of knowledge,"* adding that he is *"very competent, direct and very responsive."*

Sam Chandler advises on various trusts and estates matters, such as contentious probate claims and estate administration disputes. An impressed litigator remarks: *"He is impressively bright, a brilliant strategist and terrific to work with. He always has the best interests of the client at the heart of everything that he does."* Another source adds that *"Sam is a brilliant barrister, demonstrating stellar advocacy skills. He has demonstrated finesse in dealing with difficult clients and is persuasive and coherent in his advice."*

Alexander Drapkin is *"fantastic on Court of Protection disputes,"* observes a source, adding: *"He is sharp and has an excellent feel for how cases will play out at court, which means he is able to give strong advice on strategy."* Drapkin's expertise also includes handling trusts and inheritance disputes as well as sizeable probate claims. A solicitor says: *"Alexander is a pleasure to instruct, he is charming and highly intelligent. I always know that the client is in safe hands. His preparation is meticulous and he really listens to clients."*

Eliza Eagling advises clients on significant estates disputes and often complex succession issues. She continues to build a reputation as a *"go-to barrister for Court of Protection work,"* as one litigator notes, adding: *"Eliza's combination of tenacity and empathy also make her an asset on complex 1975 Act claims. She is a star in the making."* Another impressed solicitor says they view Eagling as their *"go-to junior,"* continuing: *"She is a real team player, working with me side by side to get the best result for the client. She has great experience and I really value her opinion."*

Harry Martin is *"competent beyond his years and a dream to work with,"* enthuses an interviewee. Martin is proficient in contentious and non-contentious matters relating to probate, trusts and Inheritance Act claims. A solicitor appreciates his proactive approach, saying: *"Harry is wonderful and I really enjoy working alongside him. He always takes the time to answer my calls and is always on hand if I need to ask any questions."* Another commentator views him as an *"excellent junior in the chancery world."*

Francis Ng is often instructed on complex litigation and trust issues. He has developed a reputation for a distinctly personable approach, which is appreciated by one source who says: *"Francis is highly intelligent but retains a sympathetic and relaxed manner with clients which is not always something that is combined."* His growing reputation in the market is evidenced by commentators who acknowledge that he is *"technically excellent,"* and *"the sort of barrister you need on your side.""He really is a rising star,"* confirms a source.

Hugh Cumber represents clients across a range of private wealth matters, often related to tax and Inheritance Act issues. An interviewee regards Cumber as *"an amenable, bright and succinct person to have on our side,"* while a solicitor feels that he is *"a very solid junior who is one to watch."* His practice also extends to handling disputes relating to issues of capacity, as a source remarks: *"Hugh is extremely knowledgeable and approachable. He is top-class with Court of Protection matters and remains calm under pressure."*

Rose Fetherstonhaugh's chancery practice includes handling probate claims, Court of Protection work and often multi-jurisdictional trusts disputes. She has built an impressive reputation in the market, and commentators describe her as a *"star in the making,"* who has *"the ability and judgement of somebody far more senior than herself."* A solicitor adds that *"Rose is detailed, meticulous and concise in her advice. She is capable of dealing well with difficult individuals and issues and cutting to the core of the matter."*

Ten Old Square

Ten Old Square remains a premier set for handling trusts, probate and estates matters. The bench strength at the set is highlighted as a particular strength; *"they have tremendous expertise and experience in their more senior members of chambers, combined with very capable juniors that are developing their expertise in this field as well. They are very reactive,"* remarks an interviewee. An impressed source echoes this, adding: *"The silks and those senior juniors with whom I have had professional dealings are masters of their craft and very responsive and good value."*

"I really rate the clerks at Ten Old Square," says a commentator, who continues: *"They are particularly good to deal with and the charges are absolutely reasonable."* Senior clerk Keith Plowman leads the clerking team.

SILKS

Simon Taube QC is *"a leading silk in every way"* who is *"tremendously experienced in complex cross-border trust matters,"* sources comment. He is an expert in offshore trust litigation and has expertise in fiduciary duty issues and trust taxation work. Another source says: *"He has a fantastically razor-sharp mind and is incredibly crisp and clear in all of his advice."*

Francis Barlow QC advises on offshore and onshore trust matters, including variations, and conflict of laws issues. Sources describe him as *"the absolute doyen of the Variation of Trust jurisdiction"* and report that his *"interest and intellect in the law are undimmed."*

Eason Rajah QC *"continues to be one of the top barristers in the field,"* remarks an interviewee, who continues: *"He has such gravitas, is super responsive and clients never fail to be impressed with him."* Rajah is often instructed in complex offshore trust litigation concerning structures, in which significant assets are involved. *"Eason is a superb advocate with matching judgement,"* reports a source, adding that he is *"a fantastic leader, you are lucky to have him on your team."*

JUNIORS

Richard Dew remains highly sought after for complex contentious trusts and estates disputes. In particular, Dew is viewed as *"outstanding for contentious probate work"* in which he is *"very quick to absorb the facts and analyse the legal position,"* according to an interviewee. A litigator says that Dew is *"absolutely terrific,"* claiming that in working with him *"you are getting a silk in junior's clothing."*

Georgia Bedworth advises clients on contentious and non-contentious trusts and estates issues. She often represents various parties in disputes over the validity of trusts and is skilled in Court of Protection work. *"Georgia is on top of the detail like no other barrister I have met,"* observes a solicitor. Another interviewee adds: *"Georgia is so knowledgeable; her breadth of knowledge never ceases to impress."*

Susannah Meadway assists clients in contentious and non-contentious trusts, probate and wills matters, and is often involved in Variations of Trusts applications. A source describes her as *"an excellent and persuasive advocate with an allied powerful intellect."* A legal professional also reports that Meadway *"is a pleasure to work with. Her advice is clear, her solutions commercial and her level of service excellent."*

Robert Arnfield advises clients on wills, trusts and probate matters, and handles disputes surrounding Inheritance Act claims, trustee removals and will challenges. *"Robert exudes gentlemanly reflection and consideration. He is a masterful draftsman and is good fun to work alongside on long-running cases,"* remarks a commentator.

James MacDougald handles a range of private client matters and is *"an absolute star across the board, from international trusts to Court of Protection work,"* enthuses an interviewee. *"James is an extremely bright junior and nothing is ever too much for him,"* reports another source, who continues: *"His commitment to a matter is fantastic and he is completely dependable."*

Leon Pickering's practice spans the full range of trusts, wills and probate matters. He regularly advises clients in international trust disputes and is described as *"so personable and easy to work with"* by a commentator who adds that *"clients love him."* Another source echoes this sentiment: *"Leon is great, he gives sound advice that is really client-friendly. There are no concerns whatsoever when taking work to Leon and he is also quick on his feet."*

Philip Jenkins advises on trust and estate administration matters, as well as high-value property work. A source notes that he is *"always on the ball*

and very efficient.""He is absolutely solid, unflappable and quite shrewd," says another interviewee, who concludes: *"I was impressed by him."*

James Poole is *"a real rising star,"* reports a commentator, who feels that he is *"one to watch and fantastic to work with."* Poole often handles disputes that fuse probate, trust and property law and has attracted increasing market attention. *"James is a brilliant lawyer. He knows his stuff and is someone that can be relied on in any situation. I always feel better having him in my corner,"* says an interviewee.

Wilberforce Chambers

Wilberforce Chambers has an impressive group of barristers who handle complex disputes surrounding trusts and estates, often relying upon multi-jurisdictional knowledge of the law. *"They are top of their game as one of the top sets,"* comments a source, who continues: *"They have a huge breadth of expertise and always seem like a lively bunch."*

"The responsiveness from both counsel and the clerks' room is excellent. All barristers who I have instructed have been very user-friendly and accessible. Likewise the service from the clerks' room is the best I have experienced; they are always on hand to field enquiries and to assist wherever they can," reports an interviewee. Nicholas Luckman is the practice director.

SILKS

Brian Green QC is a distinguished chancery expert who often oversees sizeable trust disputes and pensions cases. *"He is absolutely outstanding,"* remarks a commentator, adding: *"His advice is strategic, clear, helpful and proactive, whilst remaining user-friendly."* A litigator believes that Green is *"simply the best chancery advocate. He is brilliant with clients, brilliant with the court, incredibly hard-working and on top of everything. The best."*

Gilead Cooper QC advises clients on complex onshore and offshore trusts disputes. *"Gilead has a rapier-like intellect,"* observes a litigator, who continues: *"He stands back and looks at the issues from angles that others would not normally consider. He is one of the great lateral thinkers of the Chancery Bar."*

Michael Furness QC is sought after for domestic and international trust litigation that often contains embedded tax issues. A source acknowledges that Furness *"swiftly masters complex material,"* adding: *"He sees through to the core points that really matter, whilst at the same time not losing sight of important detail."* A similarly impressed interviewee remarks: *"He is clever and can deal with complex cases; he is perfect if you want sensible high-level advice. He is right at the top of his game."*

Robert Ham QC is an expert in contentious and non-contentious trusts and private client work. A solicitor notes that Ham is *"the oracle when it comes to trusts restructuring,"* adding that he has an *"unbelievable amount of experience and knowledge in the area. When acting for a trustee, there is nobody better."*

Jonathan Hilliard QC is *"a force of nature, so energetic and meticulous,"* observes a commentator: *"He completely prepares for everything and raises everyone else's game."* Hilliard is well known for handling domestic and international trusts work, especially where significant structures are concerned. An interviewee describes him as *"incredibly hard-working, with brilliant recall and attention to detail,"* before concluding: *"He is an asset to any client."*

Clare Stanley QC is *"a titan when it comes to complex litigation,"* observes a commentator, owing to her *"no-holds-barred type of approach"* which *"commands the respect of judges."* Stanley is an expert in handling high-value trust and probate matters. *"Clare is a pleasure to deal with and is very popular with clients. She is brilliant on her feet and has a calm approach. She knows trusts law back to front but also has a very strong strategic vision,"* acknowledges an interviewee.

Fenner Moeran QC is *"very bright, highly skilled and agile in his advocacy,"* according to an interviewee, who continues: *"He is able to get quickly to the nub and heart of complex issues, but without losing sight of the big picture. He is always a pleasure to deal with."* Moeran is highly regarded for his expertise in trusteeship matters and Inheritance Act claims. *"He is wonderful with clients, he has a strong penetrating legal brain that analyses issues very well and is able to communicate very lucidly with clients. He is brilliant really,"* concludes a commentator.

Tiffany Scott QC advises clients in contentious and non-contentious trusts and estates issues. Scott often handles cases that span multiple jurisdictions, in which conflict of laws is a factor. *"Tiffany is a first-rate tactician who has a real knack for seeing ahead. She combines this with encyclopaedic technical knowledge. She is never flustered, always prepared, extremely responsive and has a way about her that puts the client at ease straight away,"* a commentator enthuses.

Zoe Barton QC *"brings pragmatism mixed with razor-sharp intellect to all complex trust matters,"* reports an interviewee. She regularly handles offshore trust disputes and will validity challenges. Another source feels that Barton is *"robust and practical"* in her approach and concludes: *"I feel confident taking my clients to her."*

Jonathan Davey QC is a tax and pensions specialist who often represents clients in significant litigation. An interviewee remarks: *"Jonathan is a very astute advocate and a strong favourite of HMRC. He is an absolute pleasure to work alongside and is always calm under pressure."* A litigator describes Davey as *"impressively responsive, very approachable and user-friendly,"* before concluding that he is *"an invaluable addition to the team and well worth the investment for the client."*

Andrew Mold QC has a broad chancery practice that includes handling breach of trust and fiduciary claims for various parties. A source describes him as *"very methodical and thoughtful"* in his approach and acknowledges that he is *"certainly making a name for himself in this area."* An equally impressed interviewee adds: *"He is a very capable and reassuring pair of hands and is totally trusted by our client."*

JUNIORS

Emily Campbell is *"an excellent barrister"* who has *"absolute command of the technical issues and is always a pleasure to deal with,"* remarks a solicitor. Campbell has a well-rounded practice that covers trusts, private client work and often complex tax advice. Her ability to handle sophisticated matters is acknowledged by one source who says: *"Emily really is my go-to for anything complicated or difficult. She is just brilliant."*

Andrew Child's caseload includes high-value trust and estate disputes that involve fraud elements and offshore litigation.

Michael Ashdown combines expertise in private client trusts law with extensive tax knowledge to handle disputes centred on wills, trusts and estates. He has forged a reputation as an *"absolutely superb barrister,"* says one interviewee, who continues: *"He is my go-to for complex trust matters and never disappoints. He always appears to relish the challenge presented by complex or unique points of law. With regards to Michael, work is completed on time and is always presented in a professional and polished manner. Clients are left feeling they have received an exceptional service."* Ashdown's approach is also commended by a commentator who says: *"Michael is very impressive, very knowledgeable, gets to the heart of the point and sets it out extremely clearly."*

Jennifer Seaman is a specialist in probate and estate disputes, as well as pensions and professional negligence litigation. A source notes that Seaman is *"really superb technically with fantastic knowledge of the area, very user-friendly and adaptable,"* before concluding that she *"is always an asset on any matter."* A commentator appreciates her *"calm, measured and precise"* approach to cases, continuing: *"She has a great manner with clients and inspires confidence."*

James Goodwin has built *"a great reputation, he is everything you want in a capable junior,"* remarks a litigator, who adds: *"He rolls up his sleeves and gets stuck in, he is going places."* His chancery practice includes assisting in probate litigation and often multi-jurisdictional succession disputes. Commentators speak very highly of Goodwin. *"He is a real star in the making,"* says one source; *"he is quite junior at the moment but has gained a lot of experience. His written work in particular is far and away above his years of call. He is exceptionally bright."* Another professional shares similar sentiments, concluding that Goodwin is *"a brilliant addition to any team. He is smart, commercially switched on and very personable."*

Band 2

Radcliffe Chambers

Radcliffe Chambers continues to have *"a fantastic selection of barristers, ranging from the most junior to the most heavy-hitting silk,"* enthuses an interviewee. The set is a popular choice for significant litigation surrounding trusts, wills and probate.

"The clerks are always very accommodating when it comes to payment terms and are always prepared to go the extra mile to make sure it works for the client – special praise for John Clark who is top-notch." Clark co-leads the clerking team with Keith Nagle, and Fiona Fitzgerald is the set's chief executive.

SILKS

Thomas Dumont QC is a distinguished Chancery barrister who is often involved in significant contentious trusts and probate cases. *"He is fantastic,"* remarks a commentator, who continues: *"his management of clients is second to none, he is one of the best."* Dumont's thorough approach is commended by another source who is *"incredibly impressed by his forensic accountancy,"* adding that he is *"very measured, but methodical, with a good eye for detail."*

Robert Pearce QC is *"very impressive"* enthuses a Chancery barrister; *"he is very precise and measured; he really inspires confidence in charities and trusts law."* Pearce's expertise extends to handling significant domestic and offshore probate disputes. *"He is an excellent practitioner,"* concludes an interviewee.

Keith Rowley QC is an esteemed barrister who has considerable expertise in private client and pensions work. *"Keith is a sophisticated advocate and clients trust him implicitly. He can deal with even the thorniest points, all with style and a friendly grace that the court clearly appreciates,"* observes a litigator.

Kate Selway QC focuses her chancery practice on contentious probate and trusts matters, some of which concern will validity challenges and questions of capacity. A source says: *"Kate always approaches matters in a pragmatic and practical way, considering the client's key aims first and foremost."* Another interviewee appreciates that Selway is *"incredibly hands-on and easy to deal with"* in her approach, adding: *"She is very thorough and meticulous."*

JUNIORS

Piers Feltham's caseload includes trust litigation, probate disputes and property work. He is described by an interviewee as *"an outstanding barrister – my go-to for all complex chancery matters,"* owing to his skill as *"a natural advocate, with a fantastic bandwidth."* Another commentator reports: *"He is very responsive and hands-on. No job is too small or matter too complex. Piers is incredibly bright and astute, with a great eye for detail. He is cool under pressure and tenacious."*

William Moffett is known for handling complex contentious trusts and inheritance disputes. Market sources speak very highly of Moffett. *"William is superb,"* says one solicitor; *"he is excellent at digesting complex issues and finding a practical way forward. He is clearly an expert in his field and he is highly rated by clients and solicitors."* Another commentator views him as *"my preferred junior at the Chancery Bar. He has never let me down in any case, he has always been exemplary in his advice to clients and the way he deals with clients. William is the all-round package."*

Daniel Burton's chancery practice includes handling estate administration, Inheritance Act claims and significant group litigation. A source describes him as *"an exceptionally safe pair of hands."* They continue: *"He handles complex matters with ease and is able to deliver clear, concise and good value advice and guidance to lawyers and clients alike."* An equally impressed peer remarks: *"I think he is brilliant, not only has he got the intellectual skill that you need but he is also really client-friendly and really commercial."*

Justin Holmes is *"always efficient and to the point,"* observes a solicitor, adding: *"He makes clients feel comfortable and provides reasoned and detailed advice in a clear and succinct way."* Holmes handles often difficult contested probate matters and remains highly sought after for Court of Protection work.

Josh Lewison *"provides an excellent, responsive service and is great with clients,"* remarks a legal professional. His practice focuses heavily on domestic and cross-jurisdictional trusts disputes. A trust and estates litigator who has worked closely with Lewison reports: *"He was very knowledgeable, on top of the legislation and case law, able to think on his feet and applied his research and knowledge in a practical way. We were very pleased with his work."*

Katherine McQuail focuses her chancery practice on various areas, including contested probate issues and Court of Protection matters. *"She is extremely user-friendly and very responsive,"* remarks a commentator, who continues: *"She is always willing to pick up the phone at short notice. I find her very efficient, she is really skilled at coming up with creative solutions and overcomes impasses in a bespoke manner."*

Francesca Quint maintains an impressive reputation for her charities law work, and also advises individuals on tax and trust matters. A solicitor describes her as *"highly experienced, super knowledgeable and so easy to work with,"* also noting that Quint is *"very approachable, responsive and excellent in front of clients. Her insights on how to deal with difficult aspects are always welcome."*

Sophia Rogers has a well-rounded chancery practice, regularly handling offshore trust disputes, Inheritance Act claims and Court of Protection work. A barrister remarks that Rogers is *"a ferocious and robust litigator. She is a counsel who is really able to take her opponent to task."* Her growing reputation as *"an absolute superstar"* is acknowledged by another commentator, who continues; *"she is incredibly hard-working and straight with her advice. She grasps issues very quickly, I have nothing but admiration for Sophia, she will go far."*

Marcus Flavin *"provides a Rolls-Royce, responsive service,"* acknowledges an interviewee. Flavin is well regarded for his expertise in probate and estate administration matters, as well as tax. *"He is extremely helpful on complex cost issues,"* remarks a source.

Edward Hicks is *"an excellent barrister and my go-to counsel in complex disputes,"* remarks a legal professional, who continues: *"He has an eye for detail and leaves no stone unturned when advising. He has a calm, reassuring manner and is well liked and respected by clients. He is always on hand to discuss cases and when issues arise, his advice is thorough and practical."* Hicks is sought after for contentious probate, estates and trusts administration work. An impressed interviewee describes him as *"compassionate, fiercely clever, frank, approachable and always ready to help,"* adding: *"I cannot recommend him more highly."*

Oliver Hilton's chancery practice includes representing clients in trusts and succession disputes. *"Oliver is always entirely on top of the materials, and is incredibly user-friendly,"* reports a commentator; *"he sees through to the core commercial issues in dispute, and his drafting is focused and clear. He is great to work with."*

Charles Holbech is *"a tax specialist,"* enthuses an interviewee, who adds: *"He has an impressive range of knowledge and clients like him."* Holbech leverages significant tax expertise to assist clients across a range of contentious and non-contentious private wealth matters.

Roger Mullis assists clients in contentious trusts and estates issues and has *"an encyclopaedic knowledge of property law,"* reports an interviewee. Another source commends Mullis for possessing *"a really excellent level of knowledge and an ability to handle exceedingly complex matters and high-value estates."* They continue: *"His advice is extremely clear and the clients are always impressed by his approach. He is one of the big guns to bring in when the going is really tough."*

Nathan Wells is experienced in handling disputes around estates, trusts and wills and often acts for beneficiaries and administrators in such matters. An interviewee says: *"Nathan Wells' wealth of experience in contentious trust litigation means he is an obvious choice for seeking a comprehensive and confident opinion."* A commentator also appreciates his thorough approach, reporting: *"Nathan is unrivalled in his attention to detail, he is always so precise and comprehensive."*

Jonathan Edwards is a junior who has built a strong reputation for his chancery practice, particularly in contested probate and proprietary estoppel matters. *"He is excellent,"* observes a solicitor, who continues: *"He always provides on-point advice, he is succinct and thorough in his approach. He is very approachable and goes beyond expectations."* Another commentator concludes that Edwards is *"an absolute star in the making."*

Band 3

Maitland Chambers

Maitland Chambers has expertise in private client litigation and also remains a *"stand-out for commercial chancery work,"* according to an interviewee, who concludes: *"They are an absolute go-to for this."*

"Both counsel and then clerks were very responsive and provided a good service level," remarks a source. John Wiggs is the senior clerk at the set.

SILKS

Christopher McCall QC is a specialist in trusts and charities law matters. An interviewee who has worked alongside McCall reports: *"He was 100% attentive and cared deeply about the outcome, as well being personally charming and considerate in a stressful situation for our clients."*

JUNIORS

Thomas Fletcher's practice focuses heavily on traditional chancery matters, such as acting for various parties in trust disputes surrounding restructuring and validity issues. An interviewee remarks that Fletcher is *"indispensable,"* adding that he is *"a complete workhorse, he is really one*

of the team and rolls up his sleeves. He is incredibly bright and very diplomatic."

New Square Chambers

New Square Chambers' members handle contentious and non-contentious matters regarding trusts, wills, estates and probate issues. *"New Square is an exceptional set. Within their areas of work, they can handle whatever you throw at them, often at short notice,"* remarks an interviewee.

"They have the expertise across all levels of barrister and can bring in juniors to assist ad hoc as necessary on specific streams of work where a junior is required but you still need the expert trust knowledge," reports a source. Another commentator praises the quality of service at the set, noting: *"Counsel provide a prompt and exceptional service. The clerks are equally exceptional and respond the same day on all instructions."* Michelle Greene is the senior clerk at the set.

SILKS

Nicholas Le Poidevin QC is an expert in contentious and non-contentious trusts and estates matters that often span multiple jurisdictions. He continues to build an impressive market reputation. *"It is always a delight to instruct Nick, he is so calm under pressure and instantly commands the respect of the room,"* remarks a solicitor. Another interviewee at a leading firm comments: *"Nick has an encyclopaedic knowledge with incredible experience. We collectively highly rate him."*

George Laurence QC is *"the market leader in rights of way, village greens and commons work,"* reports an interviewee, who continues: *"It is always a delight to be in a case with, or indeed against, George. He has a masterful understanding of the law."* Laurence is an expert in rights of way and contested access issues.

Alexander Learmonth QC has a comprehensive chancery practice, regularly representing clients in disputes on wills, trusts and property transactions. An impressed peer remarks: *"He is an arch strategist, he has a manoeuvre for every tricky position you find yourself in. Sometimes you just have to sit back and admire people in their profession. His strategic acumen is first-rate."* Another interviewee praises his attention to detail: *"He is an exceptional advocate and is also very useful in the preparation of witness statements where he can see even small gaps in the evidence which need plugging at an early stage."*

JUNIORS

Lynton Tucker is a distinguished figure in the trusts world and is hugely experienced in acting for various parties in domestic and offshore disputes. *"Lynton is top of the top. It is very high-calibre work. What a pleasure it is to be able to trust the barrister you work with. Lynton will never let you down,"* concludes an interviewee. A legal professional adds: *"When we have really intellectual trust law points, we go to him. In our view he is one of the pre-eminent trust lawyers in the UK; he really is one of the very best out there."*

Mark Hubbard handles sizeable contentious trusts and estates matters, and is well regarded for his offshore expertise. *"I absolutely love Mark, he is my go-to junior,"* reports an interviewee; *"he is no-nonsense and terrifyingly clever, I would put him on any matter if he had the availability."*

Aidan Briggs is *"an exceptional barrister,"* observes a solicitor, who also notes that he *"offers very pragmatic advice and is excellent with clients."* Briggs is highly sought after for contested probate work such as Inheritance Act claims that can involve multiple jurisdictions and conflicting laws. *"Aidan Briggs is really affable and gets to grips with even the trickiest of cases with ease,"* acknowledges an interviewee.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Jonathan Arkush (Enterprise Chambers) of Enterprise Chambers handles an array of private client work, including estate administration as well as multi-party disputes. He is also an accredited mediator. A source says: *"Jonathan provides sound, concise advice as part of an exceptional level of service. He is approachable, reliable and extremely polite. He is always a pleasure to deal with."*

Julia Beer (Selborne Chambers) of Selborne Chambers advises clients in contentious probate cases, Inheritance Act claims and will validity challenges. She also represents clients in Court of Protection matters. *"I would highly recommend Julia as an expert in her field,"* says a source. Another commentator remarks: *"Julia is fantastic, I am always impressed with the quality of her work. She is very easy to work with, very welcoming and my clients are always happy with her too."*

Rory Brown (9 Stone Buildings) of 9 Stone Buildings centres his practice on representing clients in trusts and probate disputes. He is well respected by other professionals. *"Rory Brown is my barrister of choice, and is able to grasp and articulate the most complex of issues with relative ease,"* enthuses one commentator. Another interviewee reports: *"Rory is my go-to barrister for chancery work. He is excellent across the board; in conference, with clients, in writing and on his feet."*

Ian Clarke QC (Selborne Chambers) of Selborne Chambers handles probate disputes, as well as real property matters and commercial cases. An interviewee describes him as *"supremely knowledgeable and, importantly, a joy to work with,"* adding: *"He is extremely accessible and willing to discuss the case at short notice. Clear and sensible guidance was provided throughout."* A commentator also acknowledges Clarke's thorough approach to cases, noting: *"Ian identifies strengths and weaknesses in his clients' cases so that they are able to make decisions and provide informed instructions in order to achieve their goals."*

Rupert Coe (Three Stone) of Three Stone handles domestic and offshore trusts, wills and estates work that often surround significant family disputes. An interviewee acknowledges that Coe's work *"was first class, really detail-oriented. His advocacy both oral and written is really excellent. He is a conscientious barrister."*

Clifford Darton QC (Selborne Chambers) of Selborne Chambers has a comprehensive chancery and commercial practice, which includes handling probate matters involving sizeable estates. Darton is regarded as a formidable advocate in the court by peers. *"He is a fantastic cross-examiner,"* remarks one interviewee, who adds that he was *"meticulously prepared and really forensic. He was very impressive."* A similarly impressed source reports: *"I was astonished at the way in which he delivered a phenomenally succinct and accessible opinion on a case. I felt as though I had just seen an artist at work."*

Oliver Ingham (3PB Barristers) of 3PB Barristers is an expert in probate litigation and often acts for clients in Inheritance Act claims. A source asserts: *"Oliver is extremely tenacious. You want him in your corner."* Ingham has also developed a niche in Islamic finance matters and Shari'a inheritance.

Brie Stevens-Hoare QC (Gatehouse Chambers) of Gatehouse Chambers is *"a truly accomplished QC,"* remarks an interviewee. She is particularly proficient in handling Inheritance Act work and Court of Protection matters. *"I absolutely adore working with Brie,"* says a barrister, who continues: *"We have developed a good working relationship. She is extremely personable and very good with vulnerable clients. My impression is that she is a heavy hitter."*

Chancery Traditional National Leaders (outside London)

Chancery: Traditional

Leading Silks

Band 1

Blohm Leslie *St John's Chambers* A

Leading Juniors

Star individuals

Troup Alex *St John's Chambers* A

Band 1

Burden Angus *No5 Barristers' Chambers* A

Corfield Louise *No5 Barristers' Chambers*

Dickinson John FH *St John's Chambers* A

Fryer-Spedding James *9 St John Street*

Harrison Sarah *Parklane Plowden*

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Ranked Lawyers

Leslie Blohm QC of St John's Chambers continues to receive fine praise from market commentators for his expertise in trusts disputes, Inheritance Act 1975 claims and proprietary estoppel matters, with one source saying that *"he seems to achieve the unachievable."* Another interviewee observes: *"Leslie is absolutely second to none, and his exceptional technical ability, knowledge of legislation and case law, and many years of experience, make him a formidable advocate."*

Angus Burden of No5 Barristers' Chambers in Birmingham advises clients on contentious trusts and probate matters, including will challenges, fiduciary claims and Inheritance Act 1975 cases. *"Angus is, and has been, one of the best contentious trusts and probate in the Midlands for a number of years. He is extremely strong technically and very collaborative. He has a very nice manner in dealing with clients and gains their trust very quickly,"* says an interviewee. Another source says that *"he is very well thought of in Birmingham,"* and adds that *"he has a really strong brain, offers careful analysis of the case, and has a nice, careful way about him at trial. He really gets his point across well."*

Louise Corfield of No5 Barristers' Chambers is an expert in contested probated matters, and her work in this area includes acting as a mediator. *"What you get with Louise in court is a very thorough approach to preparation,"* observes a commentator, who explains: *"Her skeleton arguments are always dense in terms of content and authority. On her feet she is very quick and not fazed by judicial challenge, but, equally, she has the ability to read the judge."* Another interviewee states: *"She is excellent on paper in providing sensible and clear written advice, and she is extremely responsive. She is a powerful advocate, and also incredibly good with clients. That all translates to her work as a mediator."*

John Dickinson of St John's Chambers is notable for handling commercial cases and property disputes, as well as contentious probate matters and Court of Protection cases. *"He tends to get the very complicated cases. He was once a chartered accountant and has an extraordinarily good head for figures,"* says a solicitor, and another commentator states: *"John provides technical advice in such a down-to-earth way that even the trickiest cases can be dealt with smoothly. Clients are regularly impressed with the depth of his advice."*

James Fryer-Spedding of 9 St John Street in Manchester remains a leading choice for traditional chancery cases, including contested probate and Inheritance Act 1975 matters. *"He is without doubt the leading chancery junior in the North,"* says an interviewee. *"He is our go-to counsel for chancery matters in the North West,"* states a commentator, who adds: *"He is always a pleasure to deal with; he is measured, calming and thoughtful. He always has thought things through and always has sensible and clever advice to give. His advocacy is very effective, and he's a pleasure to deal with."*

Sarah Harrison of Parklane Plowden is a hugely respected expert in contentious and advisory probate and trusts matters. She is also well known for her ability to handle complex tax mandates. *"She would be the leading light on the Northern chancery circuit. She has the tax expertise which is especially helpful,"* says an interviewee. *"She is one of best contentious probate counsel around, someone you want on a big case,"* observes another commentator.

Alex Troup of St John's Chambers has a superb reputation for working on contentious trusts and probate matters. *"Alex is an absolutely exceptional barrister. He is considered an extremely safe pair of hands for any chancery matter, and quickly puts both lawyers and clients at ease with his calm, professional and extremely knowledgeable persona,"* says an interviewee. Another source describes Troup as *"a real star in the mediation world."*

Defamation/Reputation Management High Net Worth

Defamation/Reputation Management High Net Worth

Leading Firms

Band 1

Carter-Ruck

Harbottle & Lewis LLP

Payne Hicks Beach LLP

Schillings

Taylor Wessing

Band 2

Farrer & Co LLP

Kingsley Napley LLP

Mishcon de Reya LLP

Withers LLP

A *direct access.*

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Carter-Ruck

Carter-Ruck *"has great strength at all levels – partner and associate,"* says an interviewee, who also adds that *"they are well able to handle sophisticated matters."* Another commentator says: *"The impact of legal action, even when on the winning side, can be significant. Carter-Ruck always take this into account when giving advice."*

"I have used a number of law firms over the years and none have matched Carter-Ruck's strategic abilities," remarks a commentator.

Notable practitioners

Nigel Tait is *"simply the best in the business – wise, charming and extremely confident when asked for a view,"* enthuses an interviewee. Tait is head of Carter-Ruck's defamation and media department and is the firm's managing partner. *"Tait is without doubt the best lawyer I have come across. His ability to assess a case, identify a strategy and implement its execution is simply unparalleled,"* remarks a source. Another says: *"There are very few lawyers as good and as experienced as Nigel. His client-handling skills are first-class."* **Claire Gill** is a respected reputation management and data protection lawyer who regularly handles challenging disputes. *"Achieving balance should always be a given. However, Claire takes this skill to a different level in being able to evaluate very complex and conflicting considerations,"* states a source. Another commentator says that *"it is not a coincidence that Claire's clients often stay with her for many years."* **Adam Tudor** *"is a gritty, experienced advocate,"* remarks an interviewee, and another says: *"Tudor is quietly incisive, with a serious talent for assessing evidence and strategising to achieve the best outcome for his clients."* He represents well-known clients in reputation management matters and media disputes.

Defamation/Reputation Management
High Net Worth

Eminent Practitioners

Eminent Practitioners
Schilling Keith *Schillings*

Leading Individuals

Band 1
Afia Jenny *Schillings*
Crossley Dominic *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *
Kelly John *Harbottle & Lewis LLP*
Pike Julian *Farrer & Co LLP*
Sanders Jo *Withers LLP* *
Shan Niri *Taylor Wessing*
Tait Nigel *Carter-Ruck*
Tyrrell Gerrard *Harbottle & Lewis LLP*

Band 2
Atkins Rachel *Schillings*
Basha Hanna *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *
Benaim Gideon *Simkins LLP (ORL)* ◊
Woollcott Emma *Mishcon de Reya LLP*

Band 3
Boyd Magnus *Schillings*
Gill Claire *Carter-Ruck*
Harris Charlotte *Kingsley Napley LLP*
Tudor Adam *Carter-Ruck*

Band 4
Cukier Gerard *Keystone Law (ORL)* ◊ *
Libson James *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Morris Helen *Kingsley Napley LLP*
Oakley Jon *Simkins LLP (ORL)* ◊

Up-and-coming individuals
Rudkin Thomas *Farrer & Co LLP*
Whiston-Dew Alexandra *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Willan Andrew *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *
Yates Michael *Taylor Wessing*

Star associates
Bradbury Amy *Harbottle & Lewis LLP*
Prince Louise *Harbottle & Lewis LLP*

Associates to watch
Eccles-Williams Harry *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Fremlin-Key Andrew *Withers LLP* *
Matthews Athalie *Farrer & Co LLP*

* *Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Harbottle & Lewis LLP

Harbottle & Lewis *"have enormous experience, knowledge, resilience, and significant overall strength in depth,"* states a source, adding: *"They are dealing with matters at all hours of the day and all days of the week. No demand for time or detail is too great."*

"They always seek to understand the nuances. They listen to the obvious data points, and then probe into the gaps with skill and alacrity," says a commentator. They continue: *"They have great leaders with talented teams around them."*

Notable practitioners

John Kelly *"is an absolute bedrock of wise counsel and support, and very much the man to have on your side,"* remarks a source. *"Kelly is able to operate at the highest of levels. He is deceptively sharp. He misses nothing. He is unflappable, diplomatic, clear in his advice and someone who inspires trust and confidence due to his authority and personality,"* says another. **Gerrard Tyrrell** *"is a hugely experienced, astute and very client-friendly media lawyer with excellent judgement who rightly enjoys the confidence of a truly outstanding client base,"* says a source. Another market commentator adds: *"Tyrrell takes great care to consider all of the options before dispensing advice. And that advice is always spot-on."* **Amy Bradbury** *"does everything well. She is efficient, has great judgement, and gives strong advice with perfect delivery,"* says a market source. Another adds: *"She is hard-working and dependable and is building the same skill sets as the principals with whom she works."* *"Bradbury has a stellar future ahead of her,"* remarks a commentator. Star associate **Louise Prince** *"is thoughtful, balanced and dependable, and is building up the same set of skills as the senior lawyers she works with,"* remarks a source. *"She is really bright,"* adds another.

Foreign Experts (Based Abroad)
Defamation/Reputation Management
High Net Worth

UK expertise
based in countries listed below

USA **Dunlavy** Allan *Schillings*
USA **Melville-Brown** Amber *Withers Bergman LLP* *

Payne Hicks Beach LLP

Payne Hicks Beach *"has great strength at partner and associate level and has an excellent capacity to handle defamation and reputation management work,"* states a source.

"The firm is able to draw on a deep well of experience and adapt their knowledge to provide robust advice and implement actions tailored to fit the requirements of individual and often highly sensitive cases," states a market source. *"Their approach, advice, understanding and their ability to deliver practical legal solutions in often complex and multifaceted matters adds real value to clients who regularly return to the firm whenever the need arises,"* they add.

Notable practitioners

Dominic Crossley (see p.325) is *"exceptional in his field, especially for privacy-related matters,"* states an interviewee. Another source adds: *"He is an outstanding lawyer."* *"Crossley builds very close relationships with clients who then remain loyal to him and the firm,"* says a commentator. **Hanna Basha** (see p.320) *"is well known and respected in the industry as a safe pair of hands,"* says a market source. *"Basha is very experienced in defamation and privacy matters,"* adds another, with one interviewee stating: *"Hanna is top-class. She is very professional and understanding."* **Andrew Willan** (see p.347) *"is a real trusted adviser who is very sensible and gives pragmatic advice. Willan has the judgement and insight to advise not just on the letter of the law,"* says a source. Another interviewee states: *"He has recently been made partner and it is clear that he has reached that status. I think he'll do really well in that role."*

Schillings

Schillings *"are leaders in the world of defamation and privacy and as such bring a sophistication to their work which would be missing from less experienced practitioners,"* states a source, adding: *"You can be confident that whoever is dealing with your matter, at every level, is an expert or close to it."*

An interviewee says: *"I am always impressed by Schillings' ability to handle complex matters, and also to distil their advice into language that clients and others can easily understand."* They continue: *"Schillings are always swift to respond but they never provide rushed advice."*

Notable practitioners

Keith Schilling is chairman and senior partner at the firm. *"He has a stellar presence,"* states a source. They add: *"He has excellent judgement and is a highly effective strategist."* **Jenny Afia** *"is exceptional to work with,"* says an interviewee. *"Afia is a great lawyer and a great manager of her team. She brings insight and a great perspective to deal with the challenges faced,"* remarks another. **Rachel Atkins** is a well-respected litigator specialising in reputation and privacy matters. *"Atkins has great commercial perspective and clear thinking,"* says an interviewee. Another adds: *"She knows her stuff."* **Magnus Boyd** *"is superb across all areas of work. He is quick to respond and his advice is always first-rate,"* says a market commentator. They continue: *"He is also supportive, empathetic and understands complex matters swiftly."* **Allan Dunlavy**, a New York-based partner at the firm, *"is hugely experienced,"* states a market source, adding: *"His US perspective brought real value."* *"Working with Allan is always a joy,"* says another market source. A further interviewee states: *"He understands the media, and the relavant law, really well. He listens carefully, provides clear and logical options, is flexible in his thinking as circumstances change, and is very personable, accessible and responsive."*

Taylor Wessing

Taylor Wessing *"handles high net worth clients in a brilliant way,"* states a source, adding: *"They are a pleasure to deal with."*

Another interviewee comments: *"They are constantly on top of things and, in my experience, always highly responsive and focused on delivering for the client."* *"I've been impressed by their capabilities and their coordination whilst representing clients who are not in the English jurisdiction. This international capability has made a massive difference,"* says a market source.

Notable practitioners

Niri Shan *"is a lawyer of the highest calibre and sophistication. He carries an unparalleled intuition for what is in his client's best interests,"* says a source, with another adding: *"He is a real star – a go-to lawyer for many high net worth individuals."* *"I've never encountered another media and reputation management lawyer who is able to fix quietly so many challenging matters. This is a true gift – and it is certainly a gift for his clients,"* states a market commentator. **Michael Yates** *"is very hard-working and thorough, a wise counsellor, and has a charming manner that puts clients at ease,"* states a source. Another adds: *"Michael is a trusted colleague on all matters related to reputation and privacy protection. His calm and reassuring demeanour instantly disarms you and conveys an authority beyond his years."*

Band 2

Farrer & Co LLP

Farrer & Co advises high net work individuals on a range of matters including reputation management, defamation, and privacy and security.

A market source states that *"we were very happy with their service."* They continue: *"Our lawyer made themselves immediately available based on the circumstance and timing of the situation. I cannot speak enough to the responsiveness given."*

Notable practitioners

Julian Pike *"is an outstanding lawyer. I cannot recommend him highly enough,"* says a source. Another source comments: *"Julian is an expert in his field and is our go-to person for all reputational management matters. He is the most responsive, knowledgeable and commercial and business-minded lawyer, and his judgement is always spot-on."* **Thomas Rudkin** *"is a rising star,"* says a source, adding: *"He is very good with clients, and he is bright and personable."* An interviewee remarks: *"We work extensively with Thomas and the team and cannot speak more highly of both,"* with a further source stating: *"Tom is an outstanding lawyer. He is brilliant at dealing with the press, and has very good tactical awareness."* **Athalie Matthews** *"goes to great lengths to get to know the client alongside getting to know the matter,"* says a source, adding: *"Athalie was great at breaking down the interwoven complexities of our matter, seamlessly aligning them into a simple plan, without leaving a stone unturned."* Another interviewee states: *"Athalie made herself immediately available and accessible. She provided great guidance on our issues and could not have been more supportive."*

Kingsley Napley LLP

Kingsley Napley *"are highly regarded in the media landscape,"* comments a source, stating additionally: *"They have a depth of experience in other areas too and thus can advise clients if their issue spreads across different disciplines."*

"Their matters are often complex and raise novel points that require a high level of expertise and excellence. They handle these cases supremely well," remarks a market source. Another interviewee says: *"I'm very impressed with the team generally. Their legal ability is excellent."*

Notable practitioners

Charlotte Harris advises clients on privacy and defamation matters. *"She is an excellent leader of her team,"* remarks a source, who continues: *"Charlotte is an excellent, first-rate high net worth reputation management adviser at the top of her game. She regularly deals with extremely complex and sensitive matters, and is absolutely superb."* Another says: *"She is a class act with bags of real life experience and insight."* **Helen Morris** *"is always enjoyable to work with. She is really hard-working, very insightful, and experienced – a very safe pair of hands,"* says an interviewee. *"She is a sound operator in this field,"* states a commentator, while another says: *"I think she's got excellent judgement."*

Mishcon de Reya LLP

Mishcon de Reya *"have an impressive team which means that difficult and sensitive matters are handled effectively and efficiently,"* states a source.

"They are some of the most professional hard-working lawyers that I have ever come across. They are very open to new ideas and ways of resolving complex issues," remarks a commentator. Another adds: *"It is a real pleasure to collaborate with them."*

Notable practitioners

Emma Woollcott is head of the Reputation Protection and Crisis Management group at the firm, providing high net worth individuals with advice relating to matters including defamation, privacy, and data protection. **James Libson** *"is a simply brilliant strategist,"* remarks a source. They add: *"He is a charming man to work with."* An interviewee comments: *"James is a very experienced and knowledgeable expert."* Another says: *"Working with James is always a pleasure. He is sharp and always provides concise but insightful advice."* **Alexandra Whiston-Dew** *"is a smart, sophisticated and cool-under-pressure lawyer,"* says a market source. Another commentator says: *"Working with Alexandra is very efficient and always goal-oriented. Her responsiveness is very high at all times. She is also very familiar with the circumstances in different jurisdictions."* **Harry Eccles-Williams** is a managing associate at the firm. *"I wholeheartedly and unreservedly recommend Harry as a lawyer to work with on a wide range of issues. He is able to quickly grasp new legal issues and devise a practical way forward, and is a pleasure to work with,"* states a source. Another market commentator says: *"He has a huge work capacity and an ability to cut through complexity."*

Withers LLP

The Withers team *"has great attention to detail, not only working through varying complex scenarios but also thinking ahead in order to pre-empt issues,"* states a source.

Another commentator remarks: *"The team at Withers have excellent service, both in terms of the quality of legal work but also responsiveness to deal with new issues and queries."* *"We enjoy working with their team, in part, precisely because of the priority they attach to addressing client needs quickly and accurately,"* says another.

Notable practitioners

Jo Sanders (see p.343) *"is a formidable lawyer with a clear understanding of the modern media environment,"* states a source. *"She is compassionate and strives to achieve only the best result,"* remarks another, continuing: *"Jo is very reliable and is always on-hand to answer questions or respond to new issues."* **Andrew Fremlin-Key** (see p.328) is a senior associate at the firm, and is described as a *"pleasant and diligent lawyer"* by a market source. Another commentator adds: *"We have worked with Andrew on a number of complex reputation management issues and Andrew always goes the extra mile to ensure his clients are furnished with the best possible advice. He delivers calm and clear-sighted solutions."* **Amber Melville-Brown** (see p.373) *"is hugely incisive and clear-sighted, particularly when it comes to recognising those subtle questions of risk that are key to resolving complex and sensitive threats to reputation,"* says an interviewee. Melville-Brown is an England and Wales solicitor and is also admitted to practise in New York. *"She is excellent, and is building a very successful practice in the US. She is a go-to person in the US to understand British media law,"* observes an interviewee.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Gideon Benaim *"is a really good lawyer,"* states a market source, adding: *"I really do rate him."* Benaim leads the reputation protection team at Simkins LLP, and acts in matters including defamation, harassment and copyright.

Gerard Cukier (see p.325) of Keystone Law is a partner specialising in the provision of advice to high net worth individuals on matters including defamation, privacy and harassment.

Jon Oakley *"is a very good and safe pair of hands,"* remarks a source. They add: *"He has very sound judgement."* Oakley is a partner at Simkins LLP and advises high net worth individuals and companies on reputational issues.

Family/Matrimonial

Family/Matrimonial: Ultra High Net Worth
Leading Firms
Band 1
Hughes Fowler Carruthers
Stewarts
Withers LLP
Band 2
Charles Russell Speechlys
Farrer & Co LLP
Harbottle & Lewis LLP
Mishcon de Reya LLP
Payne Hicks Beach LLP
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP
Band 3
Boodle Hatfield LLP
Family Law in Partnership LTD
Forsters LLP
Kingsley Napley LLP
Band 4
Alexiou Fisher Philipps LLP
BloomBudd LLP
Katz Partners LLP
Levison Meltzer Pigott
Ribet Myles LLP
Simons Muirhead Burton
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1 Family/Matrimonial: Ultra High Net Worth

Hughes Fowler Carruthers

Hughes Fowler Carruthers *"are a force of nature,"* states a source, while another observes: *"They are a real powerhouse. They are dynamic and at the cutting edge of the legal world."* The team are highly sought after to advise high net worth individuals on complex, cross-border matters.

"They always provide bespoke and tailor-made solutions to clients, and they are very adaptable and flexible," comments an interviewee, and another remarks: *"They are a very dynamic group; they are very good at thinking outside the box and being straight with clients. They are well organised and tactical in their approach."*

Notable practitioners

Frances Hughes is *"a force to be reckoned with,"* says a commentator, adding: *"She is direct, straightforward and great at handling the most complex and tricky cases. Her ability to talk straight to clients is impressive."* Hughes is highly regarded in the London family market for her extensive experience advising high net worth individuals. *"She is tactically brilliant; she can always see five steps ahead,"* observes an interviewee, and another remarks: *"I think her judgement is just impeccable, she's very clever and she's supremely experienced. I think her dealing with clients is unsurpassed; she just handles them extremely well."* **Alex Carruthers** is well known in the London market for advising high net worth clients on complex family matters. *"Alex is very incisive, gets straight to the point and is a pleasure to deal with. He provides very clear and concise advice,"* notes one source, while another comments: *"He is very efficient; he is completely on top of the detail and his client service is absolutely top-rate."* A third source says: *"He is totally dedicated to his clients and will fight for them like no other lawyer I know. He is a very strategic thinker."* **Pauline Fowler** assists high net worth individuals and families on a full range of matrimonial matters. An interviewee remarks: *"She is really precise, very attentive to detail and tactically strong. She is extremely clever and focused on getting a good outcome for clients. She is very pragmatic and good at working with the other side. She is technically brilliant."* Another comments: *"She's a complete delight. She's straightforward, no nonsense and experienced."* **Mark Harper** is well versed in dealing with complex matrimonial cases, often with an international element. Sources praise his knowledge of the intersection between family law and trusts, with one source noting: *"He absolutely knows more about the nuances of international trusts and divorce than anyone else. He's one of the top lawyers for high net worth divorces."* One interviewee says: *"He is incredibly pragmatic, straightforward and very realistic in his approach."* Another interviewee adds: *"Mark is an excellent lawyer. He's very, very astute, very incisive and conscientious."* **Renato Labi** is well known for handling matrimonial cases, with expertise in complex children's cases and finance disputes. A source enthuses: *"Not only is he a fantastic strategist, but he provides really thorough, well-informed advice. He is superbly clever and also prepared to take a measured and appropriate risk where needed."* Another observes: *"Renato is a fantastic solicitor and I think he is extraordinarily well prepared, a good tactician and very intelligent. He leaves no stone unturned and he's always thinking one step ahead of the game."* **Caroline Park** is widely regarded by her peers as *"one of the brightest solicitors around."* She regularly advises affluent clients on both domestic and international financial remedy proceedings. A commentator reveals: *"She is always at the top of my list when recommending a lawyer to friends or family. She is so polished and her technical understanding is exceptional."* One source enthuses: *"Caroline has a brain the size of a planet. She is one of the most hard-working solicitors I know. She is very client friendly, very pragmatic and very measured."* Another source reports: *"She's incredibly impressive; you always have to be at the top of your game to do a case against her. She is very constructive and will cut through the issues."* **Bryan Jones** advises on the full range of family law cases. *"He is so hard-working and extraordinarily diligent. He is so thorough, client-friendly and goes above and beyond,"* states one commentator, and another remarks: *"He is extremely numerate, he comes up with great solutions to problems and he's also extremely clever."* **Archie Best** has considerable experience advising wealthy clients on divorce proceedings, pre and post-nuptial agreements and children matters. *"He's incredibly hard-working and when there's a case with immense detail, he's who you want on your side,"* says one interviewee. Another comments: *"I rate him very highly. He's very clever, extremely numerate and has very good judgement. He is a star of the future."*

Stewarts

Stewarts *"are without a doubt the number one divorce firm in the country by a country mile,"* states one market source, adding: *"They are incredibly user-friendly, knowledgeable and experienced."* The team are highly sought after by ultra high net worth individuals to advise on complex financial and children matters.

"They are second to none for family law," according to a source, who adds: *"They are incredibly forensic in their approach and I really like working with them."* Another says: *"Stewarts provide clients with quality advice. When they're on the other side, I'm always relieved because they are effective and go the extra mile for their clients. They provide quality advice."*

Notable practitioners

Helen Ward (see p.346) is widely regarded as *"an absolute titan of the family law world."* An impressed peer remarks: *"Her skills and abilities are legendary. She is fantastic with clients; she manages them incredibly well."* " **Emma Hatley** (see p.331) *is a superstar,"* states an interviewee, explaining: *"She's one of the brightest legal technicians that I've ever dealt with. She is a really formidable opponent; when she's on a case it's like having two silks on the other side."* Hatley is widely admired as a leading practitioner for complex domestic and international family matters. A source enthuses: *"Emma is one of the best lawyers of her generation. She is exceptional with clients, has fantastic judgement and can see around corners."* Another notes: *"She is the leading matrimonial lawyer of her generation. She is the perfect combination of intellect and commercial pragmatism."* **Debbie Chism** (see p.324) is *"a wonderful lawyer,"* says an interviewee, before continuing: *"She's immensely knowledgeable, extremely organised and nothing phases her. She is always enthusiastic, always thinking of the best interests of her clients and she's hugely pragmatic."* Chism enjoys a fantastic reputation for her expertise in complex family matters. One source comments: *"She's absolutely brilliant. She's tenacious, brilliant with clients and extremely hard-working."* Another remarks: *"She is always well prepared, she's fantastic with clients and has great attention to detail. She is my go-to for collaborative law matters."* **Stephen Foster** (see p.328) has extensive experience advising ultra high net worth individuals on complex international family matters. *"He is an absolutely brilliant lawyer and a fantastic litigator,"* comments a source, adding: *"I think he's one of the best family lawyers in London. He's so intelligent, great with clients and has fantastic judgement. I rate him so highly."* Another source enthuses: *"He has fantastic abilities; he has huge experience and significant international expertise. He is a strategic lawyer with a methodical approach. He is great at seeing the bigger picture and achieving results for clients."* **Richard Hogwood** (see p.332) is well known for his considerable experience handling international divorce proceedings. A market source reports: *"I absolutely adore Richard Hogwood. He's super, super bright; he's ferociously intelligent, very pragmatic and solution-driven."*

Family/Matrimonial: Ultra High Net Worth

Senior Statespeople

Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners

Bishop Gillian *Family Law in Partnership LTD* *

Bruce Simon *Dawson Cornwell* *

Levison Jeremy *Levison Meltzer Pigott* *

Tooth Raymond *Sears Tooth (ORL)* ◊

Ward Helen *Stewarts* *

Leading Individuals

Star individuals

Davis Sandra *Mishcon de Reya LLP*

Hatley Emma *Stewarts* *

Hughes Frances *Hughes Fowler Carruthers*

Lipson Julian *Withers LLP* *

Parker Diana *Withers LLP* *

Shackleton Fiona *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *

Band 1

Allison David *Family Law in Partnership LTD* *

Bedford Catherine *Harbottle & Lewis LLP*

Bradley Charlotte *Kingsley Napley LLP*

Carruthers Alex *Hughes Fowler Carruthers*

Chism Debbie *Stewarts* *

Fisher Miranda *Charles Russell Speechlys*

Foster Stephen *Stewarts* *

Fowler Pauline *Hughes Fowler Carruthers*

Freeman James *Charles Russell Speechlys*

Gordon Claire *Farrer & Co LLP*

Gouriet Michael *Withers LLP* *

Harper Mark *Hughes Fowler Carruthers*

Hicks Elizabeth *Family Law in Partnership LTD* *

Hogwood Richard *Stewarts* *

Keir Jane *Kingsley Napley LLP*

Longrigg William *Charles Russell Speechlys*

Massey William *Farrer & Co LLP*

Pigott Simon *Levison Meltzer Pigott*

Stewart James *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP* *

Todd Suzanne J *Withers LLP* *

Band 2

Amlot Tom *Alexiou Fisher Philipps LLP*

Anticoni Sarah *Charles Russell Speechlys*

Craig Jane *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP* *

Edwards Joanne *Forsters LLP*

Fontenelle Sital *Kingsley Napley LLP*

Humphries Matthew *Stewarts* *

Hutchinson Sarah *Farrer & Co LLP*

Katz Davina *Katz Partners LLP* *

Labi Renato *Hughes Fowler Carruthers*

Landells Katharine *Withers LLP* *

McGuirk Philip *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *

Park Caroline *Hughes Fowler Carruthers*

Pirrie James *Family Law in Partnership LTD* *

Reeves Barbara *Mishcon de Reya LLP*

Ribet Julian *Ribet Myles LLP*

Schumm Rosie *Forsters LLP*

Worwood Anna *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP* *

Band 3

Alexander Shona *Charles Russell Speechlys*

Atkinson Toby *Stewarts* *

Blain Simon *Forsters LLP*

Bloom Zoe *BloomBudd LLP*

Brunsdon-Tully Matthew *Wedlake Bell LLP (ORL)* ◊ *

Clark Kate *Mishcon de Reya LLP*

Cockcroft Rebecca *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *

Copson James *Sinclair Gibson LLP (ORL)* ◊

Ferguson James *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *

Holley Caroline *Farrer & Co LLP*

Langton Lois *Howard Kennedy LLP (ORL)* ◊ *

Longworth Sam *Stewarts* *

McDonagh Jane *Simons Muirhead Burton*

Shelton Erica *Charles Russell Speechlys*

Westley Nicholas *Harbottle & Lewis LLP*

Yorke Claire *Mishcon de Reya LLP*

Band 4

Blakemore Claire *Withers LLP* *

Brand Emily *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *

Eames Daniel R *Michelmores LLP (ORL)* ◊

Frankle Brett *Withers LLP* *

Geraghty Laura *Ribet Myles LLP*

Greer David *Katz Partners LLP* *

Higgins Sarah *Charles Russell Speechlys*

Irving Mark *Harbottle & Lewis LLP*

Kapoor Emily *Katz Partners LLP* *

Kinch Carly *Stewarts* *

Myles Alistair *Ribet Myles LLP*

Parry-Smith Ben *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *

Williams Bradley *Family Law in Partnership LTD* *

Band 5

Boon Sarah Jane *Charles Russell Speechlys*

Bray Tessa *Simons Muirhead Burton*

Buckland Abby *Kingsley Napley LLP*

Carlyon Rebecca *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP* *

Carson Elizabeth *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP* *

Errington Harriet *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *

Floyd Edward *Farrer & Co LLP*

Freeman Rachel *Kingsley Napley LLP*

Greenfield Helen *Family Law in Partnership LTD* *

Kennaugh Jamie *Charles Russell Speechlys*

O'Callaghan Katie *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *

Riby James *Charles Russell Speechlys*

Sinha Ruben *JMW Solicitors LLP*

Up-and-coming individuals

Atkinson Connie *Kingsley Napley LLP*

Chapman Sophie *Stewarts* *

Felix Antonia *Mishcon de Reya LLP*

Jones Bryan *Hughes Fowler Carruthers*

MacFarlane Will *Kingsley Napley LLP*

Pledger Adele *Withers LLP* *

Radnor Amy *Farrer & Co LLP*

Stewart-Gould Lucy *Stewarts* *

Tatham Frederick *Farrer & Co LLP*

Willing Emma *Mishcon de Reya LLP*

Wilson Mariko *Family Law in Partnership LTD* *

Associates to watch

Ali Sarfraz *Withers LLP* *

Best Archie *Hughes Fowler Carruthers*

Buckmaster Camellia *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *

Ceadel Dickon *Forsters LLP*

Davies John *Farrer & Co LLP*

Duggan Jenny *Stewarts* *

Green Joshua *Charles Russell Speechlys*

Havers Sarah *Stewarts* *

Hines Robert *Mishcon de Reya LLP*

Hirst Alexandra *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *

Kingham Matilda *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP* *

Nevin Stacey *Kingsley Napley LLP*

Radcliffe Claire *Mishcon de Reya LLP*

Rees James *Mishcon de Reya LLP*

* *Indicates individual with profile.*

◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Family/Matrimonial: High Net Worth

Leading Firms

Band 1

Mills & Reeve LLP

Newton Kearns

Russell-Cooke

Band 2

Burges Salmon LLP

Hunters

Vaitilingam Kay

Band 3

Burgess Mee Family Law

Dawson Cornwell

SKO Family Law Specialists

Band 4

Brodies LLP

Family Law Partners

Fladgate LLP

JMW Solicitors LLP

Osbornes Law

Rayden Solicitors

Another adds: *"He is an extremely elegant lawyer; he is very thorough, very calm and very smart."* One interviewee enthuses: *"He is totally, totally efficient and effective in everything that he does. If you want something done, Richard has already done it. He's always ten steps ahead on a matter."* **Matthew Humphries** (see p.333) is noted for his considerable experience advising high net worth clients on matrimonial finance cases. *"He is the full package: he is hugely knowledgeable, has fantastic judgement and great client skills. He is always a pleasure to have on a case,"* states a source. Another comments: *"Matt Humphries is impressive. He is super clever on the law and the facts, he's super calm and super effective."* A peer reports: *"Matt's approachability is really incredible. He has a really calm and thoughtful nature. I would happily refer a matter to him."* **Toby Atkinson** (see p.319) is adept at handling all aspects of family law, with particular expertise dealing with financial and children matters. An impressed source notes: *"He combines all the qualities that you want; he's practical, empathetic and extraordinarily knowledgeable. He is so calm under pressure, even when dealing with difficult clients."* Another says: *"Toby Atkinson is wonderful to work with. He's very bright, very considered and very pragmatic."* **Sam Longworth** (see p.336) regularly advises high net worth clients on complex matrimonial matters. Sources praise his responsiveness, with one source noting: *"Sam has a phenomenal work ethic; I don't know when the man sleeps! He is the most responsive lawyer I know and he's all over the detail of a case."* An interviewee comments: *"Sam Longworth is very client-focused, very knowledgeable and great to deal with."* **Carly Kinch** (see p.334) is *"utterly impressive and talented,"* according to an interviewee, who continues: *"If I ever need to discuss an issue in a case, she's always, always available. She has incredibly sound judgement and good client management."* Kinch is particularly skilled at dealing with complex financial remedy proceedings. A commentator notes: *"You would be lucky to have her on your team. She's a seriously good lawyer; she's bright, she's tenacious and she's absolutely amazing with clients. When it comes down to numbers and understanding how businesses work,*

Family/Matrimonial: High Net Worth

Senior Statespeople

Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners

Rae Maggie *Newton Kearns*

Leading Individuals

Band 1

Carroll James *Russell-Cooke* *

Kearns Patrick *Newton Kearns*

Kelsey Rachael *SKO Family Law Specialists* *

Kingston Suzanne *Mills & Reeve LLP*

Newton Paul *Newton Kearns*

Band 2

Burgess Peter *Burgess Mee Family Law*

Grandfield Joanna *Mills & Reeve LLP*

Hamilton Kate *Russell-Cooke* *

Hood Henry L A *Hunters* *

Hoskinson Sarah *Burges Salmon LLP*

Kay Anne *Vaitilingam Kay*

Philipps Susan *Alexiou Fisher Philipps LLP*

Rowlands Michael *JMW Solicitors*

Vaitilingam Joe *Vaitilingam Kay*

Band 3

Butler Christopher *Weightmans LLP (ORL)* ◊

Cullen Teresa *Fladgate LLP*

Ellinas Carol *Russells (ORL)* ◊

Handel Richard *Burges Salmon LLP*

Hannell Sara *Alexiou Fisher Philipps LLP*

Hawes Alison *Burges Salmon LLP*

Healing William *Alexiou Fisher Philipps LLP*

Jenkins Caitlin *Mills & Reeve LLP*

Lister David *Rayden Solicitors*

Rayden Katherine *Rayden Solicitors*

Band 4

Baldwin Camilla *Camilla Baldwin Solicitors (ORL)* ◊

Bywater Russell *Dawson Cornwell* *

Elliott Kate *Family Law Partners* *

Farley-Hills Tom *Simons Muirhead Burton*

George Shaun *Brodies LLP*

Harte Emma *Alexiou Fisher Philipps LLP*

Hodson David *The International Family Law (ORL)* ◊

Mill Magnus *Alexiou Fisher Philipps LLP*

Read Fiona *Russell-Cooke* *

Band 5

Adler Charlotte R J *Adler Family Law (ORL)* ◊

Bell Charlie *Bortoft Bell (ORL)* ◊

Bever Ros *Irwin Mitchell (ORL)* ◊

Carr-West Jo *Hunters* *

Collins Richard *Keystone Law (ORL)* ◊ *

Duggins Thomas *Vaitilingam Kay*

Francis Victoria *Newton Kearns*

Freedman Mark *Osbornes Law*

Gilmour Robert *SKO Family Law Specialists* *

Gleave Hetty *Fladgate LLP*

Harries Nicola *Stevens & Bolton LLP (ORL)* ◊

Longmate Katie *Alexiou Fisher Philipps LLP*

Mee Antonia *Burgess Mee Family Law*

Palanivel Priya *Rayden Solicitors*

Penfold Caroline *Weightmans LLP (ORL)* ◊

Reid Jessica *Dawson Cornwell* *

Wilby Helen *Vaitilingam Kay*

Yerburgh Toby *Collyer Bristow LLP (ORL)* ◊

Up-and-coming individuals

Minty Hannah *Russell-Cooke* *

Petterson Frances *Newton Kearns*

Stovold Kate *Levison Meltzer Pigott* *

Stowe Benjamin *Levison Meltzer Pigott* *

Walsh Izzy *Hall Brown Family Law (ORL)* ◊

Star associates

Whitney Tim *Mills & Reeve LLP*

Associates to watch

Hoare Lucy *Russells (ORL)* ◊

Kurth Natasha *Wedlake Bell LLP (ORL)* ◊ *

Parker-White Grace *Stevens & Bolton LLP (ORL)* ◊

Petherick Hannah *Burges Salmon LLP*

Pollock Jemma *Russell-Cooke* *

* *Indicates individual with profile.*

◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Family/Matrimonial: Mediators

Leading Individuals

Amlot Tom *Alexiou Fisher Philipps LLP*

Anticoni Sarah *Charles Russell Speechlys*

Bradley Charlotte *Kingsley Napley LLP*

Carroll James *Russell-Cooke* *

Edwards Joanne *Forsters LLP*

Francis Victoria *Newton Kearns*

Harte Emma *Alexiou Fisher Philipps LLP*

Kingston Suzanne *Mills & Reeve LLP*

Pepper Lisa *Osbornes Law*

Pigott Simon *Levison Meltzer Pigott*

Pirrie James *Family Law in Partnership LTD* *

Raeside Dominic *Family Law in Partnership LTD* *

Todd Suzanne J *Withers LLP* *

Woodd Rachel *Jones Nickolds (ORL)* ◊

she's second to none." Other sources describe her as *"very measured, very methodical and meticulous,"* as well as *"really tenacious, very tactical and pragmatic."* **Sophie Chapman** (see p.323) advises affluent clients on a broad range of family issues, including divorce, nuptial agreements and children matters. A source enthuses: *"Sophie Chapman is a rising star. She combines a number of skills that make her terrific; she is exceptionally calm under pressure and really good on the detail of a case. She is very pragmatic, always ten steps ahead and provides very clear advice."* Another remarks: *"She is really hard-working, driven and dedicated to her clients. She is attentive to detail, but always provides clear advice to clients."* **Lucy Stewart-Gould** (see p.344) is *"one of the best junior lawyers in the market right now,"* according to an interviewee, who continues: *"She is really thoughtful, analytical and on top of everything. She has fantastic ideas and very good judgement. She practices beyond her years."* Another interviewee says: *"She is a very intellectual lawyer and vastly pragmatic. She uses intellectual gymnastics to jump through complex hoops in a case. Her level of knowledge and ability is unparalleled for someone of her generation."* **Jenny Duggan** (see p.327) is a senior associate on the team and assists on some of its most significant cases. *"Jenny is brilliant,"* says a family law barrister; *"Jenny is the kind of person you can throw an enormous case at and she won't buckle underneath it. She is very strategic, detailed and thorough. She is incredibly resilient and exceptionally capable."* A fellow solicitor adds that *"Jenny Duggan is brilliant to work with. She's really approachable and knowledgeable."* **Sarah Havers** (see p.331) is a senior associate in the Stewarts divorce and family team. *"I think Sarah is absolutely terrific; she's one of the best associates in the family world at the moment,"* says a family law barrister, adding: *"She is just a delight to be instructed by. She is really good at dealing with clients no matter what their background is. She can deal with everybody brilliantly."* Another source says: *"She's a rising star. She's part of a new generation of lawyers coming through. She is very good on cross-jurisdiction cases, she's great with clients and has strong judgement. She is very competent; you would trust her to run a big case, even though she's not a partner yet."*

Withers LLP

Withers enjoy a terrific reputation as one of London's leading family law firms. A source notes: *"They are very strong on international and complex family matters. They are a go-to for complicated matters."*

"They are an absolutely fantastic family team; they are second to none," states a market commentator, explaining: *"I don't think anyone can touch them in terms of their skill set."* Another concurs: *"The amazing thing about Withers is that the team seems to never end; they are absolutely a force to be reckoned with."* A third source remarks: *"They are a delight to work with. They are so client-centric and easy to deal with. They are really robust and dynamic in their approach."*

Notable practitioners

Julian Lipson (see p.335) is an acclaimed family lawyer with considerable experience dealing with high net worth clients. *"Julian is a phenomenal lawyer. He's very smooth, very clever and very client-friendly,"* says a source, while another comments: *"I have only great things to report about Julian Lipson. He is really an incredible lawyer and remains one of the go-to names in this market."* **Diana Parker** (see p.339) is *"the cleverest of them all,"* reports an interviewee, before continuing: *"If my back was up against the wall, I would go to Diana every time. She's my number one."* One commentator notes: *"She is absolutely fantastic. She is no nonsense in her approach and very strategic. She is very direct and straightforward in her advice."* Another says: *"She is charm personified. She's really easy to pick up the phone to, she's really accessible and easy to deal with."* **Michael Gouriet** (see p.329) is a highly esteemed family law practitioner who is noted for his ability to handle complex matrimonial finance cases. A source comments: *"Michael Gouriet is brilliant. He is methodical, attentive to detail and hugely knowledgeable. You know if you're against him that he'll be all over everything, so you'd better be prepared."* An interviewee says: *"Michael Gouriet is a standout lawyer. He is an incredibly thoughtful and superbly clever lawyer. He is client-friendly, pragmatic and considered in his approach."* **Suzanne Todd** (see p.345) is described as *"a fantastically dynamic and robust lawyer"* by an interviewee, who adds: *"She is always happy to roll up her sleeves and get stuck into a case, she is incredibly hard-working and very*

user-friendly. She is beyond impressive." Todd deals with some of the most high-value and complex divorce matters, particularly those with an Italian dimension. A commentator notes: *"She cuts to the chase; she is very straightforward and has a no-nonsense way of setting out the facts of a case. She is refreshingly down to earth, straightforward and commercial."* Another remarks: *"She is a go-to on very complicated matters. She is extremely calm under pressure, really clear in her approach and fantastic at dealing with impossible opponents."* **Katharine Landells** (see p.335) is well known in the London market for advising wealthy clients on complex financial and children matters. One source says: *"Kate Landells is very impressive. She is just brilliant with clients, keenly forensic and has great expertise. It's always a pleasure to work with her."* Another comments: *"She is absolutely phenomenal: she is driven, she is a fighter, and she is an absolute delight to deal with."* A final source notes: *"She is a brilliant advocate of her clients' interests. She really gets to the nub of an issue and represents her clients really robustly. She has a remarkable breadth of skills."* **Claire Blakemore** (see p.321) handles high-value and complex financial matters in divorce. *"She is a really nice individual to deal with; she's very direct and straightforward, both with clients and the opposite side,"* reports one source, while another says: *"She is very, very bright, very technically savvy and is always ten steps ahead of her opponent. She really thinks through and understands the layers of her case."* A third source notes: *"Claire has an astonishingly good grasp of matters and is really experienced."* **Brett Frankle** (see p.328) often advises high net worth clients on cross-border matrimonial finance matters. A source reveals: *"He's a go-to for entrepreneurial clients. He is incredibly intelligent and has great client care skills. He thinks about things from many different angles and is a very tactical thinker."* *"He's really bright, really strategic and he's got a brilliant sense of humour which is really disarming,"* says one interviewee, and another remarks: *"He is a fantastic lawyer. He's really easy to deal with, very intelligent and great with clients."* **Adele Pledger** (see p.340) has particular expertise in high-value, multi-jurisdictional matrimonial finance cases. An impressed barrister reports: *"She is so incredibly impressive; she is as numerate as any solicitor I have seen, and I'm a numbers nerd. She is incredibly charming, extremely bright and has such a wonderful manner with clients. She is the total package."* A source notes: *"She is an incredible lawyer. She is so thorough and detailed, but is also somebody that I find so approachable and easy to deal with."* **Sarfraz Ali** (see p.318) advises on high-value divorce proceedings, children arrangements and nuptial agreements. *"He's a real star in the making,"* observes a source, adding: *"He's very bright, calm under pressure and attentive."* Another concurs: *"Saf will be one of the top partners in London in the future. He is absolutely brilliant and punches well above his level. He is the full package: he is technical, all over the detail and very strategic. He has great client skills too."*

Band 2 Family/Matrimonial: Ultra High Net Worth

Charles Russell Speechlys

One source says Charles Russell Speechlys *"have a great breadth of experience"* and *"are the go-to when you have complex matters that touch on other areas of the law."* The team regularly advise affluent clients on a broad spectrum of family matters, with skills as both litigators and mediators.

"They are a group of talented stars. Their service is first-rate," states an interviewee, adding: *"They have a real strength in depth. They have many strings to their bow and are well integrated to other practice areas."* Another interviewee enthuses: *"I love working with the team at Charles Russell Speechlys because they work so well together. They are really cohesive and collaborative. They are really intelligent, hard-working and client-friendly. Everything is very seamless."*

Notable practitioners

Miranda Fisher has a wealth of experience handling domestic and international family matters for affluent clients. *"Working with Miranda is a dream; she's a complete pleasure. She's practical, down to earth and terrific to work with,"* observes one source, and another notes: *"She is a star! She's totally unflappable, super intelligent and brilliant with clients."* **James Freeman** heads the family law group and specialises in complex, cross-border divorce proceedings. An impressed source comments: *"I really rate his judgement and pragmatism. He's very creative in his advice; he comes up with tailor-made solutions for clients and is always looking for a way forward."* Another says: *"He is a formidable opponent and has a really creative way of thinking about matters. He is a go-to on incredibly complex family matters that have trusts at the heart of them. He is technically savvy and all over the detail."* **William Longrigg** is a hugely experienced family practitioner with in-depth expertise handling divorce proceedings. *"He's the absolute godfather of family law,"* states an interviewee, adding: *"He is so practical and his approach injects calmness into any situation."* One commentator says: *"William is always a delight to work with; he is very practical, really experienced and great with clients. He has a good head on his shoulders."* Another comments: *"He is extremely clever, tactical and charming."* **Sarah Anticoni** is an experienced family lawyer with in-depth expertise handling financial matters. She is particularly praised for her mediation practice, with one interviewee noting: *"She is one of the leading mediators in London. She has a real air of authority which has a big impact on mediation."* One source comments: *"She is very personable, direct and easy to deal with."* Another says: *"I really enjoy working with her. She's very no-nonsense and easy to deal with. She does a good job for her clients and is extremely collaborative."* **Shona Alexander** assists wealthy clients with a wide range of family matters including financial proceedings and children arrangements. *"Shona is very, very astute on the law, she is a tactical thinker,"* says an interviewee, and another observes: *"I think she is so approachable, and she is very passionate about any case that she's on. She always picks up the phone and tries to resolve a matter."* **Erica Shelton** is an esteemed practitioner with decades of experience handling complex matrimonial matters. *"She has a disarmingly charming and completely unflappable demeanour which clients adore,"* states one interviewee, while another remarks: *"She is the calmest solicitor I have ever worked with; she cuts right to the heart of matters and is very client-friendly."* **Sarah Higgins** is an experienced family practitioner who is well versed in advising affluent clients. A source praises her attention to detail, noting: *"She is really forensic; her eye for detail is second to nobody. She is absolutely amazing on detail in my experience, nothing gets past her."* Another source describes her as *"really pragmatic, thoughtful and easy to deal with."* **Sarah Jane Boon** is known for advising wealthy clients on complex financial matters. *"I would recommend Sarah Jane Boon. She is phenomenally bright, a great strategist and always makes her clients feel that they are in the safest hands,"* says one source, and another remarks: *"She has a very good grasp of the facts and a brilliant understanding of the law. Her client care is remarkable."* **Jamie Kennaugh** deals with sophisticated high net worth matters, with expertise handling Children Act proceedings. An interviewee says: *"I think that Jamie is a class act. She manages to balance an impressive intellect with great judgement."* Another notes: *"Jamie is a force to be reckoned with; she's really clever, very good with clients and very thorough."* **James Riby** handles a wide range of family matters including divorce, marital agreements and children matters. A source observes: *"James Riby is very thorough, methodical and measured in his approach. He is really good on the technicalities of a case."* Another says: *"He's very experienced and clever, and someone who is completely on top of the detail."* **Joshua Green** represents high net worth clients on multi-jurisdictional family matters. A source enthuses: *"Josh has a very calm, measured approach to matters, he's very methodical and he's absolutely terrific. He's one of the most talented associates of his generation."* Another comments: *"He's really good. He's really diligent, dedicated and fabulous with clients."*

Farrer & Co LLP

Farrer & Co has a highly regarded family department with a breadth of experience handling complex, multi-jurisdictional matters.

"The breadth of knowledge in the team is brilliant. They are well-known specialists in all aspects of family law," states one source, while another remarks: *"They are always accessible, very supportive and on top of everything. They are there for you at the drop of a hat."*

Notable practitioners

The *"exceptional"* **Claire Gordon** is praised by a source as being *"very hard-working, very thorough and very collaborative."* She is highly sought after to advise on complex divorce, nuptial agreements and children matters. A source observes: *"She's extremely intelligent, has great judgement and is a pleasure to deal with. She's open, honest and a great communicator. She really understands her clients."* Another notes: *"I rate her immensely. She is fantastically clever and brilliant with clients."* **William Massey** wins praise as a leading practitioner

for complex family matters. A peer reports: *"If I was getting divorced, I would get William to act for me. He's a lovely lawyer. He is full of gravitas and good sense. He never argues a bad point and he fights hard for his clients but appropriately."* Several sources praise his calm demeanour, with one noting: *"You couldn't find a lawyer much calmer than William; he's very thoughtful, considerate and measured in his approach."* Another concurs: *"He has a phenomenal calmness, is very holistic in his approach and his opinions really carry weight."* **Sarah Hutchinson** is held in high regard for her considerable experience handling high net worth family cases. A market source comments: *"I cannot say enough good things about her. She's extremely nice, very knowledgeable and fights really hard for her clients."* Another says: *"She is an excellent lawyer. She is very dedicated, very user-friendly and very intelligent. She's good to have on the other side of a case; she will fight her client's corner, but in a very tactical and fair way."* A final source notes: *"She's so knowledgeable, so experienced and just so client-friendly. She's thorough, organised and on top of everything."* **Caroline Holley** advises on a comprehensive range of family matters including financial disputes. An interviewee says: *"She's completely unflappable and has a great insight into her cases. She is always thinking ten steps ahead, which makes her remarkable. She has fantastic instincts and she always has the answer."* Another source concurs: *"She is a very shrewd and tactical lawyer who is always ten steps ahead of her opponent. She is a brilliant strategist."* **Edward Floyd** is noted for his work advising affluent clients on the full spectrum of family law matters. An impressed peer notes: *"He is the most intelligent, articulate and engaging young lawyer that there is. He's a huge star of the future."* One source observes: *"He is a lawyer's lawyer: he's incredibly thorough, very strong on the legal analysis and has great judgement."* Another says: *"He is very bright, very on top of the detail and very experienced."* **Amy Radnor** is developing a strong reputation in the industry for children matters. *"She is one of the up-and-coming stars of the future,"* observes an interviewee, adding: *"She is very strategic and she sees the big picture. Her drafting skills are second to none."* One source says: *"She's very collaborative and very accessible. She's very solution-driven and easy to deal with."* Another comments: *"She is very understated. She is pragmatic, very knowledgeable and really good at trying to come up with solutions."* **Frederick Tatham** advises on a broad range of family law matters, including divorce, nuptial agreements and children matters. *"Freddie is a dynamic, young lawyer. He is charming, very efficient and very knowledgeable,"* says a commentator, and another comments: *"He's incredibly good; he's smart, client-friendly and incredibly hard-working. He has a great bedside manner but is ruthlessly efficient."* **John Davies** focuses his practice on contentious and non-contentious family issues, with particular expertise on international matters. *"He's a real brain and completely understated in his approach,"* says a source, adding: *"He's a really thorough, analytical and detail-oriented guy."* A market commentator notes: *"He's very knowledgeable, very attentive to clients and very good at seeing the big picture."* A third source says: *"He is very cerebral, careful and considered in his approach. He is a very, very good lawyer."*

Harbottle & Lewis LLP

Harbottle & Lewis regularly represents ultra high net worth clients in complex and cross-border family matters, including divorce and children proceedings. A commentator notes: *"They're an absolute delight to work for. I have always thought that they have a fantastic team."*

An impressed source says: *"The team is really top-notch. They provide clients with incredible advice, and they are very good at balancing the need to be robust and fight hard with the need to protect the client."* Another enthuses: *"I think they are one of the best teams in the game. I think the team have excellent judgement and provide a stellar service to clients."*

Notable practitioners

" **Catherine Bedford** *is a star in the market,"* states an interviewee, before continuing: *"She is an outstanding lawyer. I think she's got very good judgement, a great manner with clients and runs an excellent team. She is an asset to have on any team."* She is highly sought after to represent high net worth clients on some of the most high-value and sophisticated cases. Several sources praise her client care skills. One source notes: *"What Catherine is brilliant at is client care; her client care skills are unparalleled. She works all hours of the day and is always accessible."* Another adds: *"She's thorough, she works all hours of the day and she's always on top of all the details of a matter. She's an incredible lawyer."* **Nicholas Westley** is commended for his in-depth experience advising high net worth clients on complex family matters. *"I really rate Nicholas Westley; I would give him a job tomorrow if he was looking for one,"* reveals a peer, explaining: *"He is just such an incredible lawyer. He is extraordinarily bright, talented and great with clients."* One interviewee notes: *"He is extraordinarily good; he's very bright, very technical and fantastic on deadlines. He is an outstanding solicitor."* Another comments: *"He is tenacious, thorough and very, very bright. He's a tough opponent. When I find out he's on the other side, I know I need to bring my A game."* **Mark Irving** advises affluent clients on high-value divorce proceedings and nuptial agreements. A market commentator notes: *"He has an incredible work ethic; he is extraordinarily hard-working. He is going to be a big name in this world one day. He is so bright and attentive to client needs."* One source says: *"He's just so easy to pick up the phone to and have a conversation with. He is very calm under pressure and very knowledgeable too. I think he's very good at protecting his client's interest."*

Mishcon de Reya LLP

Mishcon de Reya is held in high regard for family law. The firm's department is well versed in handling complex, cross-border matters relating to divorce and children proceedings.

Several interviewees praise the quality of the team. One source notes: *"They are an incredibly strong team. They benefit in the very high-value work from having cross-department assistance which is very useful in big cases."* Another says: *"They have an impressive team with high-quality associates."*

Notable practitioners

"If your back is up against a wall, you go to **Sandra Davis** *every time,"* remarks an interviewee, explaining: *"She rolls up her sleeves and fights for her clients in a focused way."* One source notes that *"she is extraordinarily experienced; there's nothing that Sandra can't do,"* and another says: *"She has a really great bedside manner with clients, she's really personable and easy to deal with."* **Barbara Reeves** handles complex and high-value matrimonial matters for high net worth clients. *"She is a very sharp and astute lawyer,"* states a source, adding: *"She's very clear cut about what's in her client's interests and she is incredibly pragmatic too."* One interviewee observes: *"She is one of the most highly regarded solicitors in our profession. She is a real go-to for people looking for somebody to fight their corner and do a very good job."* A final interviewee says: *"She is the best solicitor. She is very down to earth, she has excellent judgement and she is spot-on on the numbers in a case."*

" **Kate Clark** *is my go-to lawyer,"* reveals an interviewee; *"She is really pragmatic, fights her client's corner strategically and always sees the bigger picture."* She has developed a strong reputation for advising high net worth clients on complex family matters. *"She is fabulous to work for. She is very well prepared, very bright and clients really like her,"* notes a source, adding: *"She has a great sense of humour which breaks the tension in tense proceedings. She is sharp, incisive and always has her eye on the ball."* **Claire Yorke** advises high net worth clients on contentious financial cases, particularly those involving cross-border elements. A source observes: *"She's a fantastic lawyer; she doesn't take any nonsense as she's very straightforward. She runs her cases efficiently and effectively."* One interviewee comments: *"Claire Yorke is a great lawyer. She is very reasonable, measured and considerate in her approach to matters."* Another says: *"She's got a lovely sense of humour, she's really superb with clients and really calm under pressure. She's very cool, calm and collected in any situation."* Up-and-coming partner **Antonia Felix** has developed a strong reputation in the London market as a rising star for family matters. *"She's totally charming and unbelievably good with clients,"* notes an interviewee, adding: *"She always has the answer to a question at her fingertips, she's a great advocate and she's very bright."* Another interviewee remarks: *"She's got an unparalleled skill in being able to absorb information and distil it simply to clients. I think she's very realistic, knowledgeable and extraordinarily hard-working."* New partner **Emma Willing** is *"one of the most talented lawyers I know,"* remarks a source, explaining: *"She is all over the detail of a case and can synthesise vast amounts of information into simple language."* An interviewee comments: *"She's very conscientious, very hard-working and really dedicated to her clients. She is very efficient."* She advises wealthy clients on complex and high-value family matters. **Robert Hines** is widely regarded by his peers as a *"star of the future."* He has considerable experience acting for affluent clients in a wide array of family matters. *"He's always detailed, focused, very incisive and a real joy to work with,"* says

one source, and another remarks: *"His greatest strength is that he's very tactical. He also always has his eye on the ball and he's fantastically good on detail."* **Claire Radcliffe** is *"really great to work with,"* says one source; *"she's knowledgeable, responsive and effective. She is really charming with clients – she reads clients really well."* Another source says: *"The way she runs a case is very impressive. She is one of my go-to lawyers. She is unflappable, she can make hard decisions and is great at dealing with clients."* Radcliffe is further described as *"an efficient and thorough lawyer"* who is *"really knowledgeable, client-friendly and well prepared."* **James Rees'** *"client skills are terrific,"* says an interviewee, adding: *"He's very good at explaining matters and he's very thorough. He's always very prepared and organised."* Another says: *"I really rate his client care skills, which are second to none. He's always available and at the end of the phone. He's a bit of a star of the future."* A third source reports: *"He is extremely hard-working, very knowledgeable and has vast experience. He always has the answer to your question at the tip of his fingers."*

Payne Hicks Beach LLP

Payne Hicks Beach has a highly esteemed family law department which regularly handles high-value and sophisticated matters.

"They're as good as you'll find; they're a class act," says a source, explaining: *"They have a lot of depth to their practice. They all have great experience and are very good to deal with."* Another comments: *"They are a fantastic group of lawyers. They provide excellent advice to clients, and they have strong expertise in a range of areas. They really invest in their clients; it's a real pleasure dealing with them."*

Notable practitioners

Fiona Shackleton (see p.343) is lauded as a leading practitioner for sophisticated family matters. A source enthuses: *"Fiona is the leading divorce solicitor in town. Her client care skills are second to none and there are few pieces of major litigation where she isn't involved. She is calm under pressure and superb with clients."* Another comments: *"There aren't enough superlatives to describe Fiona. She is an exemplary lawyer. She is a very tactical and strategic litigator with a very holistic approach."* **Philip McGuirk** (see p.337) deals with sophisticated high net worth cases in the family world. *"He is very strategic, tactical and always gets the job done,"* says a market source, and another comments: *"He knows the law inside and out and really rolls up his sleeves."* **Rebecca Cockcroft** (see p.324) represents affluent clients on a wide range of family law cases, in both a domestic and international context. An interviewee says: *"I think she's a fantastic lawyer. She is incredibly hard-working, really clever and a delight to deal with."* Another enthuses: *"She's a real fighter; she's very tenacious and fights her client's corner."* **Ben Parry-Smith** (see p.339) advises on high-value divorce proceedings, children arrangements and nuptial agreements. *"He is a really excellent lawyer. He's very clever, very pragmatic and very good with clients. He can synthesise complex advice into easy-to-understand language,"* notes a source. An interviewee remarks: *"He's very effective, has an easy manner about him and he applies ideas beautifully. He is very thoughtful, creative and efficient."* Another comments: *"He fights his client's corner but is very fair and pragmatic in his approach."* **Camellia Buckmaster** (see p.322) *"is so impressive,"* says a family law barrister, who explains that Buckmaster *"runs a case exceptionally well. She is an absolute workhorse. She is very bright, very tactical and dedicated to clients."* Another source reports that *"her client management skills are fantastic, especially when dealing with difficult clients. I would recommend her absolutely."* A third source describes her as *"genuinely one of the best lawyers I've ever worked with. She is brilliant with clients, fantastically clever and her cases are always well thought through."*

Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP

Penningtons Manches Cooper *"have a superb team,"* says a family law barrister; *"they are all incredibly knowledgeable and experienced and empathetic. They have no weak link. They are so good at hiring and training. All trainees are excellent on cases, all the paralegals are amazing. Everyone at each rung of the ladder is very high quality."*

"They're great," says another source; *"they're just really, really good. They have exceptional clients."*

Notable practitioners

James Stewart (see p.343) is a go-to leading lawyer for complex, ultra high-value international divorce matters. *"He's really creative and excellent on international issues,"* says one source, adding: *"He gets the best cases in terms of international family law."* A family law barrister reports that *"James literally can get on with anybody; he can find common ground with men and women, people of any walk of life and any professional and non-professional background. He is a real chameleon in terms of how he connects with clients of any background; the way he connects with clients is unlike anybody else in this market. His clients always feel, rightly, that he empathises with their position. Any concern that a client has is taken seriously. He is very commercially astute and a strategist through and through. He is great at looking at the bigger picture of a case."* **Jane Craig** (see p.325) is one of the London market's best-known and most respected family lawyers. *"She is extremely good at what she does,"* says an interviewee, adding: *"She is incredibly clever; she's seen it all and done it all. She's very good with clients and has superb judgement."* Another says that *"she's a very good lawyer. She fights hard for her clients. She is really sensible and reasonable to deal with."* **Anna Worwood** (see p.347) is highly regarded for international financial remedy cases and cross-border children matters. *"I've worked with Anna Worwood who is very good,"* says an international interviewee; *"she is very smart, very capable and very good at representing her client's best interests."* Another source reports that *"her abilities are first-class: she's down to earth, of a generation that's incredibly approachable as well as able. She also manages a team in the way a modern firm needs to be run: not bullying, brings on younger particularly female solicitors and makes them exceptional. She is a real talent."* **Rebecca Carlyon** (see p.323) is developing a strong reputation as a family lawyer. *"I think she's very intelligent and good to work with,"* says one source. *"Rebecca Carlyon is a great lawyer,"* says a fellow family law specialist. *"She's really sensible to deal with. She's someone I can pick up the phone to without hesitation. She's very focused on getting the best result for her clients."* **Elizabeth Carson** (see p.323) is an England and Wales solicitor and a qualified New York attorney. One interviewee highlights Carson's dual qualifications as an advantage, adding that *"she is a strong addition to the team. She is immensely intelligent and has a great understanding of cross-border matters."* Another says: *"Elizabeth Carson is an excellent lawyer. She's a newer partner, but she's incredible at cross-jurisdictional matters. She is a go-to for issues that cross over with the US."* **Matilda Kingham** (see p.334) is a senior associate on the Penningtons Manches Cooper family team. *"I highly rate her,"* says a source; *"she's very detail-oriented and thorough. She is really hard-working."* Another says: *"She is a very impressive associate. She is somebody who's really knowledgeable, accessible and turns things around quickly."*

Band 3 Family/Matrimonial: Ultra High Net Worth

Boodle Hatfield LLP

Boodle Hatfield's family law team receives strong recommendations from clients and peers for its ability to handle high-value, complex cross-border matters. *"They are genuinely a delightful group to deal with,"* says a source; *"they are so clever, efficient and meticulous."* Another interviewee reports that *"all the team are responsive, knowledgeable and helpful. Specialisms from other teams are brought in as necessary in a seamless way. It really feels like a client-focused, team effort."*

A client reports that *"due to the expanded expertise of the wider team, I felt confident that behind the scenes all aspects of the procedure were being dealt with. I appreciated that the team looked after my case without causing stress and dealt with issues behind the scenes in a calm and timely manner."*

Notable practitioners

James Ferguson (see p.328) leads the department, and regularly handles high-end matrimonial finance matters which are often cross-border in scope. *"He is a very good lawyer; he's very bright, sensible and reasonable to deal with,"* says one source. *"He's absolutely excellent,"* says another; *"he's seen it all, he has a wise head on his shoulders and he's not fazed by anything. He has a good knowledge of the law. He's an extremely good strategist."* **Emily Brand** (see p.321) *"is one of the solicitors I know who works hardest to sympathise and empathise with her clients,"* says a barrister, explaining: *"She is very good at bringing the client round to a lawyer's way of thinking about a case. She is extremely hard-working; she is very passionate about the law and a pleasure to deal with."* Another interviewee says Brand is *"absolutely phenomenal,"* reporting that *"she's a real legal intellectual; she really questions cases and gets into the nitty-gritty details. She never assumes the answer and always looks for a new way forward. She is incredibly innovative, very strategic and pragmatic. She looks at everything with a fresh set of eyes and never takes anything for granted. Clients*

adore her and she's also no-nonsense; she's very good at giving realistic and proper advice to clients in a very palatable way, which is a bit of an art." **Harriet Errington** (see p.327) *"is a really great lawyer,"* says an interviewee; *"she's calm and sensible, very considered, measured and approachable."* A client says Errington is *"one of the smartest lawyers I have ever met: her dedication and commitment to a case is unmatched." "I really like working with Harriet Errington,"* says another source, adding: *"She is a very bright lawyer, very articulate and very solution-driven. Harriet has an edge; she's a partner with a lot of experience. She is always accessible and a very good listener."* **Katie O'Callaghan** (see p.338) *"is a pragmatic, hands-on individual who is results-oriented,"* says a client; *"the level of detail she goes into when analysing a complex case is extraordinary."* A family law barrister also says that *"she is incredibly good on detail – she's meticulous in the way she runs her cases,"* adding: *"She's very practical and forward thinking. She's a pleasure to deal with." "One thing I like about Katie is that she is very pragmatic in her approach,"* says another barrister, adding: *"There are family law solicitors out there who it seems to me will stoke the flames and fight the fight for their own sake. I would put Katie in a different class. She builds strong relationships with clients; she always has a pragmatic outlook."* **Alexandra Hirst** (see p.332) is a senior associate on the Boodle Hatfield family law team. *"Alexandra's explanations were excellent and much appreciated,"* says a client, who adds: *"I was impressed by her ability to forecast potential issues."* Another source reports that *"she's always thoroughly well prepared and her work product is impeccable. She's a delight to deal with."*

Family Law in Partnership LTD

Family Law in Partnership enjoy a strong reputation in the market for their approach to collaborative law. An interviewee reveals: *"They all have different skills and they all work well together. If I were getting divorced tomorrow, I would be at their front door immediately."*

A source comments: *"They are really easy to work with and they have a fantastic offering for clients. They bring a really unique approach to matters. I think they are a leader for innovation when dealing with family issues."* Another says: *"I am very impressed by the whole group. They have a very holistic approach to family matters. They have a very conciliatory approach and are very solutions-driven."*

Notable practitioners

Gillian Bishop (see p.320) is a consultant in the firm's family department, and has considerable experience advising wealthy clients on sophisticated matters. One source notes: *"Gillian Bishop is a fantastic lawyer. She is enormously knowledgeable and experienced."* Another says: *"Gillian is fantastic. She approaches matters in a really holistic way. I really do rate her."* **David Allison** (see p.318) has a wealth of experience advising high net worth clients on complex financial disputes arising from divorce, particularly those with an international dimension. An interviewee says: *"He's a very smart lawyer, very solution-driven and totally dedicated to the best interests of the client."* Another comments: *"David Allison is head and shoulders above many lawyers in this market. He's straightforward, knowledgeable and easy to deal with."* **Elizabeth Hicks** (see p.332) represents high net worth clients in financial matters related to divorce. *"I am always happy to recommend her to clients when conflicted,"* states a source, explaining: *"I think she is very committed to achieving excellent outcomes for clients. She has a good breadth and depth of experience. She doesn't beat around the bush or take silly points."* Another source comments: *"Her awareness of clients' needs and determination to follow them set her apart from other lawyers in the market." "* **James Pirrie** (see p.340) *is the king of child support; what he doesn't know about child support isn't worth knowing,"* states a source. A peer reports: *"James Pirrie is a legend in his lifetime. He's all over everything; he's meticulous, super smart and he anticipates the opposition's every move. He's extremely courteous."* Another comments: *"He's remarkable; he's thoughtful, analytical and considered in his advice, but also creative and novel."* **Bradley Williams** (see p.347) assists high net worth clients on a broad range of matters including financial proceedings and cohabitation agreements. A peer reports: *"Bradley is an absolutely lovely lawyer. He's straightforward, knowledgeable and very calm under pressure in the face of very stressful situations."* An interviewee notes: *"I think he's a really good tactician, he has excellent judgement on cases and can see the wood through the trees."* Another comments: *"I think he is incredibly bright, incredibly incisive and he processes the complexities of cases quickly."* **Helen Greenfield** (see p.330) advises wealthy clients on matrimonial finance and nuptial agreements. One peer enthuses: *"Helen is a really fantastic practitioner. I really rate her client skills; she is very empathetic, collaborative and easy to deal with. It's always a pleasure to have cases with her."* Another comments: *"She is a superstar. She is really fantastic to work with, great with clients and very bright."* **Mariko Wilson** (see p.347) advises wealthy clients on a wide range of family matters. *"Mariko is absolutely terrific. She is really organised, knowledgeable and diligent,"* says one interviewee, and another comments: *"Mariko is a really impressive lawyer. She's really knowledgeable and easy to deal with."* Head of mediation **Dominic Raeside** (see p.341) has considerable experience acting on sophisticated family matters. One barrister reports: *"He has a standout reputation as a mediator in high conflict cases."* A source comments: *"Dominic has been a go-to mediator for many years. I love working with him; he's very considered and approachable. He has a real soft touch in the most complex and tricky cases."*

Forsters LLP

Forsters advises wealthy clients on a wide array of matters in family law such as divorce, financial remedy proceedings and Children Act cases. An interviewee says: *"They are one of the best family law teams in the country."*

"They take a very pragmatic and collaborative approach to matters," states a source. A commentator adds: *"They are a real comforting presence to have on a case; they have an air of confidence and calm."*

Notable practitioners

Joanne Edwards advises her clients on matters relating to childcare arrangements, divorce proceedings and postnuptial agreements. Her work often involves cross-border elements. *"She is absolutely super. She has the patience of a saint, she's very thoughtful and considered,"* says a source. *"She's a very good technical lawyer and brilliant at mediation,"* adds another commentator. **Rosie Schumm** is described as being *"very strategic and very client-friendly. She's pragmatic in her advice, very accessible and good at stripping back matters to the key issues,"* by a source. *"Rosie is absolutely outstanding. She is very good in terms of her judgement and she's very good at pursuing a case,"* adds an interviewee. Schumm's practice is largely cross-border. She advises ultra high net worth clients on financial remedy proceedings. **Simon Blain** *"is a very good children lawyer; he specialises in that field. He's really earned his stripes in relation to that niche practice. He gets fantastic work,"* states an interviewee. *"He is very straightforward, very easy to talk to and he knows the law extremely well,"* adds a commentator. The source continues: *"He is someone I would have no hesitation recommending."* **Dickon Ceadel** advises wealthy clients on a wide array of contentious and non-contentious matters in family law. Ceadel is regarded well for his work in the field.

Kingsley Napley LLP

The team at Kingsley Napley act for wealthy clients on a wide range of matrimonial matters. They also have a particularly strong mediation practice. *"Kingsley Napley are a real powerhouse in the family law market. They have a brilliance in that team that I find unmatched. They are one of the best teams in London. They approach cases in a fantastic way,"* says an interviewee. A source adds: *"They are one of the most respected firms in London for family matters. They give you a phenomenal service."*

Notable practitioners

Charlotte Bradley *"is all things great in a solicitor. She is collaborative, bright and client-friendly. She is very impressive,"* states an interviewee. A source enthuses: *"She's the most widely respected family lawyer in London. She has fantastic judgement, she's incredibly experienced and she's very good at the detail of cases. She can understand an entire case in a heartbeat and she always spots something that everybody misses. She is really great."* Bradley is highly regarded for her work in family law. **Jane Keir** *"has got it all: she's fantastic with clients, hyper organised and extraordinarily intelligent. She is an excellent strategist,"* says a source. A commentator adds that Keir is *"impeccable in all she does, even in the most difficult cases."* Keir advises her clients on matters such as postnuptial agreements and their enforceability. **Sital Fontenelle** *"is one of my favourite lawyers in the market; she's a real breath of fresh air. She's direct and straightforward, but very approachable and accessible. She's knowledgeable, experienced and a go-to for complicated matters,"* states an interviewee. *"She really grapples with some of the most complex points and doesn't shy away from them. She is very tactical and sensible in her approach,"* adds a commentator. Fontenelle's work is primarily cross-border in nature. **Abby Buckland** regularly

acts for high net worth clients in complex and sophisticated family matters. *"She is an amazing lawyer. She is very organised, client-friendly and knowledgeable,"* notes one interviewee, and another remarks: *"She is great to work with. She's very organised, strategic and client-focused."* Another source says: *"I've always been impressed with Abby; she's absolutely flawless. She is calm under pressure, compassionate and empathetic. She is really tough and has her client's back 100%."* **Rachel Freeman** specialises in dealing with complex financial proceedings arising out of divorce. One market commentator says: *"She's always available; she has more hours in the day than everybody else!"* Another comments: *"She is very knowledgeable and very no-nonsense in her approach."* One source says up-and-coming partner **Connie Atkinson** is *"one of the best lawyers of her generation."* Atkinson frequently represents affluent individuals in complex divorce and financial remedy proceedings. An interviewee says: *"Connie is absolutely amazing. She is very experienced, very client-focused and very strategic in her approach."* Another remarks: *"She is a fantastic solicitor. I love that she has a really down-to-earth approach with clients and that she can deal with anybody and everything."* **Will MacFarlane** advises high net worth clients on a range of family matters including those with complex financial elements. A barrister remarks: *"Will is an excellent blend of being a brilliant technical lawyer and having fantastic client care skills. He is always one of my go-to lawyers; I am always happy to recommend him to friends and family."* Another source says: *"He can be quite a forceful opponent; he absolutely fights his client's corner. He is really good to deal with and I was impressed with his ability to come up with innovative solutions."* **Stacey Nevin** advises affluent clients on a wide range of family matters. A barrister reports: *"She is really unbelievable. She's all over the detail, she's really intelligent and just so great with clients."* Another comments: *"She's a really good lawyer, has a genuine interest in the academic side of the law and she is fantastic with clients."*

Band 4 Family/Matrimonial: Ultra High Net Worth

Alexiou Fisher Philipps LLP

Alexiou Fisher Philipps is a specialist divorce and family law practice. Lawyers at the firm act for ultra high net worth clients on contentious and non-contentious matters.

"They're tough litigators, but happy to settle too. They are a group of very pragmatic lawyers," states a source. A commentator adds: *"I think they are a class act. They really punch above their weight. They quietly get on with matters. They produce high-quality work without the gloss and fees."*

Notable practitioners

Tom Amlot is a partner and mediator at the firm. *"He's an extremely good lawyer. He's very, very bright, very good with clients and has a strategic head on his shoulders. He is thorough and thoughtful. He is everything that you'd want in a family lawyer. He's superb; he's got it all,"* states an interviewee. Another source adds: *"He is very collaborative, solutions-driven and easy to deal with. He is very rational and reasonable. He is impressive."* **Susan Philipps** *"is incredibly experienced. She is very sensible to deal with,"* states a market commentator. She advises high net worth clients on a range of contentious and non-contentious matters in family law. **Sara Hannell** *"is very bright and experienced. She is forensic in her approach and clients are definitely in good hands when they instruct her,"* states a source. *"She's very thorough and methodical, and she gets the job done. She's very solution-driven and committed to getting a good outcome for clients,"* says a commentator. Hannell specialises in cases with a cross-border element. **William Healing** *"takes an incredibly intellectual approach to his cases. He really thinks outside of the box and he's a master of detail. He is very considered in his approach. He's always way ahead of anybody else on issues of tax and jurisdiction. William's big strength as a fluent French speaker is dealing with cross-border disputes. He's the man for that,"* states a market commentator. Healing advises on international prenuptial agreements for clients involving significant assets. **Emma Harte** is described as *"a solid lawyer"* by a source. The commentator adds: *"She's very collegial and a fantastic mediator."* Harte is a highly experienced specialist in family law. **Magnus Mill** *"is a brilliant practitioner. He's very easy-going, down to earth and easy to deal with. He's a dream to work with,"* says a source. A commentator adds: *"Magnus is an extremely good lawyer."* He has particular expertise in financial claims relating to the termination of relationships. **Katie Longmate** *"is very, very sensible. She's bright and client-friendly. She's a great asset for the firm,"* says an interviewee. A source adds: *"She's a real star. She has a fantastic approach to matters. She is really good at dealing with clients."* Longmate advises her clients on a broad range of issues in family law.

BloomBudd LLP

The lawyers at BloomBudd advise wealthy clients on matters relating to divorce, Children Act proceedings and financial remedy cases. The team is one of *"all talented family law practitioners,"* says a source.

"They were excellent at complex questions such as valuation of private assets, the timing of divorce and tax issues," adds a market commentator.

Notable practitioners

Zoe Bloom advises wealthy clients on matters relating to divorce and financial proceedings. *"I feel Zoe is completely on my side. She listens carefully. I trust her judgement. She is gritty and strategic, focused."* A source adds: *"Zoe is experienced, pragmatic and analytical as well as being responsive and nice to deal with."*

Katz Partners LLP

The lawyers at Katz Partners specialise in high net worth divorce cases and other family-related matters such as cohabitation, children issues and nuptial agreements.

"That practice has gone from strength to strength. They are doing stunning work. I don't think there's any client that they couldn't act for; they are extremely client-centred and terrific to deal with," says a market commentator. *"They are a very knowledgeable and experienced team with great client abilities,"* adds another source.

Notable practitioners

Davina Katz (see p.334) *"is an exceptional lawyer who handles complex matters with skill and compassion, she is our first choice for ultra high net worth cases,"* states a market commentator. *"She's a consummate professional. She's straightforward, she's incredibly experienced and beyond knowledgeable. She always goes above and beyond for her clients,"* adds a source. Katz focuses her practice on contentious cross-border cases. **David Greer** (see p.330) *"is a superstar in the family law world; he's bright, he's client-friendly and straightforward to deal with,"* says a market commentator. *"David has excellent client-handling skills and shows great sensitivity,"* adds a source. Greer focuses his practice on both children and money matters, often with cross-border elements. **Emily Kapoor** (see p.334) *"is really, really good. She is totally on the ball, very thorough and hard-working,"* states a market commentator. *"Emily is an excellent tactician and so methodical. She's very analytical and attentive to detail,"* adds a source. Kapoor advises ultra high net worth clients on matters such as divorce and financial proceedings, with cross-border elements to her work.

Levison Meltzer Pigott

Levison Meltzer Pigott regularly advises affluent clients on complex divorce proceedings, marital agreements and children matters.

A source notes: *"They are a long-standing respected boutique firm; they are the kind of firm you'll feel comfortable referring clients to. They are sensible lawyers that know what they're doing."* Another reveals: *"They would be one of the firms that I would recommend friends and family too. They are completely on top of matters and really easy to deal with."*

Notable practitioners

Jeremy Levison (see p.335) is well versed in handling complex and high-value family matters. Sources describe him as *"very charismatic"* and *"an incredible lawyer."* One interviewee notes: *"He is a very experienced operator."* **Simon Pigott** is a highly regarded family lawyer who advises high net worth clients on a broad range of family matters, including divorce proceedings. A market commentator notes: *"Simon is very experienced, very knowledgeable and very collaborative. He's seen it all before which makes him very unflappable. If you were a client, you would find his manner very reassuring."* Another commentator remarks: *"Simon is so organised, so calm under pressure and so good with clients. He has the most impeccable judgement."* " **Kate Stovold** (see p.344) *is absolutely amazing,"* states a source, before continuing: *"She's got all the qualities you want in a lawyer: she's so hard-working and dedicated to her clients, she's not afraid of a fight and she approaches everything analytically."* One interviewee enthuses: *"She is one of my favourite people to work with. She is very easy to work with, pragmatic and well prepared. She is intelligent, nice to deal with and fantastic with clients."* Another comments: *"Kate Stovold is dazzlingly smart; her knowledgeable judgement really shines on a case."*

She advises high net worth clients on a wide array of family matters including divorce, nuptial agreements and children matters. **Benjamin Stowe** (see p.344) focuses his practice on divorce and children matters. An impressed source says: *"He's got a really bright future. He is unflappable, so hard-working and gets to grips with complicated facts quickly."* Another comments: *"He's so calm under pressure, he's really efficient and good at providing sensible advice. He makes clients feel reassured and understood."*

Ribet Myles LLP

Ribet Myles specialises in family law matters and has a strong reputation for this work. *"They are a go-to for high net worth matters. They are brilliant on pre-nups. They're a very talented bunch and the next generation of specialist high net worth boutique solicitors,"* states an interviewee.

"They are going to make a big name for themselves in this market. They are a very experienced team with bucket-loads of empathy and knowledge. They provide very bespoke and holistic advice to clients. They are very hands-on with their clients and very engaged," adds a market commentator.

Notable practitioners

Julian Ribet *"is an absolutely fantastic lawyer. He is extremely bright, very tactical and clients adore him,"* states a source. A market commentator adds: *"Julian puts clients at ease at all times; he is very understanding, empathetic and reassuring. He really knows his stuff. He is able to demonstrate to clients that they will be very, very secure with him. He provides an excellent service."* Ribet focuses his practice on complex, international matters. **Laura Geraghty** *"has a really cool and calm manner when dealing with stressful cases,"* states a source. *"She is a very impressive solicitor. She is very clever and hard-working,"* adds a market commentator. Geraghty advises her clients on Children Act proceedings and financial remedy matters. **Alistair Myles** *"is really fantastic. He's really measured and considered in his approach; he's a very slick and smooth advocate. He has great client skills and years of experience behind him. He's not afraid to pull out some real tactics,"* says a market commentator. A source comments: *"He's clever, unafraid of anything and always willing to roll up his sleeves and get stuck in. He doesn't shy away from dealing with tricky stuff and leaving it to counsel. He's my go-to in London."*

Simons Muirhead Burton

The family department at Simons Muirhead Burton specialise in the resolution of complex and high-value financial disputes arising from separation or divorce and nuptial agreements. The team often advises their clients on cases with cross-border elements.

"The client service and overall communication with SMB was perfect on every occasion," says a commentator. A source adds: *"They have a very strong team. They are definitely a good firm in the market,"* adds a source.

Notable practitioners

Jane McDonagh *"is absolutely fantastic. She is really brilliant and has done lots of great work. I would always recommend her on matters. She was a litigator before she became a family lawyer, and that gives her a different take on things. She's very commercial, very bright and very good at understanding people,"* states a market commentator. *"Jane is one of the most professional people I've met. She is a force behind the department that she's running and always keeps the case under her vigilant control. She's also extremely comfortable to work with,"* adds a source. She regularly acts for wealthy clients in divorce and financial remedy proceedings. **Tom Farley-Hills** is described by a source as: *"One of the best all-rounders in the business. He's a go-to for individuals in the music industry. He has a breadth of experience, he's very intelligent and client-friendly. He's very calm and cerebral."* A commentator adds: *"Tom is a really good, robust lawyer. He has fantastic instincts and has a no-nonsense approach."* Farley-Hills is highlighted for his expertise in financial proceedings, as well as deeds of separation and enforcement proceedings. **Tessa Bray** *"is a rising star, without a doubt. She's a very knowledgeable lawyer with great client skills,"* says a commentator. *"She is competent beyond belief. She is tough, no-nonsense and very intelligent. I rate her very highly,"* adds a source.

Band 1 Family/Matrimonial: High Net Worth

Mills & Reeve LLP

National firm Mills & Reeve is well known for advising high net worth clients on a wide array of complex finance and children matters. A commentator reports: *"They are an excellent group for family matters; they are the national firm to go to for family law. Their resources are brilliant and they have a very slick offering."*

An interviewee reveals: *"If I was getting a divorce, I would go to Mills & Reeve. They're really sharp, commercial and focused on getting the best outcome."* One source says: *"They are completely organised and efficient. They are very, very attuned to the needs of the client."*

Notable practitioners

Suzanne Kingston has a strong reputation for her wealth of experience advising high net worth individuals on complex family matters. *"She is really creative and innovative, and she is so thoughtful and knowledgeable. She is someone I really trust. I would hire her in a flash,"* states a market source, and another reveals: *"She is a brilliant tactician, she is very, very clever and definitely the lawyer you want on your side."* A third source comments: *"She's very easy to deal with and always has the client's best interests at heart. She is very proactive, doesn't take any nonsense and is always one of my go-to lawyers when conflicted or I need a mediator."* **Joanna Grandfield** is a highly respected family lawyer with in-depth expertise handling financial disputes in divorce. *"I would send her a matter if I were conflicted,"* reveals a source, explaining: *"She's very knowledgeable, approachable and easy to deal with. She's straight talking and no nonsense, and she goes the extra mile for clients."* A source comments: *"She is very good to have on the other side of a case; she is very reasonable, very intelligent and client-friendly. She is very good on complex jurisdictional cases."* Another says: *"I love dealing with Joanna; she is supremely bright, very client-friendly and very pragmatic in her approach. She is tough but fair."* Cambridge-based **Caitlin Jenkins** focuses on matrimonial finance and private law children cases. A commentator remarks: *"I think Caitlin is a real star. I absolutely love working with her. Any client who is able to bag her would be very lucky. Her judgement is truly excellent and she is very good at thinking ten steps ahead."* Another says: *"Caitlin is really superb. She has the most wonderful manner with clients and she is fiercely bright."* **Tim Whitney** is capable of advising high net worth clients on a broad array of matters. A market commentator notes: *"He is all over the law and the facts, and his ability to apply complex law to different sets of facts is really good. He is brilliant at handling complex family dynamics too."* Another says: *"Tim is really hard-working and collegial; he's really approachable and has his client's best interests in mind."*

Newton Kearns

Newton Kearns is a family law boutique that is highly sought after to handle high-value matrimonial finance and children matters. An interviewee reveals: *"They are absolutely brilliant. If I were getting divorced, I would go to them in a heartbeat. They are really collegial, astute and dedicated to their clients."* Another adds: *"They are an incredibly friendly group of talented lawyers. They are knowledgeable, practical and provide clients with excellent advice."*

A commentator notes: *"They're a pleasure to deal with; they're my favourite firm to work with. They are really user-friendly, really knowledgeable and always a pleasure to work with. I would recommend them to clients without hesitation."* A peer reports: *"They are really, really hard-working, great with clients and my favourite firm to be against. They will fight their client's corner in a constructive and sensible manner."*

Notable practitioners

Maggie Rae continues to deal with high-value matrimonial finance matters. *"Maggie is incredibly experienced and knowledgeable,"* remarks a source, and another concurs: *"She just oozes confidence and experience. You have gravitas on your side when working with her."* **Patrick Kearns** is *"beyond talented"* and *"the best negotiator I have ever experienced in family law,"* according to a source, who adds: *"He is always focused on getting the best outcome for clients and he is always a few steps ahead of the opposition."* Kearns is particularly adept at dealing with complex financial proceedings in divorce. An interviewee observes: *"He is totally adored by clients because he has a very down to earth and easy-going manner about him. He is very knowledgeable, very strategic and he looks at a case from a dozen angles to get the right result."* Another comments: *"He has a very good brain. The way he approaches his work is thoughtful, considered and measured. He is super, super clever."* **Paul Newton** has an excellent reputation in the London matrimonial law market. *"Whenever I'm asked for a recommendation, I will point clients to Paul Newton,"* states a source, explaining: *"He's very commercial, client-friendly and quick to get to the point."* An interviewee notes: *"He's incredibly straightforward to deal with, he's incredibly hard-*

working and so cooperative. He's somebody I would recommend in a heartbeat." Another says: *"He is fantastically knowledgeable. He is phenomenal with clients and very effective."* **Victoria Francis** is well known for her strong mediation practice. A market source notes: *"She has the best judgement in the business. She's effective, she's client-friendly and she's knowledgeable beyond belief. She has all the skills you need or want in a family lawyer."* Another adds: *"Victoria Francis is superb. Clients adore her and she provides really excellent advice."* **Frances Petterson** *"is really cost-effective; she's a really effective litigator,"* says one interviewee. Petterson leads a number of impressive financial remedy cases. *"I'm impressed with Fran there too,"* says a family law barrister, adding: *"She is really tenacious, really hard-working and knowledgeable. She's fearless."*

Russell-Cooke

Russell-Cooke has substantial experience advising high net worth clients on a broad range of matrimonial matters. *"If I have to send my clients to a divorce solicitor, Russell-Cooke are my go-to firm,"* states a source, explaining: *"They are extremely easy to deal with, they provide very clear and effective advice and they have a wonderful team."* Another source concurs: *"I am comfortable referring matters to them because they have a very collaborative approach."*

"You know when they're on the other side that they're going to be so reasonable and easy to work with," says an interviewee, before continuing: *"They are a firm I can always pick up the phone to. They are robust and really practical. They're one of those firms that I breathe a sigh of relief for when I see them on the other side."*

Notable practitioners

James Carroll (see p.323) is an experienced family lawyer with extensive expertise handling complex financial matters. A market commentator notes: *"He's an exceptional practitioner; there's no question that he will be a superstar. He has really, really remarkable skills with people, he's very bright and he's exceptionally able."* Another says: *"He's extremely fun to work with. He has this great ability to think outside the box. He is very hard-working and extraordinarily good with clients."* A third source comments: *"He's experienced, has impeccable judgement and is very empathetic. He is one of the best mediators in town."* **Kate Hamilton** (see p.330) advises affluent clients on a wide range of matters including divorce, nuptial agreements and children matters. An interviewee comments: *"She is rigorous, thoughtful and thorough. She is really incisive and gets the job done. She is such a delight. I would recommend her without hesitation."* A market source says: *"Kate is really down to earth and she's very good at sitting down with a problem and figuring out a creative way to fix it. She is very solution-oriented, very knowledgeable and easy to deal with."* Another comments: *"I think she's really good with clients, super bright and is down to earth. She's everything you want in a lawyer."* **Fiona Read** (see p.341) handles a range of matrimonial law matters, including financial remedy proceedings for high net worth individuals. One source says: *"I think she's really experienced, completely unflappable and really good with clients."* Another says that *"she is very experienced and knowledgeable."* **Hannah Minty** (see p.338) is fast developing a strong reputation for complex financial and children matters. *"If I could hire someone else into my team, I would choose Hannah,"* reveals a peer, explaining: *"She's a lovely person to deal with. She's extremely bright, so hard-working and very approachable. She's exactly the sort of person you want on the other side."* A source says: *"Hannah is incredible, I am absolutely impressed. She's really good at identifying issues in a case and has a very solution-driven approach."* Another adds: *"Hannah Minty is someone I rate very highly. She has an amazing way with clients, she's very bright and very thoughtful."* **Jemma Pollock** (see p.340) handles divorce, nuptial agreements and children matters for high net worth clients. *"Jemma Pollock is absolutely fantastic. She is very hard-working, organised and responsive,"* says a source, and another remarks: *"I think Jemma is very easy to deal with, her correspondence is very clear and she is a delight to deal with."*

Band 2 Family/Matrimonial: High Net Worth

Burges Salmon LLP

Burges Salmon has a long-standing reputation as a leading law firm for high net worth family matters. The team are well equipped to advise on a broad range of matters including complex financial proceedings and children matters.

"They're an excellent team; they are truly fantastic," states a source, noting: *"They have excellent technical chops."* Another source remarks that the team is *"very agile and good to deal with."*

Notable practitioners

" **Sarah Hoskinson** *is one of my favourite solicitors,"* reveals a commentator, explaining: *"The quality of her work is absolutely fantastic. She has strong instincts and great judgement. She's extraordinarily hard-working, very intelligent and great with clients."* She has considerable experience dealing with complex divorce and financial remedy proceedings. *"She's very proactive, very pragmatic and provides commercial advice,"* says one source, and another remarks: *"She's extremely knowledgeable and experienced. She's really not afraid of rolling up her sleeves on complicated financial matters."* **Richard Handel** has particular expertise advising wealthy clients on divorce and nuptial agreements. A source observes: *"He certainly fights his client's corner, but equally is willing to compromise and find solutions. He is definitely solution-focused."* An interviewee comments: *"He is one of very few people that I am impressed by when it comes to his knowledge. He takes really smart decisions and uses the law for his client's benefit."* Another adds: *"He's very calm and collected under pressure."* **Alison Hawes** is adept at dealing with matrimonial finance matters, as well as nuptial agreements. *"Alison's knowledge is just superb,"* notes an interviewee, adding: *"She's energetic, passionate about her cases and always has her client's best interests at heart."* Another source notes: *"Alison is a really excellent lawyer. She is technical, very pragmatic and she understands the law extremely well. She is very forward-thinking in her approach."* *"* **Hannah Petherick** *practises beyond her years; I really rate her abilities,"* notes a market commentator, adding: *"She is very hard-working, very easy to work with and she provides excellent advice."* Another commentator says: *"She is really competent, has strong judgement and great client skills."* Petherick focuses her practice on divorce and children matters.

Hunters

Hunters has a well-known family department which regularly handles divorce and financial proceedings, as well as nuptial agreements and children matters.

A source comments: *"The family law department excels; they are as good as many other departments."*

Notable practitioners

Henry Hood (see p.332) is a well-respected family practitioner with considerable experience acting on high net worth matters. A source enthuses: *"He is a magician; he always pulls it out of the bag. He is as smooth as you can imagine, nothing startles him, and he is as cool as a cucumber. He is cool, calm and collected."* Another comments: *"I like dealing with him very much. Henry is a tremendous lawyer; he is knowledgeable, efficient and unflappable."* **Jo Carr-West** (see p.323) advises wealthy clients on a wide array of family matters. A peer notes: *"I am always happy to refer a case to Jo if I am conflicted. She is terrific. She is very wise, very focused on a resolution and she'll give you a good fight."* Another source comments: *"She is a go-to for the underdogs in the world. She is brilliant; she puts cases together very well."*

Vaitilingam Kay

Vaitilingam Kay is a family law boutique with a strong reputation for acting on behalf of wealthy clients in divorce and children proceedings.

A source reveals: *"I would happily refer my friends and family to them. They are very responsive, knowledgeable and effective."* Another concurs: *"They are a great, strong and dynamic team of lawyers with quality across the board. They are all really good lawyers, really constructive and really good at what they do."*

Notable practitioners

Anne Kay is well regarded for matrimonial litigation and mediation matters. An impressed source comments: *"She's a terrific lawyer. She's very pragmatic, very knowledgeable and she's very collaborative."* An interviewee comments: *"She's really fantastic. She's personable, bright and easy to deal with."* A final source adds: *"I often refer clients to her for mediation. Her notes are always bang-on. She's very thorough, organised and straightforward."* **Joe Vaitilingam** is held in high regard for his considerable experience dealing with complex family matters for affluent clients. *"If I get a genuine person I like asking for a recommendation, I always send them to Joe,"* reveals a barrister, explaining: *"He is one of the best lawyers around. He's just fabulous. He has the nicest possible manner with clients, he's really intelligent and he knows the law inside out."* Another barrister reports: *"Joe is a really amazing lawyer. He's a real lawyer's lawyer. He's very technically savvy and really cares about his clients. He's very well respected by other lawyers."* **Thomas**

Duggins focuses his practice on divorce proceedings, nuptial agreements and children matters. An interviewee reports: *"Tom is really great to work with. He's great with clients, has the patience of a saint and is very effective."* Others describe him as *"very personable and intelligent"* and *"very collegial and collaborative."* **Helen Wilby** is well known for representing high net worth clients on family matters. *"She is a great lawyer. She is very knowledgeable, passionate about her cases and has great client skills,"* says one source, and another remarks: *"She is excellent on complex matters and a delight to deal with."*

Band 3 Family/Matrimonial: High Net Worth

Burgess Mee Family Law

Boutique firm Burgess Mee is well known for advising wealthy clients on family matters. One interviewee observes: *"They have a breadth of experience and a really deep bench. I really rate them."*

An impressed source notes: *"They are a really knowledgeable and effective group. They are really approachable and accessible."* Another reveals: *"I often refer friends and family to Burgess Mee for family matters because they run their cases incredibly well and they are really nurturing with their clients."*

Notable practitioners

Peter Burgess is widely regarded as a specialist on high-value matrimonial finance matters. A source observes: *"He is very meticulous and methodical, but at the same time he is very empathetic and easy to deal with. He is very good at dealing with the most vulnerable clients. I am always happy to refer clients to him."* One commentator says: *"Peter Burgess is a pleasure to deal with. He's really good with clients, he's really accessible and really collaborative."* Another adds: *"Peter is really fun to work with, he's really personable and very hands-on. He is an excellent lawyer; I would always happily refer a client to him."* **Antonia Mee** has a practice which focuses on cross-border matrimonial finance matters. A commentator reports: *"She is a very robust lawyer. She is very technically skilled, forthright and a pleasure to deal with. She is happy to fight her client's corner but is also commercial and practical."* Another source says: *"She's really thorough, personable and intelligent. I would certainly recommend her."*

Dawson Cornwell

Dawson Cornwell is a well-respected family law boutique firm. *"They are very successful and they have a good reputation in the market,"* says a source, adding: *"They do complex matters for high net worth clients, and they have an amazing reputation for their children work as well."*

The firm is particularly well regarded for cross-border work. *"They're just a massive name in the business,"* says an interviewee; *"they've got the international skills, the linguistic skills and connections, and many of their partners are fellows of the International Academy of Family Law. They're well connected – if you have a case involving a foreign jurisdiction, they likely will have someone who knows the language and knows someone in that jurisdiction."*

Notable practitioners

Simon Bruce (see p.322) recently joined Dawson Cornwell from Farrer & Co. One source describes Bruce as *"a huge addition"* for the firm, explaining that *"Simon thinks outside of the box; he is an original thinker. He is really, really concerned about his clients and very empathetic. He is truly dedicated to clients at a difficult time in their lives. He stands by his clients, and they know it."* Another source says: *"He is a strikingly down-to-earth and friendly lawyer. He would represent anyone and end up being invited to their children's wedding."* **Russell Bywater** (see p.322) handles financial remedy proceedings, including international matters. *"I am so pleased that I chose Russell to handle my case and that he took it on,"* says a client, adding: *"It required clear thinking and action as I was in a very difficult situation and it could have taken years to resolve."* Another client says that *"Russell stood by me with calm, ethics and good humour. His deep expertise shines through on all aspects."* **Jessica Reid** (see p.342) is *"outstanding; her knowledge, expertise and professionalism was apparent from the first meeting and continued throughout,"* says a client. *"Most of all her kindness, understanding and ability to build a strong rapport was essential when dealing with an emotional time. She has the ability to remain measured and show clarity. It always felt that Jessica would go above and beyond for her clients and she genuinely cares."* A fellow family lawyer reports that Reid is *"very collaborative, very approachable and knowledgeable; she was really nice to deal with. She is very user-friendly and has a nice way of approaching things. She comes up with creative and practical solutions that are tailored to the client. She is very clever and an excellent drafter."*

SKO Family Law Specialists

SKO Family Law Specialists advise high net worth clients on a broad range of contentious and non-contentious matters, including pre and post-marital agreements, divorce and children issues.

"They are incredibly knowledgeable and extremely practical in their application of the law. They are very hard-working and efficient. They are very quick to respond, nothing is ever too much trouble for them," says an interviewee. *"They are a go-to on cross-border English/Scottish cases. They are very technical, very solution-oriented and very good with clients. They are incredibly good at really difficult litigation,"* adds a source.

Notable practitioners

Rachael Kelsey (see p.334) is described by an interviewee as *"a powerhouse. She is absolutely phenomenal with clients, incredibly intelligent and very organised. She has the most phenomenal reputation. She is the go-to person if a person needs Scottish input. She dominates the Scottish market."* A source adds: *"She is incredibly well versed on international matters. She has got an incredibly good sense of the relevance of issues and really prioritises aspects of a case which are going to matter for clients. She is a huge pleasure to work with."* **Robert Gilmour** (see p.329) *"is really good on children's matters, and he knows things that nobody else knows. He is so technical and knowledgeable. Robert always knows the answer,"* states a market commentator. A source says: *"I can't think of anything that Robert doesn't know; he is supremely knowledgeable."*

Band 4 Family/Matrimonial: High Net Worth

Brodies LLP

The lawyers at Brodies advise wealthy clients on the full range of contentious and non-contentious family law issues. The team are: *"Exceptionally competent in dealing with complex matters,"* states a market commentator.

"They're a solid outfit for prenuptial matters," says a source. An interviewee adds the team are *"highly responsive and maintain a peerless level of service."*

Notable practitioners

Shaun George *"is fantastic; he has this calmness about him in dealing with exceptionally difficult cases,"* says a source. *"He is very professional, knowledgeable and pragmatic,"* adds a commentator. He is a well-known lawyer in Scotland for his expertise in complex divorce cases, prenuptial agreements and financial proceedings.

Family Law Partners

Family Law Partners advise their clients on a range of matters in family law, such as contentious divorce and financial remedy proceedings. *"They bring a wealth of experience in all areas of family law,"* states an interviewee.

"They're a really, really good firm. What's interesting about them is that they not only provide litigation services, but they provide a more all-round dispute resolution. They really embrace having a litigation and mediation practice. They are excellent at dealing with clients in a human way; they are a very down-to-earth and personable group," says a market commentator.

Notable practitioners

Kate Elliott (see p.327) *"is a go-to lawyer,"* says a market commentator. *"If I was getting a divorce, I would go to her. She is one of the most outstanding lawyers overall. She's everything you could want in a family lawyer: she's empathetic, pragmatic, bright and not afraid of a fight."* Another says that *"she has superb judgement, she is very strategic, she is so wonderful to work with. She knows when to push a point and when not to. She is really very warm and thoughtful towards clients. She's got all the skills."*

Fladgate LLP

Fladgate act for wealthy clients across a range of contentious matters in family law. The firm specialises in complex, international divorce cases and other complex disputes.

"They are very sensitive, able and adept at dealing with distressed and fraught clients," states a market commentator. A source adds: *"They have a good presence for reputational matters."*

Notable practitioners

Teresa Cullen represents high net worth clients in financial remedy proceedings, divorce cases and nuptial agreements. *"She is very good on cross-border family matters, with particular expertise handling Anglo-Italian matters. She's very calm,*

pragmatic and good to deal with," states a source. Another commentator adds: *"She's very constructive, very collaborative, and very practical."* **Hetty Gleave** *"is a brilliant solicitor. She is very calm under pressure, she is experienced across the field of family law and is unfazed by serious matters. She is very efficient and I like her way of dealing with things; she always has an eye to what's happening in the next round and the round after that. She has a very practical approach to litigation,"* says an interviewee. A source adds she is *"utterly poised and professional. She is fantastic in her approach to cases and handling difficult opponents."*

JMW Solicitors LLP

JMW Solicitors is a full service law firm, with specialist family lawyers. They advise their high net worth clients on a wide array of matters within the field.

The team at JMW Solicitors are described as *"a tenacious bunch of lawyers"* by a market commentator. Another source adds that *"everything was handled extremely professionally and with great care and attention."*

Notable practitioners

Michael Rowlands *"is my go-to for UK high net worth family law,"* says a source. Rowlands focuses his practice on international family matters, particularly those with a connection to the Middle East. A market commentator adds: *"He's got a wealth of experience which makes him brilliant on those tricky cases. He also is a real fighter for his clients; he really does care about his clients."*

Ruben Sinha, who joined JMW Solicitors recently, is described as *"extremely good; very bright, very thorough and easy to deal with"* by one source, and *"absolutely top-notch"* by another. Sinha focuses his practice on high net worth divorce.

Osbornes Law

Osbornes *"have a very broad family practice which does all areas of family law at a high level,"* states a source. The source adds: *"They have an excellent practice; they are top quality across the board. They have high-end partners doing high-end work. They are very impressive."*

"Osbornes have been a sound firm forever. They have phenomenal work. They have an excellent skill set," says an interviewee.

Notable practitioners

Mark Freedman *"is an immensely capable lawyer, with vast experience and a well-deserved reputation for getting the very best for his clients,"* says a market commentator. A source adds: *"He's a really tough litigator that you certainly want on your side. He will defend his clients to the hilt. He commits himself to getting the best results." "He is very hard-working, diligent and thoughtful in his approach. He is on top of the detail and makes strategic decisions,"* enthuses an interviewee. **Lisa Pepper** *"is extremely hard-working and adored by her clients. She is a very empathetic and approachable lawyer,"* states a source. A commentator adds:*"She's an extremely supportive and kind lawyer. She has an increasing mediation profile too. I can't think of anyone who would handle a mediation better than Lisa."*

Rayden Solicitors

Rayden is a boutique family law firm and advises high net worth clients on a wide array of related matters. They are regarded highly for their work in the field by their clients.

"They are an excellent outfit. The team are really phenomenal to deal with. They provide a terrific service to clients. They are a high-quality outfit. They have terrific resources," states a source. *"I would not hesitate to recommend them to any of my clients or my family,"* adds a market commentator.

Notable practitioners

David Lister *"is a good solicitor. He focuses his eye carefully on the costs of the case to the benefit of the client. He is good at assessing what are good offers to make. He has got a keen eye for detail and he is good at representing his client's best interests. He is an experienced, competent solicitor,"* states a source. Lister leads international matters at the firm, with a focus on divorce and financial proceedings. **Katherine Rayden** *"gets to the heart of an issue quickly. She is such a pleasure to work with. She is a fighter for her clients and really tactical in her thinking,"* says a commentator. A source adds: *"She's an extremely good lawyer. She is very knowledgeable and experienced."* **Priya Palanivel** represents her clients in divorce cases and financial proceedings. *"She really gets stuck into a case and is really passionate about her clients. She is a real fighter for her clients' best interests,"* says a source. *"Priya is an excellent lawyer. She is really smart and capable. She's a very collaborative and constructive lawyer,"* adds a commentator.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Charlotte Adler of Adler Family Law *"is very, very pragmatic, she knows the law inside out and she is definitely someone you want on your side. Her briefs and instructions are very clear. She's very commercial. When she needs to be, she can be quite steadfast and resolute in order to protect her client. She's very, very good,"* states a source. A commentator adds: *"She provides sensible and pragmatic advice. She's a pleasure to deal with. She sorts things out quickly."* Adler advises her clients on a wide array of matters such as divorce and financial proceedings, prenuptial agreements and children proceedings.

Camilla Baldwin of Camilla Baldwin Solicitors advises her clients on the full breadth of family law matters. A source says: *"She's tremendous. She is absolutely first-rate. She's very realistic in her approach to matters. She's very client-friendly and her preparation for hearings is immaculate. She is very pragmatic, and solution-driven. She's also really supportive and has a great legal mind. She has extremely good judgement which is absolutely key in this work."* A market commentator adds: *"She's very experienced and does fantastic work for clients. She is very pragmatic and easy to deal with. She is totally unflappable and always has her eye on strategy."*

Charlie Bell of Bortoft Bell regularly advises his high net worth clients on a range of matters in the family law field. *"He's direct and straightforward. He's very good to work with because he's very accessible and easy to deal with. He's a good guy to have on the other side. He's very diligent and thorough. He's a good lawyer,"* states a market commentator.

Ros Bever of Irwin Mitchell is described as *"a powerhouse when it comes to divorce cases"* by a market commentator. She represents her clients in divorce and financial remedy proceedings.

Matthew Brunsdon-Tully (see p.322) joined Wedlake Bell LLP recently from Forsters. He represents his clients on divorce matters, including financial and children proceedings. *"He is really, really excellent. He is all over the law, superb at dealing with trusts and is incredibly bright,"* says a source. *"Matthew is a real joy to work with. He has a really unquestionably sound judgement which makes his advice really valuable. He is very direct and straightforward in his advice and he has a lot of insight into cases,"* adds a market commentator.

Christopher Butler of Weightmans *"has a very good trust practice. He's very experienced and old-school. He has great relationships with clients,"* states a market commentator. A source adds: *"Butler is one of the most senior people doing family law. He is reassuring and extremely calm under pressure. He is very wise."*

Richard Collins (see p.324) of Keystone Law is described by an interviewee as a *"a very experienced lawyer with a wide-ranging practice involving children and money. He is a brilliant negotiator. He has extremely good judgement and he's very practical."* A source adds: *"Clients absolutely adore him, he has really good judgement and he will fight a client's corner wherever necessarily. He is relentless in getting clients the best deal. He is really good to deal with, he's very straight talking. He's very committed."* Collins represents wealthy clients in a range of matters.

James Copson advises affluent clients on domestic and international financial application and children matters. A market commentator reports: *"He's a very good lawyer. He is extremely bright and very pleasant to have as an opponent. He takes a no-nonsense approach to cases."* Another says: *"He's absolutely brilliant. He's so clever and approachable. He's great to work with."*

Daniel Eames of Michelmores LLP *"is a fantastic operator and is particularly well known for international family matters. He is the resolution go-to person on post-Brexit family law in Europe,"* states a source. *"He's well known for providing international advice. He has a great understanding of complicated matters, he's a great communicator and he is always available,"* adds a commentator. Eames represents wealthy clients in a range of matters, including financial remedy and divorce proceedings.

Carol Ellinas of Russells *"has great experience in matrimonial work which is very valuable,"* states a market commentator. *"Carol did a great job of marshalling all the participation and resources needed to execute our plan in a flawless manner and with fantastic results,"* adds a source. Ellinas represents her clients in divorces and financial proceedings.

Nicola Harries of Stevens & Bolton LLP is described by a source as *"a really fantastic lawyer. She is very collaborative, knowledgeable and approaches matters in a really strategic manner. She is very constructive and sensible. She is very*

straightforward." "Nicola has an exceptional talent for handling tricky situations in a professional manner whilst achieving the desired goal," adds a commentator.

Lucy Hoare of Russells *"is an excellent solicitor who is committed to her work and her clients. She is much more than a very safe pair of hands; she is an adept and highly sought-after representative,"* states a source. *"Lucy has excellent skills dealing with clients. She made me feel at ease. I trust all the service she provides,"* adds a market commentator. Hoare assists her clients with a broad range of matters in family law.

David Hodson QC of The International Family Law Group LLP is well regarded for his work in the family law field. *"He's a go-to for international matters,"* states a source. An interviewee adds: *"He's so knowledgeable and experienced. He has a fantastic track record. He is a leading family lawyer."*

Natasha Kurth (see p.335) of Wedlake Bell LLP *"is truly excellent. She is very diligent, intelligent and effective,"* says a source. *"She's proactive, reasonable and easy to deal with,"* adds a market commentator. Kurth assists high net worth clients with a broad range of matters.

Lois Langton (see p.335) of Howard Kennedy LLP *"is a big name in family law and deservedly so. She is very tactical and absolutely brilliant with clients,"* states a source. *"She is amazing with clients and has an incredible bedside manner. She is one of the few family lawyers in the UHNW/HNW space that genuinely cares about her clients' outcomes, costs and wellbeing. She always puts her clients' best interests first and will work night and day to support them,"* adds a market commentator. Langton focuses her practice on international cases relating to matrimonial and children's issues.

Grace Parker-White of Stevens & Bolton LLP represents her clients in mediations, financial agreements, prenuptial agreements and other martial matters. *"Grace is supremely erudite, knowledgeable, measured and compassionate,"* states a source. *"Grace is very good to deal with. She is very approachable, sensible to deal with and easy to pick up the phone to. She's a great lawyer. She is a pragmatic lawyer,"* adds a market commentator.

Caroline Penfold of Weightmans LLP provides an *"excellent, friendly service,"* says a source. A commentator adds: *"She is very approachable and easy to talk to."* Penfold represents her clients in divorce and financial proceedings.

Raymond Tooth of Sears Tooth is described as *"a real phenomenon"* by a market commentator. A source adds: *"His judgement is excellent, and he is brilliant at handling cases effectively at low cost."* Tooth is a highly experienced and well-regarded family law specialist.

Izzy Walsh of Hall Brown Family Law represents high net worth clients in financial proceedings and nuptial agreements. Her matters are often cross-border in scope. *"She's got such a brain on her, a great manner with clients and she is very straightforward to deal with,"* states a source. *"She's a great lawyer. She's really knowledgeable and knows what she's doing,"* adds an interviewee.

Rachel Woodd of Jones Nickolds is a partner in the family law team. She specialises in divorce law, amongst other issues in private family law.

Toby Yerburgh of Collyer Bristow LLP is described by a source as *"a very established practitioner. He is extraordinarily knowledgeable and an excellent lawyer.""He is very thorough, very easy to deal with and bright,"* adds an interviewee.

Family Offices & Funds Structuring

Family Offices & Funds Structuring
Leading Firms
Band 1
Boodle Hatfield LLP
Charles Russell Speechlys
Macfarlanes LLP
Band 2
Farrer & Co LLP
Fladgate LLP
Harbottle & Lewis LLP
Stephenson Harwood LLP
Taylor Wessing
* *Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Family Offices & Funds Structuring
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Breedy Rosalyn *Simons Muirhead Burton (ORL)* ◊
Gothard Charles *Macfarlanes LLP* *
Kouyoumjian Salpy *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *
Thakrar Rahul *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *
Band 2
Burt Jonathan *Harbottle & Lewis LLP*
King-Christopher Ashley *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Motley Kyra *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *
Osborne Emily *Stephenson Harwood LLP* *
Quarmby James *Stephenson Harwood LLP*
Sosnow Marc *Fladgate LLP*
Up-and-coming individuals
Hunter Mark *Macfarlanes LLP* *

Band 1

Boodle Hatfield LLP

Boodle Hatfield has a long history of advising high net worth families and their family offices. *"The firm is very client-focused and is always ready for any query, at any time,"* says an interviewee. This source continues: *"The firm is a true one-stop shop for my clients."*

"They have a top-quality team led by top-quality partners," says an interviewee, who adds: *"Boodle Hatfield provides practical advice grounded in deep knowledge and an understanding of what is important."*

Notable practitioners

Salpy Kouyoumjian (see p.335) *"is a genuine leader in her field. She is extremely bright,"* says a commentator. Another interviewee remarks: *"She is a really class act, she is utterly rare in her sector."* This source continues: *"She is very friendly, has an easygoing personality, is very strategic in her thought, and knows her market very well."* **Rahul Thakrar** (see p.345) *"is very experienced, meticulous and has great attention to detail. He is very commercially astute and his advice always takes account the goals of our organisation,"* says an interviewee. Another source states: *"Rahul is hands-down the best lawyer that we work with."* A third source says: *"Rahul's capabilities across all areas of service provision are very strong,"* continuing: *"He is able to handle complex matters with considerable insight."* **Kyra Motley** (see p.338) *"provides quality advice within a quick timeframe, and to budget. She is extremely helpful, going the extra mile for our clients, who appreciate the attention to detail and service,"* says a source. Another commentator states: *"She understands the importance of the bigger picture and can provide a calmness to a stressful situation. She understands the objectives quickly and is always a step ahead."* This source continues: *"Kyra is a safe, experienced and strong pair of hands. Our team and clients are consistently impressed and I have full confidence in any referral to Kyra."*

Charles Russell Speechlys

Charles Russell Speechlys work with family offices around the globe. *"They have a big team and have good people. They have a lot of partners that seem to work well together,"* states a source. *"They are the obvious go-to for this kind of work,"* remarks a commentator. Another source adds: *"They do a lot of work in this area."*

Notable practitioners

Ashley King-Christopher has a corporate tax background and *"does a lot of family office work,"* states a source. He advises family offices primarily in relation to their set-up and structure.

Macfarlanes LLP

Macfarlanes *"are focused and offer real depth. They bring the full capabilities of the firm to the client at speed and are able to very efficiently manage partner law firms in other jurisdictions where required,"* states a source.

Another source remarks: *"This work is what they do best. We all want to be them really. They are really good at what they do.""Their offering is quality,"* says an interviewee.

Notable practitioners

Charles Gothard (see p.329) *"is a number one ranked individual in this category. He is definitely a class operator,"* states a source. Another interviewee says: *"When it comes to the tax position of family offices, Charles is known as the person*

to go to. He is forensic and can explain very difficult things to clients in easy language. He cuts straight to the heart of the matter." **Mark Hunter** (see p.333) *"is extremely approachable and always has the ability to explain very technical and complicated matters in a way that is easy for the client to understand. He is always an absolute pleasure to deal with,"* remarks a source. Another interviewee adds: *"Mark is a great partner to work with. He is commercial, pragmatic and very dedicated."*

Band 2

Farrer & Co LLP

Farrer & Co LLP *"clearly understand the issues from the perspective of a family office rather than just churning out the best-practice corporate advice,"* states a source. They continue: *"The individuals involved are always at the forefront of the issues being discussed while remaining approachable. They are able to translate difficult concepts into easily understandable information."*

A source states: *"The firm is always responsive and provides a top-quality service."* Another interviewee adds: *"The Farrer team provide a fantastic collegiate approach across departments, working seamlessly in the best interests of the client. They have the breadth of experience to advise on the most complex of matters."*

Notable practitioners

Russell Cohen is a partner at the firm.

Fladgate LLP

Fladgate advises family offices in relation to matters including corporate structuring, funds formation and investments. A source states: *"The firm has exceptional commercial judgement and finds practical solutions, always with an eye for detail."*

A commentator notes: *"Their lawyers are knowledgeable and commercially astute."* Another source adds: *"They take the time to understand our issues which helps deliver results that match our needs."*

Notable practitioners

Marc Sosnow *"is very personable and a pleasure to have as our partner. His advice is always sound,"* states a source. Another interviewee adds: *"There is no challenger we see for his prowess and commercial acumen. He is exceptional in every regard."*

Harbottle & Lewis LLP

Harbottles' entrepreneurial clients include international family offices and private equity funds. Members of the team have expertise in corporate and funds structuring and tax, including private equity tax matters.

A source states: *"The firm is very responsive. They turn matters around very quickly,"* continuing: *"They have strength in depth, they have a strong team, and they offer a client-centric approach."* Another source notes: *"They will always go over and above to ensure clients' needs are met."*

Notable practitioners

Jonathan Burt *"is pretty exceptional,"* states a source. Burt *"is an outstanding lawyer and leader in his field with exceptional technical knowledge and the highest level of client service,"* remarks another interviewee. A commentator adds: *"I really enjoyed working with Jonathan. I have only good things to say about him. He is a force to be reckoned with."*

Stephenson Harwood LLP

Stephenson Harwood LLP advises business owners and family offices on a variety of different matters including structuring and governance.

A source states: *"The team communicates well and is collaborative. They are solutions-driven."* Another notes: *"The team are knowledgeable, commercial and a pleasure to work with."*

Notable practitioners

Emily Osborne (see p.339) *"is extraordinarily knowledgeable about legal and tax matters,"* according to a source, who continues: *"She is refreshingly pragmatic and remarkably astute."* A commentator adds: *"She really understands what a client wants. She can think outside of the box, and she is technically brilliant."* **James Quarmby** *"is like a specialist heart surgeon. He knows which arteries to touch and which to leave alone. He is very commercial. In a nutshell, working with James is a dream,"* enthuses a commentator. Another interviewee adds: *"His knowledge and advice have been invaluable."*

Taylor Wessing

Taylor Wessing's private wealth department *"are such an obvious go-to,"* says a source. *"They have a good team,"* adds another.

A peer remarks: *"They are growing, laterally and organically. They have ambitions in this area."*

Notable practitioners

Nick Warr is a key contact for this practice.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Rosalyn Breedy of Simons Muirhead Burton *"has a razor-sharp mind and a strong client focus,"* states a source. Another interviewee notes: *"She is extremely thorough, diligent, cautious and kind. A genuine and lovely person whom I trust implicitly."* Another source says: *"Rosalyn understands the human side of family offices."*

UK: An Introduction to Financial Crime: High Net Worth Individuals

Contributed by BCL Solicitors LLP

A safe place to do business?

HNW individuals have traditionally had a high degree of faith in the ability of the UK's justice system to uphold due process and to secure fair outcomes. But how far is this faith being tested in an increasingly uncertain world?

One of the principal reasons why businesses, investors and families continue to locate themselves and their assets in the UK is its robust regulatory environment. Laws on bribery, fraud, market abuse, money laundering, sanctions, and tax evasion, and the regulation of the financial and professional sectors, have a reputation for strictness and propriety.

Enforcement agencies and regulators abound in the UK, including the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC), the National Crime Agency (NCA), the Office for Financial Sanctions Implementation (OFSI), and the Serious Fraud Office (SFO). The proliferation of agencies is something of a mixed blessing, with risks that cases and issues might fall through the cracks.

Increasingly, too, the UK's place in the world, now freed from the EU and taking its own independent lead on international issues, notably on Russia and Ukraine, brings both benefits and risks, particularly in connection with sanctions.

The risks to individual rights

Where state agencies' work conflicts (as it inevitably does) with individuals' fundamental rights, they are sadly very far from immune to error. Arrests, asset and bank account freezes, dawn raids, interviews under caution, leaks, press releases, property seizures, and sanctions designations can be the cause of significant financial and reputational cost to individuals, as well as their businesses and families.

Allegations and suspicions can, sadly, be based on ignorance or even prejudice, particularly where complex financial affairs and structures, often involving offshore jurisdictions, are not properly understood. And the consequences can be far-reaching, with financial institutions often looking to divest themselves of potentially problematic client relationships, as they become increasingly risk averse.

The risk of injustice is often increased in cases with an international dimension. Processes of mutual legal assistance (MLA) are complex and will not always screen out allegations that are flawed or politically motivated. At worst, individuals may find themselves subject to an extradition request, an Interpol Red Notice, or a sanctions designation, all of which can severely restrict their ability to travel internationally. Even lower-level MLA processes, such as those designed to obtain documentary records, can make significant inroads into an individual's private financial affairs and reputation.

Both domestic and international cases are increasingly pursued in the UK by way of asset freezing and forfeiture, including under the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 (POCA). Public and private prosecutions can be accompanied by draconian measures of confiscation and restraint, while the High Court continues to be a favourite tool for those keen to trace civil claims into funds and property in the UK (backed by the threat of imprisonment for contempt of court).

Significantly, law enforcement agencies are increasingly able to use civil powers in POCA to investigate, freeze and obtain forfeiture of assets that are said to represent the proceeds of criminal conduct, while UK Government ministers can freeze assets under an increasing variety of financial sanctions regimes. Additionally, banks and others have increasing obligations under money laundering regulations (MLRs), including to maintain beneficial ownership registers as demands for transparency increase.

The impact of recent developments

The risks to individuals from these processes has been exacerbated by years of austerity in the UK's public finances. The SFO has been driven to agree Deferred Prosecution Agreements (DPAs) with a string of high-profile corporates, particularly under the Bribery Act, that have generated significant sums for the UK Treasury, but which also implicate individuals who have not been charged or convicted (and, in some cases, have even been acquitted because of the weakness of the case against them).

The coronavirus pandemic put extra pressure on the procedures and resources of the FCA, NCA and others, by expanding opportunities for fraud, forcing compliance and investigation methods to adapt to home-working, and lengthening delays to jury trials. Investigation of potential fraudulent use of various government support schemes, such as furlough and bounce-back loans, are on the increase.

The impact of Brexit on MLA procedures and extradition continues to be felt, with the withdrawal of access to streamlined processes. Freed from its obligations to act as part of the EU, a UK-specific framework for imposing financial and other targeted sanctions includes so-called Magnitsky measures against people suspected of involvement in human rights abuses or corruption, and trade and financial sanctions (notably in connection with Russia) that interact with other countries' equivalents in frustratingly complicated ways.

Significant changes to the civil recovery scheme of POCA were put in place a few years ago by the Criminal Finances Act 2017 (CFA). The most eye-catching innovation was the Unexplained Wealth Order (UWOs), by which the High Court can order a holder of property to explain their interest in it and how it was acquired. Less trumpeted, but so far more widely used, are Account Freezing and Forfeiture Orders (AFFOs), which have proved devastating to holders of funds that can be frozen on a basis of 'reasonable suspicion'. More recent amendments have made it easier to impose sanctions and to seek UWOs, while requiring greater transparency from overseas corporates that are registered as owners of UK property.

What can be done about these risks?

Fortunately, the courts in the UK remain a viable forum for challenge wherever individual rights are threatened. The powers of enforcement agencies (and decisions by courts, such as to grant search warrants) are susceptible to challenge in the High Court by way of judicial review, while much can be done by way of ne-

gotiation, including for instance to protect seized material that is subject to legal professional privilege (LPP).

Extradition requests, sanctions designations, and POCA applications – including UWOs and AFFOs – are also capable of being resisted, and adverse findings can often be appealed to higher courts. While the principal route of challenge to Interpol notices remains internal (via the Commissioner for Control of its Files (CCF)), much can be achieved by the targeting of individual bureaux, and the use of data protection laws. Despite Brexit, the UK has retained a version of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), and the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) remains enforceable, via the Human Rights Act 1998 (the HRA) or by application to the court in Strasbourg.

A mixed picture

Given all the above, the prospects for a HNW individual (or associated parties, such as family offices) seeking to enforce, from the UK, their rights in a financial crime investigation are complicated. A combination of austerity, Brexit, the CFA, DPAs, the MLRs, the pandemic, and the war in Ukraine have undoubtedly made it a less predictable, and in many ways riskier, place to do business, to live, and to hold assets. On one view, the upshot of recent changes is that it is increasingly easy to make allegations of financial crime outside of a traditional criminal investigative process, and increasingly hard to disprove them.

Despite the complexity, however, the existence of due process and judicially independent procedures, while far from perfect, can provide real hope for redress. While the use of CCF or GDPR processes or the protection of LPP material can seem esoteric, the UK's courts continue to provide an invaluable degree of scrutiny to the errors and excesses of the executive, protecting individual rights, with the HRA and the ECHR as a backstop. It is, perhaps, for that reason that HNW individuals' efforts to respond to financial crime investigations, where multiple jurisdictions are involved, are so often coordinated from the UK. While there are myriad laws and risks to engage and contend with in the UK, it is also often the best jurisdiction in which to find solutions.

Financial Crime High Net Worth Individuals

Financial Crime High Net Worth Individuals
Leading Firms
Band 1
BCL Solicitors LLP
Corker Binning
Kingsley Napley LLP
Peters & Peters Solicitors LLP
Band 2
Hickman & Rose
Kobre & Kim
Macfarlanes LLP
Mishcon de Reya LLP
Band 3
Bark&co
Cohen & Gresser LLP
Howard Kennedy LLP
Paul Hastings (Europe) LLP
PCB Byrne
Rahman Ravelli Solicitors
* *Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

BCL Solicitors LLP

BCL Solicitors *"are truly specialists in financial crime and all have a good high net worth client base,"* a market commentator reports. One source enthuses: *"Their extensive experience has created an astute and informed approach to the commercial decision-making process."*

The team acts for high-profile and affluent individuals on complex financial crime matters. *"I would put BCL above everyone else, it's difficult to fault them on strength in depth or quality,"* a source states.

Notable practitioners

Ian Burton (see p.322) is recognised as a leading figure in this space, with vast experience in financial crime. One source asserts: *"Nobody else has his breadth and depth of experience. He's extremely insightful and well connected."* An interviewee reports that he has *"a coterie of extremely*

Financial Crime: High Net Worth Individuals	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	**Gibson** John *Cohen & Gresser LLP*
Binning Peter *Corker Binning*	**Grimes** Jonathan *Kingsley Napley LLP*
Blundell Neill *Macfarlanes LLP* *	**Laming** Hannah *Squire Patton Boggs (ORL)* ◊
Burton Ian *BCL Solicitors LLP* *	**Masimore** Jason *Kobre & Kim*
Corker David *Corker Binning*	**Pickworth** Jonathan C *Paul Hastings (Europe) LLP*
Epps Tom *Cooley LLP (ORL)* ◊	**Robertson** Elizabeth *Skadden, Arps, Slate (ORL)* ◊
Hodges Louise *Kingsley Napley LLP*	**Spiro** Brian *Herbert Smith Freehills (ORL)* ◊
Kovalevsky Richard *Cohen & Gresser LLP*	**Walsh** Johanna *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
O'Kane Michael *Peters & Peters Solicitors LLP* *	**Band 4**
Parkinson Stephen *Kingsley Napley LLP*	**de Jersey** Shula *BCL Solicitors LLP* *
Pollard Stephen *WilmerHale (ORL)* ◊	**Dimmock** Joanna *Paul Hastings (Europe) LLP*
Rathmell Robin *Kasowitz Benson Torres LLP (ORL)* ◊	**Dyke** Christopher *DAC Beachcroft LLP (ORL)* ◊
Rickards Jo *Greenberg Traurig, LLP (ORL)* ◊	**Finnerty** Nicola *Kingsley Napley LLP*
Sallybanks Richard *BCL Solicitors LLP* *	**Hartley** John *Shoosmiths LLP (ORL)* ◊ *
Travers Harry *BCL Solicitors LLP* *	**Junck** Ryan *Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher (ORL)* ◊
Band 2	**Niblock** Rebecca *Kingsley Napley LLP*
Beardsworth Mark *Cadwalader, Wickersham (ORL)* ◊	**Rahman** Aziz *Rahman Ravelli Solicitors*
Brazil Shaul *BCL Solicitors LLP* *	**Roberts** Kevin *Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft (ORL)* ◊
Burlingame Roger *Dechert LLP (ORL)* ◊	**Sleight** David *Kingsley Napley LLP*
Dixon Ross *Hickman & Rose*	**Swift** Neil *Peters & Peters Solicitors LLP* *
Doobay Anand *Boutique Law LLP (ORL)* ◊	**Vamos** Nick *Peters & Peters Solicitors LLP* *
Drury Michael *BCL Solicitors LLP* *	**Up-and-coming individuals**
Giles Eve *Allen & Overy LLP (ORL)* ◊	**Barnard** Nick *Corker Binning*
Parker Jessica *Corker Binning*	**Cohen-Lask** Maia *Corker Binning*
Potts Michael *PCB Byrne*	**Cross** Claire *Corker Binning*
Rose Ben *Hickman & Rose*	**Emson** Lorna *Macfarlanes LLP* *
Ryan Ian *Howard Kennedy LLP* *	**Ewens** Matthew *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Smith Andrew *Corker Binning*	**Savage** David *Stewarts (ORL)* ◊ *
Watkins Aaron *Kingsley Napley LLP*	**Associates to watch**
Band 3	**Cook** Rachel *Peters & Peters Solicitors LLP* *
Bark-Jones Giles *Bark&co* *	**Harper** Jennifer *Howard Kennedy LLP* *
Barnfather Anthony *Barnfather Solicitors (ORL)* ◊	**Kavanagh** Marie *Cooley LLP (ORL)* ◊
Frankland Matthew *PCB Byrne*	**Warlow** Anoushka *BCL Solicitors LLP* *

HNW clients, who look to him for their every legal need. His client list sounds like an extract from the Sunday Times Rich List." **Richard Sallybanks** (see p.342) is a prominent figure in the financial crime space, advising clients involved in domestic and international investigations and prosecutions. *"He is a master tactician in how to represent people in these difficult high-value, long-running cases,"* a source notes. Another says that *"his key strengths are that he's got a real attention to detail. Always on top of the detail of a case, has excellent judgement and is very hard-working."* **Harry Travers** (see p.345) advises clients on complex cross-border financial crime investigations. *"He is simply the best, his ability is without equal in my opinion. He has an impeccable character and a wicked sense of humour,"* an interviewee states, while another market commentator says: *"He's excellent, in terms of intellectual prowess, he's very impressive."* **Shaul Brazil** (see p.321) is well regarded by clients and other professionals for acting on complex financial crime matters, including money laundry cases. Multiple sources praise him for his pragmatism, and one commentator notes: *"He's looking not just at matters from the UK but also lots of problem solving for multi-jurisdictional issues that touch on HNW individuals and tightly controlled corporates and entities. He's an extraordinarily pragmatic thinker and a highly versatile man."* **Michael Drury** (see p.326) has vast experience in handling extradition claims, regulatory proceedings and Interpol matters. *"He is a brilliant and conscientious lawyer, particularly in the fields of security and intelligence, data and extradition,"* reports a source. Another commentator notes: *"He's a very good lawyer, he's also not afraid of getting involved with the detail of the case and excellent at handling high net worth clients."* **Shula de Jersey** (see p.325) is described by market sources as an *"extremely good"* financial crime lawyer. Her client base includes domestic and international high net worth individuals. **Anoushka Warlow** (see p.346) is *"maybe the best young lawyer to go to in England in this area,"* a source enthuses; *"she's very smart, and detail-obsessed."* An interviewee asserts: *"Anoushka is phenomenally clever but also strategically astute – she looks at cases in a way senior counsel does. She sees the issues coming a mile off, and by doing that she insulates the client."*

Corker Binning

One source says Corker Binning is *"a serious player in the white-collar market and one of my top go-to firms for referring senior individuals who have criminal or regulatory exposure."* The team regularly acts for international high net worth clients on high-profile investigations.

"Corker is a committed team with excellent client care and knowledge," says a source, who also praises the team for its *"excellent skill set with true depth of experience"* and *"very hands-on"* approach.

Notable practitioners

Peter Binning is a prominent figure in the financial crime legal industry. *"He is a very competent lawyer, he's very well regarded,"* a source reports, while another asserts: *"He's very good, great with clients. Strong judgement capabilities. Great with individuals with complex investigations with lots of moving parts – multiple investigations, multiple prosecutors and authorities."* **David Corker** deals with a wide range of financial crime matters, typically acting for high-profile individuals under SFO and FCA investigation. *"David is a real thought leader. He's very outspoken in his views, he's someone who'll always take a position on something, even if it's unpopular,"* a source explains, adding: *"He is wholly committed to finding good outcomes for his client."* **Jessica Parker** is highly regarded for work in financial crime matters. One source says: *"Jessica is the standout partner for tax fraud cases."* Another interviewee asserts: *"She is the complete package – highly experienced, a first-rate brain with a practical approach which clients appreciate."* **Andrew Smith** is highly regarded by multiple market sources particularly for his work on complex financial crime matters. One source enthuses: *"Andrew is an extremely thoughtful, analytical lawyer who would be one of my first choices for a matter involving tricky or novel legal issues."* An interviewee states: *"I think what sets him apart is that he's very cerebral. He's very interested in the law and he's able to help clients through very tricky issues by going back to first principles and can construct a thoughtful, powerful legal argument."* **Nick Barnard** is *"incredibly bright,"* says a market commentator. He advises clients on financial crime matters, including SFO investigations. **Maia Cohen-Lask** *"is great, very enthusiastic and very good with clients; quite confident and outgoing, gets done what needs to be done,"* a source enthuses. **Claire Cross** regularly acts for high net worth clients involved in white-collar crime investigations. *"Claire has regulatory expertise which feeds into financial crime,"* says an interviewee, while another source remarks: *"She is bright, thinks outside the box and has excellent client care skills."*

Kingsley Napley LLP

Kingsley Napley is a *"top-class firm, arguably the best in class for white-collar crime,"* a source asserts. The team regularly handles complex cross-border financial crime matters for high net worth clients.

A source reports: *"Both very senior and very junior staff are always responsive and engaged, particularly so on important matters. They are also often ahead of issues, predicting and addressing them before they arise."*

Notable practitioners

Louise Hodges is recognised as *"one of the leading lawyers in the market."* Hodges is commended by market sources who say she is *"very strong"* on financial crime matters. **Stephen Parkinson** has a longstanding reputation for acting for high net worth individuals on a wide array of high-profile financial crime matters. *"Stephen has exceptional instincts and insight, and an unrivalled breadth of knowledge,"* says a source, who adds: *"His presence in a crisis adds perspective, order, and clearly articulated strategies for dealing with intractable problems."* **Aaron Watkins** acts in financial crime investigations relating to fraud, extradition and money laundering. He recently joined Kingsley Napley from Cloth Fair Chambers. **Jonathan Grimes** frequently acts for client on financial crime matters brought by the SFO, the FCA and HMRC. A source says: *"I recommend Jonathan Grimes – a shining example of a master of their profession, and totally client-focused."* **Nicola Finnerty** is a criminal defence specialist, with extensive experience handling domestic and cross-border investigations for high net worth individuals relating to fraud, money laundering and insider dealing. **Rebecca Niblock** is recognised as an expert in advising high net worth individuals on extradition law. *"She is an excellent extradition lawyer, and a very pleasant individual. She's done a lot of writing on extradition matters. She's great in that field,"* a source remarks. *"Rebecca is a real expert in extradition law, that's a real asset for the firm,"* says another. **David Sleight** has experience in handling fraud investigations for high net worth individuals. He has a strong reputation in the market for this work.

Peters & Peters Solicitors LLP

Peters & Peters Solicitors is known to have *"a great bench, tactical thinkers, and high-quality teams across the board,"* according to a source, who adds: *"High net worth individuals can trust them to get it right."*

The team typically acts for high net worth individuals on high-profile investigations. *"They are simply brilliant,"* says a source, who commends the team for the *"depth of understanding, practical experience, and the network of contacts"* it has.

Notable practitioners

Michael O'Kane (see p.339) is highly experienced in handling cases related to sanctions, extradition and FCA investigations. *"Michael and his team were highly attentive and gave clear, consistent and good advice in a highly difficult and sensitive situation,"* says a source, who adds: *"During the whole process, I did not observe any weaknesses. On the contrary I was impressed by Michael's ability to react quickly and soundly to changing circumstances."* **Neil Swift** (see p.344) acts for high net worth individuals on domestic and international matters in the financial crime world. He is highly regarded by market sources; one interviewee asserts that *"Neil is our go-to guy for white-collar crime. In our opinion he is best in class."* **Nick Vamos** (see p.345) regularly acts for high net worth clients on domestic and international financial crime investigations. He is noted for his work on high-value and high-profile matters. **Rachel Cook** (see p.324) acts for high-profile and affluent clients on financial crime matters, including white-collar crime investigations.

Band 2

Hickman & Rose

Hickman & Rose is praised by multiple sources; one interviewee says that *"they are certainly a top-quality outfit, no doubt about it,"* while another commentator says: *"They are undoubtedly a key player in the market."*

Hickman & Rose act for clients on significant financial crime matters. One source commends the team for the quality of service it provides, saying: *"I always get a swift response."*

Notable practitioners

Ross Dixon advises high net worth individuals

under investigation by the SFO and the FCA. *"He is one of those truly well-established leading solicitors representing individuals,"* an interviewee notes. Market commentators say he is *"excellent"* and handles *"the most amazing work."* **Ben Rose** frequently advises high net worth clients on high-profile fraud, bribery and corruption matters. *"Ben Rose is my first choice when I need to find a lawyer for an individual in a white-collar crime or financial regulatory context,"* a source enthuses. Another interviewee states: *"He's phenomenal at getting the right results and managing the expectations of clients."*

Kobre & Kim

Kobre & Kim acts for high net worth clients on domestic and international financial crime matters. An interviewee states: *"The firm has provided advice across multiple jurisdictions – this has always been done efficiently and seamlessly through US and UK-based teams that work as one unit and provide prompt, concise and effective advice."*

The team is known to be especially strong in cross-border matters due to its global reach. One source reports: *"They have a very strong business model, especially good for working with high net worth clients."*

Notable practitioners

Jason Masimore acts for high net worth individuals on complex multi-jurisdictional financial crime cases. *"Jason is a closer of deals, he's very tactical, he doesn't run the case on and on. He's so clever,"* a source remarks, adding: *"He's thoughtful and considered, he's not just a pit bull."*

Macfarlanes LLP

Macfarlanes is a *"very experienced firm,"* reports a source,who adds: *"They handle my affairs with efficiency and diligence."* Another interviewee asserts: *"They're great, got a good reputation both on the corporate side and the individual side."*

"Macfarlanes has got extremely high-quality work, and the lawyers in the team are of the highest calibre – whether it's knowledge of white-collar crime, or preparing cases in readiness to go to court," says a market commentator.

Notable practitioners

Neill Blundell (see p.321) is particularly respected for his experience in acting for clients on financial crime matters. *"He has an engaging personality, knows his stuff, been doing this for years,"* a source remarks, while another interviewee states: *"Neill is one of the calmest and most experienced in the sector. He knows everything there is to know about handling the SFO and multinational organisations."*

Lorna Emson (see p.327) is commended by several sources for handling significant financial crime matters. *"She is absolutely charming and incredibly engaging. She is also always upbeat and positive in the manner in which she deals with clients,"* says an interviewee, who adds: *"She has a particular flair for understanding the implications of parallel civil and criminal proceedings."*

Mishcon de Reya LLP

Mishcon de Reya provides advice to high net worth clients in relation to cross-border financial crime cases. The team has built up an *"awesome reputation"* in this space, according to a source.

Notable practitioners

Johanna Walsh *"is a really steady head and very good,"* says an interviewee. Walsh represents high net worth individuals in SFO, NCA and FCA investigations. **Matthew Ewens** is *"brilliant"* and experienced in representing high net worth clients in cases of alleged bribery, corruption and fraud.

Band 3

Bark&co

Bark&co has experience in handling financial crime matters, typically involving bribery, corruption and money laundering. An interviewee states: *"I have always been impressed by their ability to handle such cases. Given that they have, for many years, specialised in such cases, it is no surprise that they have huge experience dealing with such work."*

"When dealing with high net worth individuals, the team is acutely alive to the wider implications of the cases," says a source, who adds: *"They are able to give practical and effective advice as to reputation management and the financial or regulatory implications of the options available to clients."*

Notable practitioners

Giles Bark-Jones (see p.320) is a well-known figure in the financial crime space. An interviewee states: *"Giles is the powerhouse of the firm. He's a very good fraud lawyer, who's got immense connections with a great many people."*

Cohen & Gresser LLP

Cohen & Gresser is a *"good-quality firm in the investigations and white-collar space, making good progress in establishing itself in London,"* a source reports. *"They are dedicated to their client's interests, they are also responsive and switched on, and not afraid of giving difficult advice,"* says an interviewee.

The firm typically acts for affluent clients on financial crime matters. A market commentator states: *"The team is always giving in-depth analysis on defence strategies."*

Notable practitioners

Richard Kovalevsky QC is *"the guru for financial crime issues,"* says a source. Another commentator enthuses: *"He is the most impressive legal mind I have ever encountered."* **John Gibson** is known to be *"an astute criminal lawyer,"* acting for clients on matters of high complexity. Market commentators highlight the level of commitment he has towards his clients. A source remarks: *"He is a strong client lawyer – tenacious, well informed and capable of distilling large volumes of material and complex issues into practical, usable advice that helps to progress a matter."*

Howard Kennedy LLP

Howard Kennedy is highly regarded by sources for its team depth and the quality of its individual lawyers. *"They are able to see the big picture and the firm excels at dealing with connected litigation issues. Every member of their team is fantastic. Even the trainees are excellent,"* a source reports.

The team is adept at acting for clients involved in criminal investigations and other financial crime cases. An interviewee states: *"They are always available and keep abreast of every development."*

Notable practitioners

Ian Ryan (see p.342) is reported to have *"an excellent reputation in the financial crime market."* One interviewee says: *"He is a master strategist who brings exceptional expertise and experience,"* a source reports, while another enthuses: *"His strengths come from his background in general crime and his ability to see things right from the beginning through to the end."* **Jennifer Harper** (see p.330) *"is a star in the making, a senior associate who knows the case inside out and is always thinking about the best angle,"* according to a source. Another market commentator remarks: *"She is one to look out for, she's a really good lawyer. She's excellent and abreast of all the facts of a particular case."*

Paul Hastings (Europe) LLP

Paul Hastings is commended by multiple sources. One says: *"Certainly they're excellent lawyers, thorough, and have a great reputation in financial crime."*

The team acts for high-profile individuals on complex financial crime matters. An interviewee states that *"Paul Hastings now has one of the best teams for multi-jurisdictional investigations."*

Notable practitioners

Jonathan Pickworth *"is very experienced and well respected."* He acts for high net worth clients on financial crime matters. An interviewee explains: *"He gives clear and pragmatic advice and is very committed to his clients."* Another source says: *"He is cerebral and conscientious. He has a proven track record of winning difficult cases."* **Joanna Dimmock** frequently acts for clients in cases brought by the SFO, NCA and FCA. Several market sources commend Dimmock for her ability to understand and protect her clients' interests. One interviewee says: *"She is relentless and brilliant at dealing with complexity."* Another source asserts: *"She is a hard-fighting defence solicitor who has not forgotten that her role is to fearlessly protect her client's interests."*

PCB Byrne

PCB Byrne is highly regarded for handling a range of complex financial crime matters for affluent clients.

"They are efficient, sensible and client-oriented," says an interviewee, while another source remarks: *"The personnel at the firm are first-class, they are highly motivated, are excellent lawyers and perfectly able to manage matters of complexity and sophistication."*

Notable practitioners

Michael Potts has a longstanding reputation for advising high net worth clients on financial crime matters. *"He is very astute and his mastery of complexities of tactics is as good as it gets,"* says an interviewee, while another remarks: *"He works extremely well with clients and manages them effectively. He provides first-rate instructions and analysis of the matter."* **Matthew Frankland** *"is a very clever lawyer, who is super seasoned and really approachable,"* says a market commentator, who adds: *"He's pretty ferocious when acting for the client's interest."* Frankland has particular expertise in criminal fraud matters.

Rahman Ravelli Solicitors

Rahman Ravelli Solicitors is considered by one source to be *"leaders in this field."* Another interviewee explains: *"They have a deep bench of expertise and are very easy to work with."*

The team advises high net worth clients on complex fraud and money laundering cases. A source enthuses: *"They've been so tenacious in the market and have no inhibitions but to push forward and produce a cost-effective and good job for the clients they act for."*

Notable practitioners

Aziz Rahman is a well-regarded figure in the financial crime world. *"He is a solicitor of exceptional ability. He provides the best service to his clients, who are invariably pleased with the results he achieves on their behalf,"* a source enthuses.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Anthony Barnfather of Barnfather Solicitorsis *"a strong senior partner with tremendous legal acumen,"* says a market commentator. Another interviewee explains: *"Anthony is very experienced and that level of experience was clear at all stages of the work he undertook on my behalf."*

Mark Beardsworth of Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP *"is a first-rate financial crime lawyer who is at the top of his game,"* says a market commentator, who adds: *"His technical knowledge is second to none and he is a great strategist."* An interviewee asserts: *"Mark has a level head and has great knowledge and skill as a legal professional."*

Roger Burlingame of Dechert LLP *"is super smart, extremely efficient, and has an easy way with clients and adversaries,"* one source reports, adding: *"Roger Burlingame is typically my first call when cross-border issues require me to have a US-trained eye on matters in the UK."*

Anand Doobay of Boutique Law LLP is *"a wonderful lawyer,"* reports a source, who adds: *"He is top-drawer, cerebral and great with clients."* Another interviewee asserts: *"He is a brilliant lawyer with wonderful judgement and is fantastic with clients."*

Christopher Dyke of DAC Beachcroft LLP is a renowned figure in the financial crime world. Sources highlight his commercial approach and ability to understand clients. One interviewee remarks: *"Technically he's been fantastic across criminal investigations and fraud matters."* Another source reports: *"Chris is very commercial in his approach, attentive to clients and a thoroughly decent guy."*

Tom Epps of Cooley LLP frequently advises high-profile individuals on financial crime matters. A source reports: *"He's really user-friendly and really good at keeping matters away from the media. He manages it in a really good way."*

Eve Giles of Allen & Overy LLP is highly experienced in defending high net worth individuals against investigations by the SFO and the FCA.

John Hartley (see p.331) of Shoosmiths LLP *"understands the needs of high net worth individuals and delivers the required service tailored to client and case,"* one source reports, further explaining that *"John is very responsive to needs of the client both immediate and future."* An interviewee says: *"He's a really excellent lawyer. He has a very detailed knowledge of criminal law which he has gleaned from years and years of experience from real financial crime cases."*

Ryan Junck of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP & Affiliates is experienced in advising high net worth clients on financial crime cases, including money laundering, sanctions and bribery.

Marie Kavanagh of Cooley LLP is respected for advising high net worth clients on financial crime matters. *"Marie was very strong and meticulous with preparation going the extra mile and never missing a detail,"* says an interviewee, adding that *"she is always calm during some very difficult moments."*

Hannah Laming of Squire Patton Boggs *"has a huge wealth of experience as a former prosecutor, formidable analysis skills and an excellent approach with clients,"* a source explains, adding: *"She is always clear and constructive in her advice and gives her clients great confidence."*

Stephen Pollard of WilmerHale has in-depth experience handling investigations brought by the FCA, the SFO and the NCA. Sources say: *"He is an absolute leader"* and has a *"fabulous reputation"* in the financial crime legal community.

Robin Rathmell is highly sought after in the financial crime space for his experience in advising on international matters. He recently moved to Kasowitz Benson Torres LLP from Kobre & Kim. One source states: *"He's very astute in dealing with cross-border proceedings."* Another interviewee explains that *"he has a great way of summarising a complexity to a point that is intelligible, clear and convincing."*

Jo Rickards, who recently moved to Greenberg Traurig from Mishcon de Reya, is widely regarded as a go-to lawyer for white-collar crime investigations. Sources say Rickards is *"brilliant"* and *"a great criminal practitioner in the UK."*

Kevin Roberts of Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP advises clients on significant financial crime matters. *"Kevin is a bulldog when working on a case, he is fun to work with,"* says a source, who adds: *"He works hard and genuinely cares for his clients and always does his very best."*

Elizabeth Robertson of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP & Affiliates has considerable experience advising clients on a range of matters, including money laundering, corruption and sanctions.

David Savage (see p.343) of Stewarts is a leading sanctions lawyer, says a source, who adds: *"He is charismatic and hard-working."* Another interviewee remarks: *"David is excellent and easy to work with. Intellectually rigorous and up-to-date on sanctions issues."*

Brian Spiro of Herbert Smith Freehills *"is technically excellent and able to communicate to clients in a clear and pragmatic way,"* explains a market commentator, who adds: *"He is a leader in this field."*

Financial Crime High Net Worth Individuals London

Financial Crime High Net Worth Individuals
Leading Sets
Band 1
Cloth Fair Chambers
QEB Hollis Whiteman
3 Raymond Buildings
Band 2
2 Bedford Row
Matrix Chambers
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Purnell Nicholas *Cloth Fair Chambers*
Leading Silks
Band 1
Darbishire Adrian *QEB Hollis Whiteman*
Gibbs Patrick *3 Raymond Buildings* Ⓐ
Keith Hugo *3 Raymond Buildings*
Kelsey-Fry John *Cloth Fair Chambers*
Laidlaw Jonathan *2 Hare Court (ORL)* ◊
Montgomery Clare *Matrix Chambers*
Perry David *6KBW College Hill (ORL)* ◊
Pople Alison *Cloth Fair Chambers*
Sibson Clare *Cloth Fair Chambers*
Winter Ian *Cloth Fair Chambers*
Band 2
Allen Tom *Cloth Fair Chambers*
Bailin Alex *Matrix Chambers*
Healy Alexandra *Foundry Chambers (ORL)* ◊ Ⓐ
Larkin Sean *QEB Hollis Whiteman*
Lewis James *3 Raymond Buildings* Ⓐ
Lissack Richard *Fountain Court Chambers (ORL)* ◊
Owen Tim *Matrix Chambers*
Sturman Jim *2 Bedford Row*
Band 3
Barnard Jonathan *Cloth Fair Chambers*
Brodie Graham *33 Chancery Lane (ORL)* ◊
Ellison Mark *QEB Hollis Whiteman*
Penny Duncan *6KBW College Hill (ORL)* ◊
New Silks
Baker Simon *2 Bedford Row*
Ⓐ *direct access.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Financial Crime High Net Worth Individuals
Leading Juniors
Band 1
FitzGerald Ben *QEB Hollis Whiteman*
Gokani Rachna *QEB Hollis Whiteman*
Saunders Neil *3 Raymond Buildings* Ⓐ
Band 2
Biggs Stuart *3 Raymond Buildings*
Kapila Rachel *Cloth Fair Chambers* Ⓐ
Mansell Jason *QEB Hollis Whiteman* Ⓐ
Robinson Karen *QEB Hollis Whiteman*
Scott Rachel *3 Raymond Buildings*
Band 3
Doble Tom *QEB Hollis Whiteman*
Ledward Jocelyn *QEB Hollis Whiteman*
Meggy Rhys *QEB Hollis Whiteman*
Up-and-coming individuals
Sagan Leonora *Fountain Court Chambers (ORL)* ◊
Tate Jessica *Foundry Chambers (ORL)* ◊

Band 1

Cloth Fair Chambers

Cloth Fair Chambers is an elite set with an excellent reputation in the market as one of the go-to chambers for high net worth individuals facing financial crime investigations.

"The silks and juniors at Cloth Fair are, without doubt, at the top of their game," says a source; *"they are hugely experienced, knowledgeable in their respective fields and commercially astute."* This source adds: *"The experience and skill of their barristers is worth every penny, making them attractive to clients where means permit, and their clerks are eminently approachable in relation to fees."*

Adrian Chapman is head clerk.

SILKS

Nicholas Purnell QC *"is a doyen of the criminal Bar, he is really fantastic,"* says an interviewee. Another source remarks: *"Nick combines legendary advocacy skills with total unflappability – his advocacy is a delight to listen to."*

John Kelsey-Fry QC is considered by market sources to be *"a star"* and *"the premier criminal barrister in the UK."* An interviewee asserts: *"He's got to the best trial lawyer in the country. I've done various cases with him where the jury is spellbound by him. He's incredibly clever and magical in court."* A further source remarks: *"There is rarely a high-profile criminal case where he is not instructed and his level of commitment and can-do approach is inspirational."*

Alison Pople QC frequently advises high net worth clients in complex financial crime investigations. One interviewee asserts: *"She's incredibly hard-working, imaginative, good-natured. She's got a good humoured forthrightness with clients."* Another source describes Pople as *"wonderfully unstuffy, good humoured and a delight to work with."*

Clare Sibson QC is recognised for her experience handling financial crime investigations. A source says Sibson is *"astonishingly intelligent, lateral thinking and takes everything in her stride."* Another says that *"Claire is an academic powerhouse, but she's equally brilliant with clients, it's not just academic esoteric."*

Ian Winter QC *"is one of the finest advocates at the Bar – affable, hugely intelligent and well respected,"* says an interviewee; *"when he is available, clients know they are in the best hands."* Another source asserts: *"He is one of the finest silks of his generation."*

Tom Allen QC is *"very impressive, client-friendly, smart and gets to the nub of the issue,"* says an instructing solicitor. *"Tom is a joy to work with,"* says another interviewee, adding: *"He combines commercial acumen and diligence with being utterly down to earth, which puts HNW clients at their ease even when facing the gravest of allegations. He displays great tactical nous and common sense, and blends these skills with welcome affability, making him a sought-after leader when the chips are down."*

Jonathan Barnard QC frequently handles financial crime matters for high net worth individuals. *"He combines sophistication with approachability and his sensitivity to a client's best interests is second to none,"* a source enthuses. Another source describes him as *"terrific; a new silk who's very calm, incredibly hard-working, clients love him and he's completely, absolutely trustworthy and solid."*

JUNIORS

Rachel Kapila regularly handles white-collar investigation matters involving the SFO, the DOJ and the FCA. *"She commands the respect of high net worth clients by virtue of her sheer intelligence and approachability,"* a source enthuses, adding: *"Rachel is a delight to work with. Her ability to master a complex brief in a short space of time and provide astute advice is quite remarkable."*

QEB Hollis Whiteman

QEB Hollis Whiteman is highly regarded for handling financial crime matters involving high net worth individuals. *"QEB Hollis Whiteman has excellent bench strength and its junior barristers are some of the best I have worked with,"* says a source. Another commentator describes it as a *"top-tier set for this work. One of few sets of chambers that can properly be said to be at the top end of financial crime, including for high net worth individuals."*

QEB Hollis Whiteman is also recognised as having a *"highly proficient clerking team."* Chris Emmings is senior clerk.

SILKS

Adrian Darbishire QC *"is stellar, a wonderful tactician and he has a terrific practice,"* an interviewee comments. Darbishire is particularly recognised for handling large and complex Serious Fraud Office cases. A source remarks: *"Adrian is a class act, really hands-on. He's really all over the detail."*

Sean Larkin QC *"has a calm, assured manner in both conference and court that instils confidence in the client and the team he leads,"* says a source, adding: *"He is also a first-rate lawyer and an excellent tactician. Finally, and of no less importance in the gruelling passage of a long trial, he is a joy to work with – organised, encouraging, and with an excellent sense of humour."*

Mark Ellison QC acts in financial crime investigations relating to fraud, money laundering and bribery and corruption.

JUNIORS

Ben FitzGerald *"is one of the stars of the junior Bar,"* a source reports. *"Ben is very quick to roll his sleeves up and get involved. He's very responsive and very switched on in terms of what the client needs from a business point of view,"* says another interviewee, who adds: *"On court applications he's very effective, and his written work is very good as well."*

Rachna Gokani *"is really smart, very modest and brilliant; a diamond,"* a source enthuses. Gokani is a highly respected junior who has a solid reputation

for handling financial crime matters, and is particularly known for private prosecution work. One source reports: *"Rachna performs well above her years. She acts at a silk level, we trust her judgement, she's a fantastic advocate and she's very nice; she gets on really well with clients."* Another interviewee says: *"Rachna must be one of the best, if not the best, junior barrister at the Bar: utterly exceptional, extremely nice, very capable, gets right to the point, and nothing is too much trouble. If you want a private prosecution and don't want to screw it up, she does it and she does the job properly."*

Jason Mansell *"is a specialist financial services crime barrister who's sought out more than anybody else in that space,"* says a market commentator, who adds: *"He's got huge knowledge and experience of financial services, criminal and regulatory issues. He's the first port of call for me in this area."* Another interviewee says: *"Jason is a very effective advocate with a strong client service ethos. He is responsive, good with clients and a pleasure to deal with. He is very happy to roll his sleeves up, get stuck into the detail and drive things forward."*

Karen Robinson *"is superbly talented, a wonderful drafter, extremely hard-working and turns stuff around with terrific speed when you need it,"* a source explains, adding: *"She engages in both advisory and advocacy, she's fabulous at both."* Another market commentator remarks: *"She was so good at assimilating the information quickly and effectively. She was inspiring."*

Tom Doble is well regarded for his work on big financial crime cases. *"His grasp of the detail and mastery of strategy is absolutely phenomenal. He's an amazing intellectual powerhouse,"* says a source. Another commentator explains: *"His work rate is prestigious, really phenomenal. He's highly intelligent, very dedicated to the case, his analysis is careful, and always reliable."*

Jocelyn Ledward *"is fantastic and incredibly busy"* acting for high net worth individuals in matters related to fraud, bribery and corruption, and money laundering.

Rhys Meggy *"has a very nice practice – he appears as a leader more than a junior, which is not very common,"* says an instructing solicitor, who adds that *"he holds his own against silks and comes out winning."* Another interviewee says: *"Rhys Meggy is very good indeed. He's a good tactician. He's very calming, and he's someone who leads rather than being led. I like him a lot, and I know our team like him and use him. He's going a long way."*

3 Raymond Buildings

3 Raymond Buildings maintains a solid reputation in financial crime work. Its members handle a broad range of complex financial crime matters for high net worth individuals. It is said to be a *"top-tier set"* which is *"a cut above the rest."*

Eddie Holland is the senior clerk.

SILKS

Patrick Gibbs QC *"is a brilliant trial lawyer, who is fantastic on inquests. He is a brilliant jury advocate and gets amazing results,"* one source enthuses, adding that *"he's an absolute dream to work with. He is a class act!"* Another source, who describes Gibbs as *"brilliant,"* says: *"He's really difficult to get, because everyone wants him. When you do get him, you snap him up."*

Hugo Keith QC is reported to be *"very persuasive as an advocate and inspires confidence in clients."* An interviewee enthuses: *"He is absolutely fantastic. Extremely bright, hard-working and personable."* A source says he is also *"excellent in advisory work, particularly complex stuff with a significant international element."*

James Lewis QC is *"excellent"* and *"a true leader in his field,"* a source remarks. He handles financial crime matters for high net worth clients, including fraud, extradition and corruption cases.

JUNIORS

Neil Saunders is well regarded, sources say he is *"excellent,"* and considered to be up with the best in the industry. Saunders handles financial crime matters for high net worth clients.

Stuart Biggs has significant experience handling financial investigations brought by the SFO, the FCA and HMRC. A source remarks: *"He is a brilliant guy."*

Rachel Scott is *"excellent"* and experienced in acting for wealthy individuals in white-collar crime cases.

Band 2

2 Bedford Row

2 Bedford Row is well regarded for its financial crime offering to high net worth individuals. Its members are experienced in acting for high net worth individuals on financial crime matters.

John Grimmer is the senior clerk, leading the set's well-regarded clerking team.

SILKS

Jim Sturman QC is recognised by a source as *"an excellent trial advocate."* He regularly handles financial crime cases for high net worth individuals.

Simon Baker QC maintains a solid reputation in the financial crime legal community. Baker took silk in 2021 and remains a sought-after advocate for financial crime work involving high net worth individuals.

Matrix Chambers

Matrix *"has a very strong cross-disciplinary team, which understands complex cases across criminal, regulatory and dimensions,"* a market commentator reports. The team acts for high-profile and affluent individuals on financial crime matters.

Several sources commend the clerking team for the quality of its service. *"They are really good and responsive,"* explains an interviewee. Another source remarks: *"They are clear, concise, prompt, helpful to solicitors and understand commercial realities."* Paul Venables leads the Matrix clerking team that handles the set's criminal law caseload.

SILKS

Clare Montgomery QC is *"brilliant,"* according to market sources. One interviewee reports that *"Clare is consistently at the very top of the game. She is fantastically bright and on the ball."* Another says: *"If you have very difficult matters involving complex areas she's very, very good."*

Alex Bailin QC *"is very well thought of in the marketplace – an excellent brain,"* reports a commentator. Bailin acts for high net worth individuals in financial crime matters. *"He's excellent, very approachable and thoughtful, also very easy to work with,"* a source enthuses.

Tim Owen QC handles financial crime matters for high net worth individuals. *"He is absolutely brilliant,"* says an interviewee. One source enthuses: *"Tim's advocacy is outstanding, he destroys the opposing arguments with clarity and ease."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Graham Brodie QC of 33 Chancery Lane acts for high net worth clients on a broad range of financial crime matters.

Alexandra Healy QC of Foundry Chambers is highly experienced in handling financial crime cases for high net worth clients.

Jonathan Laidlaw QC of 2 Hare Court is a highly respected silk specialising in financial crime investigations. Sources say Jonathan is a *"very good"* silk for financial crime matters.

Richard Lissack QC of Fountain Court Chambers is recognised for his experience handling bribery, fraud and corruption allegations. *"He's very clear with the client, he's very reassuring and has a very sharp mind – sees through the issues,"* explains an interviewee. *"Richard has had an extraordinary career, particularly in recent years,"* says another source. Recalling a recent matter, this source says that *"he really did excel in that case; the way in which he was able to command the attention of the judge in the dismissal argument he won was incredible."*

Duncan Penny QC of 6KBW College Hill is experienced at handling financial crime matters for high net worth clients. He is well respected among instructing solicitors for this work.

David Perry QC of 6KBW College Hill *"has the best judgement in this field,"* says a source, who adds: *"He is a beautiful advocate – someone who the Supreme Court adore. They know when they get a document from David his argument will be right and put succinctly."*

Leonora Sagan of Fountain Court Chambers is *"incredibly smart, she's very clear, and very good on the detail,"* says a source, adding: *"She's always making herself available, and she's easy to work with; she's more practical than most. It's obviously highly technical, thoughtful and considered advice but it's practical in its delivery."*

Jessica Tate of Foundry Chambers acts for high net worth individuals in financial crime cases. She is seen as an up-and-coming junior barrister for work on complex cases.

UK: An Introduction to Immigration: High Net Worth Individuals

Contributed by Fragomen LLP

On a global basis, the pandemic has resulted in more High Net Worth (HNW) individuals, with recent figures confirming that those with assets of more than USD30 million rose by a record 9.3% in 2021.

The UK contributes to this trend, with rising house prices and investment markets helping to fuel this increase. In terms of immigration, there are several global headwinds that are already impacting the UK HNW cohort, or have the potential to do so in the future, including:

- ongoing COVID-19 travel restrictions and related travel and health concerns;
- the crisis in Ukraine; and
- the implications of Brexit.

Global uncertainty will continue to affect the key driving factors behind international relocations, so now more than ever it is vital that HNW individuals obtain timely strategic advice. We discuss the impact of these factors on HNW individuals, and the key changes to the sector in the last year.

The impact of COVID-19 and geopolitical factors

As we enter this living with COVID-19 period, the migration environment remains complicated with HNW individuals facing many considerations in determining whether and where they will travel to or relocate. The pandemic, and to a lesser extent Brexit, have forced HNW individuals to reconsider their priorities, with health care infrastructure, national security, and political stability featuring higher in the list of key considerations. Sadly, the conflict in Ukraine is also likely to have an ongoing impact on the decisions made by governments.

These factors have also caused HNW families to reassess their long-term motives for relocation. Increasingly, families are considering how they can bequeath future benefits to their children, such as freedom of movement within the EU, or an alternative citizenship (which might provide greater flexibility for travel, study and residence rights). Jurisdictions that permit dual citizenship have also become increasingly attractive.

The rise of digital nomads

As companies formalise the hybrid working policies which grew rapidly during the COVID-19 pandemic, governments have been trying to keep pace with this new type of workforce by introducing digital nomad programmes. These programmes now appear in at least 28 countries, with more on the horizon, and allow foreign nationals to perform work for an employer outside of the country where they are living as a digital nomad.

HNW individuals, and in particular those without school-age children, are now considering these programmes as a way to achieve the flexibility they require in their work and personal lives. For governments affected economically by the pandemic, digital nomad visas are a new and flexible way to drive investment in their country and compete with other jurisdictions to secure the brightest talent from an increasingly mobile global workforce. With the global decline of residence programmes based on purely passive investments, we expect to see digital nomad visas become a partial solution to the need for governments to drive active investment in their economies.

Data privacy – a new COVID-19 era concern

Another new and major global concern is the privacy of health information.

Since the start of the pandemic, governments have moved more immigration processes to the digital space. Travellers are now asked to share personal medical data with governments, international organisations and even third-party companies before and after arrival, often on a digital platform. 82 out of 166 countries surveyed by Fragomen had a digital health platform for COVID-19-related information as of 1 March 2022.

With different stakeholders increasing their collection of health data, and with governments becoming more reliant on a growing number of online platforms to monitor compliance, stricter data privacy laws will become paramount. However, a centralised global data protection law or system is highly unlikely. We therefore expect technologically advanced countries with strong data protection infrastructure and rules to be increasingly attractive to privacy and data conscious HNW individuals planning international relocations.

Citizenship and residence by investment programmes

Residence and citizenship by investment programmes grew rapidly after the financial crisis in 2008 in an effort to revitalise struggling economies. The impact of the pandemic on the global economy, coupled with the repercussions of UK citizens losing free movement rights in the EU, has resulted in many HNW individuals from the UK and other jurisdictions considering the benefits of such programmes over the last year.

There are benefits to the acquisition of an alternative residence or citizenship, including the possibility of easier global travel, the ability to do business in multiple jurisdictions, and potential work, study and residence benefits for family members. Despite the appeal of these programmes, HNW individuals should carefully consider the related risks. For example, Moldova and Cyprus cancelled their programmes due to corruption scandals, and the European Parliament continues to push for unified and stricter regulation of "golden visa" routes, particularly focused on adding stricter background checks, reporting obligations and minimum residence requirements.

With the crisis in Ukraine and the resulting closure of various investment-related routes for Russian nationals in several European countries, it has become evident that such programmes are more exposed to swift political action during emergency situations than other immigration routes. Across Europe and worldwide, we are likely to see an increasing requirement for active investment from applicants, or a drive to funnel investment into more socially conscious, Environmental Social and Governance driven areas, in order to obtain residence or citizenship.

Closure of Tier 1 (Investor) route in the United Kingdom

On 17 February 2022 the UK's Tier 1 (Investor) route was closed without warning to new applications with immediate effect, with

the UK Government citing "security concerns". The route had provided an initial right of residence and, subject to strict residence requirements, a route to permanent residence for individuals able to make a significant passive investment in the UK. Applicants already within the category will have the chance to extend their visas or apply for permanent residence.

This leaves the UK without an immigration category for individuals seeking to relocate based on passive investment for the time being, though there may be other suitable categories for HNW individuals to explore. The UK Government has promised to make significant reforms to the existing Innovator visa category by Autumn 2022 to provide targeted provision for investment-related migration. This route will require an applicant to have a track record of overseas investment activity and credible plans to do the same in the UK. In addition, the Home Office has recently announced an expanded Global Mobility route, together with a "scale up" visa for potential high-growth businesses and a short-term route for "high potential" individuals. So far none of these routes provide a direct replacement for the closed Tier 1 (Investor) route.

There is an important need for overseas investment in the UK economy, and history has shown us that many of the UK's most successful companies have been driven by exactly that. There is now an opportunity for the UK Government to consider changes to investment-related migration which encourage socially and environmentally responsible investments which will benefit the UK economy and labour market, backed by strict compliance criteria and safeguards against abuse.

Brexit impacts on HNW individuals in the UK and EU

Brexit continues to heavily impact the decisions made by HNW individuals. With free movement a thing of the past for the UK, we are now seeing British Citizens seeking alternative ways to regain this flexibility by securing a right of residence, or even citizenship, in an EU country – typically through a financial investment or property purchase. In this context, the concept of "succession planning" is a growing consideration for HNW UK families who are seeking ways to afford their children the opportunity to easily travel and study in the EU.

We have not yet seen significant numbers of HNW EU nationals seeking to relocate to the UK post-Brexit, although an attractive investment-based immigration route is likely to increase interest. Notwithstanding Brexit, the UK continues to be an attractive location for individuals relocating from other locations worldwide, with the expanded Global Talent route providing an excellent and popular option for tech entrepreneurs and investors from tech hubs around the world.

At Fragomen, we advise High Net Worth clients on all aspects of immigration strategy and transactional work, covering almost every jurisdiction worldwide.

For further information please contact:
Nadine Goldfoot, UK Managing Partner, Fragomen at ngoldfoot@fragomen.com

Immigration High Net Worth Individuals

Immigration: High Net Worth Individuals
Leading Firms
Band 1
Kingsley Napley LLP
Laura Devine Immigration
Mishcon de Reya LLP
Band 2
Bates Wells
Charles Russell Speechlys
Farrer & Co LLP
Fladgate LLP
Fragomen LLP
Payne Hicks Beach LLP
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP
* *Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Kingsley Napley LLP

Kingsley Napley regularly handles market leading immigration matters for wealthy individuals. *"They have a strong team and many years of experience in successfully dealing with exceptionally complex matters,"* states a source.

"They are professional, courteous and extremely knowledgeable in this field – a pleasure to work

Immigration: High Net Worth Individuals	
Senior Statespeople	
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	
Trott Philip *Vanessa Ganguin Immigration Law (ORL)* ◊	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	**Band 3**
Barrett-Brown Sophie *Laura Devine Immigration*	**Brett Young** Tom *VWV (ORL)* ◊
Barth Philip *Michelmores LLP (ORL)* ◊	**Ganguin** Vanessa *Vanessa Ganguin Immigration (ORL)* ◊
Bradbury Kathryn *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *	**Harvey** Suzanna *Burges Salmon LLP (ORL)* ◊
Carey Rose *Charles Russell Speechlys*	**McIndoe** Gary *Latitude Law (ORL)* ◊
Gogan Sarah *Harbottle & Lewis LLP (ORL)* ◊	**Moghal** Jay *Lexus Law (ORL)* ◊
Hinchin Elena *Farrer & Co LLP*	**Nechita** Olga *Vialto Partners (ORL)* ◊ *
Perrott James *Mayer Brown International LLP (ORL)* ◊	**Patsalos** Maria *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Rahman Kamal *Mishcon de Reya LLP*	**Saini** Pat *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP*
Rollason Nicolas *Kingsley Napley LLP*	**Torr** Antonia *Howard Kennedy LLP (ORL)* ◊ *
Band 2	**Up-and-coming individuals**
El-Chamaa Hazar *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP*	**Bostock** Nicolette *Laura Devine Immigration*
Evlogidis Tracy *Withers LLP (ORL)* ◊ *	**Newbury** Katie *Kingsley Napley LLP*
Gherson Roger *Gherson (ORL)* ◊	**Tanner** Kelvin *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Goldfoot Nadine *Fragomen LLP*	**Associates to watch**
Ingham Matt *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *	**Boyd** Conor *Kingsley Napley LLP*
Patel Chetal *Bates Wells*	**Hood** Alex *Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP*
Tingley Andrew *Tingley Dalanay (ORL)* ◊	**James** Matthew *Bates Wells*
Whiter Kelly *Fladgate LLP*	**Kiely** John *Fragomen LLP*
	Leung Myra *Burges Salmon LLP (ORL)* ◊
	Yu Jessica *Macfarlanes LLP (ORL)* ◊ *

with. I would have no hesitation in referring clients to them," says an interviewee, who also says that *"they deliver an excellent service."*

Notable practitioners

Nicolas Rollason is head of the firm's business immigration practice and has an excellent reputation among interviewees. *"He is one of the grandees of UK immigration law. He takes a big-picture view when dealing with complex cases for clients who find themselves in very difficult situations,"* observes a source. Another impressed commentator states: *"Nicholas has long been a star in the immigration world and has a very sure grasp of difficult private client work, including for high net worth clients."* **Katie Newbury** regularly assists clients with Tier 1 applications. *"I really enjoy working with Katie.She has a good client sense, she understands what clients need,"* says an interviewee, who adds: *"She is very strong on the law and has an acute and refined understanding of the way in which political and policy winds are blowing and can use this to the benefit of clients."* Another source says: *"Katie is excellent, approachable and easy to work with, with a focus of delivering great client service."* **Conor Boyd** is a senior associate at the firm. His work includes advising clients on Tier 1 applications, British citizenship matters and EU Treaty rights. *"He is responsive, has a quick mind, and clients respect him immediately,"* observes an interviewee, and another commentator says: *"Conor is very user-friendly and we never hesitate to recommend him."*

Laura Devine Immigration

Laura Devine Immigration *"has a very strong team who can work in all areas of immigration law, ranging from corporate matters to those involving private clients. All of the lawyers that I have dealt with at LDI have impressed me with their knowledge and expertise,"* says a source. They continue: *"Their breadth of knowledge and experience in UK and US immigration matters is hugely impressive, as is their ability to deal with unusual and complex immigration situations."*

The firm is well respected among peers. *"I have a lot of respect for the firm,"* remarks an interviewee, and another says: *"We respect the work that they do."*

Notable practitioners

Sophie Barrett-Brown *"is the first person that I call when I need someone with whom to talk through a complex immigration matter,"* states an interviewee, adding: *"She has a vast breadth of immigration knowledge and experience. Her comments are always insightful and helpful."* A market source says: *"Barrett-Brown is really well respected and very knowledgeable."* **Nicolette Bostock** *"is excellent,"* says a source, adding: *"She is extremely professional and very reliable." "I strongly recommend anyone who needs legal immigration advice to discuss the matter with Nicolette,"* states a commentator. Another source remarks: *"Nicolette is efficient and has a strong problem-solving attitude."*

Mishcon de Reya LLP

Mishcon de Reya *"are real market leaders,"* states a source, continuing: *"They are strategic in their approach and are good at finding practical solutions."* They add: *"What they offer is expertise – they have a large immigration team with an awful lot of experience."*

"The immigration team at Mishcon de Reya is really very well professionally organised," states an interviewee. Another source remarks: *"Their communication is always strong,"* continuing: *"I enjoy their high service levels."*

Notable practitioners

Kamal Rahman *"is the best immigration lawyer in London by far,"* states a source. *"Rahman has really built up the team at Mishcon,"* says another. *"She is excellent: excellent at client management, excellent at managing a team, and excellent at trying to find practical solutions,"* remarks a source. **Maria Patsalos** *"is very, very good,"* states a source, adding: *"Patsalos is very client-focused."* A further commentator corroborates the client-focused nature of Patsalos' approach, saying: *"Her client skills are second to none."* Additionally, they remark: *"Patsalos is a fantastic lawyer who is supremely well equipped to deal with complex cases."*

Band 2

Bates Wells

Bates Wells has *"considerable experience and are very well known in this space,"* states a commentator, who goes on to say: *"They are solution-oriented and pragmatic."*

Another interviewee comments: *"The team at Bates Wells is fantastic. They are prompt in responding to queries, clear and concise in their advice and have keen attention to detail." "We definitely got our money's worth with the service that they provided to us,"* says a client, continuing: *"There was always someone available to answer our questions."*

Notable practitioners

Chetal Patel *"is always such a pleasure and dream to work with,"* says a source, adding: *"She is always available despite short notice. Her advice is clear and to the point. Her knowledge and attention to detail is impeccable – all in all, a fantastic lawyer."* Another commentator states: *"Every interaction is always polite, professional and helpful. Even the most complex and layered matters are handled with the utmost ease."* **Matthew James** is an associate at the firm and advises on both personal and business immigration matters. *"It has been a pleasure working with Matt. I most certainly recommend him,"* says a source. Another comments: *"Matthew was my main contact for an immigration matter. He was always professional and thorough."*

Charles Russell Speechlys

Charles Russell Speechlys has a strong reputation for handling immigration matters for both corporate and private clients, including high net worth individuals. A market source states: *"I have had clients giving very good feedback about them." "I have always been impressed by their knowledge, professionalism and approachable manner,"* states a source, continuing: *"They are always very swift to respond."* Another source says: *"They practice on a well-organised basis internally which enables them to handle complex and sophisticated matters efficiently and effectively."*

Notable practitioners

Rose Carey *"is the hardest working person that I know and has so much in-depth industry knowledge,"* states a source, adding: *"She is fantastic."* An interviewee remarks: *"Rose Carey always impresses me with her knowledge of the law.""A brilliant immigration lawyer,"* says a market commentator. **Kelvin Tanner** *"is extremely approachable and personable,"* says a source, adding: *"He backs up strong technical knowledge with a focus on ensuring that the client understands the issues and receives a good level of service."* An interviewee states: *"Tanner is a knowledgeable immigration practitioner and gives comfort to clients instantly by his encyclopaedia of knowledge. His charm and warmth put high net worth clients at ease."*

Farrer & Co LLP

Farrer & Co *"are a very respected and high-class law firm,"* states a source. *"The firm and its lawyers show a deep knowledge of all matters,"* remarks another.

"The team was always two steps ahead," says a source, adding: *"Their expertise was invaluable. The case was covered from all sides." "Farrer & Co helped us with immigration matters. I was impressed by the technical knowledge and practical approach of the members of the team with whom I worked,"* says a commentator, continuing: *"They dealt with a demanding and complex matter in a timely and efficient manner."*

Notable practitioners

Elena Hinchin *"is a highly sophisticated and very personable individual,"* states a source; *"one feels like you are her only client and that you are a high priority."* A commentator notes that *"she is absolutely excellent: she is very organised, provides excellent client care, and is on top of everything in her case." "Elena is a pleasure to work with and a safe pair of hands,"* remarks a source.

Fladgate LLP

Fladgate has a strong immigration offering that includes advising high net worth individuals and their families. *"My case had several tricky elements to it, but they handled all of these elements with superb attention to detail,"* remarks a source.

"Quite simply, we would not have got the result we did had the team not had the competence, depth and capacity to handle our complex situation," states a source. Another says: *"All responses were fast and on time, but also weighted and very sensible. The service was top quality."*

Notable practitioners

Kelly Whiter *"is very well regarded in the immigration law industry,"* states a market commentator. *"Whiter is outstanding,"* says another source, who adds that *"Kelly is on my shortlist of people to recommend for difficult high net worth cases."*

Fragomen LLP

Fragomen assists high net worth individuals with immigration matters, which includes securing visas and citizenship. *"They are responsive, clear and comprehensive in their advice,"* states a source, adding: *"I feel confident that the team at Fragomen would be able to advise and assist on any UK immigration matter."*

"I have always been impressed by their knowledge, professionalism and approachable manner," remarks a source. *"The team are able to handle complex multi-jurisdictional cases for clients,"* another commentator says, continuing: *"They are able to call on their broad network of advisers globally and offer pragmatic advice and solutions which the team are able to implement for the client seamlessly."*

Notable practitioners

Nadine Goldfoot *"is an absolute powerhouse,"* says a source, adding: *"Goldfoot is knowledgeable, practical and extremely experienced in her professional practice."* They continue: *"She is able to provide complex multi-jurisdictional advice with ease and offer innovative holistic solutions which take into consideration a variety of other considerations."* An interviewee remarks: *"Her knowledge of high net worth private client immigration for the UK and globally is excellent."* **Alex Hood** *"delivers high-quality advice in a friendly and timely manner,"* says a source, adding: *"Alex's professionalism and calm manner helps reassure clients they are in the hands of a trusted adviser."* An interviewee remarks: *"Alex is very professional with strong technical knowledge and a focus on client service."*

John Kiely is *"responsive and knowledgeable with a solution-orientated mind,"* remarks a source. *"John is a pleasure to work with,"* says an interviewee, adding: *"Clients always have very positive feedback on his professionalism and expertise." "Kiely combines strong technical skills with a real interest in the client – a rising star,"* states a source.

Payne Hicks Beach LLP

Payne Hicks Beach *"is known for its bespoke approach and problem solving,"* states a source, adding: *"The PHB team thrives on the most complex of briefs, rather than marketing a single immigration solution."*

"They provide the highest quality of service over a wide range of immigration-related issues," enthuses another commentator, adding: *"They are completely on top of the law and Home Office practice."* A third source says: *"They are able and willing to work well under pressure and are quick to respond to a fast-changing situation."*

Notable practitioners

Kathryn Bradbury (see p.321) *"is the very best in the business,"* states a source. *"I think that she is the best immigration lawyer in London,"* comments another, adding: *"She knows her stuff inside out but is also so personable." "She has excellent client skills and a thorough knowledge of complex immigration law matters,"* says a third source. A further commentator remarks: *"She can smoothly handle complex non-contentious cases as well as hard-fought immigration litigation."* **Matt Ingham** (see p.333) *"combines clear-sighted and incisive analysis with a robust but sensitive approach to clients,"* says a source. *"Ingham is dedicated to his clients. He is both extremely responsive and a master strategist and tactician,"* says another, adding: *"It is unusual for a partner with oversight of such big cases to have such a fine grip on detail while not losing sight of the wider context."*

Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP

Pennington Manches Cooper *"has a very efficient and knowledgeable immigration team,"* remarks a source, who continues: *"It is an absolute pleasure to work with the firm."*

"Penningtons is great at handling all UK immigration matters, including highly complex matters for high net worth clients," says a commentator. *"The UK team is extraordinarily knowledgeable,"* comments a source, adding: *"They are very on top of what is going on in the Home Office regarding immigration matters."*

Notable practitioners

Hazar El-Chamaa *"handled my case superbly,"* says a source, adding: *"I highly recommend her." "Clients find her approachable, friendly and extremely knowledgeable,"* states another commentator, adding: *"She always goes the extra mile."*

Pat Saini leads the immigration team at Penningtons Manches Cooper. Saini advises high net worth individuals on a range of immigration-related matters, and is described by a source as *"amazing; one of the best in the field." "Saini demonstrates huge humility and professionalism,"* remarks another. A market commentator states: *"She is very knowledgeable, especially on the EU front."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Philip Barth *"is a household name"* in this area. *"Barth is knowledgeable, precise and efficient,"* remarks a commentator, adding: *"He is very attentive."* Barth heads the immigration practice at Michelmores LLP.

Tom Brett Young of VWV *"is great,"* says a market commentator. *"Reputationally, Tom is very strong,"* says a source. Brett Young is based in Birmingham and advises high net worth individuals on immigration applications including global talent visas.

Tracy Evlogidis (see p.327) of Withers LLP *"is outstanding in client service, legal expertise and professionalism and concern for her clients,"* says one source. Another remarks: *"Tracy is extremely professional and a pleasure to work with. She is incredibly responsive and has a level of experience that provides client confidence and delivers successful outcomes. I would highly recommend her."*

Vanessa Ganguin of Vanessa Ganguin Immigration Law *"clearly knows her field inside out,"* says a source, adding: *"We were very impressed with Vanessa's knowledge and experience in this area." "I greatly enjoyed working with Vanessa and her team,"* remarks another commentator.

Roger Gherson of Gherson *"always provides me with incredible service,"* enthuses one source; *"the quality of his work is unbelievable,"* says another. A further source reports that *"he provides 360-degree advice to clients."*

Sarah Gogan of Harbottle & Lewis LLP *"is the most dedicated lawyer I know in the field of high net worth immigration,"* says a source, who continues: *"She is the most brilliant strategist with a compelling ability to find novel arguments."* They add: *"I cannot think of a case that would be too complex or sophisticated for her." "Gogan combines charm, empathy, focus and intelligence,"* remarks a commentator.

Suzanna Harvey co-leads the high net worth and ultra high net worth individuals team of Burges Salmon LLP. Harvey is described as *"a very strong adviser"* by a source, who continues: *"She is very down to earth, has high technical knowledge and cares for her clients." "Suzanna is friendly and easily approachable,"* remarks another commentator.

Myra Leung of Burges Salmon LLP is an associate who *"is always incredibly responsive and knowledgeable,"* according to a source. *"Leung is very professional and demonstrates great emotional intelligence,"* remarks another. *"She goes above and beyond to help clients and other advisers,"* says a source, adding: *"She displays very strong knowledge in relation to the ever-evolving immigration environment."*

Gary McIndoe is a well-regarded immigration practitioner who acts for clients including high net worth individuals. McIndoe is managing partner of Latitude Law in Manchester.

Jay Moghal of Lexus Law *"is extremely professional and has deep and impressive knowledge of all aspects of immigration law and procedure,"* says a source, adding: *"He is creative and a great communicator, fierce and energising, encouraging the pursuit of his clients' cases with impeccable judgement." "I would not hesitate to recommend Jay,"* remarks a commentator, continuing: *"His knowledge and professionalism shines through in every event."*

Olga Nechita (see p.338) is a solicitor and senior manager at Vialto Partners, which was formerly the global mobility business of PwC Legal. Sources say Nechita is an *"expert immigration specialist."* One says that *"I rate Nechita as an excellent lawyer."* Another interviewee says: *"Olga is very good, I was impressed. I wouldn't go anywhere else, she was really helpful."*

James Perrott of Mayer Brown LLP *"is a legal master with the most wonderful personality,"* says one commentator; another reports that *"James provides absolutely excellent client service."* Perrott is *"a go-to for high net worth individuals on immigration matters,"* says a further source, adding: *"He gives excellent practical advice."*

Andrew Tingley of Tingley Dalanay *"is a very capable practitioner,"* states a source. Another market commentator reports that *"I have heard great things about him."*

Antonia Torr (see p.345) leads the immigration services practice at Howard Kennedy LLP. *"She offers an encyclopaedic knowledge of immigration law. She is incredibly client-focused, pragmatic, responsive and able to make the seemingly unwinnable case winnable,"* says an interviewee. Another source describes Torr as *"an extraordinary professional."*

Philip Trott of Vanessa Ganguin Immigration Law *"is in a class of his own,"* enthuses a commentator. *"Bringing on board Philip Trott was a big coup for the team at Vanessa Ganguin Immigration,"* comments a source.

Jessica Yu (see p.348) of Macfarlanes LLP *"is personable, professional and experienced,"* says a source, who adds: *"You are in very good hands with Jess."* Another commentator remarks: *"Jessica is a delight to work with – clients value her input and expertise in immigration-related matters." "She is very good at explaining complex matters in a simple way,"* says a third source.

Private Wealth Law London

Private Wealth Law
London
Leading Firms

Band 1
Charles Russell Speechlys
Farrer & Co LLP
Forsters LLP
Macfarlanes LLP
Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP
Taylor Wessing

Band 2
Baker McKenzie
Boodle Hatfield LLP
Harbottle & Lewis LLP
Mishcon de Reya LLP
Withers LLP

Band 3
Payne Hicks Beach LLP
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP
Sinclair Gibson LLP
Stephenson Harwood LLP
Wedlake Bell LLP

Band 4
BDB Pitmans LLP
Burges Salmon LLP
Edwin Coe LLP
Howard Kennedy LLP
McDermott Will & Emery UK LLP
Russell-Cooke
Weightmans LLP

Band 5
Collyer Bristow LLP
Currey & Co
Druces LLP
Fieldfisher
Fladgate LLP
Hunters
Kingsley Napley LLP
Osborne Clarke LLP
Winckworth Sherwood

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Charles Russell Speechlys

Charles Russell Speechlys *"have industry stalwarts and are known for their expert knowledge and experience,"* states a source. Another adds: *"The strength of the department is in the breadth. They have an advantage over other firms in having a much broader scope."*

A source says: *"Their advice is concise but understandable and provides myself and my business with great comfort."* The team handle a range of high-value domestic and international issues in private wealth such as taxation, trusts, succession and structuring matters. The firm has a strong reputation for its work.

Notable practitioners

Piers Master is *"an outstanding lawyer and leader in his field, with exceptional technical knowledge and the highest level of client service,"* states a source. Another adds: *"Piers is a fabulous technician, with an ability to deal with people with respect and empathy, whilst delivering the most technical advice."* Master is head of the private wealth team at the firm and advises high net worth clients on contentious and non-contentious matters. **Bart Peerless** is a *"very good listener and responsive,"* states an interviewee. Another says he is *"simply brilliant."* Peerless advises high net worth clients on a range of matters relating to trusts and estates. **Robert Blower** is *"one of the leading trust specialists in the business,"* says a source. *"Robert is superb at grappling with complex, cross-border matters. He is particularly strong with clients from the Middle East,"* states a market commentator. Blower focuses his practice on matters relating to taxation, trusts and estates. **Sophie Dworetzsky** is a *"proper technical lawyer; she can grasp the most complex issues and tax analyses and explains it very well in a way that makes perfect sense,"* says a commentator. Dworetzsky is highly experienced in structuring, estates and tax matters. She advises wealthy families and individuals in these areas. **Dominic Lawrance** *"stands out, he is such a technically excellent practitioner,"* states a source. Another adds: *"He is very knowledgeable on cross-border and non-domiciledmatters."* Lawrance is experienced in matters relating to taxation. **Catriona Syed** is *"excellent and well regarded, and very good technically, with great experience,"* states a fellow lawyer. Syed is an experienced lawyer with expertise in estate planning, structuring and succession. **William Begley** advises wealthy clients on high-value commercial, trust and tax matters. A source states: *"His problem solving and responsiveness are on point, he provides good support and wisdom, he is wonderful."* **Andrew Cameron** focuses his practice on wealth structuring matters, with a focus on high-value tax cases. He is well regarded for his work within this space. **Suzanne Marriott** focuses her practice on tax, trusts, probate, wills and estate and succession planning matters. She is a highly experienced lawyer. **Sangna Chauhan** *"is a very skilled solicitor with cross-border and multi-jurisdictional expertise,"* says a source. An observer adds: *"She has great skills on succession and tax planning for international clients."* Chauhan is highly regarded for the scope of her expertise. A commentator states: *"She is a go-to for cross-border matters; she can handle tricky and complex issues seamlessly. She is a pleasure to work with."* **Nicola Thorpe** advises high net worth clients on a range of matters in private wealth, including cross-border restructuring, estate planning and trusts. *"Nicola is excellent with tricky clients and cases,"* states a commentator. **Elena Vasilyeva** focuses her practice on international estate and tax planning matters. A source states: *"She can handle complex matters, points out the important issues for the client, and she is qualified in Russian law as well as UK law."*

Farrer & Co LLP

Farrer & Co provide an *"absolutely first-class service and never anything less,"* says a source. There is a *"broad depth of expertise within the business,"* states a market commentator.

An observer adds: *"They have very strong technical knowledge, with an ability to explain complex issues simply and in a way that clients can understand. They are focused on the goals of the client."* Farrer is a highly regarded firm and is well respected for its expertise across a wide array of private wealth matters.

Notable practitioners

Mark Bridges is a highly respected practitioner with extensive experience in estates, trusts and succession planning. A fellow lawyer states that *"everyone knows him, he has a fantastic client base."* **Russell Cohen** is *"incredibly personable as a lawyer, very nice to get along with and clients really warm to him. His interpersonal skills are the best I've seen in the law,"* states a market commentator. Another adds: *"He can deal with difficult private wealth issues. He has brilliant communication and technical skills."* Cohen is experienced across a broad range of matters in private wealth, such as tax, trusts and structuring. **Sarah von Schmidt** focuses her practice on matters relating to trusts, intergenerational tax and succession planning. She is well regarded for her work in the field. **Bryony Cove** is a *"client-focused, multi-competency partner with excellent interpersonal skills who demonstrates awareness of, and sensitivity to, family succession-related anxieties or concerns,"* says a commentator. Another source adds: *"Bryony is a fantastic blend of the commercial and client-centric, marrying the two seamlessly in her work with clients."* Cove's expertise is in matters relating to trusts, family governance and tax planning. **Nick Dunnell** is described as a *"very good lawyer and very well respected"* by a source. Another adds: *"Nick is extremely good to deal with."* He advises wealthy clients on a wide array of succession planning, trust and tax matters. **Catherine McAleavey** is an *"excellent private client lawyer; she is technically brilliant,"* says an interviewee. Another adds that McAleavey has a *"solid client base and is a really safe pair of hands."* She is a specialist in landed estates. **Rachel Mainwaring-Taylor** *"is someone I would highly recommend. Her client skills are fabulous and she is really bright,"* states a market commentator. She focuses her practice on matters relating to estate planning and trusts. **Oliver Piper** has a *"pragmatic approach, with a good knowledge of sophisticated trust structures,"* says a source. He focuses his practice on high-value matters relating to foundations and trusts. **Holly Jones** *"is just the sort of person any family would want organising complex affairs and advice,"* states a commentator. Another adds: *"She is really impressive in her ability to communicate complex technical issues to the client in an understandable way."* Jones is highlighted for her expertise in trusts, tax and landed estates.

Forsters LLP

Forsters are *"a leading private wealth law firm,"* states a source. A commentator adds: *"They're a wonderful firm. They are very strong on landed estates and UK property."*

The firm has wide-ranging expertise in matters such as tax, succession and business planning as well as cross-border and international issues.

Private Wealth Law

London

Senior Statespeople

Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners

Bridges Mark *Farrer & Co LLP*
Buzzoni Mark *Taylor Wessing*
Frimston Richard *Russell-Cooke* *
Hine Andrew *Taylor Wessing*
Vos Robin *Macfarlanes LLP* *

Leading Individuals

Band 1

Barclay Piers *Macfarlanes LLP* *
Bruce-Smith Keith *Sinclair Gibson LLP*
Burt Jonathan *Harbottle & Lewis LLP*
Cohen Russell *Farrer & Co LLP*
Conder Jonathan *Stephenson Harwood LLP*
Crossley Ashley *Baker McKenzie*
Gardner Ceris *Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP*
Gibson Lucy *Sinclair Gibson LLP*
Gothard Charles *Macfarlanes LLP* *
Harney Patrick *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Jacob Nicholas *Forsters LLP*
Master Piers *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Maurice Clare *Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP*
Peerless Bart *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Prichard Jones Sebastian *Macfarlanes LLP* *
Reed Edward *Macfarlanes LLP* *
Riches John *RMW Law (ORL)* ◊
von Schmidt Sarah *Farrer & Co LLP*
Warr Nick *Taylor Wessing*
Zirinis Basil P *Sullivan & Cromwell LLP (ORL)* ◊

Band 2

Bailey Hayden *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *
Barnett John E *Burges Salmon LLP*
Brodrick Robert *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *
Court Oliver *Macfarlanes LLP* *
Cove Bryony *Farrer & Co LLP*
Harries Nicholas *Macfarlanes LLP* *
Kouyoumjian Salpy *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *
Laing Sue *Boodle Hatfield LLP*
Puoti Beatrice *Burges Salmon LLP*
Quarmby James *Stephenson Harwood LLP*
Rylatt Simon *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *
Smithson Jennifer *Macfarlanes LLP* *
Thompson Anthony *Forsters LLP*
Wallace Camilla *Wedlake Bell LLP* *

Band 3

Bloom Damian *Taylor Wessing*
Blower Robert *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Broadberry Alison *Edwin Coe LLP*
Cormack Sarah *Mills & Reeve LLP (ORL)* ◊
Dworetzsky Sophie *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Goepel David *Edwin Coe LLP*
Lawrance Dominic *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Milner Patricia *Withers LLP* *
Moorcroft Chris *Harbottle & Lewis LLP*
Noseda Filippo *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Osborne Emily *Stephenson Harwood LLP* *
Powles Ed *Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP*
Ruffel Alexandra *Irwin Mitchell Private Wealth (ORL)* ◊
Shah Sanjvee *Taylor Wessing*
Shankland Jonathan *Weightmans LLP*
Weider Emma-Jane *Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP*

Band 4

Archer Clare *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP* *
Braithwaite Matthew *Wedlake Bell LLP* *
Dixon Basil *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *
Dunnell Nick *Farrer & Co LLP*
Golden Peter *Fieldfisher*
Goldring Simon *McDermott Will & Emery UK LLP* *
Goldstone Andrew *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Groves Christopher *Withers LLP* *
Janaway Stuart *Osborne Clarke LLP*
Kafena Marianne *Harbottle & Lewis LLP*
McAleavey Catherine *Farrer & Co LLP*
Munro Philip *Withers LLP* *
Owen Astrid B *McDermott Will & Emery UK LLP* *
Palmer Liz *Howard Kennedy LLP* *
Ratcliffe Helen *BDB Pitmans LLP*
Ridgway Jennifer *Michelmores LLP (ORL)* ◊
Riley Jonathan *Fladgate LLP*
Sabanathan Dhana *Winckworth Sherwood*
Simon Daniel *Collyer Bristow LLP*
Snaith Tim *Winckworth Sherwood*
Sosna Charlie *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Stirzaker Clare *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *
Syed Catriona *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Ugur Daniel *Forsters LLP*
Vergunst Andrew *McDermott Will & Emery UK LLP* *
Warr Penelope *Withers LLP* *
Whitehead Paul *Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP*

Band 5

Adamson Barry *Keystone Law (ORL)* ◊ *
Annetts John *Howard Kennedy LLP* *
Badcock James *James Badcock – Independent (ORL)* ◊
Begley William *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Cameron Andrew *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Camp Zoë *Harbottle & Lewis LLP*
Chambers Jennifer *Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP*
Colclough Jonathan *BDB Pitmans LLP* *
Cook Carole *Forsters LLP*
Curtis Jeremy *Cripps (ORL)* ◊
D'Aquino James *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP* *
Dadswell Laura *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP* *
Fisher Rebecca *Russell-Cooke*
Goodman Andrew C *Osborne Clarke LLP*
Hill Catherine R *Forsters LLP*
Luckhurst Helena *Fladgate LLP*
Maccallum Sara *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *
Macro Robert *Druces LLP*
Mainwaring-Taylor Rachel *Farrer & Co LLP*
Malkiel Simon *Howard Kennedy LLP* *
Malling Bech Benedikte *North Star Law Ltd (ORL)* ◊
Marriott Suzanne *Charles Russell Speechlys*
McDowell Rosamond *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *
Meghjee Kassim *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Millar Judith *BDB Pitmans LLP*
Morgan Samantha *RMW Law (ORL)* ◊
Nicholas Xavier *Forsters LLP*
Noel-Smith Kelly *Forsters LLP*
North Murray *Taylor Wessing*
Phelps Simon *Taylor Wessing*
Poole Fiona *Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP*
Proctor Antoaneta *Wedlake Bell LLP* *
Spash Mark *Fladgate LLP*
Tee Charlie *Withers LLP* *
Ward James *Kingsley Napley LLP*
Weeks Claire *Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP*

Up-and-coming individuals

Boothman Alex *Keystone Law (ORL)* ◊ *
Chauhan Sangna *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Cox Helen *Fladgate LLP*
Daniel Peter *Collyer Bristow LLP*
Davison Rachel *Taylor Wessing*
Emms Jennifer *Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP*
Ford Will *Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP (ORL)* ◊
Giangrande Richard *Macfarlanes LLP* *
Gillies Emma *Forsters LLP*
Gold Siena *Harbottle & Lewis LLP*
Hunter Mark *Macfarlanes LLP* *
Killingbeck Alice *KPMG Law (ORL)* ◊
Malone Patrick *Weightmans LLP*
Piper Oliver *Farrer & Co LLP*
Salomons Christopher *Russell-Cooke* *
Thorpe Nicola *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Vyas Kunal *Taylor Wessing*

Star associates

Kubanik Elizabeth *Sullivan & Cromwell LLP (ORL)* ◊
Townsend Phyllis *Baker McKenzie*

Associates to watch

Cook Christopher *Baker McKenzie*
Evans-Tipping Charlotte *Forsters LLP*
Harle Ben *Edwin Coe LLP*
Jones Holly *Farrer & Co LLP*
Mendoza Nick *Wedlake Bell LLP* *
Smale Tristan *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP* *
Vagner Ekaterina *Fladgate LLP*
Vink Alice *Fieldfisher*

* *Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

"The quality and timeliness of their advice is first class," says an observer.

Notable practitioners

Nicholas Jacob is *"an outstanding lawyer and leader in his field with exceptional technical knowledge and the highest level of client service,"* says an observer. Jacob is highlighted for his expertise, particularly for cross-border matters linked to Asia. **Anthony Thompson** is a *"leading lawyer with an exceptional grasp of private client transactions,"* says a market commentator. Another describes him as *"very supportive and technically excellent."* Thompson is well regarded for his expertise in advising Middle Eastern clients, primarily on matters relating to international tax and estate planning. **Daniel Ugur** *"has a significant Far East practice,"* states a market commentator. Another adds: *"I rate Daniel very highly, he is very thoughtful and technically excellent."* Ugur is highlighted for his Asian expertise and advises high net worth clients on matters such as estate planning and business structuring. **Carole Cook** is well known for her work in private wealth. She advises domestic and international clients on

Foreign Experts Private Wealth Law Based in London with expertise in countries listed below
Canada **Holland** Nicholas *McDermott Will & Emery UK* *
France **Reed** Edward *Macfarlanes LLP* *
India **Shah** Sanjvee *Taylor Wessing*
Italy **Puoti** Beatrice *Burges Salmon LLP*
Italy **Saccardo** Nicola *Maisto e Associati (ORL)* ◊
Middle East-wide **Davies** Martin *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Middle East-wide **Kafena** Marianne *Harbottle & Lewis*
Middle East-wide **Kouyoumjian** Salpy *Boodle* *
Middle East-wide **Manekporia** Reshmi *Howard* *
Middle East-wide **Master** Piers *Charles Russell*
Middle East-wide **Motley** Kyra *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *
Middle East-wide **Osborne** Emily *Stephenson* *
Middle East-wide **Townsend** Phyllis *Baker McKenzie*
Russia **Cameron** Andrew *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Russia **London** Svetlana *CIS London & Partners (ORL)* ◊
Russia **Proctor** Antoaneta *Wedlake Bell LLP* *
Russia **Vasilyeva** Elena *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Singapore **Myint** Ryan *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP*
South Africa **Colclough** Jonathan *BDB Pitmans LLP* *
South Africa **de Maid** Catherine *Burges Salmon LLP*
South Africa **Vergunst** Andrew *McDermott Will* *
Switzerland **Noseda** Filippo *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Switzerland **Syed** Catriona *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Turkey **Hamit** Tulin *Collyer Bristow LLP*
USA **Cassell** Richard *Withers LLP*
USA **Doline** Bradley H *Wilson Sonsini Goodrich (ORL)* ◊
USA **Harney** Patrick *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
USA **McLemore** Christopher *McLemore (ORL)* ◊
USA **Prichard Jones** Sebastian *Macfarlanes LLP* *
USA **Reisman** Suzanne *Law Offices of Suzanne (ORL)* ◊
USA **Westerfield** Brad F. *Butler Snow UK, LLP (ORL)* ◊
* *Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*

trust, estate and succession planning matters. *"She has been around for a long time and is very well respected,"* states an observer. Another says: *"She is very good at what she does."* **Catherine Hill** *"is a great private client lawyer, she has just the right balance of technical excellence but is also personable and understands her clients. She goes the extra mile for them,"* states a fellow lawyer. Another adds: *"She is a complete pleasure to work with and a true collaborator."* Hill is well known for advising clients on tax and trust structuring matters. **Xavier Nicholas** is head of the private client department at Forsters. Nicholas is experienced in a range of matters including trusts and taxation, asset holding structures and family governance. **Kelly Noel-Smith** *"is a credit to Forsters and her profession,"* states a market commentator. Noel-Smith has experience across a wide range of private wealth matters, particularly in trusts. **Emma Gillies** *"is an excellent younger lawyer with a great depth of knowledge when it comes to cross-border matters,"* says a source. Another commentator adds: *"She is a go-to lawyer for cross-border UK-US matters. She is smart and a delight to work with."* Gillies is a UK-US expert, with a focus on taxation and trusts. **Charlotte Evans-Tipping** is described as *"very responsive and enjoyable to work with and technically excellent"* by a market commentator. Evans-Tipping is a senior associate at the firm and focuses on estate, tax and succession planning.

Macfarlanes LLP

Macfarlanes *"are exceptional in the London private client market. They are one of my go-to firms in London,"* states a source. A market commentator adds that they are *"a superb team of practitioners, with an exceptional depth of knowledge and experience in handling complex matters."*

Macfarlanes' lawyers have a very strong reputation for their expertise in the private wealth field. An observer says: *"They have a very strong reputation. They also have the advantage of resources. They're absolutely top rate."*

Notable practitioners

Robin Vos (see p.346) *"is an amazing technician, he is one of the best,"* states a market commentator. Another source describes Vos as *"very distinguished."* He has a very strong reputation within the London market for his experience and expertise in international and domestic estate, tax and trust planning. **Piers Barclay** (see p.319) *"is as good as it gets in the London market. He is a font of knowledge,"* states a source. A market commentator adds: *"Piers is extremely knowledgeable, but I admire his creativity the most, his truly bespoke solutions and wonderful bedside manner. He is incredibly mature and has a lot of gravitas. That makes him a pleasure to deal with. He is at the top of my list."* Barclay specialises in domestic and international tax, estate and succession planning matters. **Charles Gothard** (see p.329) is described as a *"first-class solution-oriented lawyer, with outstanding judgement and quality of advice."* Another source describes Gothard as an *"exemplary trusted adviser."* He advises high net worth individuals on international tax matters, as well as estate planning and structuring issues. **Sebastian Prichard Jones** (see p.340) is described as *"a leading private client lawyer, who is extremely creative and looks at the matter holistically when coming up with a solution."* Prichard Jones is very highly regarded for his extensive expertise and experience in advising ultra high net worth clients on sophisticated international matters relating to tax, trusts and succession planning. **Edward Reed** (see p.341) focuses his practice on asset structuring, tax and succession planning, trusts and wills. He is highly regarded for his work in the London private wealth market. *"His level of knowledge and experience is impressive,"* states a source. **Oliver Court** (see p.325) *"is a fantastic lawyer. He is someone who has a lot of knowledge when it comes to cross-border planning. He is excellent with clients, has a really sharp mind and is very practical and creative in his advice,"* says a source. Another adds that he *"deals with incredibly complex matters very well."* Court focuses his practice on tax, estate planning, investments and business restructuring. **Nicholas Harries** (see p.330) *"is technically very strong, good with clients and a pleasure to work with,"* according to a source. Harries focuses his practice on matters relating to estate planning and trusts. **Jennifer Smithson** (see p.343) is *"a superb practitioner, technically excellent, solution-oriented, direct, sophisticated and delivers with humility,"* says a source. *"Her knowledge of cross-border matters and how everything works is really extraordinary. She just knows things like its second nature. She is very efficient and has a real depth of knowledge which makes it easy to work with her,"* adds a market commentator. Smithson is experienced in advising a range of wealthy clients on cross-border tax matters. **Richard Giangrande** (see p.329) *"is absolutely exceptional and is adept at handling complicated clients,"* states a source. A source adds: *"Richard is a superb private client lawyer, who combines both a keen attention to detail with an ability to deal with conceptual questions."* Giangrande is highlighted for his expertise in cross-border estate planning and taxation. **Mark Hunter** (see p.333) advises individuals, trustees and family offices on a broad range of tax, trust and estate planning matters. He is well regarded for his work in the field.

Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP

Maurice Turnor Gardner is a highly respected boutique firm, with expertise in cross-border and complex matters relating to private wealth. A source describes the firm as: *"Technically very sound with multi-jurisdictional experience."* Another says: *"They are a top-end firm who take on the biggest cases and do them incredibly."*

"Maurice Turnor Gardner is a leading law firm for tax advice and is capable of handling complex cases and providing advice to the point," says a market commentator. Another adds: *"They are technical leaders in the private client field."*

Notable practitioners

Ceris Gardner *"is pragmatic, a problem solver,"* states a source, adding: *"Ceris has always delivered."* Another describes her as *"an amazing lawyer."* Gardner is highly experienced in matters relating to family governance, tax and estate planning. **Clare Maurice** *"is a sensational lawyer. She's a fixture in the London private client market,"* says a commentator. Maurice is senior partner at the firm and advises wealthy clients on a range of matters including philanthropic issues, estate planning and taxation. **Ed Powles** is an *"extremely strong adviser"* and *"a good solid practitioner,"* says a sources. Powles advises wealthy clients on matters relating to estates, trusts and inheritance tax. **Emma-Jane Weider** is described as *"excellent to work with and very knowledgeable"* by a market commentator. A source adds: *"Emma-Jane has extensive experience in dealing with cross-border cases and her advice is always very clear and specific."* Weider advises her clients on a broad range of matters, including cross-border cases, with a European focus. She has expertise in areas such as investment structures, Inheritance Tax, restructuring cases and tax planning. **Paul Whitehead** *"is highly regarded and respected by my clients. He explains complex issues in an easy to understand manner. He gives them confidence and security,"* states a source. A market commentator adds: *"Paul is the go-to authority on all things UK tax. He manages to provide an in-depth analysis which remains practical, relevant and will always find a solution to whatever problem you present."* Whitehead is experienced in wealth structuring, tax and estate planning. **Jennifer Chambers** *"is brilliant, an excellent lawyer and lovely person. She is great to work with,"* states a source. Another adds she is *"a delight to work with, as well as having a great brain."* Chambers advises domestic and international clients on matters relating to succession, estate and charitable planning. **Fiona**

Poole is described as *"a sophisticated all-rounder"* by a market commentator. Poole focuses her practice on matters relating to taxation, relocation, as well as estate and succession planning. She is also a qualified Chartered Tax Adviser. **Claire Weeks** *"is technically excellent and extremely sharp. She has solid knowledge not only of her own practice area, in terms of UK law and tax issues, but also really gets into the tax provisions of other states she is working with. She is diligent and has knowledge of other jurisdictions. Clients can be assured that she ticks all boxes,"* states a source. Weeks advises her clients on matters relating to investments, restructuring, estate administration and acquisitions. **Jennifer Emms** *"is fantastic. She is very good at breaking down complex issues and explaining them to clients in a very easy to understand but comprehensive way,"* states a commentator. Emms advises her clients on high-value and cross-border matters relating to succession planning, investments and wealth transfer issues.

Taylor Wessing

Taylor Wessing *"are advanced in the areas of trust work, cross-border matters, probate and foundations,"* states a market commentator. Another source adds: *"The team are very well qualified and experienced."*

The firm is rated highly by an interviewee, who says: *"They are one of the most technically capable firms that I have ever worked with."* Taylor Wessing advises a broad range of high net worth clients, particularly wealthy entrepreneurs. The firm has expertise across different areas such as tax, trust, succession, business and estate planning matters.

Notable practitioners

Mark Buzzoni is a prominent lawyer within the London private wealth market and is highly experienced in domestic and international tax and estate planning. He is well regarded for his expertise. **Andrew Hine** is *"very senior and an expert,"* says a market commentator. Hine is respected and well regarded for his experience across a broad range of private wealth matters. **Nick Warr** *"is an established character in the private client world, he is very highly regarded and technically very good,"* says a source. Another adds: *"Nick is excellent, his work is phenomenal."* Warr leads the firm's international private wealth group and is experienced in matters relating to trusts and estate planning. **Damian Bloom** is *"very impressive, with a great technical ability and bedside manner with clients,"* says a source. Another describes Bloom as *"a solid lawyer."* Bloom advises high net worth and ultra high net worth clients on trust, tax and estate matters. **Sanjvee Shah** is described as *"an outstanding individual who prides herself on client service and relationships"* by a source. Another adds: *"She is an extremely down-to-earth professional who is adored by her clients and intermediaries alike. She is exceptionally strong technically. She has a focus on East Africa, with a strong network in that region."* Shah is highlighted for her broad multi-jurisdictional practice. **Murray North** is well regarded for his experience in cross-border issues, particularly those with a Middle East focus. He has decades of experience in matters relating to international tax and succession planning. **Simon Phelps** is *"experienced and an asset to the team,"* says a commentator. Phelps is known for his expertise in offshore trusts, estate planning and taxation within the London market. **Rachel Davison** focuses her practice on tax, succession and wealth structuring. She is well regarded for her work in the field. **Kunal Vyas** *"is a very impressive partner and always makes time for queries. He is commercially aware but at the same time is not driven by numbers, and that comes across strongly. This makes him a hugely respected individual in his line of work. Kunal is also very willing to put time aside and makes himself available for high-level consultations,"* states a source. Vyas advises his clients on matters relating to tax and wealth planning.

Band 2

Baker McKenzie

Baker McKenzie is *"very much a cohesive team, we would go to them when looking for experience and international reach. They offer good solutions,"* states a market commentator. Another describes the team as *"very knowledgeable, professional, very capable and trustworthy."*

There is *"a great depth and breadth across the team,"* says a source. Another adds: *"The team at Baker McKenzie cover an extensive range of legal and tax work in various jurisdictions. the depth of knowledge and experience is immense."* The firm is known for its expertise in complex international matters.

Notable practitioners

Ashley Crossley *"is a very adept and skilled lawyer,"* states a source. Others describe Crossley as *"consistently excellent"* and *"always insightful."* He is head of the firm's London wealth management department. He is highly experienced and respected for his expertise, particularly in high-value international matters relating to trusts, estates and corporate structuring advice. **Christopher Cook** is a senior associate in the firm's global wealth management practice. Cook advises wealthy clients on a broad range of contentious and non-contentious matters. A source says: *"Christopher has managed our projects and client relationship brilliantly. He's really concise and clear with his advice; he's quick to understand the challenges and even quicker to come up with solutions. He's incredibly humble and down to earth in his approach and I really value the advice and support he gives us."* **Phyllis Townsend** is described as *"an excellent lawyer who provides clear and well-thought-out advice."* Another market commentator states: *"Phyllis is professionally reassuring and a personal pleasure to work with."* Townsend has particular expertise in matters related to the Middle East.

Boodle Hatfield LLP

Boodle Hatfield has an established reputation for high-quality expertise within the London private wealth market. *"They have great lawyers on both private client and contentious work,"* states a source. A commentator adds: *"The team at Boodle Hatfield work well across disciplines to provide complex advice."*

"Their advice is always practical and solution-oriented," says an interviewee, and another comments: *"They have highly skilled and experienced professionals in all fields."*

Notable practitioners

Hayden Bailey (see p.319) advises ultra high net worth and high net worth clients on a wide array of private wealth matters, particularly in succession planning and taxation. *"He is great. He is a really good lawyer who always strikes me as very user-friendly and clever,"* says a fellow London lawyer. Another interviewee states: *"He is extremely proactive and gets to the heart of key strategic issues."* **Salpy Kouyoumjian** (see p.335) is well known for her international tax and estate planning expertise. She works with ultra high net worth individuals across multiple jurisdictions. *"Salpy is extremely personable and gives complete confidence that she knows her stuff,"* says a lawyer, while another commentator states: *"I always just know she will do a fantastic job."* **Sue Laing** is a highly experienced and respected lawyer who handles complex tax and succession planning matters. *"She is very good on the technical tax side,"* states a fellow lawyer, and another interviewee observes that *"she is always available for the client, knows everyone in the industry and drives matters forward."* **Simon Rylatt** (see p.342) advises clients on a wide array of private wealth matters, such as philanthropic and estate planning, succession matters, investments and trust structures. *"I've dealt with him in the past and always thought he was very good. We got on very well, he knows his stuff and has a good manner – I've always liked him,"* says a London-based lawyer. **Clare Stirzaker** (see p.344) previously headed PwC's private client team, and joined Boodle Hatfield in early 2022. Her practice focuses on tax and succession for high net worth international clients. *"I can only speak tremendously highly of her, I'm a big fan,"* says a source, who adds: *"She is very commercial, and I've really enjoyed working with her. She has a strength in her commerciality and ability to get on with clients; she has a very good client manner."* **Sara Maccallum** (see p.336) is the senior partner at the firm and is head of the commercial tax group. She focuses on a wide array of tax matters for private and commercial clients, and regularly advises business owners on tax planning. **Kyra Motley** (see p.338) primarily advises international ultra high net worth and high net worth clients on succession planning, trusts and taxation, including Shari'a-related matters. *"Kyra has made a real impact with Middle East ultra high net worth private clients,"* states a source. Another remarks: *"She does a lot of work with families in the Middle East; she has a really great reputation in that area and is very thoughtful."*

Harbottle & Lewis LLP

Harbottle & Lewis represent a broad range of wealthy clients and have significant international and cross-border expertise. They are regarded highly for their work. A source states it is: *"A highly experienced, strategic, and highly confidential firm, with incredibly smart and experienced partners and associates."*

"They are always very professional and have the deep knowledge and experience to deal with our high net worth gulf corporation council client base,"

says a market commentator. Another source adds: *"They have a growing international private client team and are well versed in dealing with complex matters, in particular with entrepreneurs who have a diverse range of business assets and international investments, as well as in the growing cryptocurrency arena."*

Notable practitioners

Jonathan Burt is *"excellent to work with and very sharp,"* says a source. Another adds that *"Burt is a star, he very well respected and liked. He is a really good lawyer."* Burt is experienced in cross-border and international matters relating to estate, tax and succession planning. **Chris Moorcroft** *"is a knowledge powerhouse when it comes to UK and international tax planning. Chris not only does a superior job at making complex concepts simple in the eyes of high net worth individuals and their families, he is also extremely professional in handling time-sensitive matters,"* states a source. Moorcroft advises clients on various tax and estate matters. **Marianne Kafena** *"is a fountain of knowledge. She has dealt with numerous extremely complex cases and navigates the various social and cultural nuances of each client with such ease. She has a talent for taking a bird's eye view of a situation and charts a course to ultimately achieve what is in the client's best interest,"* says a market commentator. An impressed client adds: *"Marianne is a wonderful person to work with, her excellent technical knowledge and cultural awareness are the key components which drive us to engage her. Her Middle Eastern cultural knowledge is fantastic."* **Zoë Camp** has expertise in taxation, trusts and succession planning. *"In particular on the UK-US side of work she is very good,"* states a source. She is regarded well within the London market. **Siena Gold** is *"good to work with"* and is *"a very nice capable lawyer,"* state market commentators. Gold focuses her practice on international private wealth matters. She has particular expertise in the USA.

Mishcon de Reya LLP

Mishcon de Reya provide wealth planning services for high net worth clients. *"They have one of the most diverse and talented private client teams in the UK with specific expertise in international clients,"* states a commentator. Another source adds: *"Mishcon cover all areas of private client tax and trusts."*

"The technical expertise of the private client team at Mishcon is very high," says a source. Another remarks: *"They're extremely commercial, very easy to work with and they provide great support for counsel."*

Notable practitioners

Patrick Harney *"is a phenomenal lawyer and should be at the top of anybody's list for sophisticated advice,"* states a commentator. Another adds: *"I've been impressed with Patrick Harney. He is an incredible lawyer. He is someone who really specialises in US-UK planning. He has great technical skills and is very client-friendly."* Harney is an experienced lawyer in private wealth and has particular expertise in cross-border matters. **Filippo Noseda** is described as an *"extremely competent specialist in UK tax"* by a source. Noseda is *"a fantastic lawyer who manages to put complex issues in a way that people can understand. He is a leader in the field of continental European/UK tax and private client matters,"* says a commentator. Another adds: *"He is very professional and knows how to think outside of the box. On top of that, he is fully fluent in French and Italian."* **Andrew Goldstone** is described as *"a leading light in the private client world"* by a commentator. A source adds: *"Andrew would be one of my go-to tax partners for international clients. He is also a very nice person to deal with, which is a major bonus."* **Charlie Sosna** *"is an exceptional private client lawyer and a pleasure to work with,"* states an observer. A source adds: *"The legal and tax advice he provides is very easy to understand. He is really down to earth, practical, and balanced in his approach."* Sosna acts for ultra high net worth clients on a range of matters relating to estates, taxation and offshore structuring. **Kassim Meghjee** *"always has his eye on the bigger picture and advises on complex matters with a comforting sense of calm and confidence,"* says a source. A commentator adds: *"Kassim is particularly good at understanding the bigger picture."* Meghjee advises his clients on a range of tax matters, as well as family governance, asset planning and structuring. **Martin Davies** focuses his practice on the Middle East and regularly advises clients on cross-border assets, business and tax structuring matters. He is well regarded for his work in the field.

Withers LLP

The team at Withers is described as *"top-class private client lawyers with cross-jurisdictional experience and reach"* by a commentator. *"Withers is a high-level player, certainly in the international private client space,"* says another source.

An observer adds: *"They are a highly skilled group, with excellent lawyers across a broad range of disciplines."* An interviewee says: *"Withers partners bring a multi-jurisdictional perspective based on a large body of experience to complex cross-border needs."*

Notable practitioners

Patricia Milner (see p.338) *"is an extremely professional and fair trustee to work with. My impression is one where her sense of fiduciary responsibility is extremely strong, and she has the skills and expertise to back that up,"* states a source. A commentator adds she is *"very experienced, practical, and very strong with clients and complexity."* Milner advises wealthy clients on matters including estate and trust planning. **Christopher Groves** (see p.330) is described as *"a great lawyer who is able to lead clients through difficult matters,"* by a market commentator. Another source adds: *"I have enjoyed working with Chris, who was able to dovetail considered opinions with real-world pragmatism."* Groves advises high net worth clients on cross-border trusts and estate planning, as well as asset holding structures. **Philip Munro** (see p.338) *"is one of the most able private client lawyers globally. He is ferociously bright and held in high regard by his clients and fellow professionals. He is relentlessly results driven but no less rigorous for that,"* states a source. Another commentator adds: *"Philip has an excellent understanding of the issues that matter to us. He is proactive in guiding us through complex areas of law and his ability to consistently recommend sensible and workable solutions is greatly valued."* **Penelope Warr** (see p.347) is highlighted for her expertise in US-UK wealth planning and preservation matters. A source states: *"Penelope has a depth of knowledge that she brings to her clients with thoughtfulness and integrity. She has the ability to convey complex issues with a simplicity that her clients can easily understand."* Another adds: *"She has supreme knowledge. It is the empathy in her manner of dealing with the client that is so impressive."* **Charlie Tee** (see p.345) *"is my go-to guy for non-standard wills and cross-jurisdictional estate and succession planning,"* states a commentator, adding: *"He is very even-tempered and has a mature outlook, which enables him to be the calm voice in the room when conflict might otherwise arise. An excellent team player."* Another source adds: *"I would also recommend Charlie at Withers for cross-border matters. He is always at the end of the phone and he provides a high-level service to clients. His knowledge is also superb. He has an incredible wealth of information."* **Richard Cassell** *"is a real giant in that market, dual US-UK qualified. He has done lots of really innovative planning and really knows the crossover between the two markets well. He is a definite expert in that field,"* states a source. He has a strong reputation for his cross-border expertise.

Band 3

Payne Hicks Beach LLP

Payne Hicks Beach advises wealthy domestic and international clients on a wide array of matters in the private wealth field. *"They're a real specialist private client law firm,"* states a commentator.

The firm has a *"hands-on team, with deep knowledge and specialised expertise,"* says a source. Another observer adds: *"Payne Hicks Beach have sensitively and proactively handled complex matters and provided advice which has considered all options."*

Notable practitioners

Robert Brodrick (see p.322) *"is a very experienced and knowledgeable lawyer, who has an excellent manner around clients and other professionals. I have always found him to be honest, balanced and responsive, which has made working with him through the years a great experience. He is most certainly a valuable asset to his firm,"* states a source. Brodrick focuses his practice on international matters relating to trusts, structuring and taxation. **Basil Dixon** (see p.326) *"is superb and immensely knowledgeable,"* says a source. *"Basil is someone I very much enjoy working with as he offers considered advice at all times, and always responds to matters in a timely manner,"* adds a commentator. Dixon is experienced in matters relating to international private wealth, particularly in the fields of tax, trusts and estate planning. **Rosamond McDowell** (see p.337) *"brings a wealth of family matter experience and relates well to each of the different generations involved,"* says a source. She is highlighted for her expertise in trusts, and cross-border and domestic estate planning.

Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP

Penningtons Manches Cooper advise high net worth individuals and families on different aspects of wealth planning. The firm has *"strong technical ability, a responsive team and offers creative solutions,"* states a source.

"They have access to a wide team of specialists able to assist with all aspects of the planning elements," says a market commentator.

Notable practitioners

Clare Archer (see p.319) is described as *"one of the most brilliant lawyers, she is intelligent, hard-working and creative"* by a source. Archer focuses her practice on matters relating to trusts and structuring. She has particular expertise in landed estates. **James D'Aquino** (see p.325) is described as *"a very good technical tax lawyer"* by a source. Another adds: *"I have been very pleased with the service provided by James. He has been a great sounding board on a particular matter and I would not hesitate engaging with him again on private client matters."* **Laura Dadswell** (see p.325) is *"extremely good, a safe pair of hands, and has a good bedside manner,"* states a source. A commentator adds, Dadswell has a *"good balance of technical excellence and client-facing skills."* She focuses her practice on matters relating to tax, estates and structuring. **Tristan Smale** (see p.343) *"has been very good,"* says a market commentator; *"his advice is very joined up, it covers all aspects of the transaction; he not only provides it in a manner that senior staff can understand but also juniors. He is so practical, which is what we look for."* Smale is a senior associate at the firm. He advises wealthy clients, trustees and financial institutions on a range of matters. **Ryan Myint** is highlighted for his particular expertise in Singaporean private wealth matters, as well as those with a connection to the Singapore market. He advises high net worth clients on a broad range of matters.

Sinclair Gibson LLP

The team at Sinclair Gibson are *"highly knowledgeable and experienced, which provides comfort to clients,"* says a source. A market commentator adds: *"They have always carefully analysed the issues and given clear advice on the way forward."*

The firm are: *"Extremely creative in addressing complex matters with a fresh view."*

Notable practitioners

Keith Bruce-Smith is described as *"a superb professional to work with"* by a source. Smith is *"highly experienced and an excellent communicator,"* says a commentator. He is an experienced lawyer who advises wealthy clients on estate and trust planning. **Lucy Gibson** is *"fantastic with clients, extremely knowledgeable and provides peace of mind,"* states a source. A commentator adds: *"Lucy is an outstanding person to work with in all areas."* Gibson is rated highly for her expertise and experience in private client matters.

Stephenson Harwood LLP

Stephenson Harwood advises high net worth clients on matters relating to trusts, succession planning, wealth transfer and restructuring matters.

"They take a pragmatic approach and are very much solutions-driven," states a market commentator. A source adds: *"I rate them as absolutely first rate with any sort of complex or delicate matter."*

Notable practitioners

Jonathan Conder *"is a great lawyer. He is a legend in the field; everybody knows Jon. He has excellent client skills and is technically phenomenal,"* states a source. Another observer adds: *"He has such in-depth experience of cross-border matters and he understands the technical complexities of both UK and US issues. He is very user-friendly. He is charismatic, engaged and a pleasure to work with."* **James Quarmby** *"is clear, concise, incredibly knowledgeable and extremely approachable. He has a solution-oriented approach and has a way of making very complex planning easy to understand,"* states a market commentator. A source adds: *"James is a leading figure in the private client world. He has bags of experience and a fantastic manner with clients. He is hugely knowledgeable and very approachable."* **Emily Osborne** (see p.339) is described as *"extraordinarily knowledgeable about legal and tax matters, refreshingly pragmatic, remarkably astute and a pleasure to deal with"* by a market commentator. Another source adds that *"nothing is ever too complex. She is clear, concise and extremely commercial."*

Wedlake Bell LLP

Wedlake Bell offers a range of services to high net worth clients. The firm is highlighted for its expertise in tax, but also advises on other matters such as estate and succession planning. *"It is one of the most well-resourced private client teams I have worked with,"* says an interviewee.

"The team clearly understands very complex tax legislation and its application to cases," says a source, who also states: *"I'm very impressed with the depth of knowledge and the ability to explain complex tax issues in a straight-forward manner."*

Notable practitioners

Camilla Wallace (see p.346) works on cross-border estate planning and tax matters. *"Camilla is pretty outstanding. It is her manner with clients and the strong direction she gives, and she has very strong technical analysis, too. I really enjoy working with her,"* says a source. Another interviewee says that *"Camilla asks incisive questions and provides sophisticated advice, and delivers this with warmth and kindness."* **Matthew Braithwaite** (see p.321) advises wealthy clients on cross-border succession and estate planning, as well as taxation matters. *"He is my go-to private wealth lawyer in London. He is very patient and has a lot of experience in advising high net worth families on tax-related issues,"* states a source. **Antoaneta Proctor** (see p.341) assists wealthy individuals and families with cross-border tax and succession plans and family governance matters. *"I'm hugely impressed with Antoaneta's knowledge, service delivery and support,"* says an interviewee. *"Antoaneta is a partner who is comprehensive in the identification and resolution of all technical points,"* according to another commentator. **Nick Mendoza** (see p.337) is a senior associate at the firm who advises on succession and estate plans, and also handles estate administration matters. *"He's excellent, he is very straight-talking, gives clear advice and is very pleasant to deal with. I refer work to him, I really rate him,"* says a market commentator, and another source says that *"his knowledge and responsiveness are superb."*

Band 4

BDB Pitmans LLP

BDB Pitmans *"have an established and experienced team with a depth of experience and expertise,"* states a source. The team has a *"good understanding of complex issues affecting international clients,"* adds a commentator.

The firm advises wealthy clients on a wide array of matters such as estate planning, tax and trusts, with an international and offshore focus.

Notable practitioners

Helen Ratcliffe *"is extremely knowledgeable and has a very high level of expertise in her area,"* states a source. Ratcliffe advises a range of domestic and international clients on various private wealth matters. **Jonathan Colclough** (see p.324) is highlighted for his expertise in cross-border matters, particularly those with a connection to South Africa. A source comments: *"Jonathan has a strong grasp of the complex issues affecting international ultra high net worth clients."* **Judith Millar** *"is absolutely brilliant at leading clients in every aspect. She always makes you feel that you are in very safe hands,"* states an interviewee. *"She is very good at handling delicate situations, like complex family relationships, complicated tax issues and legal matters that need dealing with sensitively. She just really knows how to manage those situations. She is excellent,"* a source remarks.

Burges Salmon LLP

Burges Salmon *"have an excellent private client team, they benefit from great resources in other departments too,"* states a source. A commentator adds: *"They have very good quality work and practitioners."*

The firm is experienced in advising high net worth individuals and families on a wide array of private wealth matters, such as trust, tax and estate planning matters.

Notable practitioners

John Barnett is *"really well known, he really gets to the bottom of tricky issues and he articulates it in a way that is not overly complicated. He is clearly one of the best in the industry,"* says an interviewee. A source comments that Barnett is *"an outstanding individual, with a very strong technical knowledge and ability to provide high-quality drafting and precise advice with a modest charm. He is a safe pair of hands when a judgement call is required."* **Beatrice Puoti** is *"very strong on cross-border work,"* states a commentator. Puoti is well known for her particular expertise on Italian matters, as well as her experience in international estate and tax planning, wealth management and trusts. **Catherine de Maid** advises wealthy clients on a wide array of private wealth issues. She is highlighted for her expertise in South African matters, particularly in South African-UK taxation.

Edwin Coe LLP

Edwin Coe *"are extremely good at complex matters, with a great attention to detail,"* says a source. The firm are *"particularly good at understanding*

the business issues affecting private clients," adds another commentator.

An interviewee says: *"They are all consistently good at explaining things to the lay client and to other professionals in a clear, concise and accessible way. They help simplify things well. They are carving out a very good niche for themselves."*

Notable practitioners

Alison Broadberry is *"very approachable, with a great loyal client base, and is very knowledgeable,"* states a source. Another commentator adds: *"She is intelligent and has seemingly unmatched reserves of energy and drive for her clients. She is lovely to work with and is an uplifting presence."* Broadberry focuses her practice on matters relating to trusts, estate planning, tax and cross-border probate. **David Goepel** *"is a really good and extremely loyal private client solicitor,"* states a source. Goepel regularly advises clients on matters relating to estate administration, succession planning and family governance. **Ben Harle** *"is excellent, he is very good on the technical work,"* states a source. Harle advises high net worth clients on matters relating to estate planning and administration, trusts and family governance.

Howard Kennedy LLP

Howard Kennedy advises clients on a wide array of private wealth matters, such as trusts and tax, succession and estate planning, restructuring and foundations.

Interviewees are impressed by the quality of advice offered by the firm's lawyers. *"They have a strong ability to navigate trust issues and provide advice and guidance to clients,"* observes a market commentator. A source states that *"the advice given by Howard Kennedy has always been of the highest order, and their ability to see through complex issues is very good indeed."*

Notable practitioners

Liz Palmer (see p.339) advises clients on domestic and cross-border tax planning, wills, succession plans and trusts. *"I trust her judgement completely,"* says an interviewee, who adds: *"She is able to explain the pros and cons of the options, which helps me make decisions easily."* Another source says: *"She has a razor-sharp intellect, is incredibly relatable and able to build trust and confidence naturally."* **John Annetts** (see p.319) handles tax and succession planning matters, as well as estate administration work. *"John is a pleasure to work with and is a very helpful addition to any team where UK trust and estate matters are prevalent,"* according to a source. **Simon Malkiel** (see p.336) leads the tax, trust and estate planning team at the firm. His work includes assisting clients with domestic and international asset protection, tax and succession matters. *"Simon is great, he is excellent on the tax side of things and he is very pragmatic in his approach too,"* observes an interviewee, and a further commentator says: *"Simon is a proactive and very commercial private client lawyer who is able to cut through to the key points and advise practical solutions to those."* **Reshmi Manekporia** (see p.216) is respected in particular for her international private wealth work, and she is especially well known for advising clients on Shari'a-related matters. *"Reshmi is one of the leading experts in international succession and tax planning, which is set apart by the dedication, insight and knowledge she brings to her work,"* says an impressed source, who adds: *"She is all over the detail of cases and has a real recognition of how those details interplay with strategies around Shari'a planning, business structures and how to meet a family's long-term business objectives."*

McDermott Will & Emery UK LLP

McDermott Will & Emery are *"technically strong on UK tax disputes with HMRC,"* states a commentator. Another source adds they are *"an experienced team with the ability to manage very complex and sophisticated matters."*

The firm are well regarded, and regularly advise high net worth clients on issues relating to tax and trust structuring. They enjoy a solid reputation for their expertise in US private wealth matters.

Notable practitioners

Simon Goldring (see p.329) is *"very professional, responsive and is always a pleasure to deal with,"* says a source. He advises his clients on cross-border matters with a US-UK nexus, with a focus on taxation. **Astrid Owen** (see p.339) *"is brilliant, she has incredible European knowledge and brings a continental perspective. She also has a good working knowledge of the US,"* states a market commentator. Another source adds: *"She is very thorough, very incisive and brilliant on the most difficult and complex cases."* Owen advises domestic and international clients on a wide array of private wealth matters. **Andrew Vergunst** (see p.346) *"has enormous international experience which is very valuable to us. He has a great attention to detail and coordinates global advice very well,"* states a commentator. Another source adds: *"Andrew is a fantastic private client lawyer with a tremendous amount of knowledge spanning a wide range of subjects."* Vergunst is particularly well regarded for his cross-border expertise, particularly in matters with a connection to the South African market. **Nicholas Holland** (see p.332) advises clients on cross-border matters. He is highlighted for his particular expertise in the Canadian market. *"Nick's obvious strength is his ability to take fairly complex issues and present them in a way where they are understandable to a client,"* states a source.

Russell-Cooke

Russell-Cooke's team is prasied by interviewees for its sophisticated work. *"Russell-Cooke's lawyers are always available to deal with complex and sophisticated matters,"* states a source. A market commentator adds: *"I always find the solicitors very able and knowledgeable when it comes to handling complex legal issues."*

The firm frequently advises wealthy clients on a broad range of matters, such as those concerning trusts, taxation and estate planning.

Notable practitioners

Richard Frimston (see p.328) is a highly respected figure among market commentators for his expertise in multi-jurisdictional matters. *"He is famous for the work he did within the EU for succession planning,"* observes a London-based solicitor. Another says: *"He is the leading academic on cross-border EU law and so on – he is second to none on international knowledge."* **Rebecca Fisher** assists clients with estate planning and administration, tax and trusts, and is also adept at handling family business matters. *"Rebecca is very knowledgeable and takes a holistic view to clients. She takes time early on ensuring she captures as much essential information as possible in order to give them the right advice,"* says an interviewee, who also states that *"she's a pleasure to deal with."* **Christopher Salomons** (see p.342) advises his clients on tax, estate and succession planning, and trusts matters, including those with an international dimension.

Weightmans LLP

Weightmans merged with RadcliffesLeBrasseur in early 2022. The private client is *"very good at managing many moving parts, as well as communicating this succinctly to a wide range of parties with differing levels of knowledge and experience,"* says a commentator.

A source says: *"I trust them to provide the best counsel on the most complicated matters."* The observer adds that the firm is, in their experience, *"the best in terms of competency, client service and expediency."*

Notable practitioners

Jonathan Shankland *"is very commercially minded and a strong advocate for his clients,"* states a source. Another observer adds that Shankland is *"an outstanding lawyer, who offers 24/7 support. He has very broad knowledge."* **Patrick Malone** is *"extremely diligent and hard-working. He is an expert in his field of private client estate management,"* says a market commentator. Malone advises his high net worth clients on structuring, asset planning, probate, succession and estates.

Band 5

Collyer Bristow LLP

Collyer Bristow's team advises wealthy individuals and families on matters relating to tax, trusts and wealth structuring.

"Everything you get from them is quality, everything is absolutely immaculate," says an interviewee, and another source says that *"they have always been technically sound when we have collaborated on any projects."*

Notable practitioners

Daniel Simon advises wealthy international and domestic clients on complex wealth structuring matters. *"I'd highly recommend Daniel Simon at Collyer Bristow. He is absolutely amazing to work with,"* says a fellow lawyer, and another interviewee says that *"he is personable and highly experienced."* **Peter Daniel** leads the firm's private wealth practice and regularly advises high net worth individuals and families on tax and estate planning and trusts. *"He is a very capable, intelligent lawyer with a keen commercial mind that he carries across to his client's affairs,"* observes a source. Another commentator says: *"He is young, dynamic and user-friendly."* **Tulin Hamit** concentrates on international tax and estate planning matters, with an emphasis on those with a Turkish element. *"She brings an entrepreneurial flair in the way in which she helps clients,"* says an interviewee, who adds: *"She is second to none in her*

ability to identify solutions for clients."

Currey & Co

Currey & Co is a boutique firm with a private client offering. They advise high net worth clients on trusts and property affairs.

The team at Currey & Co are *"very good UK tax and trust lawyers,"* says a commentator. A source adds: *"They are just brilliant, very collaborative, and they keep you updated. They're absolutely wonderful."* The firm is regarded as *"an important private client practice in London"* by another interviewee.

Notable practitioners

Mary Black is the firm's senior partner and a key contact.

Druces LLP

Druces has capabilities across a wide range of private wealth matters. *"The team has exposure across many jurisdictions,"* states a source. Another adds: *"There is a great strength in depth across the teams."*

A market commentator says: *"They are well versed in family planning matters and have a range of complementary skills."*

Notable practitioners

Robert Macro *"is one of the few private client lawyers who remains able to assist across multiple jurisdictions. He has vast offshore experience. Robert is highly intelligent, pragmatic and a pleasure to deal with,"* says a market commentator. A source adds: *"Robert is one of the best private client lawyers in the UK. Robert is well respected and knowledgeable in private client matters. He also has a good down-to-earth manner of explaining highly technical issues."*

Fieldfisher

Fieldfisher advises a broad range of high net worth clients on matters relating to business succession, taxation and family governance.

The firm is well regarded for its work and expertise in the private wealth field, and is respected within the London market.

Notable practitioners

Peter Golden *"is technical, pragmatic and very commercial. I have absolutely no hesitation in putting any type of client in front of Peter, with the knowledge that they will be expertly looked after no matter how complex the planning,"* states a commentator. Another source describes Golden as *"absolutely terrific."* Golden advises wealthy clients on matters relating to trusts, tax and succession. **Alice Vink** is *"definitely a rising star,"* according to a market commentator. A source adds: *"She is also a Chartered Tax Adviser and has international expertise."* Vink advises her clients on matters relating to Inheritance Tax, offshore trusts, succession and governance planning and asset restructuring.

Fladgate LLP

The team at Fladgate are *"efficient, accurate, and simplify details with good explanations,"* says an observer. Another source states they are *"very responsive to clients' needs and provide clear guidance on complicated, cross-border structuring."*

"They have been excellent at explaining complex matters," remarks an observer. The Fladgate team advises high net worth clients on issues relating to taxation, trusts, estate planning, structuring and investments.

Notable practitioners

Jonathan Riley *"is top of his game and very insightful,"* says an interviewee. *"Jonathan is responsive, detailed and precise,"* states another market commentator. Riley advises his clients on private wealth matters including estate and succession planning, as well as trusts and tax compliance. **Helena Luckhurst** *"is very professional and an expert in her field, who I completely trust to manage our affairs. I value her knowledge, discernment and judgement. She has integrity. She communicates with me regularly so that I know and understand how our affairs are progressing. She is also very approachable,"* says a commentator. Luckhurt advises her clients on a range of different matters in private wealth. **Mark Spash** *"impresses me and I have found his advice invaluable. I have confidence in his judgement,"* says a source. A commentator adds: *"Mark has treated me with respect and has looked after all aspects of my affairs with empathy and interest. He knows what I wish to achieve and is doing his best to reach the outcomes."* Spash advises his clients on matters relating to estates, trusts and structuring. **Helen Cox** *"provides exceptional client service on a complex cross-border tax planning matter and is both proactive and responsive to clients' needs,"* says a market commentator. Cox advises high net worth clients on a wide range of private wealth matters, including those with a cross-border focus. **Ekaterina Vagner** *"has provided amazing support on a difficult UK probate matter, where there are many 'moving parts', and has done so with professionalism, patience and depth of knowledge,"* states an observer. A fellow lawyer adds: *"She is an amazing and phenomenal hard-working lawyer, technically very good and one to watch."* Vagner advises high net worth clients on a broad range of matters in private wealth.

Hunters

The private client team at Hunters regularly advises wealthy clients, including landed estates, on domestic tax, trust and succession matters. It is also able to assist with international and offshore issues. *"They have a team of excellent, level-headed tax and trust specialists,"* says an interviewee.

"They are very responsive and willing to get on the phone and provide a high level of service and dedication to their client," observes an impressed commentator.

Notable practitioners

Lucinda Tite and Wilfrid Vernor-Miles are key contacts.

Kingsley Napley LLP

Kingsley Napley's private client team advises wealthy clients on matters in domestic and international tax planning, wills, estate and succession planning.

"They have the strength-in-depth and ability to cross-refer to colleagues where required," says an interviewee.

Notable practitioners

James Ward is head of the private client team at Kingsley Napley and advises high net worth clients on a range of domestic and international matters, including estate, tax and succession planning.

Osborne Clarke LLP

Osborne Clarke *"provided excellent advice regarding wills and their structuring both in the UK and abroad,"* states a market commentator. A source adds that the firm provides *"extremely competent and specialist advice."*

The firm's private client team is established and advises high net worth individuals, business owners and entrepreneurs. The team has domestic and international capabilities across tax planning, trusts, structuring and offshore matters.

Notable practitioners

Stuart Janaway *"is an excellent lawyer. He is my go-to resource for cross-border estate planning matters that involve the United Kingdom,"* states a commentator. A source adds that Janaway is *"one of the best experts in his field in London."* He is an experienced lawyer and advises clients on a wide range of private wealth matters. **Andrew Goodman** *"is an excellent lawyer with very good private client knowledge,"* states a source. Goodman focuses his practice on matters relating to offshore trusts and taxation.

Winckworth Sherwood

Winckworth Sherwood *"are one of the leading full-service law firms specialising in areas most relevant for high net worth families and typical associated entities,"* states a source. *"The team is very deep and broad. They understand the nuances of legistation well and provide practical, pragmatic advice,"* adds another commentator.

The team is *"particularly skilled at translating complex matters,"* says an observer.

Notable practitioners

Dhana Sabanathan *"is the absolute go-to for ultra high net worth wealth management and estate planning, with particular skill in international tax advice and its interplay with complex pre and post-nuptial agreements,"* states a fellow lawyer. Another source adds: *"Dhana is fantastic, she ticks every box. She is technically excellent, highly responsive and sensitive to client needs. She is a great person to work with."* **Tim Snaith** *"is technically very able, he really knows his stuff,"* states a commentator. Snaith advises his clients on domestic and international matters, with a focus on estates, trusts and probate.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Barry Adamson (see p.318) of Keystone Law *"is technically extremely strong and incredibly hard-working,"* states a source. *"Barry is hugely experienced. The combination of considerable technical knowledge with charm and commercial sense makes him a serious operator,"* adds a commentator. He has expertise across a broad range of private wealth matters.

James Badcock advises private clients on a range of matters in the private wealth field, such as taxation, trusts and estate planning.

Alex Boothman (see p.321) of Keystone Law

"quickly grasps complex issues by listening and asking perceptive questions in order to get to the essence of a matter. This is a skill which is quite uncommon. He is a delight to deal with," states a source. *"Alex is a wise head, he is client-focused, a problem solver, and his technical knowledge is very good. His manner is also very professional and unflustered,"* adds another commentator.

Sarah Cormack of Mills & Reeve LLP *"is a great lawyer to work with. She has great technical knowledge and is a strong communicator,"* says a source. Cormack focuses her practice on matters such as cross-border tax planning, trust structuring, succession planning and Inheritance Tax advice.

Jeremy Curtis of Cripps Pemberton Greenish is *"a pleasure to deal with,"* states a source. A commentator adds: *"I have been impressed with the tact and level-headedness that Jeremy has brought to some very difficult meetings and incidents. He has an open mind when approaching tactics and in dealing with problems, but always suggests a sensible way forward."* Curtis advises his clients on a wide range of matters in private wealth.

Will Ford of Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP Will *"is a great sounding board to go to on international private client issues with a great range of experience to call on. He is highly responsive and great on calls with clients to explain the advice he has provided in a clear and concise way. He is compelling when he speaks about his work and has a great rapport with clients,"* states a commentator. Ford advises clients on estate, business, inheritance and tax planning, and trust restructuring matters.

Alice Killingbeck of KPMG Law *"is a very thoughtful lawyer who takes a careful but commercial approach to issues affecting her clients,"* says a source. *"Alice is my go-to lawyer for most things involving assets. I have dealt with a number of lawyers in the past and Alice is by far the most sophisticated and creative,"* states a commentator.

Elizabeth Kubanik of Sullivan & Cromwell LLP *"is very good at trust and estate planning. She is one of my go-tos on US issues,"* states a source. A commentator adds: *"I really rate her, she has given excellent US advice for us, I'm a big fan."*

Benedikte Malling Bech of North Star Law Ltd *"is extremely competent. She is very knowledgeable, provides clear advice and has a great way with clients,"* states a commentator. *"She is, pound for pound, one of the best lawyers in London,"* says another source. She has particular expertise in cross-border matters and advises clients in areas such as tax and estate planning, relocation and probate.

Samantha Morgan of RMW Law is an *"excellent professional in all areas of trust and tax law,"* says a source. Another commentator adds that Morgan is *"very competent and a safe pair of hands; she knows what she is doing."*

John Riches of RMW Law *"is really straightforward and collaborative. He is excellent technically. He is really good to work with,"* says a source. Riches is also said to be an *"excellent professional and among the very best trust lawyers in London on tax matters."* He is highly regarded for his depth of expertise in private wealth.

Jennifer Ridgway of Michelmores LLP *"is absolutely amazing. She has got a really wonderful manner with clients and is technically excellent,"* observes a commentator. *"Jennifer is a superb practitioner. She is a superb private client lawyer, in terms of tax, trusts, and hard and soft legal skills,"* says another source.

Alexandra Ruffel of Irwin Mitchell *"is excellent in offering solutions and practical advice based on detailed technical understanding. She builds close personal relationships with her clients and therefore understands where their risk and opportunity boundaries lie. She uses this to provide the specific advice they need,"* says a market commentator. Ruffel advises her clients on matters relating to family foundations, succession planning, family business and trust structuring.

Basil Zirinis of Sullivan & Cromwell LLP *"is a megastar of the high net worth private client bracket,"* states a source. Zirinis is *"strategically very skilled but also has a personal approach and can handle difficult cases,"* says a market commentator, adding: *"He has a great roster of clients; he is a go-to for me for international contentious and non-contentious work. He is just a star in his field."*

Foreign Experts

Bradley Doline of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati advises clients on a broad range of private wealth issues, with a focus on UK-US matters. *"Brad's deep experience in commercial matters helps him to bring a unique and practical view to helping solve problems,"* states a source.

Svetlana London of CIS London & Partners LLP is qualified to practise in Russia, as well as in England and Wales, and regularly advises wealthy clients on international tax and wealth planning. *"Svetlana understands clients' objectives and works to find practical solutions to complex cross-border issues,"* says an interviewee. A further commentator states: *"Svetlana is highly experienced and knowledgeable; she is very easy to communicate and work with. It is always a pleasure."*

Christopher McLemore of McLemore Konschnik LLP is a *"top US tax lawyer in the UK,"* says a source. *"He is really friendly and helpful. He is an excellent and big figure in that market now,"* states a commentator. McLemore focuses his practice on cross-border matters relating to estate planning, tax controversies and Inheritance Tax matters.

Suzanne Reisman of Law Offices of Suzanne M Reisman is *"technically very strong,"* says a source. A commentator adds that Reisman is: *"Excellent in US matters and is dual-qualified, which is very helpful. Navigating your way through US federal law is not easy but she is a go-to and I highly recommend her."* Reisman specialises in high-value cross-border matters.

Nicola Saccardo is *"the leading Italy private client lawyer,"* says a source. Another adds that Sacccardo is a *"very talented lawyer and always willing to help. He is my go-to expert on all issues UK-Italian."*

Brad Westerfield of Butler Snow LLP is *"very responsive and explains complex technical issues clearly,"* says a commentator. Westerfield focuses his practice on contentious matters, but also advises clients on non-contentious matters such as estate planning and cross-border tax planning.

Private Wealth Disputes London

Private Wealth Disputes
London
Leading Firms
Band 1
Baker McKenzie
Boodle Hatfield LLP
Charles Russell Speechlys
Farrer & Co LLP
Macfarlanes LLP
Mishcon de Reya LLP
Taylor Wessing
Withers LLP
Band 2
Clifford Chance LLP
Forsters LLP
Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP
McDermott Will & Emery UK LLP
Payne Hicks Beach LLP
Stephenson Harwood LLP
Stewarts
Band 3
Herbert Smith Freehills
Howard Kennedy LLP
Kingsley Napley LLP
Russell-Cooke
Sinclair Gibson LLP
Wedlake Bell LLP
* *Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Private Wealth Disputes	
London	
Eminent Practitioners	
Eminent Practitioners	
Exton Emily *Forsters LLP*	
Leading Individuals	
Star individuals	**Perkins** Tamasin *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Goodman Dawn *Withers LLP* *	**Poole** Joanna *Farrer & Co LLP*
Band 1	**Regan** Alison *Russell-Cooke* *
Gordon Jeremy *Farrer & Co LLP*	**Richards** Stephen *Withers LLP* *
Graham Toby *Farrer & Co LLP*	**Rylatt** Simon *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *
Harvey Roberta *Forsters LLP*	**Willingham** Gemma *Baker McKenzie*
Hewitt Paul *Withers LLP* *	**Band 4**
Holland Nicholas *McDermott Will & Emery UK LLP* *	**Atkinson** Jan *Osbornes Law (ORL)* ◊
Jordan Emma *Taylor Wessing*	**Auld** Oliver *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Keenan Mark *Mishcon de Reya LLP*	**Berman** Helena *Stephenson Harwood LLP* *
Kleiner Graeme *Charles Russell Speechlys*	**Doherty** Elizabeth *Macfarlanes LLP* *
Kosky Jeremy *Clifford Chance LLP*	**Hickman** Henry *Sinclair Gibson LLP*
Lloyd Charles *Macfarlanes LLP* *	**Holland** Emma *Stewarts* *
Poulton Anthony R *Baker McKenzie*	**Ledsham** Gareth *Russell-Cooke* *
Price James *Stewarts* *	**Long** Neil *Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP (ORL)* ◊
Ticehurst Rupert *Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP*	**Mailer** Emily *Howard Kennedy LLP* *
Zavos Andrea *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *	**Miller** Caroline *Wedlake Bell LLP* *
Band 2	**Mossman** Maxine *Clifford Chance LLP*
Arr Jonathan *Macfarlanes LLP* *	**O'Keeffe** Andrew *Wedlake Bell LLP* *
Fraser Charlotte *Farrer & Co LLP*	**Wedgwood** David *Anthony Gold (ORL)* ◊
Henson Jessica *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *	**Up-and-coming individuals**
Kempster Steven *Withers LLP* *	**Gesinde** Yindi *Baker McKenzie*
Kertesz Geoffrey *Stewarts* *	**Jeffery** Lorraine *Michelmores LLP (ORL)* ◊
Lindley Mark *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *	**Medus** Jessica *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Manyon Richard *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *	**Sainsbury** Elizabeth *Farrer & Co LLP*
McKeown Jenny *Stephenson Harwood LLP* *	**Stourton** Natasha *Withers LLP* *
Meek Alison *Forsters LLP*	**Associates to watch**
Mowat Ryan *Kingsley Napley LLP*	**Buncher** Nicole *Clifford Chance LLP*
Norridge Richard *Herbert Smith Freehills*	**Carr** Ashleigh *Forsters LLP*
Robertson Ziva *McDermott Will & Emery UK LLP* *	**Deely** Tom *Russell-Cooke* *
Steen Peter *Mishcon de Reya LLP*	**Del Panta** Luca *Stewarts* *
Band 3	**Gillis** Peter *Stephenson Harwood LLP*
Bell Catharine *Forsters LLP*	**Henshall** Charlotte *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *
Cornford Claire-Marie *Irwin Mitchell (ORL)* ◊	**Hetherington** Rosalind *Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP*
Goldring Simon *Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP*	**Piskorz** Emilia *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Hoffman Sofie *Harbottle & Lewis LLP (ORL)* ◊	**Salter** Kate *Kingsley Napley LLP*
McGuigan Kirstie *Taylor Wessing*	**Silbermann** Kate *Taylor Wessing*
O'Higgins Naomi *Howard Kennedy LLP* *	

Band 1

Baker McKenzie

Baker McKenzie leverages its wealth of resources and expertise to assist private clients globally. The firm is often taking on the most significant cross-border trust disputes that require specialist tax and litigation knowledge.

"The Baker McKenzie team are exceptional lawyers with broad experience litigating the most complex trust disputes in the world," says an interviewee, who adds: *"They are tenacious, tireless and brilliant. Their depth and breadth of experience in this area is simply peerless."*

Notable practitioners

Anthony Poulton is a highly respected private client litigator, often handling significant, precedent-setting cases. *"He is the premier private client litigator in London. I don't think there is anyone who can touch him in terms of pre-eminence in the sector,"* remarks a barrister. Another source praises his approach and management skills: *"Anthony is a superb lawyer, personable and very bright. He is excellent in dealing with large teams and competing personalities."* **Gemma Willingham** regularly advises trustees on offshore settlements and beneficiaries in disputes as part of an established private wealth practice. Solicitors appreciate her *"sharp mind and tactically astute"* nature, as well as being *"a joy to work with, sensible but with a steely core."* **Yindi Gesinde** is *"an enormously impressive person who is going to go far,"* a chancery barrister predicts. As well as handling offshore breach of fiduciary claims, Gesinde has further expertise in compliance and investigations. Another source is confident that she is part of the *"next generation of female partners who will lead the way."*

Boodle Hatfield LLP

Boodle Hatfield's private wealth litigators are regularly involved in international as well as domestic trust and estate matters.

"It is a very good firm," says a London-based lawyer, who adds: *"They have a number of good people there. They are good, commercial and sensible."* Anothersource says that *"I am happy to refer conflict work to them – they always do a good job."*

Notable practitioners

Andrea Zavos (see p.348) leads the private client and tax department at the firm, drawing on considerable experience in handling high-value trusts work. Fellow solicitors acknowledge her *"fantastic reputation"* as a *"a great practitioner who has really made her mark in the sphere."* Another source says that *"she is hugely pragmatic and an astute lawyer."* **Mark Lindley** (see p.335) advises fiduciaries, individuals and families on offshore and onshore trust and estates disputes. *"Mark is excellent, he is somebody who is really technically able and tenacious,"* says an interviewee. Another commentator states: *"I think he is phenomenal, extremely bright. He is really inventive with ideas, he is really good to have on your side. He is brilliant."* **Simon Rylatt** (see p.342) assists clients with both contentious and non-contentious private wealth matters. *"I have been incredibly impressed by Simon, he helps to run a really slick operation. He has a deep understanding of trust disputes,"* says a source. Another interviewee says: *"He is a very able guy and I really rate him."*

Charles Russell Speechlys

Charles Russell Speechlys' private wealth disputes team provides probate litigation advice to trustees, protectors and beneficiaries across various jurisdictions. Partners are well placed to handle complex trusts and high-profile disputes.

"It is a thoroughly good firm, they have depth and a sensible culture around the disputes we handle," remarks a peer, adding: *"When you see them on the other side you expect constructive conversations. There is a lot of firepower at the firm."*

Notable practitioners

Graeme Kleiner is *"an excellent litigator and a very shrewd operator"* who remains *"very plugged into developments in our market,"* says a fellow litigator. He is a reference in the market for high-profile domestic and international trust and succession disputes. A barrister observes: *"Graeme is a great strategist, he thinks outside the box. His legal knowledge is unparalleled."* **Tamasin Perkins** focuses her practice on handling international succession disputes. She also has expertise in Court of Protection work as well as 1975 Act claims. A barrister notes that she was *"incredibly conscientious in the command of documents, very intelligent and good to bounce ideas off."* Perkins' approach is similarly praised by another interviewee: *"She is well experienced and is fantastic with clients."* **Oliver Auld** handles various private client matters, including Insolvency Act claims, representing beneficiaries in complex trust disputes and Inheritance Act work. His reputation continues to grow, as one source remarks: *"Oliver is a total superstar, he really has got everything, including a lovely personality."*

Farrer & Co LLP

Farrer & Co's contentious trust and estate practice centres on handling high-value disputes with an international dimension. The firm often administers complex contested estates and is increasingly instructed on Court of Protection work. *"There is a fantastic depth of practice and experience both domestically and internationally,"* says a source.

A Chancery barrister comments that *"across the board they are a top firm in the field and have been for as long as I have been aware of them. This is reflected from top to bottom."*

Notable practitioners

Jeremy Gordon is a vastly experienced private client litigator who regularly represents various parties in disputes such as Inheritance Act 1975 claims. He is revered in the market, with sources noting that he is *"a real class act"* who is *"very quick to make the right calls."* Gordon is also a respected mediator; an interviewee acknowledges that *"he has the capability to settle the unsettleable."* **Toby Graham** is an expert in significant, cross-border contentious trusts and estates. He is a distinguished contributor to key texts on wills and trusts and maintains a reputation as *"a superb operator at the top of his game,"* as a peer acknowledges. Graham is particularly well regarded for his work ethic, with sources praising his *"unbelievable appetite for work"* and *"tenacious"* nature. **Charlotte Fraser** is *"fantastic, methodical, calm and collected,"* remarks a private client litigator. She manages the firm's contentious trusts and estates team and has led significant litigation spanning numerous jurisdictions and courts. *"Charlotte has impressed me a great deal. Not only has she got the knowledge of the law fully under her belt but she is also a charming and astute person to work with,"* a source enthuses. **Joanna Poole** is well regarded for her expertise in onshore and offshore contentious issues. She handles succession disputes, trust litigation and 1975 Act claims as well as Variation of Trusts Act applications. *"She provides a Rolls-Royce service, she is brilliant. Joanna handles litigation brilliantly and is a class act,"* enthuses a barrister. A litigator appreciates her thorough approach, noting: *"Joanna is someone that is going to be all over the detail."* **Elizabeth Sainsbury**, promoted to partner in May 2022, is praised by barristers and litigation solicitors alike. One describes her as *"absolutely superb."* She assists on multi-jurisdictional trust and probate cases. An interviewee says: *"I can't speak highly enough of her, she is unbelievably organised and is brilliant at running big litigation and managing upwards as well as associates. She is absolutely delightful to work with."*

Macfarlanes LLP

Macfarlanes *"by far has the best private client team in the UK in my view,"* enthuses a source, who continues: *"The team has incredibly sophisticated offerings and some of the keenest minds in the legal profession working for clients."* The firm maintains its reputation for market-leading contentious trusts expertise, representing clients globally in significant disputes.

"I go to Macfarlanes with my most challenging cases and always know that I will get the best possible result. There is a seamless integration of tax, trust, corporate and litigation knowledge," remarks a solicitor. An equally impressed barrister adds: *"This is a very, very rich field in terms of talent, especially in London. Macfarlanes are simply blue chip through and through. They are top-drawer people."*

Notable practitioners

Charles Lloyd (see p.336) specialises in international trusts litigation and probate work. He draws on a wealth of experience in the area to assist an array of clients. Lloyd is admired by fellow professionals, one of whom says: *"Charles Lloyd is probably the leading individual private client disputes practitioner out of all the distinguished people who work in that field. He is totally unflappable."* Another commentator praises his *"extremely strong capacity to analyse problems and define adequate strategies"* when advising clients. **Jonathan Arr** (see p.319) is a well respected litigator who handles contentious family disputes such as breach of trust claims and will disputes as part of a comprehensive private client offering. *"Jonathan is a phenomenal litigator"* observes a source, adding: *"He is an expert in trust law and has a commanding grasp of the rules of evidence and procedure. His advice is incisive and direct."* A Chancery barrister echoes similar sentiments: *"Jonathan is a superstar in the making, he is really able to handle big ticket, tricky trust matters with skill."* **Elizabeth Doherty** (see p.326) is *"clearly a rising star"* says a barrister, who adds: *"She is highly intelligent with excellent technical knowledge."* This appraisal is reflective of an industry view towards Doherty, who is proficient in international trust and inheritance litigation, as well as Court of Protection work. Another interviewee feels that she is a *"great partner"* who *"has what it takes to be a top litigator in the sphere."*

Mishcon de Reya LLP

Mishcon de Reya is a prominent market presence in private wealth. Partners handle will disputes, Court of Protection applications and succession disputes across multiple jurisdictions. The firm's level of client service remains a distinct strength of the practice, as an interviewee observes: *"They maintain a good reputation for going the extra mile for clients."*

"The Mishcon de Reya team is always across the legal and factual issues, working tirelessly to identify hurdles, strategies and solutions to protect and advance the client's interests," enthuses a source. A barrister adds that Mishcon is *"the best firm I work for in this area, so unequivocally head and shoulders above the pack,"* before praising the firm's *"Rolls-Royce quality of service."*

Notable practitioners

Mark Keenan co-leads the private wealth disputes team at the firm, specialising in family disputes surrounding trust and succession processes. He often oversees sizeable multi-jurisdictional disputes and is praised for his dedication to clients and their interests. A peer remarks: *"He is the trust litigation guru. He is a real fighter and will not let the client be bullied. Mark is second to none."* Another interviewee acknowledges Keenan's *"monumental reputation as someone who is a go-to high net worth solicitor in our market."* **Peter Steen** is *"a formidable lawyer,"* observes an interviewee, adding: *"He is as sharp as a knife and as smooth as velvet. He is an all-round phenomenal solicitor."* Steen is an expert in contentious trust litigation that often spans various jurisdictions and involves significant amounts of assets. He is a renowned advocate, as a source confirms: *"Peter Steen is someone you would want on your side in a fight."* Promoted to partner this year, **Jessica Medus** specialises in trust and succession disputes, in which questions over capacity and will validity are often a factor. *"She is excellent and is a really hungry and experienced litigator for private clients,"* says a source. A London-based barrister adds: *"Jessica is one of the top players in this area."* **Emilia Piskorz** is described as a *"rising star"* who is *"really user-friendly and organised in planning for the client"* by a commentator. She is skilled in advising trustees and beneficiaries on significant trusts and estates matters globally. A Chancery barrister views Piskorz as *"one of the most ambitious, dedicated and hard-working associates I have come across,"* adding: *"She is just fantastic and clients really like working with her; she is always positive and keen."*

Taylor Wessing

Taylor Wessing's contentious trusts offering provides representation and advice on multi-jurisdictional litigation, Court of Protection proceedings and trust structure matters. The firm is also proficient in handling matrimonial financial remedy proceedings involving high net worth individuals.

"They are the go-to firm for complex and sophis-

ticated matters," observes a barrister. An interviewee adds that *"key in the private wealth sector is response time and top-quality service – Taylor Wessing deliver both."*

Notable practitioners

Emma Jordan is *"pre-eminent in trust litigation,"* acknowledges a Chancery barrister. She is a dual-qualified English barrister and Jersey advocate and is well placed to handle significant offshore litigation. *"She is a true pleasure to work with, both on a personal and professional level, where she demonstrates outstanding skills in handling clients and the team,"* enthuses an interviewee. An impressed commentator adds: *"Emma is stellar, to be honest."* **Kirstie McGuigan's** practice spans both contentious and advisory work. She acts for trustees in long-running multi-jurisdictional disputes and is accomplished in advising on Court of Protection procedures. An interviewee who has worked closely with McGuigan in the past remarks: *"She really got the best out of everyone and worked extremely hard. She is a very good strategic thinker and brought everyone together well."* **Kate Silbermann** is a senior counsel specialising in contentious trusts and estates matters. She has assisted on various offshore trust disputes and significant deputyship work. A barrister praises her approach, saying: *"Kate was oustandingly good to deal with, extremely able and very on the ball."*

Withers LLP

Withers are *"the best of the best for private client disputes,"* observes a barrister, who adds: *"They are my personal preference every time, they have such good technical knowledge."* The firm has considerable expertise in dispute resolution and estate management matters.

Another impressed barrister says: *"They are the best firm in London – what more can you say? They are just brilliant and fantastic; you smile broadly when they instruct you.""There is nothing that you cannot throw at them. They are my go-to on complicated issues, especially with complex property or foreign estates. They are very strong on strategy to achieve a good result,"* enthuses a source.

Notable practitioners

Dawn Goodman (see p.329) is vastly experienced in trust and succession disputes, enabling her to resolve contentious issues surrounding family trusts and inheritance. *"Dawn is one of the stalwarts of the contentious trusts and estates world, she is very much still visible and involved,"* notes a litigator. An impressed trusts expert adds: *"Dawn's skills in dealing with cross-border contentious issues and resolution goes above and beyond any I have experienced in my years in this industry."* **Paul Hewitt** (see p.332) is *"at the very summit of knowledge and experience in his field,"* enthuses an interviewee, adding: *"We have come to rely on him for excellent advice and commercial and reputational know-how."* Hewitt is proficient in representing prominent individuals and families in high-value estate and trust administration matters. A Chancery barrister views him as *"London's best private client litigator,"* citing his popularity amongst peers and *"fantastic client manner."* **Steven Kempster** (see p.334) is *"a delight to work with and is a great strategist,"* says a barrister. He often acts in complex international trust and succession disputes, as well as high-value Inheritance Act claims. **Stephen Richards** (see p.342) is an expert in domestic and international disputes concerning trusts and inheritance. His technical skill and client handling is commended by a source, who says: *"He is phenomenal, he has got a great client manner and is very approachable. He is good with difficult clients but straightforward at the same time. He is legally very strong."* A solicitor is similarly impressed, noting: *"Stephen is strategically excellent."* **Natasha Stourton** (see p.344) is an expert in trust and succession disputes. She often acts for trustees in reviewing the structure of trusts and mitigating risks in response, as well as advising on inheritance proceedings. A market commentator remarks: *"Natasha is brilliant, she has a knack of working very hard and yet make it seem effortless."*

Band 2

Clifford Chance LLP

Clifford Chance handles a range of private client matters. Partners are well placed to advise on high-value contentious offshore and offshore trusts disputes, as well as corporate advisory work.

"They are extremely intellectual partners and are able to deal with the most complex of issues. They are very responsive," observes an interviewee. A source also notes that partners are *"strategically and technically excellent."*

Notable practitioners

Jeremy Kosky is *"a class act,"* says an interviewee. He leads the firm's work on cross-border litigation, in which clients include trustees, corporates and prominent individuals. He is highly respected by barristers and solicitors, which is reflected in the following feedback: *"Jeremy has length and perhaps unrivalled experience in the commercial and contentious trusts field. He understands the clients' needs and has a superb team to support him.""He is an excellent lawyer and a thoroughly nice person to deal with. Jeremy is unflappable and is always able to offer a calm and collected take on complex matters."* **Maxine Mossman** is a well-known private wealth litigator. Her practice centres on advising trustees in breach of trust claims and representing high net worth individuals in often testing inheritance disputes. *"She is the full package as a litigator, she is a real human being and is very bright and experienced,"* a barrister comments. **Nicole Buncher** is *"thorough, knowledgeable and tireless,"* enthuses an interviewee, who concludes: *"She is very, very good indeed."* Buncher is a senior associate at the firm, often assisting on significant onshore and offshore trust litigation as well as restructuring. An impressed Chancery barrister reports: *"Nicole is one of the very best solicitors, it has been my privilege to be instructed by her. She has a masterly grasp of detail, profound knowledge of the law and is superb in relationships with clients."*

Forsters LLP

Forsters' specialist contentious trusts and estates lawyers represent various clients globally in private wealth disputes. Mandates often relate to administration issues, will challenges and breach of trust claims. A peer recognises the firm's consistent progress as *"a coming force"* in the market. Sources appreciate the combination of bench strength and client care at the firm. *"They have the depth and numbers to deal with exhausting and hard-fought litigation matters over a long period,"* says an interviewee. Another source hails the firm's *"wide range of supporting staff, all of whom have the same caring and intelligent approach to clients."*

Notable practitioners

Managing partner **Emily Exton** is a distinguished litigator in contentious trusts and estates who continues to principally represent clients in 1975 Act claims. An interviewee acknowledges that Exton is *"incredibly good with clients and always sees the big picture."* **Roberta Harvey** is *"an admirable person and a really well-renowned individual in the sphere,"* observes a solicitor, who adds: *"If I am a client and I want someone who will fight my corner tooth and nail, Roberta is the one."* She handles an array of significant trusts and estates work at the firm, in which overseas assets are often involved. Interviewees appreciate that Harvey *"tries to get to the nub of the issue"* on complex matters and is *"always bringing original ideas to the table."* **Alison Meek** handles a wide range of trusts and estates disputes, such as Public Trustee v Cooper applications and probate disputes concerning questions of capacity. She is held in high regard by peers, one of whom views her as *"one of the best litigators in London,"* owing to an *"incredible ability to get on top of the detail."* They continue: *"She is very good at strategy and is client-friendly – the best qualities of a litigator."* **Catharine Bell** became a consultant at the firm in 2021, handling both contentious and non-contentious trust matters. She is proficient in breach of trust claims and asset preservation work. *"Catharine is calm, unflappable and a great team leader,"* a source enthuses. A commentator adds: *"I enjoyed working with Catharine Bell, who I found to be extremely knowledgeable about multi-jurisdictional trust issues."* **Ashleigh Carr** is a senior associate in the firm's dispute resolution team. She assists on 1975 Act claims, significant estate administration and property division work. Fellow professionals are impressed by Carr's progress, as a Chancery barrister highlights: *"Ashleigh is certainly one to watch, she will be a big name going forward."* Another interviewee feels that she is *"very thorough and diligent"* and is *"exactly the sort of person you would want on your team."*

Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP

Maurice Turnor Gardner's private wealth offering handles disputes relating to trusts, inheritance and charities. The firm is able to take on big-ticket international disputes that often concern complex structures and high-profile clients.

Peers recognise the progress that the firm continues to make, as one source states: *"Maurice Turnor Gardner have formed a fantastic private client team in recent years."* Another interviewee shares similar thoughts, adding: *"Maurice Turnor Gardner are one of the market-leading firms in the private client space and I will frequently recommend them to clients for both complex tax or con-*

tentious trust matters."

Notable practitioners

Rupert Ticehurst is an expert in contentious trusts and estate work, often representing various parties in significant family disputes. *"Rupert Ticehurst is fabulous on anything contentious. He brings a calm and sensible approach to any situation and is able to navigate troubled waters with ease,"* an interviewee remarks. Market commentators acknowledge his ability to *"settle disputes very elegantly,"* owing to his reputation as a *"master strategist."* **Simon Goldring** is *"a bundle of energy and incredibly hard-working,"* remarks an interviewee, adding: *"He is incredibly commercial and well known in the market place."* He handles onshore and offshore trust and probate disputes and is a prominent figure in industry associations. Fellow professionals recognise that as *"one of the rising stars in the contentious trust space,"* Goldring is *"able to juggle a hundred plates at once to keep everyone happy."* **Rosalind Hetherington** is a senior associate in the private wealth disputes team at the firm. She assists on onshore and offshore trust disputes, including a ground-breaking case involving a charity and its trustees following its insolvent liquidation. Regarded as *"an excellent litigator,"* solicitors and barristers appreciate that she is *"incredibly well organised and on top of everything."*

McDermott Will & Emery UK LLP

McDermott Will & Emery combines its contentious and non-contentious expertise into a single private client department. This enables the firm to take on a wide range of private wealth issues, such as structuring trusts to mitigate future risk, advising trustees on complex disputes and handling Inheritance Act claims. *"The McDermott Will & Emery team are stellar performers,"* remarks an interviewee.

The team is also praised for an ability to *"handle the most complex of matters,"* says a commentator, who adds: *"They are responsive, always available and take a commercial and pragmatic approach while protecting their client at all costs."*

Notable practitioners

Nicholas Holland (see p.332) is an offshore trusts expert, regularly assisting high net worth clients in estate administration and trusts structuring matters. His multi-jurisdictional practice *"brings a global perspective that most in private wealth disputes cannot bring,"* a source confirms. A trust expert adds that Holland has a *"hugely likeable personality. Nick is a true strategist, he delivers sound advice, is truly unflappable and provides great comfort to his clients."* **Ziva Robertson** (see p.342) is an esteemed contentious trusts and estates expert. She represents trustees, beneficiaries and protectors in fiduciary litigation across various jurisdictions. A Chancery barrister praises her level of client service and poise in often testing circumstances, noting: *"I think Ziva is rightly very highly thought of, she fights her client's corner and remains unfazed even in the nastiest of disputes."* Another interviewee views Robertson as *"a tenacious litigator with considerable cross-border expertise."*

Payne Hicks Beach LLP

Payne Hicks Beach is a firm that has *"really made a dent in the last couple of years"* on trusts litigation, a market peer acknowledges. The practice covers the full spectrum of contentious trusts and estates. Partners handle cross-border litigation concerning breach of trust claims and have taken the lead on landmark decisions at the High Court in a trust and estoppel context.

"Payne Hicks Beach now have some of the best young partners in the private client world," says an interviewee. A barrister adds: *"I think they are very good, they are on the up and pushing on."*

Notable practitioners

Jessica Henson (see p.331) is *"multi-talented in handling contentious, non-contentious work, as well as crossover between divorce and trusts work,"* an interviewee acknowledges. She is described as someone who is *"always adding strings to her bow,"* contributes heavily to industry events and associations and is regarded as *"one of the best private client partners in London"* by a peer. A barrister adds that *"Jess has everything – tactical vision, client skills and is all over the detail."* **Richard Manyon** (see p.336)'s practice encompasses contentious trusts and estates. He represents high net worth clients both domestically and abroad on breach of fiduciary duty claims, will validity challenges and Inheritance Act work. Manyon maintains a strong reputation, as confirmed by sources. One says he is *"at the top of his game,"* owing to his *"infectious personality"* that makes him very popular with clients. Another interviewee adds: *"Richard brings great experience and really good judgement to matters. He is a really good person to have on your side in tricky cases."* **Charlotte Henshall** (see p.331) is an associate at the firm, assisting in contentious trusts and estates matters. She helps to represent trustees, protectors and beneficiaries in breach of trust issues and 1975 Act claims. A dispute resolution expert enthuses: *"Charlotte is everything that you would want at the level she is. She is on top of everything and knows all of the documents and processes very well. I am sure that she has a very bright future ahead."*

Stephenson Harwood LLP

Stephenson Harwood provides global coverage to ultra high net worth families and business owners on complex trust disputes. The firm also leverages notable expertise in tax matters to advise on asset transfer-related disputes.

"They are just a brilliant and very impressive team, they have a strong leader in Jenny," remarks an interviewee, adding: *"I think that they are up there with the best in London."*

Notable practitioners

Jenny McKeown (see p.337) spearheads the firm's private wealth disputes offering, often advising clients on multifaceted trusts disputes and cross-border litigation. *"Jenny is fantastic with her strategic decision-making and client skills, she really sees the bigger picture,"* says a commentator. Her collaborative approach is also commended: *"Jenny is very savvy, commercially aware and is also easy to work with."* **Helena Berman** (see p.320) combines expertise in contentious tax and pensions matters to assist clients on complex, often long-running trust disputes. A barrister remarks: *"Helena is a delight to work with – tenacious and is always doing everything she can for her clients' interests."* **Peter Gillis** is a senior associate at the firm and regularly assists in significant international trust litigation proceedings. A barrister reports that *"he is really good, persuasive and wins the client's confidence."* Another source appreciates Gillis' thorough approach to cases, noting: *"Peter is all over the detail and is a real pleasure to work with."*

Stewarts

Stewarts continues to impress the private client market. The firm's purely litigation model ensures that partners are well placed to handle significant probate disputes, as well as the restructuring of sizeable trusts that bring together tax, trust and investment issues.

"Stewarts have a first-class team headed by James Price which has hugely impressive combined knowledge and experience," observes an interviewee, and another says that *"they work tremendously hard for their clients."*

Notable practitioners

James Price (see p.340) is *"one of the very best lawyers in the private client field, with a winning combination of charm, knowledge and experience,"* observes a barrister. Price set up the trust and probate litigation department and leads the firm's most significant dispute cases globally. *"I particularly rate James Price. He is a lawyer's lawyer, likes to get under the skin of issues. He is very articulate and measured, hits the points in a really constructive manner,"* says a fellow litigator. **Geoffrey Kertesz** (see p.334) regularly represents ultra high net worth clients in disputes spanning various jurisdictions. *"I think he is the best of the best of this new generation of partners. He is really very clever and is universally popular. I think he will be the leading partner of this next generation,"* enthuses an interviewee. *"Geoff is very strategic in his thinking, certainly someone who is always looking to not over-complicate a piece of litigation. He seeks the most effective solutions for his clients,"* observes a source. **Emma Holland** (see p.332) assists in various trust and estate disputes that often cover multiple jurisdictions. Her expertise includes advising beneficiaries of various trusts on restructuring and Court of Protection proceedings. Holland's growing reputation is evident through market feedback; a source remarks that *"she is brilliant. It is pretty obvious that she is destined for great things."* Another interviewee states that *"Emma is clever, prepared, and very detailed."* **Luca del Panta** (see p.326) is a senior associate in the firm's trust and probate litigation team. Clients consist of family businesses, charities and trust companies. He has assisted on some of the firm's most significant trusts dispute work and regularly handles probate disputes involving claims of undue influence. Del Panta's reputation continues to grow in the market. *"Luca is a really talented guy, multilingual too. He is a really down-to-earth character and is incredibly nice to talk to. He is an instrumental part of the associate team,"* a fellow litigator enthuses, and another source says: *"He is a really good guy – nice, diligent, hard-working and competent. He has good judgement and client-handling skills."*

Band 3

Herbert Smith Freehills

Herbert Smith Freehills handles contentious and non-contentious matters in the private wealth and trusts area. The firm advises on issues such as setting up trust structures and provides representation on international trust and succession disputes. Clients consist of ultra high net worth individuals, family offices and trust companies.

A barrister acknowledges the thorough approach taken by the firm, noting: *"They pay close attention to detail and have a lot of intellectual power. They provide tactical, pragmatic advice."* Another interviewee adds that the firm is *"very professional, very communicative and very thorough."*

Notable practitioners

Richard Norridge's private wealth practice centres on advising wealthy clients in inheritance and succession disputes. He has particular expertise in handling multi-jurisdictional trusts in which breaches of fiduciary duty often occur. As well as being *"technically brilliant,"* Norridge's level of client service is a notable strength, as a source confirms: *"He is very thoughtful and very diligent; he spends a lot of time trying to ensure his clients get the best outcome."*

Howard Kennedy LLP

Howard Kennedy handles domestic and international contentious trusts and estate matters. The team assists clients in will and trust validity issues, Court of Protection proceedings and breach of fiduciary duty claims.

"They provide first-rate client care, great strategy, and total focus on results," says a commentator.

Notable practitioners

Naomi O'Higgins (see p.339) is an expert in trust and estate disputes, typically concerning 1975 Act claims, proprietary estoppel claims and administration issues. *"She's just got an incredibly good reputation in the market and is a safe pair of hands. I trust her judgement,"* says a commentator. *"Emily is very impressive, she runs a case very efficiently and well,"* observes a barrister. **Emily Mailer** (see p.336) is *"one of the big hitters in private wealth disputes and is very well respected amongst peers,"* a market commentator observes. She is proficient in overseeing probate disputes and representing various parties in estate issues. *"I rate her very highly. Emily has a good manner with clients and focuses on the real issues in the dispute. She keeps her clients' interests very much tied to what is important and works hard to advance their interest,"* remarks a source.

Kingsley Napley LLP

"Kingsley Napley's contentious trusts and estates team are consistently impressive," a barrister remarks. The firm handles trust and probate litigation and global asset recovery matters.

Client care is highlighted as a distinct strength of the practice, with a source saying: *"They have always responded rapidly, most often on the same day, even late into the evening."*

Notable practitioners

Ryan Mowat leads the firm's private wealth practice and is regularly involved in trust litigation relating to Court of Protection and asset recovery issues. *"He handles his clients well, I have a lot time for him. He is a very sensible, safe pair of hands,"* says a fellow litigator, and another commentator states that *"Ryan is a sophisticated litigator."* **Kate Salter** is a senior associate in the contentious trusts and probate team at the firm, often assisting on sizeable litigation surrounding assets disputes and will forgery claims. Salter also possesses experience in contentious Court of Protection work. *"She's very good, she's very hard-working,"* states a Chancery barrister.

Russell-Cooke

Russell-Cooke is involved in significant contentious probate disputes spanning multiple jurisdictions and often advises clients on Inheritance Act claims. *"They are a first-rate firm and one of the leading contentious private client and contentious trust practices out there,"* observes a source.

"Russell-Cooke are extremely responsive and provide a premier service to their clients," says an interviewee, and another source says that *"they are very responsive and a great team to work with. They are on top of the detail in complex cases and provide clear analysis."*

Notable practitioners

Alison Regan (see p.341) heads the firm's contentious trust and succession team, regularly advising an array of clients on probate, trust and succession disputes across a range of jurisdictions. Regan is held in high regard among litigators and barristers, one of whom comments: *"Alison is an impressive litigator who is commercially astute and has a steely determination to achieve the best for her clients."* Another commentator says that Regan is *"tremendously talented and incredibly easy to work with."* **Gareth Ledsham** (see p.335) handles cross-border litigation surrounding administration disputes as part of a comprehensive private client offering. Ledsham is also an expert in Court of Protection matters and acts for various parties in such claims. A solicitor remarks: *"Gareth provides excellent service and is able to analyse complex issues and develop effective strategies to advance his client's case." "He is a great legal mind and fantastic to have on your team,"* says another commentator. Senior associate **Tom Deely** (see p.326) assists in various contentious trust and probate matters such as the administration of estates and domicile-related disputes. *"Tom is a real rising star, he is great to work with and displays impressive insight to the issues that matter to his clients in the cases they are litigating,"* observes a source, and another says: *"Tom has a great mind for contentious trusts and probate and always has insightful arguments."*

Sinclair Gibson LLP

Sinclair Gibson's litigation department handles various trust and probate disputes for clients. Partners are on hand to advise on disputes concerning capacity issues and variation of trusts applications as part of sizeable family trusts. *"They have a very strong team who manage my somewhat complex family and estate affairs most courteously with complete understanding of the family and the future,"* remarks an appreciative interviewee.

Another source states that while working with Sinclair Gibson, the firm *"displayed all the abilities of a top-tier London firm."*

Notable practitioners

Henry Hickman is *"a first-rate individual on the contentious side,"* according to a fellow litigator, who adds: *"He is incredibly sensible, reasonable and clients are always in superb hands."* He is an expert in Privy Council work as well as issues surrounding the variation of an estate. A Chancery barrister commends his measured approach on a particular case, noting: *"Henry has been a model of common sense throughout."*

Wedlake Bell LLP

Wedlake Bell advises clients across domestic and international contentious trusts and probate disputes. Partners are well placed to provide specialist litigation advice on issues pertaining to asset recovery and breach of duty claims. *"They are a top-notch firm, they have such a good client base,"* says an interviewee.

"Their verbal and written communications are always clear and concise. They will always respond in full to any questions raised and provide thorough advice as to the appropriate way forward," observes a source, who also says: *"They are dedicated to their clients and delivering the best possible service. They have excellent communication skills and have a commercial awareness which is key."*

Notable practitioners

Caroline Miller (see p.337)'s practice combines contentious and non-contentious elements of private wealth to assist clients in various matters. Miller's client skills are also noted, a source says: *"Caroline is a strong advocate for her clients, she is focused and intelligent in her approach and yet commercial in her dealings with clients."* Another commentator says that *"clients love her, she invests a lot of time into their cases."* **Andrew O'Keeffe** (see p.339)'s contentious trust and probate practice includes acting for various parties in disputed inheritance cases regarding sizeable family estates. The breadth of his expertise is commended by a source: *"Andrew covers a lot of bases, he is excellent with clients and provides a very good tactical overview."* A barrister also remarks that a *"particular strength of his is in keeping an eye on the commercial view of litigation."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Jan Atkinson of Osbornes Law heads the firm's private client department, handling both contentious and non-contentious wills, trusts and estates work. She is an expert in international probate and Court of Protection work and is praised by a fellow solicitor for a *"sensible and pragmatic"* approach to cases.

Claire-Marie Cornford of Irwin Mitchell is a *"fantastic inspirer of confidence in clients and a very canny litigator,"* an interviewee remarks. She handles inheritance act claims, trust disputes and offshore trust matters as part of a comprehensive private client offering. Cornford is well regarded among barristers, one of whom says that *"she is one of my favourite instructing solicitors. She is very intelligent, very quick and is good at prioritising the key issues."*

Sofie Hoffman of Harbottle & Lewis LLP is an expert in contentious probate matters, providing counsel to clients both domestically and abroad. A fellow solicitor acknowledges her expertise, noting: *"She is very, very good and is on our referral list for conflicted work."*

Lorraine Jeffery of Michelmores LLP leads the contentious probate team, often representing trustees and beneficiaries in relation to disputed wills. Her ability to build rapport with clients is commended by a private client solicitor, who remarks: *"I have never seen anyone who clients like as much as they do Lorraine. She makes such an impression on people and is very detail-oriented."*

Neil Long of Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP is an experienced private client lawyer who regularly acts for beneficiaries of sizeable wills on Inheritance Tax and administration matters. *"Neil is brilliant at dealing with clients and strategising,"* reports an interviewee. A client adds: *"Neil has really first-class judgement."*

David Wedgwood of Anthony Gold is an expert in trusts and disputes, often concerning the validity of wills and inheritance act claims. He combines this with distinct expertise in Court of Protection work in which issues of capacity are involved. A barrister says that *"David is a seriously impressive individual, he also has an enormous grasp of other different areas of law;"* while another interviewee appreciates his approach to often difficult situations: *"He is great with anxious clients and is a really calming presence."*

UK: An Introduction to Private Wealth Law

Contributed by Wrigleys Solicitors LLP

Private clients and their advisers in 2022/23

We all know that the past couple of years have been extraordinary. Private client legal practitioners and other professional advisers in this area have felt that in many ways, including on a very personal level. The people we all advise will continue to be affected by the economic slowdown coupled with rising costs of living, political uncertainty and unrest and post-pandemic recovery for some time.

That (perhaps unwelcome) fact is one certainty in what feels like a tumultuous and unpredictable environment; not ideal for planning ahead.

Those seeking advice from practitioners in this area include individuals performing a variety of roles and from a variety of backgrounds, including entrepreneurs, trustees, farmers, landowners, family businesses, personal representatives, and others. All are endeavouring to navigate through this fog of uncertainty whilst one objective remains common and essential – to plan a secure future for themselves and those around them.

Change and challenges

Whilst lockdown restrictions have eased, the "new normal" has challenged our long-established working practices, and how clients and advisers interact. While that is certainly not unique to this practice area, it is keenly felt here. Private client advisers have had to adjust how they take instructions, approach sensitive issues and interact with vulnerable clients, though the ability to hold in person meetings again has been welcomed by advisers, clients and intermediaries alike.

In some areas rapid changes had to be made to solve the practical problems of working in lockdown. The temporary introduction of video witnessing of Wills was a welcome sea-change to a practice that has been in place for decades. While the legislation has been extended to apply to Wills made up until 31 January 2024, it is yet to be seen whether this will become permanent. However, new technology and clients' expectations means that further developments in this and other practice areas are surely inevitable.

The changes at the Probate Registry have had a significant impact on personal representatives already trying to administer estates in difficult circumstances. The removal of the requirement to complete IHT205s for some excepted estates, the closure of many of the District Registries and the introduction of online applications has resulted in uncertainty and delays for personal representatives and beneficiaries seeking Grants of Representation.

The post-Brexit landscape remains a key issue and concern for many clients. The phasing out of farm subsidies and the introduction of the Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS), other "green" subsidies and opportunities for biodiversity net gain contracts looks set to radically change our countryside. Farming and land-owning individuals are, understandably, concerned about how all of this will work in practice, and how new trade deals, increased prices for agricultural inputs (due to the war in Ukraine, among other factors), etc., will affect their businesses. There is also concern about the lack of clarity to date over the interaction of the ELMS rules and agricultural property relief from Inheritance Tax (IHT), whereby there appears to be a risk of losing that relief if land is taken out of agricultural use under ELMS in order to support the Government's green agenda.

There is still considerable uncertainty as to how the Government will fund the costs of the post-pandemic recovery, which has run to hundreds of billions of pounds. The prospect of increased tax charges is a clear concern for many people. Will a one-off wealth tax reappear on the agenda, perhaps, following the recommendations from the Wealth Tax Commission? Where this may have felt like a relatively remote possibility at first, the longer the economy is being propped up by government support, the more realistic a concern this may become. Many will be keeping a keen eye on the next budget, for any changes to the IHT and Capital Gains Tax (CGT) regimes.

The Office of Tax Simplification (OTS) and the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Inheritance Tax and Intergenerational Fairness (APPG) have been busy in recent times reviewing the IHT and CGT legislation. Numerous recommendations have been made to the Government in each case, including some quite radical ones which certainly raised eyebrows. Those included the abolition of agricultural property relief from IHT (an APPG suggestion), abolishing the CGT uplift on death and aligning the rates of CGT with income tax (an OTS recommendation).

All that said, the Government's response to these papers was published on the "Tax Administration and Maintenance Day" in November 2022, confirming that there would not be any major

changes to IHT or CGT for the foreseeable future – a slightly anticlimactic conclusion given the time which had passed since the OTS and APPG reports were published. That said, with a general election approaching in 2024, we query how far into the future that reassurance can realistically reach.

Opportunities

What, then, has been the effect of this uncertainty around new trade deals, the impact of the war in Ukraine, changes to farming subsidies, a Government response to reports considering changes to the tax legislation (to mention but a few examples of the changes and challenges faced over the last year), with an overhanging threat of increased tax charges to pay for the government's significant spending on COVID-19 related costs, on those seeking advice from private client practitioners?

It has presented an opportunity for both advisers and clients alike. For those who are thinking about handing on assets and engaging in succession planning, then given the potential tax changes on the horizon, such as to the rates of CGT to align with income tax, the abolition of – or at least significant changes to – the valuable agricultural and business property reliefs from IHT, now is a chance to make the most of a relatively favourable regime.

That applies across the board to individuals and trustees, whatever their background or assets, who may consider working with their team of advisers to put their succession plan into action if they have one, or otherwise to make a start on that planning process, because it is never too late.

We and other private client advisers will always hold dear the opportunity to become trusted advisers for individuals and their families. It is challenging at times, but moreover it is rewarding; particularly when we see the results of a previous generation's planning in action. Now, perhaps more than ever with the general climate of change and uncertainty, there is an opportunity to cement these relationships and offer the consistency and specialist advice individuals are seeking.

The future?

It is hoped that while the next year may bring about more change, particularly as a result of the next budget, that will at least address some of the unanswered questions we all have as to what will change and when, in terms of an increase to tax rates.

That should have a knock-on effect to the private client advice market, with individuals seeking advice and being keen to put their succession planning into action.

Private Wealth Law National Leaders (outside London)

Private Wealth Law
Leading Firms
Band 1
Addleshaw Goddard LLP
Birketts LLP
Brodies LLP
Burges Salmon LLP
Cripps
Mills & Reeve LLP
Private Client Solicitors
Raworths LLP Solicitors
Shepherd and Wedderburn LLP
Stevens & Bolton LLP
Turcan Connell
Wiggin Osborne Fullerlove
Wilsons
Wrigleys Solicitors LLP
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Addleshaw Goddard LLP

Addleshaw Goddard is a major presence in the private wealth market in the North of England, with impressive practitioners in Leeds and Manchester.

"The level of sophistication of the private client team at Addleshaws cannot be overstated. They are the go-to firm for complex advice for high net worth and entrepreneurial clients. They adopt a commercial approach and are at one with their clients' needs," says an interviewee.

Notable practitioners

Leeds-based Pervinder Kaur leads the firm's private capital group.

Birketts LLP

Birketts is an exceptionally strong provider of private wealth legal advice across East Anglia. It offers wealthy clients a full range of contentious and non-contentious services from its offices in Cambridge, Chelmsford, Ipswich and Norwich.

"Birketts set the standard for speed and quality in the region," says an interviewee, who also says: *"Birketts has not only strength in depth but brilliant client service standards."* Another local source states that *"Birketts are a top-tier East Anglia-based firm."*

Notable practitioners

Ipswich-based Louise Long leads the private client advisory practice.

Brodies LLP

Brodies is well known among interviewees for its top-class private client practice. The team advises on complex matters, including estate and tax planning, family limited partnerships and other wealth structuring vehicles.

"From my experience, there is a great deal of experience across the private client team and also across the whole firm," observes an interviewee. *"They have high-calibre staff over multiple Scottish locations,"* states a commentator, who adds: *"They bring clarity to complex matters and explain them in plain English to clients."*

Notable practitioners

Edinburgh-based Alan Barr is head of personal tax planning and Mark Stewart in Aberdeen is head of personal and family.

Burges Salmon LLP

Burges Salmon is *"pre-eminent in Bristol"* and also has a notable London-based private wealth offering.

"I have always found Burges Salmon quick to react with good professional advice," says an interviewee, who adds: *"They provide a comprehensive range of advice from experienced and competent professionals."*

Notable practitioners

John Barnett leads the private client practice and Beatrice Puoti is head of the private wealth offering.

Cripps

Cripps is a leading firm in Kent, where it provides advice to wealthy clients on the full range of private client matters. *"The firm has fantastic lawyers, many of whom have depth of knowledge across a number of practice disciplines, and the firm's ability to advise at all levels of practice provides a complete and cost-effective service to HNW clients,"* explains an commentator.

The firm is also very well known for its ability to handle private wealth disputes. *"Cripps has specialist contentious trusts and estates solicitors who are regularly instructed in complex and sophisticated cases,"* says an interviewee.

Notable practitioners

Myles McIntosh is a key contact.

Mills & Reeve LLP

Mills & Reeve has an enviably strong national private wealth offering across its offices in Birmingham, Cambridge, Leeds, London, Manchester

and Norwich. A source says that the firm has *"the strongest team in the Midlands market."*
"I regard Mills & Reeve as the leading firm in the private client sector and they have extremely strong expertise across their team," states an interviewee, who adds: *"They are particularly good with high net worth clients and understand what they need from a legal firm."* Another source says: *"They are particularly knowledgeable in the area of family investment companies. I like how they approach this area of law from a private client perspective rather than a corporate perspective."*
Notable practitioners
Cambridge-based Chris Belcher is a key contact.

Private Client Solicitors
Manchester-based Private Client Solicitors has quickly earned a fine reputation for its work with wealthy individuals and families.
"They always endeavour to provide excellent service," says an interviewee, who adds: *"They have vast amounts of knowledge and experience within their team, which enables them to provide an excellent level of service."*
Notable practitioners
Tasnim Khalid is the firm's managing partner.

Raworths LLP Solicitors
Raworths in Harrogate provides market-leading tax and estate planning advice to wealthy and ultra-wealthy individuals and families. *"Raworths excels in proactively delivering the services its clients require,"* observes an interviewee.
"There is huge knowledge within the team and they always meet our needs," says an interviewee. Another commentator states: *"They're a nice, down-to-earth firm, very pragmatic, dealing with UK-based clients mainly. It's a broad base of family wealth and entrepreneurs. They're very easy to work with."*
Notable practitioners
Rachel Tunnicliffe is head of private client services and trusts, wills and estates.

Shepherd and Wedderburn LLP
Shepherd and Wedderburn is a major full-service Scottish firm with offices in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen. It advises wealthy individuals and families on sophisticated tax and estate planning matters, including cross-border mandates.
"They are superbly technically qualified, and hugely experienced, but can help clients to understand their complex issues," observes an interviewee.
Notable practitioners
Malcolm Rust leads the private wealth and tax practice group.

Stevens & Bolton LLP
Stevens & Bolton in Guildford is well known for its ability to handle the full range of private client matters, both advisory and contentious.
"Stevens & Bolton are one of my go-to firms for all types of trust work, contentious, structuring and tax. They are friendly, responsive and approachable," says an interviewee, and a London-based solicitor says that *"they are becoming a go-to firm outside of London."*
Notable practitioners
Nick Acomb is a key contact.

Turcan Connell
Turcan Connell advises wealthy and ultra-wealthy individuals and families on sophisticated domestic and multi-jurisdictional private wealth matters, including tax, trust and estate planning.
"They have the breadth of expertise within one firm to deliver a great service," says a source.
Notable practitioners
Alix Storrie is head of tax and succession at the firm.

Wiggin Osborne Fullerlove
Cheltenham-based Wiggin Osborne Fullerlove remains a top choice for wealthy clients with complex international tax and estate planning requirements. *"I find them to be very good. They're very client-friendly and responsive. I have a high regard for them,"* states a commentator.
"They have some good people and good depth. If you were recommending a firm in Cheltenham, you would definitely think about them," says an interviewee, who adds that *"Wiggin have a fantastic client base."*
Notable practitioners
Matthew Cain, Stephen Pallister and Matthew Shayle are key contacts.

Wilsons
Salisbury-based Wilsons advises a wide range of clients on tax and estate plans, trusts and probate matters, and the team is also able to represent clients in contentious matters.
"The team are very knowledgeable, experienced and pragmatic," says an interviewee, while another source notes that the team has an *"outstanding skill set and ability to grasp complex problems and find innovative solutions."*
Notable practitioners
Frances Mayne, Rupert Wilkinson and James Aspden are key contacts.

Wrigleys Solicitors LLP
Wrigleys handles high-value, complex tax and succession planning matters for high net worth individuals, families and landed estates. *"They are outstanding for private wealth law,"* observes an interviewee.
"I would state that Wrigley's has a team with extensive knowledge and experience. Any questions that we raised were answered in a timely and professional manner," observes an interviewee.
Notable practitioners
Andrew Wriglesworth and Marie-Louise Hamilton are key contacts at the firm.

Private Wealth Law South West

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Ashfords LLP
Ashfords has an excellent reputation in the South West for advising HNWIs on private client matters. A source says that the team has a *"strong ability to handle complex matters."*
Another interviewee highlights the firm's disputes expertise, saying: *"In the area of contested private client, they are true specialists representing a wide range of clients across all contested private client issues both domestic and international."*
Notable practitioners
Michael Alden advises on estate and trust administration. He is particularly praised for his ability to develop strong working relationships with clients and other professionals. A source says: *"Michael is a joy to work with. He has a lovely manner and a great working relationship with his team, who clearly respect him. His clients also adore him."* **Robert Horsey** is *"fantastic on all fronts,"* says a source, who goes on to explain: *"He is endlessly patient, informative, and nuanced in his analysis and guidance."* Horsey represents clients in complex contested estate matters. **Thomas Biddick** advises on wills, estate administration and tax planning. An interviewee says: *"He's a really excellent lawyer with a great manner. He is good at raising difficult subjects in a tactful and understanding manner."* *"Tom is an excellent solicitor, who is very capable of taking highly complex matters and communicating effectively with all parties,"* explains another source. **Kerry Morgan-Gould** advises on complex and high-value inheritance and other private wealth law matters. She is a *"wonderful solicitor"* who goes *"above and beyond"* in assisting clients. She is described as *"very approachable"* and *"is a calming influence with her outstanding knowledge."* **Barny Croft** is a *"real rising star"* and a recent partner at Ashfords. He advises on private wealth matters and is also experienced in high-value disputes. He is *"superb at mental capacity work"* and is described as a *"pleasure to work alongside."* A client notes: *"Barny was certainly our trusted adviser, wise counsel, therapist, and (when required) pit bull. I greatly enjoyed working with him and credit him massively for the successful outcome."*

Private Wealth Disputes
South West
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Crawford Charisse *Trowers & Hamlins LLP*
Horsey Robert *Ashfords LLP*
Noyce Amanda *RWK Goodman*
Rose Michelle *VWV*
Walters Bonita *Clarke Willmott LLP*
Band 2
Cockayne Tony *Michelmores LLP*
Gordon Paul *Willans*
Kennedy Kevin *Burges Salmon LLP*
Lawrence Fiona *VWV*
Morgan-Gould Kerry *Ashfords LLP*
Up-and-coming individuals
Croft Barny *Ashfords LLP*
Associates to watch
Muston Mike *RWK Goodman*
O'Grady Sarah *Clarke Willmott LLP*
Wookey Georgia *Wards Solicitors LLP (ORL)* ◊
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

BPE Solicitors LLP

BPE Solicitors provide a solid private wealth law practice with estate and business planning services *"covered comprehensively."* They also assist with wills, inheritance planning and trust matters. *"The various discipline teams interact efficiently giving a holistic solution to legal problems,"* says a source. The team is rated highly, with a commentator stating that *"there are a number of highly skilled specialists in the private wealth team at BPE, finding practical solutions to even the most difficult issues."*

Notable practitioners

Peter Tyrrell is a private wealth law practitioner who is a partner and joint head of the private wealth department. Tyrrell advises individuals, families, trustees and beneficiaries regarding estate planning and succession matters. He acts for HNWIs, including business owners and entrepreneurs. He is described as *"approachable, thorough and always ready to go the extra mile for clients."* A market source highlights: *"Peter has a wealth of technical experience and a real gift for breaking down complex legal situations into manageable chunks to work towards solutions. He is a first-class communicator across clients, staff and other professional advisers."* **Jessica Beddows** is a partner and joint head of the private wealth department. She advises a range of clients, including HNWIs on wills and estate and succession planning, farming partnerships and family trusts. She is described as *"very helpful, friendly and thorough."* A client states that *"Jess and her team have always shown a quick and precise understanding of our cross-border issues with a rare adaptability to complex issues, providing an excellent service and efficient results."* They are deemed *"an absolute delight to have on board in all situations."*

Burges Salmon LLP

Burges Salmon LLP has a strong reputation for private wealth law matters, especially contentious trusts and estates. A client says that they *"are internationally minded, fully informed on a constant basis and always looking to provide answers and not string things out."*

Their breadth of work and its complexity is handled by a *"technically strong team as well as individuals."*

Notable practitioners

Suzanna Harvey is a partner and advises on high-value and often international trust and estate matters. She is *"an exceptional talent: Suzanna is knowledgeable, kind, supportive and accessible."* She is rated highly for her client service, and the complexity of matters she handles. **Jim Aveline** is a trust and estate team leader at the firm and deals with complex trust management cases. He *"leads a well-focused, technically excellent team."* He has a *"very clear and easy way of explaining a concept without it seeming complicated, while intuitively thinking ahead."* **Tom Hewitt** advises on trust and estate issues, including international matters. A client notes that he *"handles sensitive family issues in a thoughtful way,"* and is *"very approachable and responsive."* A source also says: *"Tom Hewitt is very helpful, friendly, competent and professional."* **Kevin Kennedy** advises on tax and estate administration matters. He is also experienced in complex matters of international scope. *"Kevin takes on the complexities of a situation and delivers a firm but refined response,"* says a source. A client adds that he is *"very proactive and on top of things."*

Charles Russell Speechlys

Charles Russell Speechlys offers an *"impressive"* private wealth law practice with a *"hugely capable team and strong market eminence."* They provide a broad range of private client services for individuals and their family trusts (UK and offshore), as well as the farming partnerships and investment companies.

Private Wealth Law
Bristol and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Burges Salmon LLP
Band 2
Michelmores LLP
TLT LLP
Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP
Band 3
Clarke Willmott LLP
Foot Anstey LLP
VWV
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Brown Sandra *Michelmores LLP*
Harvey Suzanna *Burges Salmon LLP*
Wooddisse Patrick *TLT LLP*
Band 2
Aveline Jim *Burges Salmon LLP*
Hewitt Tom *Burges Salmon LLP*
Radcliffe James *Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP*
Band 3
Kerr-Smiley Chris *Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP*
Woodward Mark *Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP*
Wyn Heledd *GL Law (ORL)* ◊
Associates to watch
Faulkner Shelley *Osborne Clarke LLP (ORL)* ◊

Private Wealth Law
Plymouth and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
GA Solicitors
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Hall Jonathan *GA Solicitors*
Rose Matthew *GA Solicitors*

A source notes that *"they are top drawer in the area"* and are *"exceptionally talented in complex matters and always communicate in a very clear and efficient manner."*

Notable practitioners

Christopher Page is an *"experienced and talented"* private client lawyer. He has *"huge expertise on trust matters and dealing with landed estates"* and *"deals with a wide range of UHNWIs."* **Julia Cox** is an *"exceptional"* private client partner, experienced in complex trust matters, including international cases. She presents the *"right balance of great with clients and technically very strong"* and is the *"go-to lawyer given her experience and reputation locally and nationally."* Another source notes that *"without doubt Julia is the best private client lawyer I have worked with in 25 years."* Besides her technical excellence, Cox's client service is highlighted as she *"always takes time to get to know her clients and their families and she really cares."* **Henry Fea** handles trusts, tax advice and complex cross-border issues. A client notes that *"Henry Fea is a genius, one of the only lawyers who has a grasp of trusts, tax and cross-border in full."* **Tabitha Collett** is a senior associate at CRS. She advises on different aspects of private client work including wills, tax and estate, and succession planning.

Clarke Willmott LLP

Clarke Willmott offers a *"very professional and efficient"* private wealth law service. They are experienced in complex and often international trust matters, estate planning and wills and probate.

They are described as *"approachable and capable."* A source comments that *"they build strong relationships with their clients and other professionals, pulling on the strength and depth of expertise from the specialist areas."*

Notable practitioners

David Maddock is experienced in complex and high-value private client work. A source says that *"he is highly skilled and he communicates quite complicated matters very simply so the layman can understand."* Another states that he is *"very professional, but empathetic service is provided."* **Bonita Walters** is a private wealth law practitioner and lead partner for the firm's contentious trusts and probates team. She is engaged in high-value disputes with international experience and is highly regarded by clients and barristers. **Tom Chiffers** is a partner in the private capital team at Clarke Willmott, specialising in tax advice for agricultural families, businesses and private individuals. He is experienced in inheritance tax and succession planning. **Sarah O'Grady** is a senior associate experienced in a range of complex trusts and wills. She is described as *"very approachable with*

Private Wealth Law
Cornwall
Leading Firms
Band 1
Stephens Scown LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Murdoch Graham *Stephens Scown LLP*
Pollock Richard M *Coodes (ORL) ◊*
Reed Phil *Stephens Scown LLP*
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

excellent legal knowledge and ability."

Foot Anstey LLP

Foot Anstey offers a private wealth law practice with experience in a range of private client issues including tax, trusts, succession, contentious trusts, probate, family and agriculture.

A fellow solicitor notes that *"the support staff have all been very efficient and thorough."* Another lawyer reports that the team has *"good technical knowledge"* and *"they have always shown a fantastic degree of knowledge, experience and technical ability."*

Notable practitioners

Anna Parker is *"a quality lawyer and one who is easy to communicate with in a friendly and professional manner,"* according to an interviewee. She advises clients on tax and estate planning matters, and is able to assist with French property acquisitions. Another interviewee describes Parker as *"very bright and personable."*

GA Solicitors

GA Solicitors offers a sophisticated private wealth law team that is *"strong and professional"* with *"expertise in all areas"* including trusts, wills and probate as well as LPAs and conveyancing.

The firm's service levels are also rated highly. A market source remarks: *"There is a level of patience approaching sainthood; they are really easy to deal with and have a great ability to simplify complex work."*

Notable practitioners

Jonathan Hall handles estate and succession planning and administration. He offers wills and probate advice, as well as complex trust administration for agriculture and family businesses. He is *"great with clients and offers strong advice,"* says a source, while another adds that he is also *"easy to deal with."* **Matthew Rose** has experience in tax advice, as well as succession planning and estate administration. Rose is described as a *"very professional, conscientious and knowledgeable, forward-looking solicitor."* He is *"knowledgeable, has a great manner with clients and provides an outstanding service in communicating with the clients."* A market source says: *"Matthew is my 'go-to' expert in his field; he is always very professional and helpful. Clients love his 'human' approach."*

Harrison Clark Rickerbys

Harrison Clark Rickerbys offers a solid private wealth law practice and is deemed a *"really strong regional firm."*

The team advises on estate and trust administration and care planning, as well as wills, probates and LPAs. A source says that *"HCR have supplied strong-thinking personnel, with strong knowledge of their respective subjects. Usually completed with a smile."*

Private Wealth Law
Cheltenham and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Charles Russell Speechlys
Wiggin Osborne Fullerlove
Band 2
BPE Solicitors LLP
Harrison Clark Rickerbys
Willans
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Hartley Mark *Harrison Clark Rickerbys*
Page Christopher *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Cook Simon *Willans*
Cox Julia *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Taylor Alex *Harrison Clark Rickerbys*
Tyrrell Peter *BPE Solicitors LLP*
Band 2
Beddows Jessica *BPE Solicitors LLP*
Bruce-Kerr Phillipa *Harrison Clark Rickerbys*
Cain Matthew *Wiggin Osborne Fullerlove*
Fea Henry *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Pallister Stephen *Wiggin Osborne Fullerlove*
Shayle Matthew *Wiggin Osborne Fullerlove*
Associates to watch
Collett Tabitha *Charles Russell Speechlys*

Notable practitioners

Mark Hartley is a private wealth law practitioner with experience in estate planning and administration work. He is well regarded and specialises in complex tax planning issues, including advising on multi-jurisdictional assets as well as advising on agricultural and business property reliefs. His consultation is sought by a steady client base. **Alex Taylor** is a partner and the practice head of the Cheltenham-based private client team, experienced in a range of estate and tax planning as well as wills and probates. Alex regularly advises business owners regarding their estates. A source says: *"Alex has always delivered."* **Phillipa Bruce-Kerr** leads the firm's specialist older and vulnerable people team handling a wide range of Court of Protection matters. She also supports families and clients in a range of complex issues including care funding and the Mental Capacity Act. A source says that she is *"always a pleasure to work with. She is receptive and constructive."* Another client adds that *"Phillipa is both an excellent lawyer and advocate for using solicitors for later life work and effortlessly combines professionalism with a gentle manner often required when dealing with elderly clients."*

Michelmores LLP

Michelmores offers a private wealth law practice for complex trust and private client matters. They are experienced in both contentious and non-contentious cases involving probate and inheritance, residential property, sophisticated tax and estate planning and agricultural litigation.

Sources note that *"the teams offer good strength in terms of the depth and breadth of the teams involved"* and *"they are always very timely and thorough."* A client adds: *"Michelmores have an excellent understanding of our needs and consider PR concerns as well as the commerciality of all advice and settlement parameters."*

Private Wealth Law
Somerset
Leading Firms
Band 1
Clarke Willmott LLP
RWK Goodman
Stone King LLP
Band 2
Mogers Drewett
Porter Dodson Solicitors
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Maddock David *Clarke Willmott LLP*
McNeile James *RWK Goodman*
Band 2
Allen Alison *Stone King LLP*
Harris Dan *Stone King LLP*
Hill David *Mogers Drewett*
Band 3
Chiffers Tom *Clarke Willmott LLP*
Collier Sharon *Porter Dodson Solicitors*
Mortimer Andrew *Stone King LLP*
Vidnes Edward *RWK Goodman*

Notable practitioners

Sandra Brown handles complex estate administration and trust work. She is said to have *"a good understanding of the practical versus the perfect, and is able to choose the best option rather than impractically seeking the perfect one."* For clients, she remains an *"outstanding"* and *"valued and trusted adviser."* **Tony Cockayne** is engaged in a broad range of private client disputes, including contentious trusts and probate litigation both nationally and throughout the South West. He acts for HNWIs and national charities. One of them notes that *"his approach hits the perfect balance of commerciality and pragmatism."* Another source adds: *"Tony has been empathetic and considerate, whilst being firm and decisive dealing with a tricky case."* **Jennifer Ridgway** is experienced in complex and high-value matters. Her clients range from international and offshore trustees to individuals and families for structuring and wealth planning matters including tax advice. A fellow solicitor notes that she is *"outstanding"* in their field and is *"one of the leading lights nationally in trust and estate work."* A source also says that she is *"great to work with, really bright and technically able."*

Mogers Drewett

Mogers Drewett is experienced in domestic wills and probates as well as trust and estate planning with international elements. A source comments that *"the specialisms are there when you need them and everyone handles things professionally and with great client empathy."*

The firm's client service is highlighted by several commentators, with one saying that *"there is an in-depth knowledge of the rules and best prac-*

Private Wealth Law
Exeter and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Ashfords LLP
Michelmores LLP
Band 2
Stephens Scown LLP
Trowers & Hamlins LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Alden Michael *Ashfords LLP*
Band 2
Biddick Thomas *Ashfords LLP*
Cook Frank *Trowers & Hamlins LLP*
Ridgway Jennifer *Michelmores LLP*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Foreign Experts
Private Wealth Law
Based in South West with expertise in countries listed below
France **Harris** Dan *Stone King LLP*
France **Parker** Anna *Foot Anstey LLP*
Switzerland **Fea** Henry *Charles Russell Speechlys*

tice both currently and as they have stood over the years. What is more impressive is the ability to translate them into meaningful language for clients."

Notable practitioners

David Hill is a private wealth lawyer engaging in estate administrations for families, including international matters. A source says that *"David Hill is a highly professional person who puts you at ease with his knowledge and communication. He shows great empathy for delicate and personal situations and family issues."* Another adds that he is *"very supportive, friendly, and shows real interest in his work and has expert knowledge. He will go the extra mile and explains complex issues in straightforward ways."*

Porter Dodson Solicitors

Porter Dodson Solicitors provide a private wealth law practice with experience in long-term tax and succession planning and wills, administration of high-value complex estates and trust matters.

A client states that they *"focus on detail, swift communications, and careful handling of clients, and listen to questions and issues raised."* Another client says that they are *"very strong, highly approachable and very efficient."*

Notable practitioners

Sharon Collier heads the firm's non-contentious private client team, engaging in estate administration and trust matters involving claims for business property and agricultural relief. A source says that she *"has both the technical expertise and an excellent manner with clients."* She is said to be *"personable, efficient, knowledgeable and generally impressive"* and is able to *"deal with everything that's asked of her and more. She puts clients at ease and explains things clearly."*

RWK Goodman

RWK Goodman offers an extensive and sophisticated private wealth law practice. *"Their team has depth and breadth across the whole spectrum of dealing with disputes arising from contested wills and estates,"* says a source, adding that this *"generates client confidence."*

Another market source says that the *"specialists within the team have in-depth, practical experience in niche, complex areas."*

Notable practitioners

James McNeile is experienced in complex and high-value trust and estate matters including planning and administration, often for international clients. He specialises in agricultural and landed estate families. A source says that *"James comes across as very thoughtful and exudes knowledge and experience."* Another notes that he has *"an excellent grasp of the law and able to explain complex issues clearly."* **Amanda Noyce** engages in contentious probate and contentious trusts, tax disputes, and related land and estate matters. She is *"a highly experienced and pragmatic solicitor"* who has *"great knowledge of her field. She can be robust in her approach but is also a caring and considerate lawyer."* Another lawyer says that *"she is absolutely first class, she's extraordinarily sympathetic, she is personable and kind and very reassuring for clients, she has an absolutely peerless legal brain."* **Edward Vidnes** is the private client department head in Bath. He is experienced in wills and estate administrations as well as LPAs, and in trust issues for the elderly and incapacity matters. He is described as *"an excellent communicator who is able to communicate the complex in an understanding manner."* **Mike Muston** handles contentious probate and contentious trusts, proprietary estoppel claims, and applications to the Court of Protection in mental capacity matters. A source says that *"Mike has always been very intuitive and empathetic"* and is *"good on details and extremely polite."* A client states that *"Mike was always a calming influence and dealt fantastically with some very strong personalities during the dispute."*

Stephens Scown LLP

Stephens Scown provides a broad private wealth law practice with a strong private client and inheritance and trust disputes team.

They are engaged in complex high-value estate planning and administration as well as trust planning. They work with HNWIs and for rural and other landed estates.

Notable practitioners

Graham Murdoch is a partner in the private client team in Cornwall. He serves HNWIs, and is experienced in wills, inheritance tax planning, estate administration and trust administration. He also deals with the Court of Protection and elderly client matters. **Phil Reed** is the head of the private client team in Cornwall, acting on wills, inheritance tax planning, and administration of estates and trusts.

Stone King LLP

Stone King offers a *"very experienced and knowledgeable team"* for private wealth law. They are experienced in trust and estate planning including international estate planning and LPAs and wills advice.

A source says that *"due to their size there is always a member of their team with the right specialism for any given situation."* Another adds that *"they are experts in the cross-border area. They also get to the nub of the problem quickly or find unique solutions to cross-border issues which can considerably reduce costs."*

Notable practitioners

Alison Allen is head of the private client sector of the firm, engaged in high-value wills and advising on complex estates, succession and tax planning. A source says that *"Alison is exceptional in her empathy with clients and her overall care in ensuring the right outcome for her clients."* Another adds that she is *"very knowledgeable and is a very caring and supportive adviser."* **Andrew Mortimer** is the senior partner in the private client team. He is experienced in dealing with complex estates and trusts including landed estates. A source says: *"Andrew is able to think on his feet and communicate very effectively."* **Dan Harris** is experienced in complex and often international estate planning and probates. He is *"very wise, very calm and steady. He is really good at settling clients' anxieties."* A source comments: *"Dan's coup de grâce is his ability to come up with creative solutions to areas of private international law that are uncertain or conflict, often to the dismay of a taxing authority."* They add that *"far from being bookish as one might think, he is very amenable, unassuming and approachable with clients."*

TLT LLP

TLT offers private wealth law services acting for wealthy individuals, entrepreneurs and farmers, as well as large businesses. They advise on trust and estate planning matters. They are also experienced in cross-border matters with international clients.

A source says they are *"very quick to respond, with a very high level of professionalism at all times."* They are a *"well-rounded team with a broad mix of experience."*

Notable practitioners

Patrick Wooddisse heads the firm's tax and estate planning group and is highly experienced in working with HNWIs, both national and international. He also provides wealth and succession planning for individuals. *"He has been able to give detailed and clear advice on a complicated, cross-border tax issue at the drop of a hat,"* notes a client. A source says that *"he provides on-point and practical advice."* Another commentator adds: *"He is an excellent private client tax partner and a fantastic resource for any law firm to have on their rolls. He is experienced, astute, hard-working, and provides the right level of advice to his clients."*

Trowers & Hamlins LLP

Trowers & Hamlins have an experienced private wealth law team that is *"very knowledgeable and professional."* They engage in a range of disputes including wills, probates, trust and inheritance matters.

A source says: *"The team handling the work showed excellent expertise in their areas and the firm showed it had the depth to provided specialist advice where required."*

Notable practitioners

Charisse Crawford is a private wealth law prac-

titioner with experience in a range of trusts and estate matters, as well as personal and business wealth planning for HNWIs. She is described as *"a rare gem who is technically sound and deeply cares for her clients"* and *"is a true expert in her field and can quickly grasp even the most complex of private wealth issues."* A fellow solicitor notes that with her *"many years of experience, she's a fighter, a ferocious litigator – she takes no prisoners, knows her stuff."* **Frank Cook** has experience in complex trust matters, as well as assisting with wills and LPAs. A source says: *"Frank is a very secure lawyer and extremely knowledgeable. He is excellent at explaining without the legal jargon."* Apart from his technical capabilities, he is praised as being *"approachable and friendly."*

VWV

VWV offers private wealth law services including tax planning, estate administration, wills and contentious probate for families and businesses.

A source says that *"there is a broad and deep knowledge across the whole team,"* and clients say they handle matters with *"care and sensitivity, extremely thoughtful on all matters."* Their client service is also rated highly.

Notable practitioners

Michelle Rose is a private wealth lawyer who leads the private client team and specialises in contentious trusts and probate. A source says that *"she is highly experienced, and well aware of the need to give value for money."* Clients rate her well and she comes highly recommended. **Fiona Lawrence** handles contentious trusts and probate, inheritance disputes, Court of Protection matters and cross-border trust issues. She is regarded as being *"very practical and effective with a high level of efficiency."*

Wiggin Osborne Fullerlove

Wiggin Osborne Fullerlove offers a broad private wealth law practice for high-value and international estate planning and tax advice. A client notes that the lawyers have *"good depth and a fantastic client base."*

Another commentator notes that *"they combine a comprehensive grasp of the technical matters with a high degree of empathy for the human aspects."* The firm is also said to be *"very client-friendly and responsive."*

Notable practitioners

Matthew Cain is experienced in complex and international trust and tax advice. He is said to be *"very knowledgeable, accessible, and a delight to work with – he is very much a team player."* A barrister notes that *"he also has a ruthless instinct for what HMRC will and won't accept."* He is well regarded all round, and a market client states that *"he has an unerring eye for detail. He leaves no stone unturned in searching for the optimal solution for his clients."* **Stephen Pallister** has *"very good technical knowledge of onshore and offshore tax/private client matters."* He is said to be *"extremely consistent and thorough and has a real sense of commitment and advising in a way that is best for the client."* Another source adds that *"he takes a strategic view of the approach to planning."* **Matthew Shayle** is experienced in high-value, and often international, estate planning and trust advice and probates. He is *"super smart, really well liked by clients and has a really good way with them,"* says a source, adding that he *"always makes clients feel like they are talking to a very wise friend."*

Willans

Willans provides private wealth law services including estate administration, as well as private wealth disputes matters.

A source says: *"They have a particularly dedicated and hard-working wills and trusts team with great depth of expertise."* Another commentator adds that *"the team are knowledgeable and able to help negotiate difficult situations"* by *"making complex and sophisticated matters easy to understand."*

Notable practitioners

Simon Cook is a private wealth lawyer and is experienced in high-value estate administration and other private client matters. He is described as *"an excellent senior lawyer with in-depth experience in the wills and probate area. He is a consummate professional with a pragmatic way of dealing with sometimes complex legal issues."* Other sources say that *"he has a tremendous work ethic and always provides sound advice,"* and *"he always puts the underlying client's best interests at the heart of what he does."* **Paul Gordon** is a dispute resolution partner, engaged in a broad range of inheritance and trust cases. He leads the team comprising litigation and wills, trusts and probate lawyers. A source says that *"he really goes in to bat for his clients, who appreciate him going toe-to-toe with larger firms. His no-nonsense approach invariably ends with a good result."*

Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP

Womble Bond Dickinson offers a private wealth law practice experienced in a range of trust and estate matters and complex tax planning for families and businesses. They also engage in wills and probate work and inheritance planning.

A source says: *"I was hugely impressed with their ability to cut through the issues to get to the root of the issues,"* and *"the advice, service and attention to detail has been second to none."*

Notable practitioners

James Radcliffe is described as an *"excellent private client lawyer,"* experienced in a range of estate and trust issues, and tax advice. He is *"always endeavouring to provide superb client service and pragmatic, commercial and cost-efficient solutions for clients,"* says a source. Another commentator says that he has *"exceptional knowledge and experience in handling complex private client matters."* **Chris Kerr-Smiley** advises on a range of private client issues, including trust restructuring, trust taxation and trustees' powers and duties. A source says: *"Christopher is very clearly knowledgeable in his field of expertise to resolve client issues. He provides his input proactively but efficiently, and maintains a watching brief to ensure all practical aspects of his work are concluded comprehensively."* **Mark Woodward** is experienced in tax and trust advice, working with a range of clients including those without capacity. He specialises in wills, trusts, trustees' powers and duties, tax and general private client work. He works mainly with families, entrepreneurs and landowners. A source comments that he *"has great experience and is best known for his domestic tax,"* and has *"exceptional knowledge and experience in handling complex private client matters."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Shelley Faulkner of Osborne Clarke LLP specialises in trust and tax advice, and is experienced in succession and inheritance tax planning. She also prepares wills and LPAs. She works with individuals and national family businesses as well as international clients.

Richard Pollock of Coodes is an experienced practitioner with a broad practice, advising on estate and succession planning, estate and trust administration, and charity law. He often works with families and agricultural estates on complex matters.

Georgia Wookey of Wards Solicitors LLP is a private wealth law associate experienced in wills, trusts and probate disputes as well as contentious Court of Protection work.

Heledd Wyn of GL Law has experience in trusts and related matters, including wills and LPAs. A source says that *"Heledd is very easy to work with and a fountain of knowledge in all things around care fees, trusts-related and wills/LPA-related matters,"* with *"an almost encyclopedic knowledge of care funding issues."* Another source says that she *"cares deeply about achieving good client outcomes for people in vulnerable circumstances."*

Private Wealth Law The South

Private Wealth Disputes
The South
Leading Firms
Band 1
Charles Russell Speechlys
Cripps
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP
Band 2
Adams & Remers
Ellis Jones Solicitors LLP
Moore Barlow LLP
Stevens & Bolton LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Aspden James *Wilsons* *
Cash Michael *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP* *
Davies Ashton *Adams & Remers* *
Elson Duncan *Charles Russell Speechlys*
James Paula *Irwin Mitchell*
Junor Lloyd *Adams & Remers* *
Lister James *Stevens & Bolton LLP*
McIntosh Myles *Cripps*
Band 2
Taylor Scott *Moore Barlow LLP*
Youdan Philip *Cripps*
Band 3
Day Lauren *Ellis Jones Solicitors LLP*
Stockton Candy *Irwin Mitchell* *
Up-and-coming individuals
Riddleston Victoria *Ellis Jones Solicitors LLP*
Star associates
Sikkel Dino *Cripps*
Associates to watch
Bailey Jack *Stevens & Bolton LLP*
Ewing Samantha *Irwin Mitchell*
Piper Rebecca *Charles Russell Speechlys*
* *Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Private Wealth Law
Southampton and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Wilsons
Band 2
Trethowans LLP
Band 3
Blake Morgan
Godwins Solicitors LLP
Irwin Mitchell
Lester Aldridge LLP
Paris Smith LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Brooks Rachel *Foot Anstey LLP (ORL)* ◊
Brown Carla *Ellis Jones Solicitors LLP*
Band 2
Gajraj Mihiri *Trethowans LLP* *
Leeson Fiona *Godwins Solicitors LLP*
Mayne Frances *Wilsons* *
Neal Andrew *Godwins Solicitors LLP*
Wilkinson Rupert *Wilsons* *
Band 3
Cowgill Alan *Godwins Solicitors LLP*
Shea Paula *Blake Morgan LLP*
Whitcomb Philip *Moore Barlow LLP*
Up-and-coming individuals
Fox Fiona *Godwins Solicitors LLP*
Associates to watch
Neville Naomi *Irwin Mitchell*
Sleep Jonathan *Blake Morgan*

Private Wealth Law
Guildford and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Charles Russell Speechlys
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP
Stevens & Bolton LLP
Band 2
Moore Barlow LLP
TWM Solicitors LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Ashford Sally *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Band 2
Acomb Nick *Stevens & Bolton LLP*
Man Julie *Russell-Cooke (ORL)* ◊ *
Skeffington Stuart *RMW Law (ORL)* ◊
Band 3
Adams Tim C J *Moore Barlow LLP*
Crossman Allison *TWM Solicitors LLP* *
Edwards Lucy *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP* *
Fox Daryl *Stevens & Bolton LLP*
Up-and-coming individuals
Gearey Hannah *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP* *
Star associates
Nicholas Elizabeth *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP* *

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Adams & Remers

Adams & Remers handles the full suite of estate and succession planning issues, as well as disputes concerning trusts and estates. A source says that the team *"offers excellent and clear communication in complex areas of trusts and probate,"* while another adds: *"Adams & Remers offers a focused approach which combines expertise with real tactical acumen. This combination of factors means they are well placed to handle complex and sophisticated matters."*

Another source highlights the disputes team in particular: *"What is notable about the firm is that they do not shy away from tackling issues head on and combing through evidence extremely thoroughly. They are able to identify the strong points of a client's claim and fight their client's corner from the word go."*

Notable practitioners

Ashton Davies (see p.325) is an extremely well-regarded litigator who has considerable experience handling trust and estate disputes for high net worth clients. A market insider says Davies is an *"excellent lawyer who really understands his clients and goes the extra mile to deliver their objectives.""He has a lot of experience and is clearly able to draw on that when identifying potential issues in new instructions,"* says another source, before continuing: *"He is very good with detail and is able to put a client's case extremely robustly, while always bearing in mind costs and proportionality."* **Bibi Fortin Lees** (see p.328) advises clients on domestic and international estate planning and tax matters. An interviewee notes: *"Bibi is able to communicate complex matters to individuals in an easy to understand and kind manner,"* while another source explains: *"Bibi provides London experience and levels of service at a local level. She is approachable and understanding, yet highly skilled in her role."* **Lloyd Junor** (see p.333) is an *"excellent trusts and estates lawyer,"* notes a source, who adds: *"His compendious knowledge is reassuring to clients during emotionally trying times."* An interviewee says: *"He is very practical but combines this with sophisticated legal analysis."* **Francis Nation-Dixon** (see p.338) is an *"extremely able non-contentious private client lawyer,"* according to a source. Nation-Dixon advises on estate planning, trusts and tax matters.

Blake Morgan

The private client team at Blake Morgan has a considerable presence across the country, including in the South. The team advises on probate, estate planning and administration, and tax matters.

A source notes that the team *"has a significant breadth of expertise,"* and another says: *"Blake Morgan clearly provide their clients with a high level of service; they are very quick to respond to any type of query." "They have a very good understanding of family dynamics,"* says a third source.

Notable practitioners

Paula Shea is *"very good and very thorough,"* notes a source, who continues: *"She is great with clients and she has that approach with lay clients that makes her very reassuring."* Shea has considerable experience advising on a range of non-contentious private client matters. **Jonathan Sleep** is a senior associate at the firm and advises on estate planning and administration, wills, trusts and tax matters. A source notes: *"He is efficient, thorough, helpful and conscientious in a very friendly and approachable way."* Another interviewee confirms: *"Jonathan always works in a very thorough, conscientious and professional manner,"* adding: *"He demonstrates excellent communication skills."*

Brachers LLP

The team at Brachers advises on a range of private client matters, including wills, estate planning and administration and trusts.

Interviewees praise the team's ability to handle complex work. One source says: *"They quickly grasp complex and technical matters with professionalism and efficiency,"* and another interviewee confirms: *"They have an excellent ability in dealing with all complex matters."*

Notable practitioners

Christopher Eriksson-Lee is extremely well regarded among sources and routinely advises closely-held business owners and other individuals with the full suite of private client matters. One source notes: *"He is excellent technically and*

Private Wealth Law
Crawley and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Irwin Mitchell
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Knight Robert *Keystone Law (ORL) ◊ **
Shelton Caroline *Irwin Mitchell*
Band 2
Chantler Holly *Morr & Co (ORL) ◊*
Associates to watch
Macfarlane Rose *Irwin Mitchell*
Samy Lucy *Irwin Mitchell*
** Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Private Wealth Law
Brighton and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Adams & Remers
Band 2
Rix & Kay Incorporating Bunkers
Band 3
DMH Stallard LLP
Renaissance Legal
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Fortin Lees Bibi *Adams & Remers **
Band 2
Bishop Camilla *Keystone Law (ORL) ◊ **
Cowdrey Nadia *DMH Stallard LLP*
Nation-Dixon Francis *Adams & Remers **
Warford Philip *Renaissance Legal **
Wright Max *Rix & Kay Incorporating Bunkers*

Private Wealth Law
Kent
Leading Firms
Band 1
Cripps
Thomson Snell & Passmore
Band 2
Brachers LLP
Thackray Williams
Warners Solicitors
Band 3
Furley Page Solicitors
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Eriksson-Lee Christopher *Brachers LLP*
Band 2
Brant Nicola *Thomson Snell & Passmore **
Band 3
Arnold Kate *Cripps*
Clarke Bruce *Rix & Kay Solicitors LLP*
Gordon Alexandra *Brachers LLP*
Hall Gail *Warners Solicitors **
Lewis Elliot *Thackray Williams*
Raggett Philip *Warners Solicitors **
Shaw Mary *Warners Solicitors **
Spencer Aaron *Furley Page Solicitors*
Up-and-coming individuals
Fairbairn Paul *Cripps*

has great inter-personal skills. He is easy to talk to and clear in his advice." Another interviewee says: *"Christopher is 'client first' in his dealings, and takes great care to ensure the clients receive the best outcomes,"* while a third source confirms: *"Chris is one of the most commercial private client solicitors that I have encountered,"* adding: *"He puts the clients at the forefront of what he does."* **Alexandra Gordon** advises on a range of non-contentious private client matters. A source explains: *"Alexandra has a highly detailed knowledge of all matters to do with estate planning, will making, trust creation and estate administration,"* adding: *"Her skill set allows her to offer a personal and sensitive service to her clients, dealing with matters efficiently and competently."* Another interviewee enthuses: *"Alexandra is a fantastic lawyer. Her depth of knowledge is amazing. Her real strength, however, is that she is able to distil all that knowledge to clients at a level they understand and have confidence moving forward with."*

Charles Russell Speechlys

Charles Russell Speechlys routinely handles a range of contentious and non-contentious tax, trust and estate matters. A source notes: *"They have substantial strength in depth."*

Another interviewee praises the team, saying: *"They demonstrate excellent technical knowledge and have a wealth of resources to call on from their colleagues to address any issues out of scope."* They continue: *"In addition, they have life experience combined with emotional intelligence enabling the most complex and challenging of human situations to be addressed in a pragmatic and sympathetic manner."*

Notable practitioners

Sally Ashford advises private clients on complex trust and estate matters. A source says: *"She is a trusted adviser who communicates complex matters well to clients and provides clear and practical advice,"* and another interviewee notes: *"Sally is very personable with excellent client rapport."* This source adds: *"She is also very knowledgeable."* **Duncan Elson** represents clients in complex domestic and international disputes. A source says that Elson is *"a shrewd operator with excellent commercial nous. He is experienced with a cool, calm and collected manner."* **Rebecca Piper** is a senior associate at the firm and advises on complex trusts disputes. A source enthuses: *"Becky is a star of the present and future,"* and another interviewee notes: *"She is a practical senior associate who is both knowledgeable and appreciative of her clients needs."*

Cripps

The team at Cripps Pemberton Greenish advises on contentious and non-contentious private client matters, including tax, wealth structuring, will, trusts and probate issues. A source comments: *"The firm has fantastic lawyers, many of whom have depth of knowledge across a number of practice disciplines, and the firm's ability to advise at all levels of practice provides a complete and cost-effective service to HNW clients."* Their work often involves cross-border matters.

Another source says: *"The team has expertise at all levels and offers a wide range of private client services."*

Notable practitioners

Myles McIntosh is *"an extremely competent private client lawyer,"* says a source. McIntosh represents high net worth clients in contentious trust matters. An interviewee notes: *"Myles delivers excellent service and astute advice."* **Philip Youdan** represents high net worth clients in trust and estate disputes. He is *"a pleasure to deal with and an extremely capable private client lawyer,"* notes a source, while another interviewee says: *"Phil has a really good feel for cases and adds value."* **Kate Arnold** advises on estate planning and trusts, as well as tax matters. A source says that she provides *"excellent service,"* and another interviewee adds: *"We have found Kate to be very alert to our concerns and always keen to provide prompt and effective service."* **Paul Fairbairn** advises on probate, estate planning and trusts. He is very well regarded among interviewees. One source explains: *"Paul is an outstanding lawyer,"* adding: *"In a room of egos and large personalities, his depth of knowledge and compassion makes him a stand-out leader and the very first port of call, particularly in matters of the utmost complexity and crisis."* This source continues: *"His depth of knowledge in estate planning is second to none. His judgement is exceptional and his advice on all matters is always practical, analytical and user-friendly."* **Dino Sikkel** is an associate at the firm and represents wealthy clients in contentious private client matters. A source says: *"Dino is really good at managing clients and explaining cases in simple terms,"* and another interviewee says that Sikkel provides an *"excellent service and is able to quickly assimilate the facts of a case and give sound advice and reassurance."*

DMH Stallard LLP

The team at DMH Stallard advises private clients on a range of matters including wills, estate planning and administration and tax matters.

Sources say of the team: *"They have expertise and experience across the board,"* and *"always go the extra mile."* One source enthuses: *"Their ability to help you to refine your aims and objectives and distil your ideas whilst also explaining the broader implications of your intended actions is very impressive."*

Notable practitioners

Stuart Price is an associate at the firm and is a key contact.

Nadia Cowdrey of Griffith Smith LLP is managing partner and head of the firm's private client team. She has experience advising on wills, powers of attorney, probate and tax planning.

Ellis Jones Solicitors LLP

The private client team at Ellis Jones advises on contentious and non-contentious trust and estate matters. A source says: *"The team have members at all stages and levels of knowledge. Their collective learning and experience ensures that clients receive the best level of service that can be offered."* An interviewee notes: *"The team is tenacious and careful when considering matters of complexity and how to treat them and their clients."*

Notable practitioners

Carla Brown advises on domestic and interna-

tional planning matters. A source explains: *"She is knowledgeable, and an expert in all private client matters. Carla is able to advise on all areas and is particularly good when acting for large estates, trusts and high net worth individuals. Carla is someone you would want on your side and you know that she will give great, personal service."* **Lauren Day** represents high net worth individuals in private client disputes. A source says: *"Lauren is fiercely determined and a wonderful advocate for her clients. This strength and determination is almost hidden behind her friendly and humorous exterior, but she is definitely the person to have on your side in any dispute!"* **Victoria Riddleston** advises high net worth clients on private client disputes, including will disputes and contentious trust matters. A source says: *"She is very knowledgeable, strategic and empathetic,"* while another interviewee notes: *"Victoria is personable, and exacting and forensic in her approach to her work and clients."*

Furley Page Solicitors

The team at Furley Page has considerable experience advising on cross-border private client matters, as well as domestic succession and estate planning issues. The team is able to handle a range of matters for those with international assets.

An interviewee notes: *"They respond quickly and get results. They are very engaging and deliver."*

Notable practitioners

Aaron Spencer has particular expertise advising clients who have assets held abroad. An interviewee notes that Spencer provides a *"very good level of service,"* while another adds: *"I appreciated his professionalism in dealing with a sensitive legal issue."*

Godwins Solicitors LLP

The team at Godwins *"provides a high-quality service to private clients,"* notes a source. The team advises on wills, probate and tax matters, among others.

An interviewee says: *"The firm is very professional with a very good knowledge of estate planning. They also have a friendly, approachable manner."* Another source comments along similar lines, stating: *"They have the knowledge, ability and experience to deal with all matters relating to the creation, administration and termination of trusts and estates."*

Notable practitioners

Fiona Leeson is *"an excellent lawyer with high-level technical ability and strong client skills,"* according to a source. She advises on wills, estates and trusts. An interviewee notes: *"She has an extremely good rapport with clients and other professionals."* **Andrew Neal** is *"a very professional private client lawyer,"* says a source, who continues: *"He has an excellent understanding of chattels and estate planning issues always delivered in a friendly, clear and helpful manner."* Another interviewee notes: *"He is great to work with, he's very measured, very calm and astute and he will always give things proper consideration. He's very much a collaborative lawyer."* **Alan Cowgill** has considerable experience advising high net worth individuals and families on private client matters. An interviewee notes that Cowgill has *"extensive experience and an excellent manner."* **Fiona Fox** is *"professional, very knowledgeable and supportive of clients and other professionals,"* explains an interviewee, while another source says: *"She is an excellent lawyer with a high-level technical ability and strong client skills."* She advises on wills, probate, trusts and tax matters.

Irwin Mitchell

Irwin Mitchell has a considerable presence across the UK and a growing team in the South. The team advises on the full suite of wealth planning and disputes matters.

Sources comment on the strength of the team. One source says: *"They have strength in depth, they clearly have the confidence of their clients and they are a pleasure to work with."* Another interviewee notes that the team has *"good in-house technical expertise."*

Notable practitioners

Paula James has an excellent reputation among market sources and is an expert in contentious will, trust and estate matters. One interviewee says: *"Paula is who you want on your side as she's efficient and sees straight to the issues and achieving the best results for her clients."* Another interviewee notes: *"She's very sensible. She's realistic and good at communicating with the client. She knows what's realistic and gets the client to understand why it's realistic."* The *"exemplary"* **Caroline Shelton** advises on non-contentious private client matters and has considerable experience handling cross-border matters. An interviewee notes: *"Caroline provides a broad level of knowledge and assistance."* **Candy Stockton** (see p.344) is extremely well regarded for her expertise in disputes matters. A source explains: *"She is very professional while at the same time empathetic. Her ability to grasp the situation and respond in a decisive way is very impressive."* Another interviewee notes that *"her depth and breadth of knowledge of contentious wills and dispute resolution is second to none."* **Samantha Ewing** advises on complex trusts disputes. She is a senior associate at the firm and is described by one source as *"lovely to deal with."* **Rose Macfarlane** is a senior associate at the firm and advises on estate and tax matters. A source says: *"Rose has achieved the highly agreeable blend of attending to the technicalities, addressing sensitive issues, whilst communicating to clients in a clear and understandable fashion."* Another interviewee notes: *"Rose delivers an impressive combination of first-class legal knowledge, common sense and a very sympathetic attitude."* **Naomi Neville** advises on estate planning, trusts and tax matters. An interviewee explains: *"Naomi provides a superior level of service, while building relationships and delivering a level of understanding to clients that they can understand."* This source continues: *"Naomi takes pride in the level of detail she goes to, to deliver the best client outcomes. Although commercial, Naomi has a warmth and level of humility that is endearing, building personal trust and confidence."* **Lucy Samy** is an associate at the firm and advises on estate planning and tax matters. An impressed client enthuses: *"Lucy has been a life-saver! Nothing was ever too much trouble. Lucy's efficiency and thoroughness took a huge weight off my shoulders. She would always reply to my emails and calls promptly. Her knowledge of dealing with probate and estate matters and her manner of liaising with lawyers from other jurisdictions are superb."*

Lester Aldridge LLP

The team at Lester Aldridge advises on wills, probate, estate planning and administration and tax matters. A source notes: *"They have a real depth of knowledge and expertise within the team."*

Another interviewee praises the team's client service, saying: *"The team provides a high level of service and always provides timely and detailed communication."*

Notable practitioners

Kurt Lee is a partner at the firm and a key contact.

Moore Barlow LLP

Moore Barlow's private wealth team advises high net worth individuals on contentious and non-contentious private client matters. The team advises on estate planning and trusts, as well as tax matters.

"The team has strength in depth, attention to detail, and a pragmatic and commercial approach," explains a source. Another source says: *"The Private Client department has a strong feeling of tradition and customer confidentiality, along with good quality advice and a strong team with a depth of specialty."*

Notable practitioners

Scott Taylor has a considerable reputation for representing clients in complex, international trust disputes. A source says: *"He is a great personality who always goes the extra mile for clients,"* adding: *"He has a real energy, and brings this energy to cases and is really commercially focused."* Another source notes: *"He's a fantastic lawyer, he is a strategist,"* before continuing: *"He is just a very, very experienced litigator and is great under pressure. At every stage he is on top of everything."* **Tim Adams** *"not only has a great depth of knowledge, but also manages to explain complicated issues clearly and concisely, which is very reassuring,"* notes a source. Adams advises high net worth clients on planning matters. **Philip Whitcomb** advises on estate planning and administration, business succession planning and trusts. A source says: *"Philip is a very good lawyer, who understands the needs of his clients and delivers what they need without fuss, accurately and on time."* Another interviewee notes: *"It is always a pleasure working with Philip on a variety of matters,"* adding: *"He has excellent technical knowledge and is able to apply it practically."*

Paris Smith LLP

Paris Smith has a considerable team of private client lawyers able to assist with wills, estate planning and tax matters. The team can also advise on contentious estate matters.

A source says that the team has *"a depth of expertise in complex estates and disputes,"* while another adds: *"They recognise the personal as well as the legal issues."*

Notable practitioners

William Hadley is a partner at the firm and a key contact.

Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP

Penningtons Manches Cooper *"have a great reputation with quality staff,"* says a source. The team advises on private client planning and disputes matters.

Several source praise the knowledge of the team. One interviewee says: *"The team have an extensive knowledge and a breadth of expertise,"* while another source says: *"They have strong technical knowledge."* Another interviewee notes: *"The depth of trust expertise is in our opinion second to none."*

Notable practitioners

Michael Cash (see p.323) is *"an exceptional lawyer at the top of his game,"* enthuses a source. Cash represents high net worth clients in complex trust and estate disputes. A market commentator notes: *"He is a master of strategy."* **Lucy Edwards** (see p.327) advises on wills, estate planning and tax matters. An interviewee says: *"She is very knowledgeable with creative solutions."* **Hannah Gearey** (see p.328) is an associate director at the firm and advises on a range of matters including estate administration and charitable planning. An impressed client says: *"Hannah was professional, considerate, responsive, knowledgeable, empathetic and willing to answer questions and explain elements I didn't understand."* **Elizabeth Nicholas** (see p.338) is a senior associate at the firm and advises on tax and trust matters. A source says: *"She has enormous technical expertise and a very good strategic approach."* Another interviewee notes: *"Elizabeth is responsive, practical and client-friendly."*

Renaissance Legal

Renaissance Legal has particular expertise in advising vulnerable clients on a range of matters. A source notes that the team is *"exceptionally talented at dealing with vulnerable beneficiaries."*

An interviewee explains: *"Renaissance Legal are not only extremely competent in the level of advice given but are able to help clients to grasp and understand complex details."*

Notable practitioners

Philip Warford (see p.346) is *"an excellent practitioner and expert within the field of vulnerable persons,"* says a source. An interviewee notes that Warford is *"highly professional, approachable, and has the ability to focus on what needs to be done rather than noise that might be presented,"* adding: *"He is able to deal with complex matters."*

Rix & Kay Incorporating Bunkers

The team at Rix & Kay advises on a range of private client issues, including estate planning and administration, trusts and tax matters. The team also advises on wills and probate.

A source says that there is a *"good, broad range of knowledge and experience across the team."*

Notable practitioners

Max Wright advises on a range of private client matters including wills, probate and trusts. An interviewee says: *"Max is always available to give sensible and knowledgeable advice."* **Bruce Clarke** is a *"very personable and knowledgeable lawyer,"* says a market commentator, while another says: *"Bruce has a very can-do attitude and willingness to help,"* adding: *"He considers the practical impact of his advice."* He advises high net worth clients on wills, estate planning and administration and tax matters.

Stevens & Bolton LLP

The team at Stevens & Bolton has a particularly strong private client team. A source explains: *"They have excellent expertise and a good collaborative approach across both contentious and non-contentious private client work."*

Sources praise the quality of the team, saying: *"The team are of high quality and very professional,"* and *"they are pragmatic, responsive and deal very well with clients."*

Notable practitioners

James Lister is a *"go-to lawyer for trust and fraud disputes and is certainly someone you want in your corner,"* says a source, who continues: *"He has a meticulous eye for the detail of a case, and thinks of all angles when developing strategy. A pleasure to work with, he is also excellent with his clients.""He is London quality with regional pricing. He is a walking encyclopedia, and has the ability to really catch people off guard. He knows his stuff inside out,"* notes another interviewee. **Nick Acomb** advises on estate planning and trusts. A source notes: *"I am impressed by his technical knowledge and his ability to explain complicated trust and legal matters."* Another interviewee says: *"Nick is amazingly diligent and practical in all advice."* **Daryl Fox** advises on a range of private client matters including estate administration. A source notes: *"Daryl is always alert to the clients' requirements and has excellent technical skills,"* and another interviewee adds that she is *"very diligent."* **Jack Bailey** has a growing reputation for representing clients in complex, often multi-jurisdictional trust disputes. A source notes: *"He is highly experienced,"* while another says: *"He is a very competent private client lawyer."*

Thackray Williams

The team at Thackray Williams advises clients on a range of private client matters, including estate planning and administration, trusts and tax matters.

"They show good technical knowledge but are also able to explain complex issues to the clients," explains an interviewee. Another source says that the lawyers are *"able to make complex matters simple for clients, keeping them at ease at all times."*

Notable practitioners

Elliot Lewis is *"an excellent partner"* with *"strong technical expertise,"* according to a source. He advises wealthy clients on complex estate and trust matters.

Thomson Snell & Passmore

The team at Thomson Snell & Passmore advises on estate planning and administration, trusts and tax matters.

A source comments on the client service of the team: *"They are always quick to respond and very reliable. They go the extra mile always."* Another source reports: *"They are technically strong and able to deal with complexities for a multitude of different scenarios."*

Notable practitioners

Nicola Brant (see p.321) advises on a range of private client issues including cross-border matters. A source says: *"Nicola is proactive and knowledgeable, she puts clients' minds at rest in difficult situations."* Another source comments along similar lines, adding: *"She inspires confidence, is responsive and clearly knows her stuff."*

Trethowans LLP

The team at Trethowans advises on a range of private client matters, including wills, probate, estate administration and trusts.

A source says: *"They have a strong team with extensive experience and they look for practical solutions,"* while another interviewee notes: *"It's a very knowledgeable team that make themselves available."*

Notable practitioners

Mihiri Gajraj (see p.328) advises on complex estate planning and administration matters and has experience advising on cross-border issues. A source notes: *"Mihiri has a knowledge and understanding of the law and taxation that rivals any high-quality solicitor."* Another source says: *"Mihiri is a star in every area. She is quick to respond and all clients love her attitude and advice."*

TWM Solicitors LLP

The team at TWM Solicitors advises high net worth clients on wills, probate and tax matters. The team also advises on estate planning and administration, and trusts.

Sources note that the team provides a *"very personable service,"* and that they are *"proactive and always very easy to get hold of."*

Notable practitioners

Allison Crossman (see p.325) *"is extremely experienced,"* notes an interviewee, who continues: *"She is a leading solicitor in private client work and provides exceptional service to clients."* Crossman advises on wills, probate and tax matters.

Warners Solicitors

The team at Warners advises high net worth clients on a range of matters, including estate planning and administration and trusts. The team also advises on tax matters.

Notable practitioners

Gail Hall (see p.330) advises on wills and lasting powers of attorney. An interviewee highlights Hall's client service skills, saying: *"She is always prepared to go the extra mile."* **Philip Raggett** (see p.341) *"is a top-class lawyer who has an exceptional grasp of complex situations and the ability to come up with simple solutions,"* according to an interviewee. He advises private clients on the full range of trust, tax and estate planning issues. **Mary Shaw** (see p.343) advises high net worth individuals and families on wills and estate administration. She also has experience advising on trusts. *"Mary provides everything I expect of a solicitor,"* says an impressed client, while another adds: *"She provides a very responsive service that maintained pace when this was needed."*

Wilsons

Wilsons has the capability to provide private clients with advice on contentious and non-contentious matters. A source notes: *"Each member of*

the team is well informed in their specialist areas." *"The team are very knowledgeable, experienced and pragmatic,"* says an interviewee, while another source notes that the team has an *"outstanding skill set and ability to grasp complex problems and find innovative solutions."*

Notable practitioners

James Aspden (see p.319) is *"simply one of the most impressive legal minds I have had the pleasure to work with,"* enthuses a market commentator. Aspden has considerable experience representing high net worth clients in trust and estate disputes.

Frances Mayne (see p.337) advises on a range of private client matters including Court of Protection matters. An impressed source says: *"Frances is simply incredible. She's compassionate, sensible, articulate, with a keen intellect."* Another interviewee notes: *"Frances is an outstanding lawyer, she has the confidence of all those she works with. She is professional, confident and compassionate."*

Rupert Wilkinson (see p.347) advises on complex trust matters, often including cross-border matters. A source explains: *"Rupert is a superb trust law specialist. He is experienced, knowledgeable, and you could not wish to deal with anyone nicer or more courteous on a matter. He is pragmatic and covers all the pertinent issues without fuss."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Camilla Bishop (see p.320) of Keystone Law advises on a broad range of private client matters including planning and administration. A source says: *"Camilla is very professional, friendly and approachable,"* while another interviewee notes that Bishop provides *"excellent service. She provides fast responses and clear advice to clients, allowing them to make decisions."*

Rachel Brooks of Foot Anstey LLP advises on a range of private client matters. A source says: *"Rachel is excellent. She's professional and empathetic, and explains legal stuff in laymen's terms, which makes it easy to understand."* Another interviewee notes: *"Rachel is an excellent lawyer with significant levels of understanding of all aspects of private law. She is commercially aware but treats clients as individuals."*

Holly Chantler of Morrisons Solicitors has particular expertise advising vulnerable clients. An interviewee explains: *"She has a very sharp and incisive mind, she is very able to see the bigger picture as well as the technical detail. She is extremely good at understanding the law but also giving you the answer you need and she explains it very well."* This source adds: *"Holly has great emotional intelligence."*

Robert Knight (see p.335) of Keystone Law is *"a fantastic private client lawyer,"* notes a source, who adds: *"He is empathetic and very accessible."* Knight advises on complex domestic and international planning matters. A source explains: *"Robert is a rare breed of lawyer who is able to distil complex legal issues and translate to the layman. He has fantastic client rapport and great technical knowledge."*

Julie Man (see p.336) of Russell-Cooke is extremely well regarded for her client service skills. One interviewee says: *"Julie has a great commitment to client service and provides that with a clear awareness of commercial considerations and effective communication."* Another source explains: *"Julie is a knowledgeable and experienced practitioner who is able to communicate effectively with clients in a practical and straightforward manner that enables them to understand and appreciate relevant considerations and determine a course of action."*

Stuart Skeffington of RMW Law has considerable experience advising high net worth clients on planning matters. He advises on succession planning, charitable planning and tax matters.

Private Wealth Law Thames Valley

Private Wealth Disputes

Thames Valley

Leading Firms

Band 1

B P Collins LLP

Freeths LLP

Eminent Practitioners

Eminent Practitioners

Foster Sarah *Freeths LLP*

Leading Individuals

Band 1

Riley Katharine *Field Seymour Parkes*

Walls Stephanie *Blake Morgan*

Williams Craig *B P Collins LLP* *

Band 2

Brandis Matthew *B P Collins LLP* *

Goodger Sally *Freeths LLP*

McInnes Tara *The Burnside Partnership*

Star associates

Campbell Calum *RWK Goodman*

Associates to watch

Chima Mandeep *Shoosmiths LLP* *

Henry Michael *Debenhams Ottaway* *

* *Indicates individual with profile.*

◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Private Wealth Law

Milton Keynes and surrounds

Leading Firms

Band 1

Shoosmiths LLP

Leading Individuals

Band 1

Dunn Charlotte *Shoosmiths LLP* *

Patch Stephen *Shoosmiths LLP* *

Associates to watch

Parr Matthew *Shakespeare Martineau (ORL)* ◊

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

BDB Pitmans LLP

The team at BDB Pitmans advises on estate administration and wills. The team also advises on business succession and tax matters.

Notable practitioners

Sheilagh Magee advises on a range of matters including estate administration. A source enthuses: *"Sheilagh has a wealth of experience. She is always very practical and passionate about helping clients."* Another interviewee says: *"Sheilagh is brilliant with clients and is able to offer solutions to all needs."* **Alexander Morgan** is a senior associate at the firm and advises on tax matters, wills and estate administration. A source explains: *"Alex is always great to work with. He is an upcoming leader. He comes up with some intriguing and innovative solutions to assist clients*

Private Wealth Law

Oxford and surrounds

Leading Firms

Band 1

Boodle Hatfield

Freeths LLP

Band 2

Blake Morgan

The Burnside Partnership

RWK Goodman

Band 3

Brethertons LLP

Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP

Leading Individuals

Band 1

Hassall Natasha *Boodle Hatfield* *

Roots Nigel *Freeths LLP*

Band 2

Burnside Anna *The Burnside Partnership*

Gilman Tom *RWK Goodman*

Greig James *Blake Morgan*

Band 3

Lewis Louise *Freeths LLP*

Maitland Jane *Freeths LLP*

Mark-Bell Lisa *Freeths LLP*

Stewart Emma *Brethertons LLP*

Star associates

van Zyl Caroline *Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP*

Private Wealth Law
Reading and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Blandy & Blandy
Field Seymour Parkes
Band 2
BDB Pitmans LLP
Band 3
Irwin Mitchell
Shoosmiths LLP
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Benwell Graham *Blandy & Blandy*
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Crowther Robert *Field Seymour Parkes*
Gater Jonathan *Blandy & Blandy*
Band 2
Vandersteen Susan E *Field Seymour Parkes*
Band 3
Casagranda Caroline *Blandy & Blandy*
Lowery Paul *Boyes Turner (ORL)* ◊
Magee Sheilagh *BDB Pitmans LLP*
Maple Melissa *Shoosmiths LLP* *
Phillips Sarah *Irwin Mitchell*
Associates to watch
Morgan Alexander *BDB Pitmans LLP*
* *Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

with meeting their objectives." Another interviewee notes: *"He is professional and knowledgeable."*

Blake Morgan

The team at Blake Morgan advises on wills, lasting powers of attorney and estate administration. The team also advises on trusts.

A source notes: *"They provide excellent communication and an understanding of complex situations."*

Notable practitioners

Stephanie Walls has considerable experience representing clients in contentious trusts and estate matters. A market source notes: *"She is clearly near the top of the tree in terms of her knowledge and experience."* This source adds: *"Her knowledge is impressive, her approach to clients is impressive, and she knows her stuff."* **James Greig** advises on wills, probate and estate administration, as well as tax and trusts. An impressed client explains: *"James was knowledgeable, reassuring, and meticulous. He explained options carefully and patiently, taking into account my particular circumstances, and came up with creative solutions. He was not pushy, and it was a pleasure to do business with him."*

Blandy & Blandy

The team at Blandy & Blandy has a longstanding reputation for the strength of its private client work. A source enthuses: *"They are excellent lawyers and the service is second to none. They are first class in terms of value for money. They are technical, collaborative and as good as anyone."*

Another interviewee says of the team: *"They have excellent efficiency and a wide reach of expertise, so they can deal with complexities in a clear and straightforward manner."*

Notable practitioners

The *"always excellent"* **Graham Benwell** has considerable experience advising private clients on a range of matters including trust administration. **Jonathan Gater** advises private clients on wills, estate administration and trusts. A source notes: *"Jonathan is approachable and has a good breadth of knowledge and experience."* A market source says: *"He is tenacious about detail, but also has a common-sense approach."* **Caroline Casagranda** is particularly well regarded for her client service. One interviewee says: *"She has great knowledge and excellent communication. She is so easy and straightforward to deal with."* Another interviewee notes: *"Caroline is enthusiastic at getting to know clients. She soon establishes their objectives and works on a plan to meet them."*

Private Wealth Law
Swindon and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
RWK Goodman
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Casavant Mandy *RWK Goodman*

Blaser Mills Law

The team at Blaser Mills advises on a range of private client matters including contentious and non-contentious issues.

A source says that *"it's a strong team with good knowledge across the board,"* and another states that *"they are prompt, helpful and patient."*

Notable practitioners

Jonathan Gallop advises private clients on estate administration. A source says that *"Jonathan is responsive and pragmatic in approach."* Another interviewee notes that Gallop *"shows a high level of knowledge and good client relationship skills."* **Sara Rendell** is a senior associate at the firm and advises on estate planning and administration, trust administration and tax matters. A source says: *"Sara is super-responsive, extremely clear in her communications, and calm and efficient."*

Boodle Hatfield

The team at Boodle Hatfield advises on complex, high-value private client matters.

A source praised the team's client service, saying: *"They are exemplary. There is an obvious pride in personal service and an understanding of the level of service required by their clientele."*

Notable practitioners

Natasha Hassall (see p.331) advises her clients on complex, high-value private client matters. Her work includes capital tax matters and assisting with trusts and landed estates.

B P Collins LLP

The team at B P Collins advises on a range of private client matters including wills, estate administration and trusts. The team is also extremely well regarded for its expertise in will disputes.

A source says: *"They are very knowledgable and able to give clear and direct answers in a language that the client is able to understand."* Another interviewee notes: *"It's a very experienced team able to look at the whole problem and come up with solutions."*

Private Wealth Law
Watford, Uxbridge and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Debenhams Ottaway
Band 2
B P Collins LLP
IBB Law
Longmores Solicitors
Sherrards Solicitors
Taylor Walton LLP
Band 3
Blaser Mills Law
Crane & Staples
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Almond Jacqueline *IBB Law*
Glenholme Susan *Debenhams Ottaway* *
Voyce Alison *Taylor Walton LLP* *
Band 2
Horwood Richard *Longmores Solicitors* *
Marmor Nicole *Sherrards Solicitors* *
Mills Joanna *IBB Law*
Wood Lucy *B P Collins LLP* *
Band 3
Bird David *Crane & Staples*
Drake Alexandra *Taylor Walton LLP* *
Gallop Jonathan *Blaser Mills Law*
Up-and-coming individuals
Church Daniel *VWV (ORL)* ◊
Associates to watch
Donnellan Georgina *Crane & Staples*
Ibbs Dominic *B P Collins LLP* *
Nisar Tahir *Crane & Staples*
Rendell Sara *Blaser Mills Law*

Notable practitioners

The *"outstanding"* **Craig Williams** (see p.347) represents clients in complex, high-value contentious trust and estate matters. An impressed client explains: *"Craig has been superb and guided me through a very stressful ordeal. He always responds to my communications and quickly understands situations. I cannot fault him."* This source adds: *"He is very wise."* **Matthew Brandis** (see p.321) advises private clients on contentious trusts and estates. Clients are particularly impressed with Brandis, with one saying: *"He is really good at providing a litigator's advice in a practical and commercially oriented way."* Another source notes: *"Matthew is user-friendly, responsive, and a tough litigator."*

The *"excellent"* **Lucy Wood** (see p.347) advises clients on wills and lasting powers of attorney as well as trust matters and estate administration. A market source says: *"Lucy leads the team with professionalism and a high degree of client care."* Another interviewee notes that Wood is *"always incredibly professional."* **Dominic Ibbs** (see p.333) is a senior associate at the firm and advises on trusts and estate administration. A source notes: *"Dominic has an excellent manner with clients and good technical knowledge."* Another interviewee explains: *"He has a sharp legal mind but also has the ability to explain to clients in clear English what can often be complex matters."*

Brethertons LLP

The team at Brethertons advises on wills and estate administration. A source highlights the team's client service, saying: *"Their service is excellent and responsiveness is timely to the situation."*

An interviewee notes: *"They are very knowledgeable, professional and personable, they really understand their clients' perspective and work with them to achieve great results."*

Notable practitioners

Emma Stewart advises on wills and estate administration. A source explains: *"Emma is very knowledgeable, professional and personable with her clients, she understands their wants and needs and delivers an excellent service."* This source continues: *"Emma has good commercial awareness, she understands the needs of the client and structures the fee to suit their needs."*

The Burnside Partnership

The team at the Burnside Partnership advises on estate planning and administration, charitable planning and tax matters. The team also has experience advising on contested trusts and estates.

Sources say: *"It's an excellent team of people,"* that are *"very responsive and proactive."* An interviewee notes: *"They are very good at teamwork, bringing in the right team member with the right expertise at the right moment."*

Notable practitioners

Anna Burnside is *"exceptional,"* says a source, who continues: *"Her advice is excellent and she always delivers it in an easily understood manner, regardless of the high complexities often involved."* Burnside advises on a range of private client matters including estate administration and charitable planning. An interviewee notes: *"Anna has a great commercial outlook and delivers fantastic outcomes for clients in a professional and proactive manner."* **Tara McInnes** represents private clients in a range of contentious matters including will disputes and proprietary estoppel claims. A source says: *"Tara is an excellent, pragmatic solicitor with a keen eye for detail. She grasps factual and legal disputes very well and her advice to clients is always commercially practical."*

Crane & Staples

The team at Crane & Staples advises private clients on estate administration and tax matters.

Sources praise the responsiveness of the team. One source says: *"They are excellent, quick and thorough,"* and another interviewee notes: *"They are always quick to respond, responses are nevertheless consistently well considered and thought through."*

David Bird advises on a range of private client matters including estate administration. An interviewee notes: *"David is very experienced and highly skilled at all estate and trust matters."* Another source says: *"David is excellent, reliable, quick, thorough and thoughtful."* **Georgina Donnellan** is an associate solicitor at the firm and advises on estate planning, wills and tax matters. A source notes: *"Georgina provides an excellent level of service, combined with a friendly and approachable manner."* Another interviewee says: *"Georgina is very helpful, informative and readily available."*

Tahir Nisar is a senior associate at the firm and advises on tax and estate planning. A source says: *"Tahir is experienced and highly competent as well as very approachable."* Another interviewee says: *"Tahir is always very professional, pleasant to deal with, courteous, quick to respond and very thorough in terms of providing detailed advice."*

Debenhams Ottaway

The lawyers at Debenhams Ottaway advise private clients on wills, estate administration and trust matters.

"They have very strong technical knowledge giving them an in-depth understanding of complex and sophisticated matters," says an interviewee, who adds: *"However, I would say that their great strength is to combine this with the empathy, compassion and clear communication that is so important in the private client space."*

Notable practitioners

Susan Glenholme (see p.329) is *"a legend,"* according to a market source. She advises on high-value and cross-border private client matters. An interviewee notes that Glenholme *"works tirelessly for both her clients and her colleagues."* Another source praises her client service, saying: *"Susan puts the client at ease, offers a very friendly approach, is very knowledgeable and cares enough to go the extra mile if required."* **Michael Henry** (see p.331) is a senior lawyer at the firm and represents private clients in contested trust and probate matters. Source note that he is *"an excellent solicitor,"* who is *"very helpful and clear."*

Field Seymour Parkes

The team at Field Seymour Parkes has considerable experience advising on non-contentious and contentious private client matters. A source praises their client service, saying: *"Their service level and responsiveness is excellent with a very friendly style."*

Several sources highlight the team's ability to handle complex work. One interviewee says: *"FSP has a solid reputation for handling complex and high-value contested probate cases."* Another source explains: *"The team is able to tackle complex issues with an innate ability to adapt to each situation."*

Notable practitioners

Robert Crowther is *"an excellent lawyer with the most exquisite understanding of legal matters coupled with excellent manners all wrapped in a very approachable person,"* notes a source, who adds: *"He's a real delight to work with."* Crowther advises on complex private client matters. **Katharine Riley** is *"absolutely first-rate,"* says a market source. She represents private clients in contentious trust and estate matters. A source says: *"She is experienced and technically very good,"* adding: *"She is extremely responsive and provides a top-class service."* Another interviewee notes: *"She's a great lawyer with good attention to detail and time management."* **Susan Vandersteen** advises on wills, trusts and estates. She has particular experience advising vulnerable clients on asset protection. A source notes: *"Susan manages an excellent team and is always approachable and helpful."*

Freeths LLP

Freeths has an excellent reputation in contentious and non-contentious private client matters. The team advises on complex, and often international matters. A source praises the depth of the team, saying: *"Freeths have a significant number of knowledgeable and talented individuals at all levels of seniority and a strength-in-depth within their contentious probate team."*

Another interviewee explains: *"The firm is large enough to have a good breadth of expertise, but this is enhanced by the attitude of the people. There is an entrepreneurial approach with a willingness to solve problems rather than just provide services."*

Notable practitioners

Sarah Foster is managing partner in Oxford and joint head of the firm's private client services division. She advises on trusts and probate disputes. **Nigel Roots** has considerable experience advising on a range of private client matters, including estate administration, tax and trusts. He also advises on charity matters and Court of Protection cases. **Sally Goodger** represents clients in contested trust and estate matters. A source explains: *"Sally is extremely knowledgeable in her field, considered in her approach to a case and sensitive in her interactions with clients. Her judgement, bred from experience, is excellent and instils confidence."* **Louise Lewis** advises on estate administrations, wills and lasting powers of attorney. *"Louise is a hugely committed lawyer with great empathy and a brilliant grasp of detail. She is highly intelligent and works closely with her clients to find the best possible solutions,"* enthuses a source, who adds: *"She is a skilled listener and excellent at handling difficult situations. She is able to find pragmatic solutions and has a terrific command of her brief. She is an absolute pleasure to work with."* **Jane Maitland** is a consultant in the firm's private client team. She advises on estate planning for high net worth individuals, and also acts as executor and fiduciary for estates and trusts. **Lisa Mark-Bell** is *"technically very strong,"* says a source, who continues: *"She has a deep understanding of tax and legal matters impacting clients."* Mark-Bell advises on estate and trust planning, and is the joint head of the firm's Oxford-based trusts, estates and tax team. An interviewee notes: *"Lisa is straightforward and approachable. She thinks of the client's interests and has the knack of coming up with a solution to every problem."*

IBB Law

The team at IBB Law advises on estate administration and tax planning. The team also has the capabilities to advise on contented trust and estates.

A source says: *"They have a strong and competent team,"* and another interviewee says: *"They put the client at the forefront of everything they do and pay attention to detail."*

Notable practitioners

Jacqueline Almond advises on tax planning and estate administration. A source explains: *"Her level of service to clients is very thorough, clear and concise. She has an excellent understanding of her field and communicates very well in language that clients understand."* Another interviewee notes that Almond has *"excellent knowledge and inter-*

personal skills." **Joanna Mills** advises private clients on wills, estate planning and administration and Court of Protection matters. A source notes: *"Joanna communicates clearly with clients ensuring they have a good understanding of what is being done. Her knowledge is very good in her field."*

Irwin Mitchell

The team at Irwin Mitchell is hugely well regarded nationally for its private client practice and also has a strong team in Reading. The team advises on estate planning and administration as well as tax and trusts.

Notable practitioners

Sarah Phillips advises on estate and trust administration as well as tax planning. A source says: *"Sarah is a pleasure to deal with, she fully understands her clients' needs and how she can support them."*

Longmores Solicitors

The team at Longmores advises private clients on probate, estate administration and tax.

An interviewee notes: *"The team has the capacity and knowledge to deal with high net worth clients and the complex issues which come with such individuals and families."*

Notable practitioners

Richard Horwood (see p.333) advises private clients on tax planning and trusts. A source explains: *"Richard provides erudite advice on complex matters when required, and explains it comprehensively. He also engages with clients across a range of experience and sophistication at an appropriate level."* Another interviewee says: *"Richard is an experienced and knowledgeable lawyer who is proactive and is a good communicator."*

Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP

The Oxford private client team at Penningtons Manches Cooper advises clients on estate planning, trusts, and tax matters. The team also advises on business succession planning.

Notable practitioners

Caroline van Zyl heads the private client and tax team in Oxford. She advises on probate, lasting powers of attorney and estate administration. She also advises on wills and trusts.

RWK Goodman

The wills, trusts and estates team at RWK Goodman advises on wills, probate and estate administration. The team also advises on contentious trusts and estates.

Sources praise the team's client service. One interviewee says: *"The team is always attentive and professional,"* and another source explains: *"They ensure clients' needs are understood and set clear expectations of when answers are likely to be available and pursue those deadlines for their client."*

Notable practitioners

Mandy Casavant advises on a range of private client matters, including wills, probate and estate administration. Sources praise her client service. One interviewee says: *"Mandy places great emphasis and care on her clients' needs,"* and another source notes: *"Mandy is always extremely professional and knowledgeable and a great joy to work with."* **Tom Gilman** leads the private client team in Oxford and advises on wills, powers of attorney and probate. He also advises on Court of Protection matters. **Calum Campbell** is a senior associate at the firm and represents private clients in contested will matters and inheritance disputes. A source notes: *"Calum always provides good client service, and is very knowledgeable in contentious wills and probate work."*

Sherrards Solicitors

The team at Sherrards advises private clients on estate planning and administration.

A source notes: *"The team understands complex scenarios and can pull resources to address them,"* and another interviewee confirms the strength of the team's abilities, saying: *"They have knowledgeable professionals within their organisation to handle complex matters."*

Notable practitioners

Nicole Marmor (see p.337) advises on a range of private client matters including estate planning and administration. A source says: *"Nicole has always been very responsive and clear, and very straightforward and practical in advice."*

Shoosmiths LLP

The team at Shoosmiths advises on estate administration, trusts and tax matters. The team also advises on contentious trusts and estates.

A source explains: *"They have an obsessive focus on the client but are happy to challenge assumptions to make clients think, and above all, understand. All the advisers at Shoosmiths that I have worked with exhibit a high level of both professionalism and subject matter knowledge."*

Notable practitioners

Charlotte Dunn (see p.327) advises on complex private client matters. An interviewee notes: *"Dunn is excellent with clients, very helpful, provides clear advice and is good at managing clients' expectations."* This source adds: *"She is risk aware as well as being commercially aware."* **Stephen Patch** (see p.340) advises on wills, lasting powers of attorney and estate planning matters. A source notes: *"Stephen provides very clear advice on complex matters. He is approachable and friendly, yet professional and thorough."* Another interviewee explains: *"His easy manner puts clients at ease in what can be rather a daunting situation, while his simple explanations mean they feel confident in their decision-making."* **Melissa Maple** (see p.336) advises private clients on estate administration, trusts and tax matters. A source notes: *"She is fantastic with clients and her technical abilities are the best in the industry."* Another source says: *"She has excellent knowledge."* **Mandeep Chima** (see p.323) is a principal associate at the firm and represents clients in a range of contentious trust and estate matters including will disputes and proprietary estoppel claims. Sources say Chima is *"very helpful and astute,"* and *"extremely hard-working."*

Taylor Walton LLP

The lawyers at Taylor Walton advise private clients on estate planning and administration and tax matters. Source note that the team is *"very timely and efficient,"* and *"highly professional and responsive."*

Another interviewee comments on their experience with the firm: *"The team has been helpful and capable throughout. They have worked efficiently and handled a complex matter carefully."*

Notable practitioners

Alison Voyce (see p.346) is *"a technical whizz,"* enthuses a peer. Voyce advises on complex private client matters. An interviewee explains: *"Alison has strong attention to detail and communicates well with clients. Her response time is exceptionally good."* Another source says: *"She provides excellent advice, always with options that are clearly detailed. She also provides exceptional customer service."* **Alexandra Drake** (see p.326) advises her clients on probate, wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney. A source comments on their experience with Drake: *"Alex has handled a delicate probate matter with dexterity, sensitivity and efficiency."* Another interviewee notes that she is *"knowledgeable, helpful and very easy to deal with."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Daniel Church of VWV is *"very knowledgeable and provides an excellent level of service,"* says an interviewee. Church advises on estate planning and administration, lasting powers of attorney and tax matters. *"Daniel is an excellent solicitor, capable of advising on complex matters in a straightforward and approachable manner,"* notes a source.

Paul Lowery of Boyes Turner advises on estate planning and administration matters. A market source says: *"Paul has a fantastic way about him with clients and is able to ensure all clients understand even the most complex issues."*

Matthew Parr of Shakespeare Martineau advises on estate planning and administration. A source notes: *"Matthew is very informative and conscientious with and for his clients."* Another interviewee says: *"Matthew clearly has a very high level of technical knowledge and is excellent working on complex cases."*

Private Wealth Law East Anglia

Private Wealth Disputes
East Anglia
Leading Individuals

Band 1
Baker Bernadette *Birketts LLP*
Brown Lucinda *BDB Pitmans LLP (ORL) ◊ **
Catchpole David *Mills & Reeve LLP*
Stephenson Polly *Ashtons Legal*
Band 2
Adam Rob *Greene & Greene*
Branch Paul *Buckles Solicitors LLP*
Smallcombe Amanda *Birkett Long LLP (ORL) ◊*

* *Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Ashtons Legal

Ashtons Legal advises on a broad range of private client matters, and has a strong client base that includes wealthy business owners and rural clients. A source says: *"Ashtons have a large team which means that they will usually have the expertise for complex cases."*

"The team provides strong services and is very responsive, whilst providing proactive advice where required," says an interviewee.

Notable practitioners

Alan Brown is experienced in succession planning and other trust and estate-related matters. *"He is a consummate professional and excellent listener,"* remarks a commentator. He is also described as *"a wonderful chap who offers wonderful service."*

Jennie Pratt is an experienced private client practitioner who regularly handles probate matters. *"I know and respect her – I refer to her happily in conflicts. She is very good,"* says a fellow lawyer. *"She has superior knowledge on trusts and is very professional with clients,"* observes an interviewee. **Polly Stephenson** is *"an excellent solicitor,"* according to a source, and is respected for her handling of contentious private client matters. *"Polly is extremely good. Her key strength is client relationship skills. She is very much on your side, sympathetic, extremely tenacious; clients warm to her for that reason,"* states an interviewee.

Birketts LLP

Birketts LLP remains a leading source of high-quality private client services in East Anglia. *"Birketts set the standard for speed and quality in the region,"* says an interviewee, who also says: *"Birketts has not only strength in depth but brilliant client service standards."*

The firm provides market-leading contentious and non-contentious advice, including on tax and estate planning and inheritance and trusts litigation. *"They are the best lawyers I have ever worked with. They have a very good grasp of complex issues and are always helpful and responsive, and efficient and timely in supplying documentation,"* says a source.

Notable practitioners

Bernadette Baker is head of the firm's contentious trusts and probate practice, and regularly advises fiduciaries and private clients on trusts litigation, will challenges and Inheritance Act 1975 claims. *"Her biggest strength is her ability to listen to clients and give consideration to the best approach. Her communication skills are excellent,"* says a source. **Lorna Spear** handles tax and succession planning, trusts and estate administration matters for wealthy clients. *"Lorna possesses an ability to inspire confidence in the advice she offers, which makes working with her very easy,"* says an interviewee. **Susan Young** is experienced in trust matters and estate planning. A source notes that *"her knowledge on trusts is superb and she provides her advice in a timely and concise manner. Her level of communication is first class."* Another commentator says: *"Susan combines excellent technical knowledge with great interpersonal savvy as well as a wider commercial approach which makes her stand out as one of the best private client lawyers I have encountered in the region."* **Louise Long** is the firm's head of private client advisory. She is respected by interviewees for her tax and administration expertise, and is *"very good at handling clients,"* according to a source. **Caroline Stenner** leads the firm's private client team in Cambridge and brings a vast amount of experience to succession planning matters. *"Caroline is an excellent lawyer – practical and sensible,"* according to a fellow lawyer in the region.

Buckles Solicitors LLP

Buckles is a leading firm in the Peterborough area for private client services, including cross-border advice relating to France, Italy and Spain. *"They are an expanding firm. They are growing, they have a really good international offering which is helpful,"* says a local commentator.

"The firm has vast experience and is keen to get to the right answer and do the best for the client," says an interviewee.

Notable practitioners

Duncan Jackson is the firm's chief executive. His client work includes advising wealthy individuals and families on Inheritance Tax and trusts. *"He has brought a strong level of clarity and awareness to some very complex estate planning matters,"* says an interviewee. **Paul Branch** represents clients involved in property disputes, as well as contentious probate and trusts matters. *"Paul I really rate. He is just so sensible and so reliable. I think he is trained as a mediator and you can definitely tell,"* says an interviewee. **Stephen Duffy** handles matters concerning wills, trusts and tax for wealthy individuals and families. A source says that *"he is one of the best lawyers I have ever dealt with."* **Sarah Jane Westwood** leads the firm's estate administration practice and is an expert in handling complex probate matters. *"Sarah has offered an excellent level of service to clients who I have introduced. She has a very good style, which makes the client feel at ease, and strong communication skills,"* says an interviewee.

Greene & Greene

Greene & Greene assists wealthy clients with tax planning, wills and probate matters, and can also represent clients involved in contentious matters. *"They are always very prompt in answering any questions that are required, and very professional and always give good advice,"* says an interviewee.

Notable practitioners

Wayne Perrin leads the private client team at the firm. He advises wealthy clients on Inheritance Tax and estate planning. A source says: *"I have confidence in his knowledge, but also his speed of response is very good."* **Rob Adam** has a broad litigation practice which includes representing clients in probate and trust disputes. *"Rob is a breath of fresh air – sharp and incredibly clever with an approachable open manner, adaptive and very quick thinking,"* enthuses a source. *"He is very, very clever, he's a pleasure to work with and is just very*

Private Wealth Law
Cambridge and surrounds
Leading Firms

Band 1
Birketts LLP
HCR Hewitsons
Mills & Reeve LLP
Band 2
Ashtons Legal
Taylor Vinters

Leading Individuals

Band 1
Belcher Christopher *Mills & Reeve LLP*
Davies Elizabeth *HCR Hewitsons*
Galloway Tim *Roythornes (ORL) ◊*
Pratt Jennie *Ashtons Legal*
Band 2
Curtis Daniel *HCR Hewitsons*
Lewsey Fiona *Taylor Vinters*
O'Reilly Bernadette *HCR Hewitsons*
Stenner Caroline *Birketts LLP*
Up-and-coming individuals
Hague Katherine *HCR Hewitsons*
Associates to watch
Hunt Alex *Mills & Reeve LLP*

Private Wealth Law
Norwich and surrounds
Leading Firms

Band 1
Mills & Reeve LLP
Band 2
Birketts LLP
Howes Percival LLP

Eminent Practitioners

Eminent Practitioners
Ripman Justin *Mills & Reeve LLP*

Leading Individuals

Band 1
Edgecombe Virginia *Mills & Reeve LLP*
Laming Gregory *Mills & Reeve LLP*
Parker Lauren *Mills & Reeve LLP*
Spear Lorna *Birketts LLP*
Band 2
Field Elizabeth *Mills & Reeve LLP*
Lawrence Tom *Howes Percival LLP*
Maggs Stuart *Howes Percival LLP*

Private Wealth Law
Ipswich and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Birketts LLP
Band 2
Ashtons Legal
Greene & Greene
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Brown Alan M *Ashtons Legal*
Perrin Wayne *Greene & Greene*
Band 2
Long Louise *Birketts LLP*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Private Wealth Law
Peterborough and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Buckles Solicitors LLP
Hunt & Coombs Solicitors
Band 2
Hegarty LLP Solicitors
Eminent Practitioners
Eminent Practitioners
Jackson Duncan *Buckles Solicitors LLP*
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Anstey Henry *Hunt & Coombs Solicitors*
Band 2
Appleton Paddy *Hunt & Coombs Solicitors*
Baker Greg *Hegarty LLP Solicitors*
Duffy Stephen *Buckles Solicitors LLP*
Westwood Sarah Jane *Buckles Solicitors LLP*

Private Wealth Law
Essex
Leading Firms
Band 1
Birketts LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Carter Danny *Gepp Solicitors (ORL) ◊*
Young Susan *Birketts LLP*

experienced. He is always very calm and always on top of his cases," observes another commentator.

HCR Hewitsons

Harrison Clark Rickerbys regularly advises high net worth individuals on trusts, wills and tax matters, estate administration and charities.

"I've always been impressed by their knowledge and ability to deal with complex clients," says a commentator, and another source states: *"I have received excellent service. Replies have been very prompt, my questions have been answered in full and my attention has been drawn to matters that did not immediately occur to me."*

Notable practitioners

Elizabeth Davies advises on complex trust formation and administration matters and other succession planning issues. *"She is outstanding at every aspect of her work. She is informed, efficient, and kind,"* says an interviewee, and another states that *"her service levels and ability to deal with a wide range of clients are exceptional."* **Daniel Curtis** is co-head of the firm's private client practice. He is engaged in inheritance and domicile issues, as well as estate planning and trusts, and regularly advises rural clients. **Bernadette O'Reilly** advises clients on capital taxes and the establishment and administration of trusts. A source says that she is *"simply brilliant,"* and adds that she is *"clear, concise and willing to go the extra mile."* **Katherine Hague** often advises on high-value estate planning, trust and capital tax matters. She is rated highly for her client service, as well as her handling of sophisticated work.

Hegarty LLP Solicitors

Hegarty LLP offers individuals a range of private client services, including advice on wills, trusts and estate administration matters.

The firm also advises on Inheritance Tax, Lasting Powers of Attorney and Court of Protection cases.

Notable practitioners

Greg Baker leads the wills, trusts and probate team at the firm. *"I would send a conflict to him, because he is sensible. In a conflict you want someone who will look at the work sensibly and formulate a view,"* says a fellow solicitor.

Howes Percival LLP

Howes Percival has *"a strong and intellectually bright team,"* according to an interviewee, and another source says that *"there is a good mix of experience and relevant qualifications to assist in the specialist area."*

The firm handles a broad range of private client matters, including tax and estate planning and contentious mandates.

Notable practitioners

Tom Lawrence advises on wills, trusts and tax matters, and also handles substantial estate administrations. *"In my opinion, there is no other private client lawyer I would want to be representing me,"* says an interviewee. **Stuart Maggs** is *"brilliant, super bright,"* according to a source. He is head of tax at the firm and regularly advises clients on tax planning, trusts and wills. *"Stuart continues to be the go-to person for top-end, high net worth individual tax and legal advice in Norwich,"* states an impressed interviewee.

Hunt & Coombs Solicitors

Hunt & Coombs continues to earn praise from sources for its work on the full range of private client matters, including tax planning, wills, Lasting Powers of Attorney and estate administrations.

Sources praise in particular the firm's ability to work on difficult mandates. *"I have complete confidence in their ability to handle complex and sophisticated matters,"* states an interviewee, and another commentator says: *"They have always handled matters well and with confidence."*

Notable practitioners

Henry Anstey leads the firm's probate team and regularly advises clients on tax planning matters. *"It is always a pleasure to deal with Henry, who has demonstrated high levels of expertise. In my personal experience, he also has shown an ability to work with and support clients of a range of categories,"* explains an interviewee. **Paddy Appleton** is an experienced private client practitioner who regularly advises on wills, tax planning and estate administration. *"Paddy is a calm and well-considered professional,"* according to a commentator, and another says that *"he is very knowledgeable and professional."*

Mills & Reeve LLP

Mills & Reeve LLP is a major national firm with a significant presence in the East Anglian market. The firm is very well regarded for the contentious and non-contentious private wealth work it handles. *"They always have the breadth of knowledge and experience in the firm to cope with all matters,* says an interviewee, who adds that *"they attract the best lawyers."*

"I am extremely impressed with the in-depth knowledge of the team across the board, and the joined-up approach to handling the work," says another commentator

Notable practitioners

Justin Ripman is the senior partner at the firm. He is an experienced tax and trust lawyer who regularly advises landed estate clients. **Christopher Belcher** advises family business owners, trustees and landowners on tax and succession planning matters. *"He has great knowledge and is able to explain topics clearly and concisely to clients,"* observes an interviewee. Another source says that *"Chris is extremely personable, sensitive and intelligent."* **David Catchpole** represents clients involved in trust and probate disputes. *"His advice is always considered and clear even where it is complex, and provides clear guidance on the potential routes we should take. I wouldn't hesitate to recommend David,"* states an interviewee. *"David is efficient, reliable and personable, which has made working with him a very positive experience,"* explains a commentator. **Virginia Edgecombe** provides tax and asset protection advice to a range of wealthy clients, including landowners and business owners. *"She is very capable, professional and hard-working. In particular, she is very good at determining the detail of an issue, setting it out for the client and offering sound advice. I enjoy working with her,"* says a source. **Gregory Laming** advises domestic and international clients, including property investors and landed estates, on succession, tax and trust matters. *"He has technical strength and is great at high-level planning to meet clients' objectives,"* says an interviewee. **Lauren Parker** advises clients on tax, trusts and succession planning, and is regularly involved in matters concerning landed estates and rural businesses. *"Lauren is a very gifted lawyer. She is calm and logical, unflappable and analytical. She is an excellent player to have on your team,"* enthuses an interviewee. Another commentator says: *"Lauren is very strong on complicated estate matters and works collaboratively to ensure clients are serviced to a high level."* **Elizabeth Field** works with landowners and business owners on tax and estate planning matters, and also advises landed estates on a broad range of issues. *"She is always clear in the advice offered and has a broad*

awareness of matters affecting the point in hand," observes an interviewee. **Alex Hunt** is a principal associate at the firm who advises on domestic and international tax and estate planning matters. *"Alex is extremely knowledgeable in areas of private client advice and he is highly recommended by other professionals. He is very friendly and down-to-earth, and offers practical advice,"* observes a source.

Taylor Vinters

Taylor Vinters advises on a range of services for private clients, including estate planning and administration, and wills and probate.

"We were very happy with the service and responsiveness," says an interviewee. Another source states that they are *"astute lawyers with sound judgement."*

Notable practitioners

Fiona Lewsey assists with tax and estate planning matters and estate administration. *"Fiona is an outstanding lawyer who is a pleasure to work with,"* says an interviewee, adding: *"She deals with delicate matters very sensitively, explaining options and rationale very clearly."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Lucinda Brown (see p.322) of BDB Pitmans LLP is a well-respected litigator who handles inheritance and will challenges, as well as trust disputes. *"She is a very good contentious trust and probate lawyer,"* says a fellow litigator, who adds that *"she does a first-rate job for clients."*

Danny Carter of Gepp Solicitors handles tax and estate planning matters. *"He is very good, very well known,"* says a source, adding: *"He is very knowledgeable. If we do have conflicts we send them his way."*

Tim Galloway of Roythornes deals with a wide range of matters including estate, tax and succession planning. He has considerable experience advising business owners and agricultural families, as well as their other professional advisers.

Amanda Smallcombe of Birkett Long LLP advises clients on probate and will disputes and leads the firm's Court of Protection and inheritance disputes practice. *"She is, quite frankly, a fantastic lawyer, she has brilliant judgement. She has done some notable cases this year,"* says an interviewee, who adds: *"Amanda really knows her stuff."*

Private Wealth Law Midlands

Private Wealth Disputes
Midlands
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Faber Gavin *Gateley Legal (ORL) ◊*
Keeley Mark *Freeths LLP*
King-Smith Beth *Harrison Clark Rickerbys*
Wilkinson Andrew *Shakespeare Martineau*
Band 2
Briant Helen *Trowers & Hamlins LLP (ORL) ◊*
Ridge Craig *Higgs LLP*
Up-and-coming individuals
Alsop Katie *Wright Hassall LLP*
Burton Debra *Shakespeare Martineau*
Gaffney Rachel *Freeths LLP*
Hill Robert *Freeths LLP*
Howard Lucy *Mills & Reeve LLP*
Owen Liam *George Green LLP*
Associates to watch
Abbott Laura *Shoosmiths LLP (ORL) ◊ **
Chapman Michelle *Irwin Mitchell (ORL) ◊*
Ford Susan *George Green LLP*
Orbach Max *Freeths LLP*

Private Wealth Law
Hereford, Worcester and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Harrison Clark Rickerbys
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Oliver Dawn E *Harrison Clark Rickerbys*
Up-and-coming individuals
Whitehouse Lisa *Harrison Clark Rickerbys*

** Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Private Wealth Law
Birmingham and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Mills & Reeve LLP
Band 2
Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP
Shakespeare Martineau
VWV
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Grundy John *Mills & Reeve LLP*
Hansell Matthew *Mills & Reeve LLP*
Band 2
Armstrong Rachael *VWV*
Banks Laura *Harrison Clark Rickerbys*
Davis Lesley *Shakespeare Martineau*
Holmes Donna *Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP*
Band 3
Tromans Anne *Shakespeare Martineau*
Up-and-coming individuals
Tait Hannah *Shakespeare Martineau*
Walker Sarah *Weightmans (ORL) ◊*
Associates to watch
Cairns Sarah *Shoosmiths LLP (ORL) ◊ **

Private Wealth Law
Wolverhampton and the Black Country
Leading Firms
Band 1
George Green LLP
Higgs LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Pottinger Claire *George Green LLP*
Up-and-coming individuals
Axford Louise *George Green LLP*
Monnes Thomas Michelle *FBC Manby Bowdler LLP*

Private Wealth Law
Coventry and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Lodders Solicitors LLP
Band 2
Band Hatton Button (Incorporating Varley Hibbs)
Wright Hassall LLP
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Green Martin *Lodders Solicitors LLP*
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Igoe Louise *Lodders Solicitors LLP*
Band 2
Gavin Michelle *Band Hatton Button (Incorporating Varley*
Up-and-coming individuals
Ashby Tracy *Wright Hassall LLP*

Private Wealth Law
Shrewsbury and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
FBC Manby Bowdler LLP
Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Rees Edward *Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors*
Up-and-coming individuals
Fuller Graham *FBC Manby Bowdler LLP*

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP

Antony Collins *"are excellent in all respects,"* with *"very capable staff with excellent knowledge,"* according to sources.

The personal planning and management department advises their clients on a range of matters such as trusts, wills and inheritance planning. An observer states the team is *"knowledgeable and*

Private Wealth Law
Leicester and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Shakespeare Martineau
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Leggott Suzanne *Shakespeare Martineau*
Band 2
Dunkley Mark *Shakespeare Martineau*

Private Wealth Law
Lincoln and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Knights plc
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Allison Amy *Knights plc*
Horton Paul *Knights plc*
Associates to watch
Harrison Debbie *Langleys Solicitors LLP (ORL) ◊*
Mills Hester *Langleys Solicitors LLP (ORL) ◊*
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

able to impart that knowledge in simple terms."

Notable practitioners

Donna Holmes *"is a fantastic person to work with and will go the extra mile when called upon,"* states a commentator. Other sources say: *"Donna is an exceptional lawyer"* who is *"very professional and caring."* Donna is head of the personal planning team at the firm and specialises in wills, estate planning, probate and trusts. She is highlighted for her experience in court of protection issues and personal injury trust matters.

Band Hatton Button (Incorporating Varley Hibbs) LLP

Band Hatton Button's wills, trusts & probate team are highlighted as *"a strong team"* with a *"good pragmatic approach."*

The team provides advice to individuals and families on matters relating to trusts, estate administration and tax planning. *"Clients are continually impressed with their service standards and quality of work,"* states an observer.

Notable practitioners

Michelle Gavin *"has a very good, professional and commercial approach to her work. She is very sophisticated in her dealings with clients,"* according to a source. Another interviewee states: *"Michelle is a true professional, with excellent knowledge. She has the ability to make clients feel comfortable in sometimes very sensitive situations and offers support throughout the whole process."* Gavin leads the firm's private client practice, with a focus on the protection and management of family wealth.

Browne Jacobson LLP

Browne Jacobson focuses on estate administration, family business assets and trusts. A source says: *"I do not know of any other team with the same level of expertise and experience.""They are very strong for trust, tax and estate issues,"* notes another observer.

Private Wealth Law
Northampton and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
HCR Hewitsons
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Ball Catherine *HCR Hewitsons*
Up-and-coming individuals
Woodrow Kerri *HCR Hewitsons*
Associates to watch
Cooper Antonia *HCR Hewitsons*
Harrack Hauke *HCR Hewitsons*

Private Wealth Law
Derby and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Flint Bishop Solicitors
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Rudkin Claire *Flint Bishop Solicitors*
Up-and-coming individuals
Harper William *Flint Bishop Solicitors*

The private client team is highly regarded by a peer who states: *"I rate lawyers on three criteria and they do very well on all: technical competence, responsiveness, and most importantly collaboration and working towards the client's best interests."*

Notable practitioners

William Colacicchi has strong expertise in estate and business succession planning, tax and trust law. A source states: *"William is outstanding and very wise."* **Wenna Thompson** advises private clients on matters such as estate planning and trust administration, as well as the restructuring of family companies. *"It's always a pleasure to work with Wenna and I recommend her to clients wherever possible,"* states one source. **Lucy Worwood** advises high net worth clients on matters relating to inheritance tax, succession, estates, trust and tax planning. A source states: *"I rate Lucy Worwood very highly and wouldn't think of going elsewhere for advice."* Another observer adds: *"She does a great job, clients really like her and she's a pleasure to deal with."* **Imogen Holmes** recently moved to Browne Jacobson, having previously been at Lincoln firm Wilkin Chapman. Imogen is experienced in delivering private client services. She has expertise across a range of areas, including: succession and inheritance tax planning, trusts and estate planning for business and agricultural assets. Holmes also specialises in contentious trust and estate matters, as well as mental capacity issues.

FBC Manby Bowdler LLP

FBC Manby Bowdler is a *"firm with wide-ranging expertise."* According to a client: *"Their knowledge and expertise is first-class."* Another source adds: *"Work is completed in a timely and efficient manner and no aspect is beyond their means."*

The wills, probate and lifetime planning department is viewed as a *"very knowledgeable team."* An impressed client adds that the team is *"very pragmatic, practical and commercial."*

Notable practitioners

Private Wealth Law
Nottingham and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Browne Jacobson LLP
Band 2
Geldards LLP
Band 3
Freeths LLP
Shakespeare Martineau
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Barnes Jaclyn *Geldards LLP*
Colacicchi William *Browne Jacobson LLP*
Thompson Wenna *Browne Jacobson LLP*
Worwood Lucy *Browne Jacobson LLP*
Band 2
Harvey Virginia *Shakespeare Martineau*
Holmes Imogen *Browne Jacobson LLP*
Thomson Erica *Geldards LLP*
Associates to watch
Wood Kirsten *Rotheras (ORL) ◊*

Graham Fuller is head of the Shropshire private client team. He specialises in a broad range of matters including wills, tax planning and probate, care fees and powers of attorney. One source states: *"He is on top of the relevant areas of law and he also takes a very practical approach. I find him very easy to deal with."* Another source says Fuller is *"very proactive, with a good breadth of knowledge."* **Michelle Monnes Thomas** leads the community care team specialising in challenging care decisions and reviewing assessments for care and long-term planning. An interviewee says: *"Michelle was sensitive, professional and boundlessly helpful in equal measures. I don't know what I would have done without her."*

Flint Bishop Solicitors

Flint Bishop Solicitors advises wealthy clients on private wealth issues, with a focus on wills and probate, inheritance tax planning, as well as estates and trusts administration.

A source says: *"Their breadth and depth of knowledge and capability is excellent."* Another interviewee adds that the team *"responded to our needs clearly and efficiently at all times."*

Notable practitioners

Claire Rudkin is head of wills, probate, tax and trusts at Flint Bishop. She is well regarded for her knowledge in cross-border and high value tax planning. According to a client: *"Claire is prompt, clear and concise with her advice at all times."* Another source adds that Rudkin is *"very helpful, with excellent communication skills."* **William Harper** is a partner in the wills, probate, tax and trusts department. He advises private individuals on matters relating to estate administration, inheritance tax planning, business and personal asset management and trusts. William is described as *"highly professional and efficient, yet approachable, responsive and compassionate. I could not fault him."*

Freeths LLP

Freeths' private client services team advises on a broad range of contentious and non-contentious matters, such as probate, estate planning, wills

and trusts.

A source states: *"The team based in Nottingham has a wealth of experience and technically capable solicitors, able to deal with the most complex matters."*

Notable practitioners

Mark Keeley is a highly regarded contentious probate and trust mediator and litigator. Keeley *"is a legend for this work in the Midlands. He is fair and responsible; everybody knows him,"* states a fellow lawyer. Another source says: *"We always think of Mark first when we have a mediation, he is practical and lovely to deal with."* A peer adds: *"He is no-nonsense but has empathy as well; those two skills are quite rare.""He can deliver difficult messages to clients when he needs to; he brings that emotional intelligence,"* notes an interviewee. **Rachel Gaffney** is an *"extremely skilled litigator,"* states a commentator. Gaffney acts as a litigator for private clients. She has particular expertise and experience in matters relating to contested estates. **Robert Hill** is described as an *"excellent solicitor"* by a client. Another source says *"he is a good problem solver."* Hill is experienced in private wealth disputes such as will challenges, court of protection matters and inheritance act claims. **Max Orbach** *"does a very detailed job and has a really nice manner about him,"* states a client. Another source says: *"Max works hard and sensitively with clients to achieve a pragmatic compromise."* Orbach is a senior associate at the firm and specialises in contentious probate and trust matters.

Geldards LLP

The private client team at Geldards advises high net worth individuals on matters relating to trusts and tax planning.

A source states that the team is *"very competent to deal with complex matters in a clear and concise manner."* A commentator adds that the team possesses *"really good knowledge and expertise in their field."*

Notable practitioners

Jaclyn Barnes *"is the ultimate professional when dealing with clients. She is warm, engaging, competent, and always delivers a high level of service. She has that rare ability of being personable and is quickly able to set clients at ease. She also has an excellent grasp of technical matters,"* states a commentator. Barnes advises her wealthy clients on trusts and tax matters, including those which are cross-border. Another source says: *"Jackie is quite simply a brilliant private client lawyer. I cannot recommend her enough."* **Erica Thomson** *"is excellent to work with and I always feel secure referring clients to her. She is personable and technically very sound,"* states an interviewee. Another source adds: *"Erica is extremely professional, friendly and approachable. I would, and already have, recommended Erica and would definitely work with her again."* Thomson advises her high net worth clients on tax planning and trusts.

George Green LLP

George Green is a firm in the West Midlands area with a strong reputation for its work. The firm competes regularly with the Birmingham offices of national law firms, with regard to the quality of its work and lawyers.

Sources praise the quality of the team, stating: *"George Green LLP has a range of extremely talented individuals with a depth of experience suited to our requirements."* Another source describes the firm as a *"very professional and experienced team."*

Notable practitioners

Claire Pottinger leads the private client team at George Green LLP. She works on a broad range of matters, advising clients in areas such as estate administration, inheritance tax, wills and succession planning. An interviewee says: *"Claire is a consummate professional and a joy to work with."* Another source states: *"She provides a prompt and efficient service and relates well to clients."* **Louise Axford** is a private client partner at the firm, and deals with a range of matters such as inheritance tax planning, estate administration and will preparation. A source states: *"I can only say good things about Louise. She is responsive, practical, great with the clients and always very helpful and professional. She's a delight to work with."* **Liam Owen** specialises in high value commercial litigation and contentious trusts and estates. He is experienced in probate disputes, as well as those related to wills, estates and trusts. A source states: *"Liam is totally dedicated to knowing his client's case, its strengths and weaknesses, and the optimum way to pursue it. He is a dedicated strategist."* Another interviewee says: *"I have found Liam to be very knowledgeable in his field, very helpful and professional at all times."* **Susan Ford** is an associate solicitor in the firm's dispute resolution team. She deals with contentious probate work, in addition to property and commercial litigation.

HCR Hewitsons

HCR Hewitsons' private wealth practice has *"very capable staff with excellent knowledge"* with *"excellent service and response times,"* according to interviewees. An impressed client adds: *"I was consistently impressed by the high levels of professionalism, coupled with friendly, supportive and personal care."*

The wills, trusts and estates team handles a range of non-contentious private client work. The firm also has a disputes team that handles contentious matters. A source states: *"Having worked with several law firms in the past, the comparison is quite marked. HCR outshines them all considerably."*

Notable practitioners

Catherine Ball is a specialist and experienced adviser to owners of landed estates, business owners and farmers. She advises on trusts, wills, probate and powers of attorney. She also advises on provision for disabled children and acts as a trustee on personal and charitable trusts. **Beth King-Smith** is described as *"a fantastic solicitor"* and *"very knowledgeable in her field"* by a client. Another source says: *"Beth has demonstrated an exceptional ability and continues to provide a superb level of awareness and vision for me as a client."* Her work is focused on contentious matters relating to trusts and probate. She has particular expertise in advising on will disputes in farming contexts. **Dawn Oliver** is a senior partner at the firm, with decades of experience in private client work. She advises her clients on matters related to inheritance tax and charitable trusts. One interviewee states: *"Dawn leads by example and is well respected. She provides clear and professional advice in a client-friendly manner."* **Laura Banks** is a partner in the firm's Birmingham office. Her expertise is in trusts, wealth management for private clients and wills. Banks is described as *"concise, calm and superb at offering solutions and advice"* by one source. Another interviewee adds: *"Laura is an extremely knowledgeable and efficient lawyer. She is very professional, delightful and caring. I have total confidence in her ability and would recommend her without reservation."* **Lisa Whitehouse** advises high net worth clients on sophisticated matters relating to tax planning. She is also experienced in advising her clients on cross-border matters. One source states that Lisa has *"a very professional approach while speaking to clients in a manner they understand. Her experience and knowledge is excellent."* **Kerri Woodrow** is a partner at the firm and deputy head of the private client team. She advises her clients on matters relating to the preparation of wills, succession planning and tax. She also advises on estate administration and trusts. **Antonia Cooper** is a senior associate at the firm. She advises her clients on a range of matters such as trusts and estates, as well as agricultural and business property relief claims. She has a broad client base, encompassing high net worth individuals, farming partnerships and the owners of landed estates. One source states: *"She has a wealth of knowledge in complex, agricultural matters and I have total faith in her."* Another says: *"Antonia is very calming, reassuring and professional."* **Hauke Harrack** has particular expertise in cross-border estate administration. Harrack is described by an observer as *"very professional and knowledgeable."* This source adds that Harrack *"gives very clear and concise information. He always ensures that the client has fully understood before moving on."*

Higgs LLP

The private client department at Higgs LLP, previously known as Higgs & Sons, provides trust and estates, tax, succession planning, and wealth management services.

According to a source, the team has an *"excellent ability to advise on and handle complex matters. They always take a very calm, reassuring, step-by-step approach."*

Notable practitioners

Craig Ridge has decades of experience in contentious matters such as wills and trusts disputes and 1975 Inheritance Act claims. One source states: *"Craig is an excellent, very experienced lawyer. He approaches every matter in a very calm and pragmatic manner and his advice to clients is always very clear and well communicated. Craig is highly knowledgeable in his field."*

Knights plc

Knights plc offers a full range of private client services including trusts, tax, succession planning and probate. They advise high net worth individuals and business owners, farmers and landowners, family businesses and armed forces personnel. A source states they are *"a strong team, focused on outcomes and explaining complex*

matters in simple ways."

"There is a supportive, dedicated team always on hand if required. Nothing is too much trouble," says an interviewee. Another observer states: *"All matters are dealt with thoroughly and promptly."*

Notable practitioners

Amy Allison is a trustee of substantial trusts and acts as a professional executor. One source describes Amy as *"a thoroughly knowledgeable and capable solicitor who has a great demeanour with clients."* Another interviewee adds: *"Amy Allison is simply outstanding and I cannot recommend her highly enough. She is absolutely first class."* **Paul Horton** is *"a superb solicitor with first-rate knowledge,"* according to a client. Another source describes Paul as *"extremely helpful and very approachable. He gets the job done efficiently."* He advises his clients on estate and tax planning, as well as the implementation of wills and trusts.

Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors

Lanyon Bowdler's Shrewsbury branch has a broad private client offering. The team advises clients on trusts, estate planning and administration, tax planning, contentious probate and powers of attorney. According to one source: *"The application of their knowledge, friendly and courteous service, relevant advice and guidance is excellent."*

The team is regarded highly by its clients. One source states: *"They are able to quickly identify the key issues in each case and develop a clear strategy to deal with each of those issues."* Another interviewee adds: *"Lanyon Bowdler provide an extremely high-quality service."*

Notable practitioners

Edward Rees is described as *"extremely knowledgeable; he has the knack of making complicated matters appear straightforward,"* according to an interviewee. Another source says: *"Edward is fantastic."* Rees has decades of experience in the field, advising clients on trusts, estate administration, powers of attorney and tax planning.

Lodders Solicitors LLP

Coventry firm Lodders Solicitors offers private clients a range of services including estate and tax planning for high net worth individuals, advice on family-owned businesses and agricultural assets, trusts and property transactions. One source states that there is *"no stronger private client team in the Midlands."*

Notable practitioners

Martin Green is a senior partner at Lodders Solicitors with decades of experience in the field. Green advises high net worth families and individuals on estate and succession planning. He also acts as an executor and trustee. **Louise Igoe** is a partner at the firm and leads the private client department. She deals with matters related to succession and estate planning, as well as trusts, wills, probate and inheritance tax cases. Louise is described as *"calm and considered, with a gift for making the impossible understandable."*

Mills & Reeve LLP

The estate, trust and will disputes team at Mills & Reeve LLP advises private clients on a range of contentious and non-contentious matters. One source states that *"Mills & Reeve is the leading firm in the private client sector,"* adding: *"They have extremely strong expertise across their team."*

A commentator explains: *"They have a very experienced and knowledgeable team, who all lend a unique set of skills to the various aspects of the work being tackled."*

Notable practitioners

John Grundy is an *"excellent lawyer with a wealth of practical experience,"* according to a client. Another source states: *"He has an excellent ability to explain complex matters and solutions to clients of all levels of sophistication, with a warm and likeable manner."* Grundy primarily advises his clients on international and domestic succession planning matters. **Matthew Hansell** is described by one source as *"the best private client solicitor in the UK; fantastic with clients and really works well with high net worth and ultra high net worth clients."* Hansell is co-head of the private client practice at the firm. He advises the owners of family businesses on estate planning and wealth structuring matters. **Lucy Howard** is a partner in the estate, trust and will disputes team in Birmingham. She advises her clients on contentious matters relating to high value trust, estate and probate matters. A peer states: *"She is a pleasure to deal with, she's very disarming in nature; there is a quiet confidence about her. She doesn't overstate her case, she is technically very able and there is a real intelligence to what she says."* Another source highlights Howard's *"exceptional legal knowledge."*

Shakespeare Martineau

The private client team at Shakespeare Martineau *"provides a very high level of service, which is attuned to individual client circumstances,"* states an observer. The team advises their clients on matters related to estates, contentious trusts and probate. According to another commentator: *"The knowledge within the contentious team is immeasurable."*

The firm *"has a strong team of specialists covering a wide spectrum of law,"* states an impressed client. Another source says: *"High-quality work and advice is delivered in a very responsive way and there is always a willingness to adapt and respond to the particular circumstances we are facing."*

Notable practitioners

Suzanne Leggott *"is a very knowledgeable and capable private client solicitor. We always feel confident in her advice and guidance,"* states an interviewee. Another source says: *"Suzanne is great to work with."* Leggott is a partner at the firm and leads the national private client team. She has particular expertise in advising family businesses. **Andrew Wilkinson** *"is a master at contentious probate,"* states a peer. A client says: *"He delivers clear, pragmatic advice based on his very considerable experience dealing with a range of clients. He has a particularly strong sense of the pressures and considerations faced by charities."* Andrew is head of the contentious probate team at the firm and handles a range of contentious matters for local and international clients. **Lesley Davis** works with her clients on estate planning and asset protection matters, wills, and powers of attorney. An observer says: *"I find Lesley extremely easy to deal with, she is very approachable and gives good level-headed advice in sometimes difficult circumstances."* **Mark Dunkley** is a trustee and clerk to the trustees of charitable trusts and foundations. He advises his clients on trust and estates issues. A source notes: *"Mark in particular has a huge amount of experience in Court of Protection and this gives him a certain level of gravitas, while still remaining approachable and friendly."* **Virginia Harvey** advises her private clients on matters relating to tax, estate planning and trusts. One source states that Harvey is *"an excellent partner, down to earth, highly professional and thoughtful."* **Anne Tromans** has decades of experience in the field, with a focus on inheritance tax and capital gains tax planning, wills, succession and trusts. **Debra Burton** is a specialist contentious trust and probate solicitor. She represents private individuals, trusts and charities. *"Debra is a great solicitor to have on your side. She combines robustness with realism. She is always focused on delivering a pragmatic resolution that protects our position,"* says a client. Another adds: *"Debra is a very professional expert who has been friendly and easy to work with."* **Hannah Tait** is a private client specialist working with a range of clients on matters relating to asset protection and estate planning solutions. A source says: *"Hannah has exceptional levels of motivation and commitment to deliver the right results for her clients."*

VWV

The private client team at VWV is described as *"very adept at dealing with complex issues and situations"* by an observer. The team advises its high net worth clients on matters such as tax planning, estate administration and trusts.

"All individuals are hard-working, efficient, empathetic, communicative and extremely pleasant to work with," states a satisfied client. Another source adds: *"They really care about the clients and take personal responsibility. They will always go the extra mile and they also spend a lot of time with clients, listening to them and showing them that they care."*

Notable practitioners

Rachael Armstrong is *"extremely strong technically,"* says a peer. Another source adds: *"Rachael is a lawyer who is both well informed and experienced. I would not hesitate to recommend her. She is approachable, knowledgeable and gives advice that encompasses all eventualities and possible outcomes."*

Wright Hassall LLP

Wright Hassall advises its high net worth clients on contentious and non-contentious private wealth matters, such as tax and estate planning, probate and trusts. The team offers a *"very strong and professional set-up,"* according to an observer. Another source states: *"I regard Wright Hassall as being head and shoulders above their competition. They handle cases of significant complexity, involving not only legal and evidential complexity, but also complex family and interpersonal dynamics."*

Notable practitioners

Katie Alsop has particular expertise in agricultural litigation and also deals with contentious probate issues. A source says: *"Farming disputes,*

probate trusts and disputes are her niche. She knows these areas inside out." A fellow lawyer adds: *"Katie is one of the best litigators I have had the pleasure to work with. She is well able to stand up to the trickiest of opponents and is utterly unfazed whatever twists and turns the proceedings take. She has an excellent legal brain as well as being a shrewd commercial thinker. I'd want her by my side if I was in legal difficulties."* **Tracy Ashby** leads the firm's private client practice. She advises clients on sophisticated trust and estates matters. *"Tracy is extremely professional in all that she does with every client,"* says an interviewee. Another source states she is a *"very professional and competent individual."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Laura Abbott (see p.318) of Shoosmiths LLP *"delivers an excellent service to her clients and is a pleasure to work with. She is highly committed, capable and delivers excellent results."* Her work focuses on contentious issues, such as wills, trusts and estates disputes.

Helen Briant of Trowers & Hamlins LLP is described as *"always diligent and helpful"* by a source. Briant's expertise is in domestic and international contentious trust and probate disputes. She acts for national and international clients, as well as charities.

Sarah Cairns (see p.323) of Shoosmiths LLP advises her clients on powers of attorney, estate planning and administration, trusts and wills. A source states: *"Her wealth of knowledge and understanding of wills and probate is absolutely fantastic. I have found there isn't really anything she doesn't know. Her level of professionalism is outstanding. I have recommended her to people and will go straight to Sarah regarding all matters of wills and probate. I trust her completely."*

"Real up-and-comer" **Michelle Chapman** of Irwin Mitchell *"is very efficient and is always on top of deadlines and managing cases. She's a real standout in the Birmingham area,"* according to fellow lawyers. *"Michelle is a highly skilled negotiator with great interpersonal skills,"* adds another observer. Chapman is an associate at the firm. She focuses on wills, trusts and estate disputes issues.

Gavin Faber of Gateley Legal *"is knowledgeable and straightforward in his solutions to complex issues,"* states a commentator. Another source says: *"He is a very well-known name in what we do, I often recommend him. He is experienced technically."* Faber is a highly respected litigator in the private wealth field.

Debbie Harrison of Langleys Solicitors LLP *"has always provided an extremely thorough, knowledgeable service. She offers reassurance and direction in all matters while maintaining a professional, engaged manner. She is always available for advice,"* states an impressed client. Another source adds: *"Debbie is a pleasure to work with; she provides all-round inheritance tax and will planning knowledge."* Harrison has particular expertise in agricultural and property assets.

Hester Mills of Langleys Solicitors LLP is an *"excellent communicator with the ability to translate complex legal matters to clients,"* states a commentator. Another source adds: *"Hester is well liked by clients; she has a gentle approach to planning and advice, and she has an excellent in-depth knowledge of inheritance tax and probate work."* Mills specialises in these areas and works primarily with high net worth and agricultural clients.

Sarah Walker of Weightmans is described by a commentator as *"a true asset to the team. She's approachable, knowledgeable and technically superb."* Another source states: *"Sarah clearly has the client's interests at the centre of all work that she does."* Sarah leads the wills, trusts, and estates team in the Birmingham office, also covering the firm's branches in London and Leicester. Her work is focused on tax planning, trusts, wills and probate.

Kirsten Wood of Rotheras *"is brilliant. Communication-wise she is the best wills and probate lawyer I've ever dealt with, she is so prompt and she always makes sure she comes back to you on any matter,"* states a client. Another source describes her as *"professional, responsive, solution-oriented,"* adding that she is *"a pleasure to work with."* Wood's work is focused on advice on wills, trusts, tax planning and powers of attorney.

Private Wealth Law North West

Private Wealth Law
Carlisle and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Temple Heelis
Band 2
Burnetts
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Hamilton Jamie *Temple Heelis*
Kornas Robert *Temple Heelis*
Priestley Laura *Temple Heelis*
Stephenson Rachael *Burnetts*
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Private Wealth Law
Chester and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Aaron & Partners LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Pointon Clive *Aaron & Partners LLP*

Private Wealth Law
Liverpool and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Brabners LLP
Hill Dickinson LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Bailey Duncan *Brabners LLP*
Baker Paul *Hill Dickinson LLP*
Feeny Mark *Brabners LLP*
Kenny Fionnuala *Hill Dickinson LLP*
Sherry Susan *Hill Dickinson LLP*
Up-and-coming individuals
Dennis John-Paul *Astraea Linskills Ltd (ORL) ◊*
Associates to watch
Austin Katie *Hill Dickinson LLP*

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Aaron & Partners LLP

Aaron & Partners is a leading firm in the Chester legal market. Its wills, trusts and tax team advises wealthy individuals and families on tax and succession planning, estate administration and private client disputes.

One client reports that *"they were very helpful and easy to contact. They kept me very well informed."* Another says that the team was *"very timely and adept at communicating complex issues in layman's terms."* A third says that *"my overall impression of the client service offered by Aaron & Partners is that it was outstanding in every area,"* adding that *"day-to-day administrative processes were undertaken with the utmost efficiency and competence, whilst always recognising the needs and wishes of the client."*

Notable practitioners

Clive Pointon is head of wills, trusts and tax at the firm. *"Clive Pointon provided an excellent level of service throughout,"* says one client; another reports that *"he has provided expert advice during some very difficult times for our family."* **James Wallace** is an expert in contentious private client matters, including will challenges and Inheritance Act claims. A client says: *"In my dealings with James Wallace I found him to be a sensitive, considerate person, always willing to listen in order to appreciate the complexities surrounding a particular situation. He has a sympathetic and supportive approach which is very helpful in enabling an individual to process various possibilities for action, particularly under difficult circumstances. The judgements made by James are balanced and fair, clearly embedded in an extensive knowledge and experience of legal matters. His work is undertaken with the highest level of expertise and skill, imbuing*

Private Wealth Law
Manchester and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Addleshaw Goddard LLP
Kuit Steinart Levy LLP
Mills & Reeve LLP
Private Client Solicitors
Band 2
Clarke Willmott LLP
DWF
JMW Solicitors LLP
Myerson
Weightmans
Band 3
Gorvins Solicitors
SAS Daniels LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Clark Deborah *Mills & Reeve LLP*
Davies Paul *Clarke Willmott LLP*
Eaton Yorke *Addleshaw Goddard LLP*
Khalid Tasnim *Private Client Solicitors*
Shaw Jane *Addleshaw Goddard LLP*
Band 2
Bate Richard *Weightmans*
Beresford James *Clyde & Co LLP (ORL) ◊*
Bricknell Paul *Kuit Steinart Levy LLP*
Cobb Joe *JMW Solicitors LLP **
Noel Christopher *DWF*
Siddiqui Zahra *Mills & Reeve LLP*
Wong Bik-ki *Myerson*
Wood Graham *Kuit Steinart Levy LLP*
Band 3
Appleton Steve *Brabners LLP*
Gotch Paul *Private Client Solicitors*
Roche Elaine *Kuit Steinart Levy LLP*
Up-and-coming individuals
Walker Nicola *Private Client Solicitors*
Star associates
Clarke Rebecca *Clarke Willmott LLP*
Associates to watch
Cook Sally *Weightmans*
Kaminski Russell *JMW Solicitors LLP **
Wilson Lorraine *Weightmans*
* *Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

complete confidence within the client. His professionalism is outstanding, and was greatly appreciated." **Vlad Macdonald-Munteanu** is a senior associate in the firm's contested wills, trusts and estates team. *"Vlad Macdonald-Munteanu is really commercially astute,"* says a source, who also praises his *"commercial but sensitive approach." "During my dealings with Vlad, he showed himself to be competent and articulate, engaging fully with a wide range of complex issues,"* says a client, adding: *"His advice was always helpful and coherent, enabling me to arrive confidently at difficult decisions. Vlad was tenacious in pursuing appropriate legal action and displayed the utmost professionalism in his work. His manner was totally supportive, with the constructive approach evinced by him throughout our interactions resulting in an excellent conclusion for all concerned. His conscientious efforts were much appreciated."*

Private Wealth Disputes
North West
Leading Firms
Band 1
Aaron & Partners LLP
JMW Solicitors LLP
Mills & Reeve LLP
Pannone Corporate LLP
Shoosmiths LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Draper Adam *Shoosmiths LLP **
Pedley Simon *Mills & Reeve LLP*
Wallace James *Aaron & Partners LLP*
Band 2
Marchant Nicola *Pannone Corporate LLP*
Parry Alison *JMW Solicitors LLP **
Up-and-coming individuals
Roberts Heather *Bexley Beaumont Limited (ORL) ◊*
Scholes Jonny *Pannone Corporate LLP*
Wilson Ben *JMW Solicitors LLP **
Associates to watch
Bishop Andrew *Shoosmiths LLP **
Macdonald-Munteanu Vlad *Aaron & Partners LLP*

Addleshaw Goddard LLP

The Addleshaw Goddard private capital team advises high net worth individuals, including business owners, and institutional clients on complex, high-value succession planning and trusts matters.

"Every issue has been tackled promptly, effectively and in a very user-friendly manner," reports one client. Another says the team is *"very strong in terms of relationships and responsiveness."*

Notable practitioners

Yorke Eaton advises private clients on capital tax and succession planning matters, including wills and trusts, and also assists institutions with estate and trust administrations. *"In my opinion, Yorke remains the foremost private client lawyer in the North,"* says one source; *"not only is his work exceptional but he's also a thoroughly nice person who genuinely means his clients well."* Another describes him as *"a professional at the top of his game, combining technical and relationship skills with commercial awareness."* **Jane Shaw** is an experienced private client solicitor. Her work includes offshore and international estate planning matters, as well as domestic estate administration. One well-placed source says Shaw *"continues to impress"* with this work.

Brabners LLP

Brabners' private client lawyers in Manchester and Liverpool offer clients high-quality advice on domestic and cross-border estate administration, tax planning, trust matters and Court of Protection cases.

One source highlights the firm's *"good structure and good contacts between teams who can work together on a client's needs"* as a key strength.

Notable practitioners

Duncan Bailey leads the private client practice at the firm and advises clients on estate planning, tax matters, trusts and powers of attorney. One source says they have *"always been impressed by Duncan"* for this work. **Mark Feeny** brings a vast amount of experience to private client matters. He advises on trusts, tax plans and estate administration, and his clients include business owners. **Steve Appleton** is head of the firm's private client practice in Manchester. *"He is approachable and easy to understand where the legal world is new to a client,"* says a source, adding: *"He can explain complex situations easily and tailor his approach to the client he is working with."*

Burnetts

Carlisle-headquarted Burnetts' private client solicitors handle estate planning work for wealthy individuals and families, including those with significant businesses.

Notable practitioners

Rachael Stephenson leads the wills, trusts and probate team, and her work includes succession planning for business owners and assisting with charitable trusts.

Clarke Willmott LLP

Clarke Willmott advises clients on wills and trusts, tax matters, estate administration and business succession plans.

One source reports that the team is *"incredibly competent technically but with a pragmatic opinion also,"* praising its lawyers' *"exceptional skill to be able to translate legal jargon into language a layperson can understand."* Another says that *"the Manchester private client team has a fantastic range of experience and I would be confident in approaching them on any private client query."*

Notable practitioners

Paul Davies leads the firm's private capital team in Manchester. One interviewee says that *"technically, Paul is one of the most proficient legal professionals I have worked with, but more importantly he is able to demystify the most complex solutions to provide a straightforward response. Paul does not use complexity to baffle clients."* **Rebecca Clarke** is a senior associate at the firm. Clarke's work includes tax planning and estate administration matters. One interviewee notes: *"I have worked with Rebecca on many cases and found her to be very knowledgeable and professional but friendly and commercial. She has a unique ability to be able to deal with directors of multinational companies and small estates with the same level of professionalism. Rebecca is also very patient with clients and explains fully the position."* Another comments that Clarke is *"incredibly professional and most helpful."*

DWF

The private capital group at DWF in Manchester advises wealthy business-owning and entrepreneurial clients on capital tax planning, family investment companies and other structures, and trust and estate administration.

One source comments: *"I couldn't ask for a better team in terms of expertise but also kindness and patience and confidence in the advice I am given."* Another reports that *"DWF are a large firm able to utilise expertise in different fields. They are therefore well equipped to deal with complex and sophisticated cases."*

Notable practitioners

Christopher Noel leads the firm's private capital

team in Manchester and advises wealthy individuals, including business owners and entrepreneurs. A client states that *"Chris is a good adviser with a reliable and efficient team behind him."* Another interviewee notes that *"Chris is good with clients and a very safe pair of hands. His technical knowledge is strong, as is to be expected."*

Gorvins Solicitors

Stockport firm Gorvins Solicitors advises clients on tax and estate planning, trust and estate administration, powers of attorney and business succession matters. The firm also assists with Court of Protection cases.

Notable practitioners

Christine Thornley is a key contact in the wills, trusts and probate department.

Hill Dickinson LLP

Hill Dickinson remains a leading provider of private client legal advice in Liverpool. The team advises wealthy and high-profile clients, including business owners and landowners, on succession planning, trusts, Inheritance Tax and estate administration matters.

"My solicitor has demonstrated that the firm has great depth and breadth in their team over the many years that Hill Dickinson has been assisting me," says a client, adding: *"Hill Dickinson has an excellent team who are able to research into matters in great depth. So far, they have shown a great ability to handle my complex and sophisticated matter."* Another interviewee says the team is *"completely professional and attuned to the clients' requirements, and has quickly established a very good rapport and the confidence of the clients to complement the existing relationship with ourselves."*

Notable practitioners

Paul Baker assists clients with wills and trusts, and also advises on Inheritance and Capital Gains taxes. **Fionnuala Kenny** leads the firm's private client practice in the North West. She is an experienced private client lawyer who advises clients on trust and estate planning and administration and tax matters. *"She is very good,"* says a source; *"gives good advice and knows her stuff."* **Susan Sherry** is a highly experienced private client practitioner in the firm's Liverpool office. *"I have built an excellent working relationship with Susan over a number of years, and I would not hesitate to recommend her to future clients,"* says one source; *"we have worked together with mutual clients, and I have seen evidence of her commitment, knowledge and service which has gone above and beyond what would normally be expected."* Another says: *"We have found Susan to be top class in all aspects of our dealings with her. She rapidly identified how the client preferred to receive advice and information and nothing is too much trouble for her, finding a solution to any potential difficulties in clients understanding the advice and rationale behind her recommendations in an empathetic and reassuring manner."* **Katie Austin** is a senior associate in the Liverpool private client team. One interviewee says Austin gives *"very practical advice; responsive and sensitive. I have no reservation in recommending her highly."*

JMW Solicitors LLP

JMW Solicitors advises high net worth individuals and families on complex private client matters, including those involving family investment companies, agricultural businesses and disputed wills and trusts.

"The breadth and knowledge of the team at JMW is one of the best in Manchester," says one source, who adds that it is *"definitely our go-to law firm."* Another reports that it is *"a very strong firm backed up by a highly specialised litigation team and the resources to assist wherever necessary."*

Notable practitioners

Joe Cobb (see p.324) advises wealthy individuals and families, including those with significant businesses, on tax and estate planning matters, and is also able to assist with contentious matters. *"Joe has consistently demonstrated that he is able to deal with a broad range of matters on behalf of my sophisticated clients with complex estate planning needs,"* says one interviewee, adding: *"He is able to build rapport quickly, and relays his advice in a way that my clients understand. I would have no hesitation in continuing to recommend him and his team to my clients."* **Alison Parry** (see p.339) leads the will and trust disputes practice at the firm. A source reports that *"Alison Parry dealt empathetically and decisively with a difficult trial. There were some challenging tactical decisions to make, which she took the client through with care and considerable skill."* Another says that *"Alison is highly experienced and committed to getting the best outcome as quickly as possible for her clients. She is incredibly responsive and was always available to answer any questions that arose."* **Ben Wilson** (see p.347) is a contentious trusts and probate specialist. One source says that *"Ben was very thorough and knowledgeable,"* and another describes Wilson as *"a true delight to work with,"* explaining that he is *"acutely aware of client needs and always delivers on them. A true star at JMW."* **Russell Kaminski** (see p.334) is an associate in the wills, trusts and estate planning team at JMW. One source says: *"Russell is very knowledgeable, offers alternatives to clients and keeps a calm and professional manner. He is very efficient and will keep clients informed of what is happening."* Another interviewee reports that they received *"excellent service from Russell and would not hesitate to refer any of my clients to him,"* and a third concurs, adding: *"I have complete faith in referring Russell to any of my clients."*

Kuit Steinart Levy LLP

Kuit Steinart Levy tackles high-value estate and tax planning, probate and asset protection matters.

One source describes it as *"a large team with a breadth of knowledge that covers all areas we have ever needed,"* and another reports that *"the partners have a strong team below them capable of delivering the right advice."* A third source summarises: *"Kuits offer a truly exemplary service and the confidence that clients are provided an efficient service."*

Notable practitioners

Paul Bricknell advises wealthy individuals and families on wills, trusts and tax matters, and also assists with family business succession plans. One source describes Bricknell as *"a very capable practitioner,"* and another says that *"Paul is always a delight to work with: client engagement exceptional and always delivers commercial common-sense advice."* **Graham Wood** handles estate planning and administration matters for high net worth clients. One source says they *"cannot speak too highly of Graham Wood,"* describing him as *"extremely knowledgeable and supportive."* Another reports that *"Graham builds strong relations and trust with clients with his effortlessly professional manner."* **Elaine Roche** is a partner in Kuits' tax and estate planning team. Roche advises local, national and international clients on estate planning matters and also handles probates. One interviewee reports that Roche is *"commercial, always willing to help and is knowledgeable."*

Mills & Reeve LLP

Full-service national firm Mills & Reeve's private client solicitors advise clients on complex wealth transfer matters and private client disputes. One source notes that: *"Telephone calls and emails receive very prompt attention. Cases are planned well and there is adherence to timetables. You really couldn't ask for better service."*

Another source says the team is *"extremely knowledgeable, gives clear, concise advice and has excellent communication skills."*

Notable practitioners

Deborah Clark handles estate planning work, including sophisticated matters involving family investment companies, family charters and trusts. One source notes that Deborah is a *"pleasure to work with."* **Simon Pedley** is *"confident, thoughtful and very experienced in this area of work."* Pedley represents clients in contentious private client matters concerning trusts, wills and estates. One client compliments Pedley, saying: *"I could not recommend Simon Pedley more. His work is of the very highest standard. He has an excellent legal brain and his knowledge is second to none. He is calm and authoritative which he couples with being extremely personable and putting humour to good use. He is very thorough and knows how to build a case and shape an argument. He has a very keen tactical mind and would, in my view, be a much feared and disarmingly astute opponent."* **Zahra Siddiqui** advises wealthy individuals on trusts, wills, powers of attorney and Inheritance Tax planning. One client comments that *"Zahra is responsive and thorough in her approach."*

Myerson

Myerson's private client solicitors advise wealthy clients on tax and succession planning, trusts and probate matters.

One interviewee states that they received *"excellent service from the wills and probate team."* Another source reports that *"Myerson have recruited strongly in recent years and the team is now extremely strong, with excellent levels of expertise at all levels."*

Notable practitioners

Bik-ki Wong is head of the wills, trusts and private department. A source describes her as *"a knowledgeable head of team who takes the time and care to explain in layman's terms the intricacies of pri-*

vate client work. She is always available to assist in more complex cases." Another states that Wong is *"approachable, sensible and commercially aware; Bik-ki is a pleasure to work with."*

Pannone Corporate LLP

Manchester-based Pannone Corporate has a well-developed contentious trusts and probate practice. One source notes that *"in all interactions, I felt that the team were commercially astute."*

Another source says that *"communication was consistent and thorough but with a friendly tone."*

Notable practitioners

Nicola Marchant is the firm's managing partner and a specialist in private wealth disputes, including contentious probate and trusts matters. A fellow private wealth lawyer comments that *"Nicola Marchant, in particular, continues to attract serious work in the field of disputes concerning trusts, administration of estates and probate. She has an excellent combination of character traits for dealing with this work because she is able to build strong, empathetic client relationships and run hard-hitting, results-driven dispute resolution on their behalf."* **Jonny Scholes** has a specialism in advising clients in contentious trusts and probate disputes. One interviewee states: *"Jonny always gives me clear, concise advice with my best interests at the centre of his advice. He has remained objective and focused while fighting my corner to achieve the best outcome in order to settle my case. He is an excellent communicator and is able to impart complex aspects of the case in clear understandable language."* Another source notes: *"I believe Jonny to be a highly skilled solicitor in the field of wealth disputes. He has a deep knowledge of the law in this area and has acted for us in a professional manner at all times. He had also been very proactive in pursuing our case and on many occasions has been the one pushing the other side for responses. I would have no apprehensions whatsoever about recommending him to others."*

Private Client Solicitors

Private Client Solicitors is a new boutique private client law practice in Manchester. The firm's members, drawn from major private client teams in firms from across the North West, each have extensive experience in relation to wills, trusts, tax, estate planning, succession, wealth preservation, probate, mental capacity law and philanthropy.

A client reports that *"PCS are comfortable dealing with complex estate and trust planning matters with high levels of responsiveness and confidence."* Another interviewee reports: *"I have dealt with the partners at the business, and also junior staff members. In all cases they have been highly professional and knowledgeable in dealing with all questions of a technical nature."*

Notable practitioners

Tasnim Khalid is PCS's managing partner. Khalid handles the full range of estate planning matters for wealthy clients, including major landowners and non-domiciles. One client states that Khalid is *"the best private client lawyer in the North West, based on having worked with a number over a period of years."* Another states: *"Tas is a go-getter. She goes out and finds work herself, has a willingness to grow her business whilst always having client interests at the heart of her approach. Her technical abilities along with her experience make her an excellent lawyer."* **Paul Gotch** is the senior partner at Private Client Solicitors. Gotch primarily advises high net worth clients including wealthy families, business owners, media personalities and sports professionals on their estate planning. One interviewee notes that *"Paul has always displayed high levels of professionalism. He has a very personable nature and makes the client feel at ease. Paul has a calm and considered approach to posing questions and interpreting the responses. Technical knowledge is delivered to a high level. I would have no hesitation in recommending Paul to any client."* Another says that *"Paul is a key asset to the business and a level-headed individual with a vast knowledge of simplistic and complex estate planning and trust advice."* **Nicola Walker** advises high net worth individuals and families on domestic and international matters, including Inheritance Tax planning and estate administration matters. One client states: *"I have recommended Nicola to many of my clients as I trust her judgement, ethics, and her people skills."* Another comments: *"Nicola is an amazing asset to my business."*

SAS Daniels LLP

SAS Daniels handles wills, trusts and probate matters, and also helps clients with business succession plans and Court of Protection cases.

One source says that *"they have been easy to communicate with and have been able to guide us through some complexities relating to probate and trusts."*

Notable practitioners

Justine Clowes is a key contact.

Shoosmiths LLP

Shoosmiths has experience of advising high-profile individuals, entrepreneurs and major landowners. The firm's private wealth team specialises in wealth protection, family matters, philanthropy, luxury assets and property matters.

One interviewee says: *"In all cases where I have been instructed, I have witnessed the effectiveness of their various responses, which have been detailed and directed to the issues in hand."* A client reports that *"the firm clearly had experience of, and were knowledgeable about, the way in which the particular dispute could develop and therefore should be handled."*

Notable practitioners

Manchester-based **Adam Draper** (see p.326) advises clients on contentious trusts and succession matters, including Inheritance Act claims and proprietary estoppel cases. One interviewee notes that *"Adam Draper is my first choice professional to pass contentious probate work to."* Another source notes that *"it is impossible to find a weakness in Adam's level of commitment to his clients and the very high level of service that he provides to them."*

Andrew Bishop (see p.320) is a principal associate at Shoosmiths. A client states that *"Andrew and his team are extremely legally astute and happy to pursue very difficult cases to get the best outcome for their clients."* Another reports: *"I found that he's very technically able. He's quite astute at recognising the pressure points of a given case because he's got loads of experience on both sides."*

Temple Heelis

Temple Heelis is a major presence in the Cumbrian legal market with offices in Ambleside, Kendal and Windermere.

One client, who worked with the firm recently on a significant matter, reports that *"Temple Heelis were adept at managing the procedure, were able to manage my expectations in terms of timeline; anticipated potential challenges and suggested contingencies, providing detailed explanations even without being asked to explain procedural matters to me, their client, so that I could understand."* Another source says: *"They deal with matters with understanding and experience. The partners I mainly deal with are responsive, experienced and pragmatic. They compare very favourably with other regional law firms."*

Notable practitioners

Jamie Hamilton is managing partner at the firm and a notable private client solicitor who is known for his technical expertise. One interviewee states that *"he has always delivered high-quality advice, at a fair price and his approach to advice complements our advice."* Another client notes that Hamilton is *"friendly, approachable, pragmatic, and experienced."* **Robert Kornas** leads the firm's private client services practice. One interviewee notes that *"Robert is highly professional. His explanations are clear and he has great interpersonal skills. He managed my expectations well, and described accurately that the matter on which I engaged him would take a long time and would involve some stress. I appreciated that. He was responsive when I had concerns and I felt he understood me beyond my words; I felt he was transparent and open."* Another client notes that *"Robert is absolutely brilliant. His sensitivity to working with us through difficult family matters was unique. He is highly respectful, eloquent and knowledgeable."* **Laura Priestley** handles the full range of non-contentious private client matters and Court of Protection work. One interviewee reports that they *"cannot fault Laura. I see her as an extension of our team, giving clear and concise advice in a professional but down-to-earth manner."* A client states that Priestley *"has repeatedly proven to provide excellent services."*

Weightmans

Weightmans'private client solicitors advise wealthy individuals and families on trusts, Inheritance Tax planning, probate and family investment companies.

One source notes that *"the team at Weightmans are technically strong and work well with third parties to understand and navigate complex and sophisticated matters."* Another source notes that *"service levels and standards are very high. Responsiveness to queries is excellent, answers are always considered and prompt."*

Notable practitioners

Richard Bate is head of the firm's national wills, trusts and estates team. He is noted by interviewees for his approach to matters and his client-handling skills. One source says: *"I enjoy working with Richard and I have confidence in his legal ability and general level of client service."*

Another source notes that *"Richard is able to put complex matters into simple everyday language and can communicate benefits to clients. He is also straightforward about fees and charges so clients know what to expect."* **Sally Cook** is a principal associate in the firm's wills, trusts and estates team. A source reports that *"Sally is very professional in dealing with clients and prompt in responding to queries. Her knowledge in this area is very good and I have confidence in her dealing with complex issues."* A wealth manager adds that *"Sally's eye for detail is first class and she highlights issues that neither I nor clients will have considered."* **Lorraine Wilson** advises clients on wills, trusts, powers of attorney and probate. One source notes that *"she is extremely knowledgeable, methodical and consistent in her approach and we have benefited greatly from her hard work."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

James Beresford advises wealthy individuals on the full range of non-contentious private client matters, including Inheritance Tax and estate planning and estate administration. One interviewee comments: *"James is an excellent lawyer and has always delivered for our clients."*

John-Paul Dennis assists clients with tax planning, wills and trusts. He recently moved from Weightmans to Astraea Linskills Ltd, where he is now CEO and head of private clients.

Heather Roberts recently joined Bexley Beaumont Limited as a partner in the contentious probate and professional negligence team. One source notes that Heather has *"an excellent knowledge of law, and not only in her practice area. Pragmatic and efficient lawyer with gravitas and yet a generous approach with clients."* Another interviewee reports that *"Heather could not have been better–so supportive and highly professional. I definitely would recommend her."*

Private Wealth Law North East & Yorkshire

Private Wealth Disputes
North East & Yorkshire
Leading Firms
Band 1
Clarion
IDR Law
Irwin Mitchell
Sintons
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Harrison Lynsey *Clarion*
Holdsworth Martin *IDR Law*
Myers Paula *Irwin Mitchell*
Saunders Emma *Sintons*
Band 2
Laycock James *Irwin Mitchell*
Morton Matthew *Weightmans (ORL) ◊*
Up-and-coming individuals
Thomas Richard *IDR Law*
Associates to watch
Choiniere Nicholas *Clarion*
Short Laura *Freeths LLP (ORL) ◊*
Vardon Emelie *Sintons*
* *Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Private Wealth Law
York, Hull and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Raworths LLP Solicitors
Band 2
Andrew Jackson Solicitors LLP
Berwins Solicitors
Knights plc
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Tunnicliffe Rachel *Raworths LLP Solicitors* *
Band 2
Greswold Peter *Raworths LLP Solicitors* *
Hedges Caroline *Raworths LLP Solicitors* *
Jenner Sam *Raworths LLP Solicitors* *
Jewers Julie *Berwins Solicitors*
Knowles James *Langleys Solicitors LLP (ORL) ◊*
Lightfoot Elaine *McCormicks (ORL) ◊*
Walker Alison *Raworths LLP Solicitors* *
Associates to watch
Allen Edward *Langleys Solicitors LLP (ORL) ◊*

Private Wealth Law
Leeds, Bradford and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Addleshaw Goddard LLP
Clarion
Mills & Reeve LLP
Wrigleys Solicitors LLP
Band 2
Irwin Mitchell
Progeny Law and Tax
Schofield Sweeney
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Kaur Pervinder *Addleshaw Goddard LLP*
Playle Andrew M *Mills & Reeve LLP*
Wild Vivienne *Clarion*
Wriglesworth Andrew *Wrigleys Solicitors LLP* *
Band 2
Davies Frances *Progeny Law and Tax*
Hamilton Marie-Louise *Wrigleys Solicitors LLP* *
Maxey Susan *Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP*
Band 3
Evans Andrew *Ward Hadaway LLP*
Feaster John *Schofield Sweeney*
Glazebrook Simon *Schofield Sweeney*
Hunter-Smart Angus *Wrigleys Solicitors LLP* *
Jones Andrea *Irwin Mitchell*
Marland Gareth *Clarion*
McIvor Kieran *Wrigleys Solicitors LLP* *
Parish Stephanie *Clarion*
Associates to watch
MacIntosh Rachel *Mills & Reeve LLP*
Milner Ellie *Mills & Reeve LLP*
Wainman Katherine *Irwin Mitchell*

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Addleshaw Goddard LLP

Addleshaw Goddard's private capital group advises high net worth individuals and other clients on a range of matters relating to tax, wills and trusts. The firm has *"a great team, with a depth of experience and knowledge,"* states a source.

"The level of sophistication of the private client team at Addleshaws cannot be overstated. They are the go-to firm for complex advice for high net worth and entrepreneurial clients. They adopt a commercial approach and are at one with their clients' needs," says a market commentator.

Notable practitioners

Pervinder Kaur advises high net worth clients on matters relating to trusts, tax and charities law. A source states that Kaur is *"a real figurehead. Pervinder is fiercely intelligent yet approachable and has an unflappable demeanour. She is a star."*

Andrew Jackson Solicitors LLP

Andrew Jackson Solicitors advises high net worth clients from its offices in Hull, York, Scarborough and Grimsby. The firm has expertise in matters relating to probate, estate administration, trusts and wills.

"They provide us with everything we need," states a source. *"They are experienced and diligent,"* adds a commentator.

Notable practitioners

Kevin Webster is a key contact.

Berwins Solicitors

The private client solicitors at Berwins advise high net worth clients on a broad range of matters, such as wills, tax planning, trusts and estate administration.

"They have specialist knowledge in complex areas which enables them to provide tailored solutions," says a source. Another source describes the team as *"extremely knowledgeable."*

Notable practitioners

Julie Jewers advises high net worth clients on matters relating to estate planning and tax. She is well regarded for her work and expertise in the field.

Private Wealth Law
Sheffield and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Irwin Mitchell
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Coverley Gillian *Irwin Mitchell*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Private Wealth Law
Newcastle and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP
Band 2
Hay & Kilner
Sintons
Ward Hadaway LLP
Band 3
EMG Solicitors
Gibson & Co
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Facer Andrew *Ward Hadaway LLP*
Hall Alison *Hay & Kilner*
Lyall George *Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP*
Band 2
Gould Jon *DWF (ORL)* ◊
Nickalls Paul *Sintons*
Sheppard Chris *Gibson & Co*
Tavroges Helen *Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP*
Band 3
Clewes Alice E *Hay & Kilner*
Edward Samantha *EMG Solicitors*
Jude Deborah *Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP*
Miller Louise *Weightmans (ORL)* ◊
Associates to watch
Collingwood Paul *Sintons*

Private Wealth Law
Middlesbrough and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Latimer Hinks
Tilly Bailey & Irvine
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Armstrong Elizabeth *Latimer Hinks*
Ibbotson Gillian *Latimer Hinks*

Clarion

Leeds-based Clarion is well regarded in the Yorkshire market for its expertise in non-contentious matters, as well as related disputes. The firm has a solid reputation for this kind of work.

"They are experienced and able to deal with a wide range of difficult contentious matters," states a source. An observer adds: *"They have a wide and broad team, with a significant depth of expertise."*

Notable practitioners

Lynsey Harrison has particular expertise in contentious matters relating to estates and trusts. *"Lynsey is not only technically very strong but is also helpful, pragmatic and a pleasure to work with,"* states a source. **Vivienne Wild** heads the private wealth team at the firm. She specialises in contentious aspects of wills, trusts and probate. **Gareth Marland** advises a range of clients matters relating to estate planning, inheritance tax, asset protection and wills. Marland is *"a pleasure to work with. He is straightforward, intelligent and down to earth."* **Stephanie Parish** is *"very thorough, knowledgeable and professional,"* states a commentator. Parish advises high net worth clients on matters relating to wills and powers of attorney, inheritance tax and succession planning. **Nicholas Choiniere** is an associate in the firm's contentious private client department. A source says: *"He is incredibly hard-working, diligent, and he really goes the extra mile. He's very approachable and very good with clients."*

EMG Solicitors

EMG Solicitors advise their private clients on various matters such as estate planning and administration, trusts, probate, inheritance tax and wills.

The firm is described as *"very knowledgeable at what they do, and equally good at explaining it to those not in the field,"* by a source. A market commentator adds: *"Nothing is too much trouble and turnaround times are exceptional."*

Notable practitioners

Samantha Edward is head of the will, trusts and probate team at the firm. She regularly advises high net worth clients on estate planning and administration matters. *"Sam combines a highly engaging personality with a strong professional approach to the specialist areas of trusts and estate planning,"* says a source.

Gibson & Co

Gibson & Co advises high net worth clients on a range of matters, with a focus on estate planning and administration. They regularly advise clients on issues relating to agricultural property and business.

The team has a *"strong technical knowledge and the ability to translate this into more simple language for the client,"* says a source. Another adds: *"They are very approachable and knowledgeable."*

Notable practitioners

Chris Sheppard advises clients on a wide range of matters in private wealth, with a focus on estate planning and administration. *"Chris is a very approachable person with a gentle nature. He is calm and explains things in terms that people can understand,"* states a source.

Hay & Kilner

Hay & Kilner advises high net worth clients on matters relating to trusts, wills, tax and estate administration. It also has expertise in disputes.

"The private client team are competent in both legal and tax matters and can bridge the gap across the two disciplines. This is incredibly useful for complicated and contentious matters," states a market commentator.

Notable practitioners

Alison Hall leads the firm's private client practice. *"Alison is a top-class private client lawyer,"* states a source. A market commentator adds: *"Alison is able to connect with clients who require simple and complex private client matters."* **Alice Clewes** advises clients on matters relating to inheritance tax and estate planning, as well as powers of attorney. *"Alice is my go-to at Hay & Kilner for private client matters,"* states a source.

IDR Law

Harrogate-based litigation boutique IDR Law specialises in private client disputes. They advise high net worth clients on issues relating to estate administration, challenges to wills and trusts litigation.

"They are specialists in inheritance and contested probate claims. Within that field, they have unrivalled expertise," states a source. *"Their ability to deal with complex matters is second to none. They are clearly passionate about their specialism, but have an uncanny knack of getting to the crux of the matter with simplicity,"* adds a commentator.

Notable practitioners

Founding director of the firm **Martin Holdsworth** *"is an outstanding contentious private client solicitor. He is also friendly, helpful and a pleasure to deal with. He is our main 'go-to' for contentious private client matters,"* says a source. **Richard Thomas** was promoted to partner in September 2021. *"Richard is technically strong, helpful, attentive and a pleasure to work with,"* says a commentator. *"In his specialist field, he is a real up-and-coming star,"* adds a source.

Irwin Mitchell

Irwin Mitchell is a well-regarded firm, particularly for its work in contentious private client matters. *"They are always willing to go above and beyond for clients,"* states a source.

A commentator adds: *"The whole team at Irwin Mitchell are widely respected and they are all very responsive and helpful. They have a brilliant attitude towards client care and to the extra mile."*

Notable practitioners

Gillian Coverley is a highly experienced private client practitioner. She heads the firm's practice in Sheffield. *"Gillian is extremely professional and knowledgeable. She is very personable and therefore she makes it very easy to talk to her about different circumstances. Nothing is too much trouble,"* states a source. **Paula Myers** is well regarded for her expertise in litigation relating to private wealth. *"She fights really hard for her client and you can see the results,"* says a source. Myers heads the firm's wills, trusts and estate disputes team. **James Laycock** is *"a top private client lawyer with an impressive caseload and the skill set to match,"* says a source. He has expertise in contentious matters, particularly those relating to wills and trusts. **Andrea Jones** leads the firm's tax, trusts and estates team in Leeds. *"Andrea is incredibly professional and responsive to deal with and has a very strong knowledge of all matters regarding private client law, especially more complex trust matters,"* states a commentator. **Katherine Wainman** *"is my go-to person for trusts. She is excellent and I would have no problem referring clients to her,"* states an observer. Wainman is an associate at the firm.

Knights plc

York and Lincoln firm Langleys merged with the national firm Knights in early 2022.

The team advises high net worth clients on mat-

ters relating to probate, trusts, wills and inheritance tax plans.

Notable practitioners

James Knowles is a key contact.

Latimer Hinks

Darlington-based Latimer Hinks primarily advise a broad range of high net worth clients on matters relating to trusts and estate planning. *"The extent of their sophisticated knowledge and technical ability is second to none,"* says a commentator.

"The team at Latimer Hinks are renowned for their private client expertise," states a source. An observer adds: *"They are very experienced in dealing with complicated estates."*

Notable practitioners

Elizabeth Armstrong is the firm's managing director. *"Elizabeth is simply an expert in her field,"* says a source. A commentator adds: *"Elizabeth is highly competent in dealing with complex trust matters and crucially has the ability to explain these issues in a simple way to clients."* **Gillian Ibbotson** is described by a source as *"excellent in all areas"* relating to private wealth work. She advises clients on a range of matters, such as farming partnership issues.

Mills & Reeve LLP

Mills & Reeve is a national firm with a strong presence within the local Leeds market for private client matters. *"Their ability to handle complex tax and legal matters is very strong,"* says a commentator.

"Mills & Reeve are one of my go-to firms for this type of work. They clearly deal with ultra high net worth individuals on a regular basis and have a deep specialism in the matters relevant to this type of client," states a source.

Notable practitioners

Andrew Playle advises high net worth clients on non-contentious onshore and offshore matters. *"Andrew is my go-to person on all matters relating to private client work,"* says a source. *"He combines a high level of client service, with outstanding tax and legal knowledge and an understanding of the client's personal needs,"* adds a market commentator. **Rachel MacIntosh** is a senior associate at the firm. Rachel advises private clients on matters relating to wills, tax and succession planning. *"She is very efficient and highly organised,"* states a source. A commentator adds: *"She is friendly, professional and helpful."* **Ellie Milner** is a principal associate at the firm. Milner's expertise is in estate and succession planning, wills and tax. She mostly advises agricultural clients on these matters. She is *"very professional, knowledgeable and approachable,"* says a source. Another adds: *"She is excellent all round."*

Progeny Law and Tax

Progeny Law and Tax, formerly known as Progeny Private Law, is part of the Progeny Group of professional services firm.

It advises high net worth clients on matters relating to probate, succession planning and family business succession.

Notable practitioners

Frances Davies advises high net worth clients on matters relating to tax, trusts and succession planning. She is well regarded for her expertise in the field.

Raworths LLP Solicitors

Harrogate-based Raworths advise high net worth clients on matters relating to wills and tax planning, as well as estate and trust administration.

"There is huge knowledge within the team and they always meet our needs," states a source. Another says: *"They're a nice, down-to-earth firm, very pragmatic, dealing with UK-based clients mainly. It's a broad base of family wealth and entrepreneurs. They're very easy to work with."*

Notable practitioners

Rachel Tunnicliffe (see p.345) is *"very highly regarded in the private client world in Yorkshire,"* says a source. A commentator adds: *"Rachel is a highly intelligent and commercially aware adviser, who will always find a solution to a problem."* Tunnicliffe is head of the private client and trusts, wills and estates teams at the firm. **Peter Greswold** (see p.330) advises high net worth clients on a range of domicile matters, as well as tax issues and offshore structuring. **Caroline Hedges** (see p.331) is described as *"very knowledgeable, organised, proactive and efficient,"* by a market commentator. Hedges assists with matters relating to wealth transfer and tax. **Sam Jenner** (see p.333) became a partner at the firm in April 2021. *"Sam is so knowledgeable, efficient, reliable and thorough. His level of service is second to none, he's always quick to respond and clearly has a deep knowledge of the law. He is very trustworthy and dedicated,"* says a source. Jenner advises high net worth clients on matters relating to trusts, succession, tax and wills. **Alison Walker** (see p.346) became a partner in the wills, trusts and estates team in April 2021. She is experienced in corporate taxation. Walker is *"very approachable, a person with commitment and the ability to sort out problems quickly,"* says a source.

Schofield Sweeney

Schofield Sweeney specialise in matters relating to trusts, estate planning, land tax and family investment companies. Their clients include those with agricultural backgrounds and significant land holdings.

"The private client team deal with increasingly complex matters and can be trusted to provide excellent and considered advice," states a commentator. Another says: *"They are a very experienced and capable team."*

Notable practitioners

John Feaster *"is excellent, has a lovely client manner and a wealth of knowledge,"* states a commentator. Sweeney heads the private wealth and succession team in the Bradford office. He has expertise in trusts, taxation, succession planning and estates. **Simon Glazebrook** heads the private wealth and succession team in the Leeds office. He advises clients on trusts, and lifetime tax, estate, and succession planning. *"I highly rate Simon and trust his judgement and knowledge. Clients like his friendly, straightforward manner,"* states a source.

Sintons

The team at Sintons advise high net worth clients on a range of non-contentious private client matters, such as trusts, wills and probate. They also deal with inheritance and probate disputes.

"The experience and capabilities of their team are varied and extensive," says a source. *"The team is very competent, diligent, and experienced,"* adds a commentator.

Notable practitioners

Emma Saunders is highly experienced in contentious probate and Court of Protection matters. A source says: *"Her guidance, experience and knowledge are commendable and impeccable. She is decisive, efficient and very responsive. I would not hesitate to recommend her to anyone."* Her expertise includes trust disputes and Inheritance Act 1975 claims. **Paul Nickalls** is head of the wills, trust and probate team at the firm. He also leads the personal and family team. Nickalls is *"an absolute top-quality lawyer who is so easy to deal with,"* says a source. A commentator adds: *"Paul consistently delivers and is a highly experienced private client lawyer."* **Paul Collingwood** is a senior associate in the firm's personal and family department. *"Paul is very supportive, attentive and has a brilliant client manner. He instils trust and confidence,"* states a source. **Emelie Vardon** *"has given pragmatic, honest advice. She has the client's interests at heart and pursues matters in a robust and tenacious fashion. She is an excellent communicator, and a highly knowledgeable professional in her field. She is calm, understanding and determined,"* states a source. Vardon specialises in contentious wills, trusts and estate matters.

Tilly Bailey & Irvine

Tilly Bailey & Irvine is a full-service law firm in the Tees Valley. The firm specialises in trust creation and administration. It also provides advice on succession and tax planning for high net worth clients.

The private client team are described as *"technically very competent"* by a source. Another adds: *"They are very capable local solicitors."*

Notable practitioners

Nicola Dalzell is a key contact.

Ward Hadaway LLP

Ward Hadaway advise high net worth clients on matters relating to tax and succession planning, estate administration and probate.

The team has *"good knowledge and ability,"* says a source. *"Their knowledge is at an extremely high level as is their ability to deliver the solutions,"* adds a commentator.

Notable practitioners

Andrew Facer is head of the private client practice at the firm. He is regarded well for his work in the field. He advises landed estates and business-owning clients on trust, succession and wills. **Andrew Evans** advises high net worth clients on matters relating to probate, business succession, trusts and estates. Evans is *"a fabulous lawyer to work with, my clients absolutely love him. He is brilliant at what he does,"* states a source.

Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP

Womble Bond Dickinson is a firm that is well regarded for its private client offering in the North of England. *"They are always good at tackling complex issues,"* says a source.

A commentator adds: *"They are a good team, who are responsive and knowledgeable."*

Notable practitioners

Senior counsel **George Lyall** has significant experience in private client matters, such as family partnerships and company issues. A source says Lyall is *"very easy to work with, empathetic and knowledgeable."* **Susan Maxey** advises clients on matters relating to tax and estate planning. *"Susan is a real pleasure to work with. She is communicative, approachable and very aware of the finer details,"* states a source. Senior counsel **Helen Tavroges** advises high net worth clients on a broad range of private client matters relating to asset protection and capital issues, trusts and wills. She is *"very experienced and dedicated,"* says a source. *"Helen has always been professional, friendly and approachable,"* adds another commentator. **Deborah Jude** advises high net worth clients on trusts and wills. Her clients include those with agricultural holdings.

Wrigleys Solicitors LLP

Wrigleys advises landed estates and high net worth individuals on matters relating to succession planning, tax and trust structuring. *"They are outstanding for private wealth law,"* states an observer.

"They have top-level competence in all areas," adds a market commentator.

Notable practitioners

Andrew Wriglesworth (see p.348) advises high net worth clients and landed estates with succession planning, trust and tax matters. He *"brings a level of sophistication to problem solving,"* states a source. **Marie-Louise Hamilton** (see p.330) is the firm's managing partner. She is well regarded for her work in the private client field. Hamilton also leads trust management and family business teams at the firm. Additionally, she is the co-head of the probate, trusts and estate planning group at the firm. **Angus Hunter-Smart** (see p.333) advises high net worth clients on matters relating to succession planning. He benefits from his experience in advising clients with agricultural backgrounds and large landholdings. He is well regarded for his work in the field. **Kieran McIvor** (see p.337) specialises in succession and long-term asset protection for farmers and clients with landed estates. *"His technical expertise and clarity on the English law aspects, and understanding the cross-border complexities is invaluable,"* states a market commentator.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Senior associate **Edward Allen** handles a broad array of private client matters such as wills, inheritance tax, planning powers of attorney and trusts. **Jon Gould** leads DWF's national private capital practice. He advises high net worth clients on a wide array of matters. A source says: *"Jon is practical, technically strong and a strategic thinker. He has an excellent way and manner with clients articulating complicated legal issues in an easy to understand manner. He is adept at dealing with HNW and UHNW estates and families."*

James Knowles led Langleys' private client team in the firm's York office prior to the merger with Knights. He advises high net worth clients on matters such as succession and tax planning, estate administration and wills. *"James is an exceptional adviser. He gets to the heart of matters for clients and always thinks about the bigger picture. He comes highly recommended, for his skill and care with clients,"* states a commentator.

Elaine Lightfoot of McCormicks *"is diligent and proactive. She has a real passion for serving her clients,"* states a source. Lightfoot advises high net worth clients on a wide range of matters in the private wealth field, such as wills and trusts, inheritance tax, and Court of Protection cases.

Louise Miller heads the wills, trusts and estates team in the Newcastle office of Weightmans. She has expertise in wills, probate, trusts, powers of attorney and Court of Protection cases. A source says Miller provides *"wonderful client service. Louise really cares about people. She has a strong level of knowledge."*

Leeds-based **Matthew Morton** is a principal associate at Weightmans. *"Matthew is a knowledgeable and well-regarded practitioner in the field of contentious probate,"* says a source. Another commentator adds: *"He has a sound understanding of inheritance, contentious probate and trusts,"* and goes on: *"He is very competent and leaves nothing to chance."*

Laura Short of Freeths LLP is a managing associate at the firm and is an experienced litigator. She focuses her practice on contentious trusts and probate disputes. A source says: *"She has the expertise to offer advice on complex and uncertain aspects of cases and provides clear options along with the potential risks, so that you can make informed choices."*

Private Wealth Law Wales

Private Wealth Law
Wales
Leading Firms
Band 1
Hugh James
Band 2
Blake Morgan
Geldards LLP
Harrison Clark Rickerbys
NewLaw Solicitors
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Private Wealth Law
Wales
Eminent Practitioners
Eminent Practitioners
Jones Alun *Hugh James*
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Evans Eleanor *Hugh James*
Band 2
Davies Lisa *Blake Morgan*
Edwards Katie *NewLaw Solicitors*
King David *Harrison Clark Rickerbys*
Associates to watch
Crouch Gillian *Geldards LLP*
Gill Austin *Hugh James*
Griffiths Catrin *Wendy Hopkins Family Law (ORL)* ◊
Sherrard Nicky *Blake Morgan*
Taylor Anne *Geldards LLP*

Private Wealth Disputes
Wales
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Kubiak Roman *Hugh James*

Band 1

Hugh James

The private client services offered by Hugh James are well known and respected within the Welsh market. The firm's work is focused on trusts, estates and wills. A source states: *"They have demonstrated an impressive depth of knowledge and breadth of experience with trust and estate cases."*

Another source states that they are *"a very professional, deservedly reputed team, with a strong understanding of individual areas of law and great engagement with their clients."*

Notable practitioners

Alun Jones *"is always professional, friendly, and happy to step in,"* says a market commentator. Jones is Managing Partner at the firm and has extensive experience in private client matters. **Eleanor Evans** *"is an exceptional representative of both the private client team and the firm itself. She is highly professional and efficient in all dealings,"* says a source. Evans leads the trust and estate administration team at the firm. **Roman Kubiak** is described by a client as *"tremendously capable, he knows what he is doing. He's a national figure."* Another source adds: *"Roman is exceptionally knowledgeable, he is very pragmatic and very solution-oriented."* He is head of the contested wills, trusts and estates team at the firm. **Austin Gill** *"has a wide technical knowledge and experience*

in his field," says a client. Another source adds: *"Austin is hugely responsive, professional, and clear in his requirements and processes."* Austin is a senior associate in the trusts and estate administration department.

Band 2

Blake Morgan

Blake Morgan's succession and tax department are described as *"always very knowledgeable and professional"* by a market commentator. The team offers advice to high net worth individuals regarding estate administration, trusts and succession planning.

Another source states that the team are *"technically very strong and able to distil difficult issues so clients can understand matters and take well-informed decisions."*

Notable practitioners

Lisa Davies has a *"very clear understanding of issues and how to resolve them collaboratively with the client feeling that the best solution has been reached,"* according to a source. Another interviewee adds: *"Lisa is excellent, with a great technical knowledge."* Davies is head of the succession and tax team at the firm's Cardiff office. She advises her clients on matters relating to estate planning and administration, tax and trusts. **Nicky Sherrard** *"has always been exceptionally helpful and knowledgeable, going into great depth and detail to ensure I was fully understanding of matters that arose,"* says a source. She advises her high net worth clients on trust, wills, estate administration and succession planning.

Geldards LLP

Geldards are *"a highly experienced team with experts in different areas of private client work,"* states a source.

The firm is regarded well for its private client practice. It advises its clients on matters related to wealth preservation, succession, trusts and estate administration. The firm's clients include farm and business owners, families and vulnerable beneficiaries.

Notable practitioners

Gillian Crouch is a senior associate at the firm. She specialises in complex trust and probate matters. A source enthuses: *"Her knowledge is extensive and at her fingertips. She is sensitive and empathetic, fast to respond, knows what needs to be done and guides you through as if it is all effortless."* **Anne Taylor** *"is approachable and supportive to clients, whilst also maintaining her professionalism at all times,"* states a client. She is experienced in wills, trusts, powers of attorney and estate administration.

Harrison Clark Rickerbys

Harrison Clark Rickerbys merged with Hewitsons in 2021. The firm's private wealth team in Wales focuses on matters relating to trusts, estate planning and administration and wills.

"The team at HCR all give me complete confidence in the work they carry out for both ourselves and our clients," according to an interviewee. Another source states: *"Every specialist that we have dealt with at HCR has been excellent."*

Notable practitioners

David King *"demonstrates wide knowledge and experience in his area of expertise and explains both technical and practical matters to clients very clearly and comprehensively,"* says a satisfied client. Another source adds that David is *"very efficient, diligent, professional and supportive."* King leads the private client practice at the firm.

NewLaw Solicitors

The private client team at NewLaw Solicitors handles a range of contentious and non-contentious issues. The firm has expertise and experience in Court of Protection matters, probate, estate administration, inheritance tax, tax planning and Wills.

Notable practitioners

Katie Edwards advises private clients on lasting powers of attorney, court of protection cases, tax and estate planning. She is well regarded for her work in the field.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Catrin Griffiths of Wendy Hopkins Family Law Practice Ltd *"is a consummate professional,"* states a source. Another interviewee confirms that Griffiths *"is very professional and reliable."* She is head of the private client team at the firm and primarily deals with wills, elder law and probate issues. She handles contentious and non-contentious matters.

Private Wealth Law

Private Wealth Law
Northern Ireland
Leading Firms
Band 1
Carson McDowell
Cleaver Fulton Rankin
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Bleakley Neil *Carson McDowell* *
Graham Michael *Cleaver Fulton Rankin*
Band 2
Holley David *Johnsons Solicitors (ORL)* ◊
McFall Fiona *Mills Selig (ORL)* ◊
Mulholland Neil *Elliott Duffy Garrett (ORL)* ◊
Rankin Timothy *Cleaver Fulton Rankin*
Wylie Conor *Millar McCall Wylie (ORL)* ◊
Star associates
Kirkpatrick Fiona *Tughans (ORL)* ◊
Associates to watch
Gibson Paula *Mills Selig (ORL)* ◊
* *Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Private Wealth Disputes
Northern Ireland
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Forrester Jonathan *Cleaver Fulton Rankin*
Associates to watch
Gamble Rachael *Cleaver Fulton Rankin*
Nevin Stuart *Shoosmiths LLP (ORL)* ◊ *

Band 1

Carson McDowell

Carson McDowell is a *"large team of professionals with diverse skills and competencies,"* says an interviewee, who adds that it is a *"well-respected and known firm in Belfast and Northern Ireland."* Its private client team handles a wide range of contentious and non-contentious matters, including estate planning and administrations, wills and trusts.

Sources praise in particular the firm's client service. *"In my view, Carson McDowell offers an excellent service and can be relied upon to address matters in a timely fashion,"* says a commentator, and another observer states: *"Carson McDowell are knowledgeable and professional in all aspects of their advice. I feel they can deal with very complex cases."*

Notable practitioners

Neil Bleakley (see p.321) is *"deservedly a well-respected private client lawyer who has excellent technical knowledge and a very personable manner,"* says an interviewee. Another says that *"Neil is an absolute pleasure to deal with. He is very knowledgeable in his field of expertise and can be relied upon to give solid legal advice."* Bleakley is head of the firm's private client team and he regularly advises wealthy clients on complex trust and estate planning and administration matters.

Cleaver Fulton Rankin

Cleaver Fulton Rankin's private client practice handles complex, high-value estate administration as well as trust matters.

Sources highlight its client service, noting that it has a *"competitive service offering"* with *"good client contact and fast response times."* A commentator states: *"We are yet to throw something*

at them which they haven't been able to deal with quickly and comprehensively."

Notable practitioners

Jonathan Forrester is managing partner at Cleaver Fulton Rankin. He is experienced in trusts and probate litigation along with non-contentious trusts matters. He is described as *"really friendly, quick to respond and knowledgeable about the matters on which we approach him."* **Michael Graham** handles high-value trust and estate administration as well as estate planning matters. A commentator notes that he *"has carved out a reputation as Northern Ireland's leading private client solicitor."* He *"is excellent across the board"* and *"up to speed with latest developments in law and administration."* His client service is highlighted by clients, and one notes his *"excellent client manner whilst being completely on top of the nuances of revenue law and the pitfalls of probate. His vast experience gives a client confidence that what he advises will be cost-effective whilst also being fully within the law."* **Timothy Rankin** advises on complex and high-value estate planning and administration as well as trust and taxation matters. A source notes that he is *"client-focused, approachable and a good communicator; a pleasure to work alongside with mutual clients."* **Rachael Gamble** is a specialist trusts and probate litigator. *"She is highly efficient, has superb response times, and is very commercial and practical,"* says a source, adding: *"Lay clients respond very well to her and she always delivers an outcome which is in the lay client's best interests. She has already carved out a niche as Northern Ireland's most proficient wills and estates litigation solicitor."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Paula Gibson of Mills Selig handles tax and estate planning. Clients note that she is *"extremely competent in all aspects"* and is able to deal with complex cases well.

David Holley of Johnsons Solicitors is described as *"a very solid and reliable lawyer, accurate and responsive in his advice and is always a pleasure to deal with."* Another source highlights *"his legal knowledge, pragmatic approach, communication, service, approachability, and value for money"* as excellent.

Fiona Kirkpatrick of Tughans advises on complex and high-value trust and estate planning and administration. A client describes her as *"an extremely professional, insightful and sophisticated lawyer who is easy to deal with, doesn't use unnecessary jargon and gets the job done efficiently. A real joy to work with."* Another source says that she demonstrates *"sound commercial awareness and vision of personal and business requirements."*

Fiona McFall is a partner and head of private client at Mills Selig. Peers note that she is *"very enthusiastic and very personable."*

Neil Mulholland of Elliott Duffy Garrett is noted to have *"exceptional technical knowledge; his attention to detail is unsurpassed. He handles client meetings with empathy and his level of service is first-class."* Another source says that Mulholland is *"highly personable"* and *"has a tremendous ability to articulate complex legislation."*

Stuart Nevin (see p.338) of Shoosmiths LLP has experience in private wealth disputes for HNWIs. Clients note that he is *"a great lawyer and very personable"* and it is *"always a pleasure to get his help."*

Conor Wylie is a partner at Millar McCall Wylie. He assists individuals and families with tax and estate planning and probate matters.

Private Wealth Law Scotland

Private Wealth Disputes
Scotland
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Littlefield Peter *Turcan Connell*
Mallon Agnes *Gillespie Macandrew LLP*
Pike Richard *Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP (ORL) ◊*
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Private Wealth Law
Aberdeen and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Brodies LLP
Band 2
Burness Paull
Shepherd and Wedderburn LLP
Stronachs LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Stewart Mark *Brodies LLP*
Band 2
Campbell Gillian *Shepherd and Wedderburn LLP*
Clarke Fiona *Burness Paull*
Fox Ryan *Aberdein Considine (ORL) ◊*
Gould Leigh *Brodies LLP*
McKenzie Colin *Burness Paull*
Russell Jaclyn *Stronachs LLP*
Up-and-coming individuals
Mackay Magnus *Wright, Johnston & Mackenzie LLP*

Private Wealth Law
Glasgow, Edinburgh and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Brodies LLP
Shepherd and Wedderburn LLP
Turcan Connell
Band 2
Anderson Strathern
Gillespie Macandrew LLP
Band 3
Harper Macleod LLP
Murray Beith Murray WS
Band 4
Balfour+Manson LLP
Lindsays
MacRoberts LLP
Morton Fraser
Wright, Johnston & Mackenzie LLP

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Anderson Strathern

The team at Anderson Strathern advises on a range of private client matters, and also has the capability to advise on cross-border matters. A source notes: *"It's an outstanding, strong, dedicated team who are extremely knowledgeable and efficient."*

An interviewee explains: *"The Anderson Strathern service is exemplary and their responses are prompt, dutiful and helpful at all times,"* adding: *"They are extremely helpful and diligent."*

Notable practitioners

Colin Henderson has considerable experience advising on complex private client matters, often advising on cross-border work. A source enthuses: *"Colin is an outstanding solicitor with excellent communication skills."* **David Campbell** advises on a range of private client matters, and also has experience advising vulnerable clients. A source comments on their experience with Campbell: *"David was excellent throughout the entire time we worked with him. He was extremely helpful, efficient, diligent, and explained everything we needed to know. He was also compassionate, calm and respectful at a very difficult time."* **Carole Tomlinson** advises on a broad range of private client matters including wills and tax planning. She also advises on trusts. Tomlinson is very capable of advising on cross-border matters.

Balfour+Manson LLP

The team at Balfour+Manson advises on a comprehensive range of private client matters. A source notes: *"All members of the firm act with utmost professionalism and routinely demonstrate their intricate knowledge of various legal matters."* Another interviewee explains: *"They are consistently well informed of current legal and commercial matters. They see the bigger picture and understand where affairs fit in with that."*

Notable practitioners

Karen Phillips advises on estate and tax planning matters. A source says: *"It's always an absolute pleasure dealing with Karen, she adapts her style to clients ensuring they feel comfortable and supported at all times."* Another source confirms: *"She is very calm and very methodical, it's*

Private Wealth Law
Glasgow, Edinburgh and surrounds
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Henderson Colin *Anderson Strathern*
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Barr Alan *Brodies LLP*
Band 2
Batchelor Susanne *Brodies LLP*
Duguid Tom *Turcan Connell*
Eccles Alan *Bannatyne, Kirkwood, France & Co (ORL) ◊*
Garden Alexander *Turcan Connell*
Kennedy Norman *Brodies LLP*
McGill Chris *Shepherd and Wedderburn LLP*
Band 3
Clark Ian *Turcan Connell*
Harrison Roddy *Wright, Johnston & Mackenzie LLP*
Kerr Eleanor *Shepherd and Wedderburn LLP*
Macdonald Ian *Wright, Johnston & Mackenzie LLP*
MacPherson Claire *Burness Paull*
McArthur John *Gillespie Macandrew LLP*
Phillips Karen *Balfour+Manson LLP*
Rust Malcolm *Shepherd and Wedderburn LLP*
Band 4
Brown Shona *Balfour+Manson LLP*
Campbell David *Anderson Strathern*
Graham Alexis *Shepherd and Wedderburn LLP*
Hunter Sue *Morton Fraser*
Inglis James *MacRoberts LLP*
Lamb Sandy *Lindsays*
McAlpine-Scott Carole *MacRoberts LLP*
McCulloch Angela *Brodies LLP*
Niven Pamela *Harper Macleod LLP*
Paterson Andrew *Murray Beith Murray WS*
Shand Peter *Murray Beith Murray WS*
Sinclair Douglas *Shepherd and Wedderburn LLP*
Storrie Alix *Turcan Connell*
Tomlinson Carole *Anderson Strathern*
Up-and-coming individuals
Brown Ross *BTO Solicitors LLP (ORL) ◊*
Pike Emily *Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP (ORL) ◊*
◊ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

almost like she's not a lawyer. She goes above and beyond to help the client, she goes beyond the job role." **Shona Brown** advises on estate administration and trusts. A source enthuses: *"She is an outstanding lawyer,"* explaining: *"She deals with personal injury award trust funds, she is very empathetic in the way she deals with clients and her understanding of trusts law and personal injury is second to none."*

Blackadders LLP

The Blackadders team advises on wills and estates among other private client matters.

Sources praise the team's client service. One source says: *"They are very responsive and provide excellent communication."* Another interviewee notes: *"They are always quick to respond to any request and to deal quickly with any matter. Their responses and advice always full and considered."*

Notable practitioners

Laura McDowall has considerable experience advising high net worth clients on a range of private client issues. A source says: *"Laura is a supremely good technical lawyer with excellent client communication and interpersonal skills."*

Private Wealth Law
Dundee and surrounds
Leading Firms
Band 1
Blackadders LLP
Lindsays
Thorntons Law LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Barclay Nick *Thorntons Law LLP*
Johnson Grant *Lindsays*
Band 2
McDowall Laura *Blackadders LLP*

Brodies LLP

Brodies has a strong reputation across Scotland for its private client expertise. The team is able to advise on contentious and non-contentious matters.

A source explains: *"Brodies' lawyers have strong technical skills and are able to handle complex matters."* This source continues: *"They are always very responsive, personable and easy to deal with."*

Notable practitioners

Alan Barr is extremely well regarded for his experience in private client matters. One source enthuses: *"You will not find a better private client legal brain in Scotland,"* and another interviewee says: *"Alan is a leader in his field and has unrivalled expertise."* **Mark Stewart** is *"extremely professional, has an excellent manner with clients and is very knowledgeable,"* says a source. This source continues: *"Mark has a knack of being able to put clients at ease and is able to discuss complicated matters in an easy and straightforward manner."* Stewart advises on complex private client matters.

Susanne Batchelor is well regarded for her technical knowledge and client service skills. A source explains: *"Susanne has always been very client-focused, knowledgeable and able to explain complex issues in a straightforward and client-friendly manner."* This source continues: *"She has a relaxed and calm style in front of clients which puts them at ease. She is clearly familiar with the full range of estate planning issues and has excellent knowledge of wider issues impacting client families."* **Leigh Gould** *"always provides a first-class and professional service,"* notes an interviewee, who continues: *"Leigh is very good at dealing with clients, putting them at ease when discussing their affairs, complex or otherwise."* Another source says: *"She is highly skilled and very professional."*

Norman Kennedy advises on complex private client matters. He is extremely well regarded among sources for his client service. One interviewee explains: *"He has very strong relationships with clients. He is very good at ensuring that the team provides holistic client advice."* This source continues: *"He always ensures that clients understand the wider implications of advice and when to involve specialist advisers."* **Angela McCulloch** is *"an excellent lawyer and very pleasant to deal with,"* says a source, adding: *"She is very calm and measured, and good with clients."* McCulloch's clients include high net worth individuals and their families, trustees, executors and financial institutions.

Burness Paull

The team at Burness Paull advises on complex private client matters including wills, trusts and tax planning.

Source praise the team's client service. One interviewee says: *"They are helpful and answer any queries speedily."* Another source notes that the team is *"really personable and helpful and has a broad range of knowledge in all areas."*

Notable practitioners

Fiona Clarke advises on a comprehensive range of high-value private client matters. A source notes that Clarke is *"technically extremely good and always a delight to deal with."* Another interviewee notes: *"Fiona is very professional in her approach."*

Colin McKenzie is extremely well regarded for his client service and commerciality. One source explains: *"He is really easy to work with, he is very responsive, he is always happy to help, and he has a nice manner about him. He is also very technically competent. He gets the job done at pace as well, he has good commercial awareness on when things need to be moved quickly."* Another source notes: *"Colin is very easy to deal with, he is almost an un-lawyer-like lawyer, he has a human quality to him."* **Claire MacPherson** advises on complex private client matters, including international matters. A source confirms: *"She is particularly strong on cross-border issues."* Another interviewee enthuses: *"Claire has an excellent legal mind and great ability for problem-solving often seeing issues before they arise. She really balances well her great technical ability with an adept skill at communicating in a simple and effective way."*

Gillespie Macandrew LLP

The team at Gillespie Macandrew advises on estate administration and trust matters.

Sources praise the team's knowledge of the practice area. One source says: *"The private client team has a strong breadth of knowledge,"* and another interviewee notes: *"The team has a great level of knowledge which they articulate very well."*

Notable practitioners

The *"extremely impressive"* **Agnes Mallon** advises on tax matters as well as contentious trust and estate matters. A source notes: *"Agnes is very helpful, diligent and has a very good level of knowledge."* **John McArthur** advises on a range of private client matters including estate administration and trusts. *"John McArthur is very experienced in dealing with matters of this nature, and I have total confidence in him,"* says a client.

Harper Macleod LLP

Harper Macleod's private client lawyers advise on a range of matters including tax planning and trusts. The team can also advise on international matters.

A source praises the team: *"The team collaborate together exceptionally well, and everyone is on the ball. The main thing that always stands out is the way they deal with clients, they are personable, open and genuinely caring. They are always professional, with the ability to put clients at ease and bring out the best in them."*

Notable practitioners

Pamela Niven advises on wills and tax matters. An interviewee says: *"Pamela is a very experienced*

and aware practitioner, she's very capable, and a good leader of her team."

Lindsays

The team at Lindsays advise high net worth clients on a comprehensive range of private client matters including wills and trusts.

An interviewee explains: *"The team at Lindsays comprises a wide range of expertise. In addition, they are very well networked to provide additional high-quality guidance and services."* A source praises the team's client service, saying: *"They are very proactive and respond quickly."*

Notable practitioners

Grant Johnson advises on estate planning and administration and trusts. A source says: *"Grant has a professional and friendly manner and has deep technical knowledge."* **Sandy Lamb** advises high net worth clients on their tax planning. A source explains: *"Sandy has a good understanding of tax matters and is able to grasp quickly the points being raised."*

MacRoberts LLP

The MacRoberts team advises on a range of private client matters including wills and tax matters. A source says: *"The team has strong technical knowledge combined with a pragmatic approach."* Another interviewee highlights the team's client service, saying: *"They are efficient, responsive, and provide sound advice."*

Notable practitioners

James Inglis advises on estate administration, charitable planning and trusts. An interviewee explains: *"James has a wealth of experience and knowledge that is very much focused on supporting clients. He has a calm and efficient approach which provides reassurance and delivers outcomes."* Another source says: *"James is very responsive, and gives good and thoughtful advice."* **Carole McAlpine-Scott** advises high net worth clients on a range of matters including estate administration, charitable planning, trusts and tax matters. A source notes: *"Carole is both client and commercially focused and strikes a good balance."*

Morton Fraser

The team at Morton Fraser advises on tax matters, succession planning and trusts.

A source comments on their experience with the team: *"The firm has strength in depth with experts in all the fields that I have been involved with. I have been impressed by the range of in-house expertise and ability to tackle all issues."*

Notable practitioners

Sue Hunter is head of the firm's private client sector and wealth management team. A source notes: *"Sue is a great pleasure to work with, she is kind, commercially aware, and highly knowledgeable."* Another interviewee notes that Sue *"always provides a thoughtful, but pragmatic approach to deliver solutions which are structured yet practical and efficient."*

Murray Beith Murray WS

The team at Murray Beith Murray advises high net worth clients on contentious and non-contentious private client matters.

Sources highlight the firm's longevity in the market as one of its qualities: *"The team's knowledge and expertise has been well established over a long time. The firm has shown strong abilities to keep updating their knowledge and bringing in specialist knowledge when needed."*

Notable practitioners

Andrew Paterson advises on trusts as well as contentious trusts and estates. A source says: *"He provides excellent service, and is available and helpful in personal and complex issues."* Another interviewee says: *"He has clarity, calm, good advice, and knowledge at his finger tips. He responds exceptionally quickly to queries and refers on to others where a different level of advice or experience is required."* **Peter Shand** advises high net worth individuals on a range of private client matters including tax matters, trusts and estate administration.

Shepherd and Wedderburn LLP

Shepherd and Wedderburn advises private clients on complex matters, often involving cross-border issues. The team has a strong reputation across Scotland.

An interviewee explains: *"Shepherd and Wedderburn has a very strong, comprehensive team with experts in various disciplines. They are exceptional in their support."* This source continues: *"They are excellent communicators, simplifying the legal jargon to ensure you fully understand the matter in hand without underestimating the gravity of the situation."*

Notable practitioners

Gillian Campbell advises on wills, trusts and tax planning. A source enthuses: *"Gillian is amazing,"* explaining: *"Her ability to know what you need is astonishing and her delivery and support is second to none. She is supportive, attentive and efficient."* **Chris McGill** is very well regarded for his commerciality and client service. One source explains: *"Chris is fabulous. Chris is one of the best private client lawyers in Scotland, there's no doubt. He is the most commercial private client lawyer I have ever worked with. He is able to distil complex legal issues into remarkably straightforward, concise and practical advice."* **Eleanor Kerr** is head of the Glasgow private wealth and tax team. She is well regarded by sources for her client service. A source notes: *"Eleanor builds a strong rapport with her clients. She is very thorough and diligent in working through the possibilities to deliver realistic and practical options for them."* Another interviewee says: *"She is an excellent practitioner, who has expert knowledge of family legal and IHT issues. She's approachable, reliable and a great communicator."* **Malcolm Rust** advises on tax, trust and succession planning. An impressed client says: *"Malcolm is always easy to contact. He provides clear and helpful advice and guidance and has supported us to make key strategic decisions."* **Alexis Graham** advises on tax matters and trusts. A source says: *"She provides an excellent client service, and is very strong on technical legal issues."* Another interviewee agrees: *"She is superbly technical with a manner that puts clients at ease."* **Douglas Sinclair** advises on succession planning matters. An interviewee says: *"He is very approachable and always concise and clear. He is also very patient and happy to explain matters in a way that all interested parties could understand."*

Stronachs LLP

The Stronachs team advises on a range of private client matters. A source notes: *"There is a great depth of experience across the whole team."*

An interviewee praises the team's client service, saying: *"They are always very capable and very responsive."* Another source notes: *"They have highly experienced staff with excellent technical knowledge, skills and attention to detail."*

Notable practitioners

Jaclyn Russell advises on trusts and tax matters. A source explains: *"Jaclyn is an excellent solicitor who puts clients at ease and has a broad technical knowledge and understanding of clients' objectives and needs."* Another interviewee says: *"Jaclyn provides clear and practical advice, is available for clients and always willing to assist."*

Thorntons Law LLP

The private client team at Thorntons advises on wills, trusts and tax planning. The team also advises on executry administration and Lasting Powers of Attorney.

Notable practitioners

Nick Barclay has considerable experience in private client matters, advising on wills, trust and executries. He also advises on business succession and tax matters.

Turcan Connell

The team at Turcan Connell advises on complex tax planning matters. The team has considerable experience in a range of wealth preservation strategies.

A source comments on the strength of the team: *"They have the breadth of expertise within one firm to deliver a great service."*

Notable practitioners

Peter Littlefield represents clients in contested estate and trust matters. His clients often include high net worth individuals and families, executors and beneficiaries. **Tom Duguid** advises domestic and international clients on tax planning, succession planning and trusts. He also has experience advising on charity law. **Alexander Garden** has considerable experience advising on tax matters. His clients include wealthy individuals, family business owners, farmed and landed estate owners. He is also currently the firm's chairman. **Ian Clark** advises on a range of private client matters including estate planning, business succession planning and tax matters. He is particularly well versed in advising landed estate owners and family business owners. **Alix Storrie** is head of the tax and succession at the firm. She advises on tax and estate planning, wills and trusts. She also advises on succession planning and asset protection.

Wright, Johnston & Mackenzie LLP

Wright, Johnston & Mackenzie's wealth planning team advises on succession planning, trusts and tax matters.

A source notes that the team is made up of *"very personable individuals, which makes working with them a pleasure."*

Notable practitioners

Roddy Harrison advises on a range of matters including wills and trusts. He also advises on estate administration and tax matters. **Ian Macdonald** has considerable experience advising high net worth individuals and their businesses on their planning. A source notes: *"He is a very experienced and wise counsel."* **Magnus Mackay** advises high net worth clients on wills, powers of attorney and trusts. He also advises on tax matters.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Ross Brown of BTO Solicitors LLP advises high net worth clients on wills, estate administration and trusts. He also has experience in tax matters and asset protection.

Alan Eccles of Bannatyne, Kirkwood, France & Co advises on a range of issues and has particular experience in charities work. A source notes: *"Alan is a professional, dedicated and passionate private client lawyer."* Another interviewee enthuses: *"Alan has excellent experience and technical knowledge, and he is very generous with his time."*

Ryan Fox of Aberdein Considine advises on wills, estate administration and trusts. A source enthuses: *"Ryan is an excellent private client solicitor. Ryan is very commercially aware of the areas he practises in and offers great value for the service provided to his clients."* Another source confirms: *"Ryan has very good commercial awareness and vision, he takes the time to explain the process step by step and keeps you updated on the next step in the process."*

Emily Pike of Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP has recently been promoted to partner and advises on wills, trusts and estate planning. A source explains: *"Emily is extremely responsive and understands the complexities of both English and Scottish law. She is able to assist across multiple areas, covering wills, estate and trust planning and powers of attorney."*

Richard Pike of Womble Bond Dickinson UK LLP represents clients in complex contentious trust and estate matters. A source notes: *"He's a brilliant partner for any dispute of any size."* Another interviewee enthuses: *"Richard is excellent. He's very efficient, very on the ball, has good judgement and is very easy to deal with."*

Real Estate High Value Residential London

Real Estate: High Value Residential
Leading Firms
Band 1
Boodle Hatfield LLP
Farrer & Co LLP
Forsters LLP
Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP
Withers LLP
Band 2
Charles Russell Speechlys
Mishcon de Reya LLP
Taylor Wessing
Band 3
BDB Pitmans LLP
Macfarlanes LLP
Payne Hicks Beach LLP
Wedlake Bell LLP
Band 4
Keystone Law
* *Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Real Estate: High Value Residential
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Arthur Saskia *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *
Burton Edward *Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP*
Conduit Laura *Farrer & Co LLP*
Conway Sarah *Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP*
Cooke Ian *Keystone Law* *
Horwood Laurie *Farrer & Co LLP*
Mapstone Simon *Russell-Cooke (ORL)* ◊ *
Moran Thomas *Charles Russell Speechlys*
Stuart Henry *Withers LLP* *
Band 2
Achampong Jonathan *Wedlake Bell LLP* *
Barber Lucy *Forsters LLP*
Bevan Lisa *Taylor Wessing*
Copestake Emma *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *
Dobson Elaine *Taylor Wessing*
Fetherston-Dilke Edmund *Farrer & Co LLP*
Hoskyns-Abrahall Bertie *Withers LLP* *
Liffen James *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Marsh Helen *Forsters LLP*
Randhawa Sakhjit *Keystone Law* *
Roberjot Caroline *Harbottle & Lewis LLP (ORL)* ◊
Stephenson John *BDB Pitmans LLP*
Thakrar Sonal *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Ward Tristan *BDB Pitmans LLP*
Band 3
Ahmed Pervaze *Withers LLP* *
Barham Robert *Forsters LLP*
Breeze Clare *Macfarlanes LLP* *
Curtis-Goulding Helen *Fladgate LLP (ORL)* ◊
Dean Annabel *Farrer & Co LLP*
Kerrigan Simon *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *
Owen Bethan *Kingsley Napley LLP (ORL)* ◊
Stone Nick *Wedlake Bell LLP* *
Band 4
Allan Edward *Boodle Hatfield LLP* *
Allfree Tom *Wedlake Bell LLP* *
Anand Hema *BDB Pitmans LLP*
Berry Andrew *Payne Hicks Beach LLP* *
Callaghan Luke *Taylor Wessing*
Campbell Mary *Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP*
Jarron Edward *Withers LLP* *
Littlejohn Jane *Boodle Hatfield LLP*
Marriott William *Charles Russell Speechlys*
McCormick Paice Rosie *Edwin Coe LLP (ORL)* ◊
Mieville Charles *Forsters LLP*
Murphy Hugh *Keystone Law* *
Vaughan Nicholas *Withers LLP* *
Up-and-coming individuals
Wigzell Hugh *Farrer & Co LLP*
Associates to watch
Parker Anoushka *Irwin Mitchell (ORL)* ◊
Steel Francesca *Farrer & Co LLP*

Band 1

Boodle Hatfield LLP

Boodle Hatfield LLP regularly works with high net worth and ultra high net worth clients on major residential property deals in central London. A source remarks: *"The team is incredibly professional, thorough, incredibly knowledgeable, and because of their experienced team they are solution-driven."*

The team receives praise from fellow lawyers and clients for its quality of service. *"Boodle Hatfield has absolutely outstanding quality; they are very responsive, excellent at problem solving and diffusing issues that could bamboozle other solicitors,"* says a market commentator. Another source states: *"They are experts at handling complex property transactions."*

Notable practitioners

Saskia Arthur (see p.319) has a superb reputation for her work on major property deals. *"Saskia is an exceptional property lawyer who understands client objectives well and has wide expertise that allows her to handle complex transactions,"* remarks a source. Another interviewee states that *"she is very thorough, has good communication skills and is good with complex, high-value matters."*

Simon Kerrigan (see p.334) is highly regarded in the London market, and sources note that he is particularly good on enfranchisement matters. *"Simon is a highly experienced property lawyer with particular skills in enfranchisement."* says a source, adding: *"Simon is pragmatic, commercial and has excellent attention to detail. Even in the complex world of enfranchisement there is nothing that Simon hasn't seen before. He is an enfranchisement master."* **Edward Allan** (see p.318) has a reputation for offering a premium service to clients in prime central London property transactions. One source enthuses: *"He was excellent; as always, very consistent with communication, responsive and commercial on certain points. His manner is excellent, very calm and professional."* Another market commentator says: *"Edward is brilliant – very personable, adaptable to different clients and buyers, very thorough, good at problem*

Real Estate: High Value Residential
National Leaders (outside London)
Leading Firms
Band 1
Burges Salmon LLP
Band 2
Birketts LLP
B P Collins LLP
Cripps
Mills & Reeve LLP
Thomson Snell & Passmore
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Longman Zoe *Burges Salmon LLP*
Band 2
Firby Sally *Cripps*
Massey Christian *Michelmores LLP (ORL) ◊*
Swain Rebecca *Thomson Snell & Passmore*
Band 3
Josef Claire *Thomson Snell & Passmore*
Razaq Martina *B P Collins LLP* *
* *Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

solving, reliable and available." **Jane Littlejohn** acts for clients on large-scale property transactions. *"Jane is absolutely first-rate, exceptional. She will look after the interest of her clients but also tries to find a middle ground,"* says a source.

Farrer & Co LLP

Farrer & Co typically acts for high net worth international and domestic clients on residential property sales and purchases. One source enthuses: *"Farrer & Co are always so straightforward to deal with and incredibly knowledgeable on the various issues and tasks that we work with them on."*

A market commentator says: *"To be honest with you, I'd go as far as to say they're probably the leading team in the London market, in terms of scale, and I see them all the time acting for banks and buyers."*

Notable practitioners

Laura Conduit is very active and well known in the prime central london market. A source remarks: *"She is very efficient, involved in a lot of the top matters. Clients love working with her and she knows the London market like the back of her hand. She's one of the very top lawyers here."* Another interviewee says: *"Nothing is too much trouble and if you want the best lawyer on your side, Laura is that person."* **Laurie Horwood** *"is just a brilliant mind, intelligent and a helpful individual and someone that you definitely want on your side. His ability to make things happen and work to timelines is second to none,"* explains an interviewee. Horwood frequently acts for high net worth clients on complex property sales and purchases. "He is an excellent solicitor – great at his job and very pleasant and easy to deal with," states a source. **Edmund Fetherston-Dilke** is very well known in the market and is particularly experienced in handling landed estate and other rural property matters. *"He is very much best in class. No safer hands could be used for property transactions. He is efficient, humorous, incredibly sharp and intelligent,"* says an interviewee, who adds: *"His management of his team and access to some of the best lawyers means that when Edmund is on your side you have nothing to fear."* Another source says: *"He is very astute, very knowledgeable and incredibly approachable – it's always a pleasure."* **Annabel Dean** acts for clients on high value property transactions in London. *"She is an excellent solicitor, great at her job and very pleasant and easy to deal with,"* says a source. Another interviewee remarks: *"Annabel is just a superb and bright individual who is able to handle everything you throw at her."* **Hugh Wigzell** regularly acts for high net worth clients on the sale and purchase of residential property. *"Hugh is the ultimate team player and his knowledge, expertise and adaptability make him an exceptional professional,"* says an interviewee. **Francesca Steel** *"is exceptional, she is very easy to introduce clients to and makes them feel comfortable, I know anything I pass to her is in safe hands,"* a source remarks. She acts for high net worth individuals on the sale and purchase of residential property. Another interviewee reports: *"She is always reactive and extremely on it."*

Forsters LLP

Forsters LLP's residential property team is well regarded and recognised by market commentators for its work on prime property transactions. *"Forsters have an excellent variety of skilled team members,"* a source remarks.

An interviewee enthuses: *"The team is always exceptionally responsive no matter the day or time. I have had calls on the weekends and late evenings answered,"* adding that: *"Excellent communication is the hallmark of handling complex and sophisticated matters – the team at Forsters have been exceptional for me in this."*

Notable practitioners

Lucy Barber is the head of the residential property team and regularly acts for high net worth individuals and developers. She is commended by multiple market sources, who say she is a *"superb lawyer,"* who is *"easy to work with,"* and *"a truly outstanding lawyer and professional."* **Helen Marsh** *"is at the top of her game and well known in the industry,"* says an interviewee. Another enthuses: *"Helen is extremely professional, highly skilled and has excellent communication skills. I highly recommend Helen to anyone looking for a lawyer in the high-end residential space."* **Robert Barham** *"is an exceptionally gifted lawyer, his work is incredibly complicated and he has the law at his fingertips, which makes things easier,"* says an interviewee, while another source remarks: *"He has been doing it for a long time, he is calm and reasonable to deal with."* **Charles Mieville** is highly regarded by clients and fellow lawyers in the industry. A source remarks: *"He is an absolutely charming man and a gifted lawyer. I breathe a sigh of relief when I see him on the other side of a deal."* Another interviewee says: *"Charles is a pleasure to deal with. He's proactive, professional, solution-driven, a long-term thinker, and engaging."*

Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP

Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP acts for international high net worth clients on significant property transactions in London. *"It is one of the top firms to deal with. The team is incredibly efficient, accessible and can get large transactions done quickly,"* a source remarks.

The team is highly praised by several market sources, with one saying: *"We have always felt that MTG are really successful in ensuring that our clients are able to understand very complex matters in a digestible way."*

Notable practitioners

Edward Burton *"is supremely capable, responsive, knowledgeable, quite frankly a weapon in residential conveyancing, particularly handling matters in prime central London,"* a source remarks. Another interviewee enthuses: *"I rate Edward as the finest residential conveyancing partner in his field. His knowledge and command of the subject is second to none."* **Sarah Conway** *"has an encyclopaedic knowledge of residential conveyancing in prime central London,"* a source remarks. An interviewee says: *"You can always trust Sarah to deliver a fantastic result, her tenacity in the face of problematic situations is unrivalled."* **Mary Campbell** regularly handles significant residential property transactions for wealthy and ultra-wealthy clients. *"She is very good to deal with. One of the names you're happy to see on a deal,"* says a fellow solicitor.

Withers LLP

Withers is a leading choice for high net worth clients requiring top-quality residential property advice. *"They are extremely efficient and responsive,"* an interviewee remarks.

"They are an incredibly sophisticated firm who handle tricky situations very well," says an interviewee, who adds: *"They are also a very helpful and friendly group."*

Notable practitioners

Henry Stuart (see p.344) *"is a very long-standing name in the industry,"* says a source, who adds: *"He is known to be at the top of the tree."* Another interviewee explains: *"Henry is a technically brilliant lawyer."* **Bertie Hoskyns-Abrahall** (see p.333) *"is one of the standout performers in the industry,"* says a source, while another market commentator says: *"He has shown a keen understanding and knowledge of the property market generally."* An interviewee remarks: *"Bertie provides a consistently high level of service."* **Pervaze Ahmed** (see p.318) is highly regarded by market commentators. *"He is exemplary, absolutely outstanding,"* says one source, while another enthuses: *"He is very charismatic, very commercially oriented and a pleasure to deal with."* **Edward Jarron** (see p.333) acts for clients on high-value residential property transactions. A source remarks: *"Edward always provides a high level of service whilst also being commercially aware and pragmatic."* **Nicholas Vaughan** (see p.345) *"is very intelligent and capable of handling complex matters on leasehold property. He handles complex and hard-to-interpret transactions with a fast turnaround,"* an interviewee states. Another source says that *"he is an excellent lawyer – calm and experienced and very good with clients."*

Band 2

Charles Russell Speechlys

Charles Russell Speechlys is well regarded for its residential property offering. The firm advises wealthy clients on residential and agricultural property deals, and also assists with a range of other matters, including lease extensions and finance.

Notable practitioners

Thomas Moran acts for clients in rural and agricultural property transactions. *"Thomas is who I call if I need to have a lawyer who can explain things in a simplistic way,"* says a source. **William Marriott** acts for high net worth individuals on the sale and purchase of residential property. He leads the firm's private property practice.

Mishcon de Reya LLP

Mischon de Reya's residential property team is experienced in acting for international clients on luxury property sales and purchases in London. A source remarks: *"They were always prompt, efficient, commercial, responsive, focused and pragmatic."*

An interviewee says: *"The team is highly responsive and always adopts a 'nothing is a problem' attitude. There is a good range of different skill sets within the firm and they are highly capable and communicative."*

Notable practitioners

James Liffen is adept at acting on high-value property transactions. *"He is a good lawyer with a really nice manner who is easy to work with,"* says a source. *"James is good to deal with, efficient, comes back quickly on matters,"* says another market commentator, who adds: *"He is a practical lawyer who will take a common-sense approach and not overcomplicate matters."* **Sonal Thakrar** acts for affluent international clients on large-scale residential property transactions. *"She's amazing, has the right balance of professionalism but also brings her personality to the deals, is conscientious and good at establishing relationships with clients,"* says an interviewee. Another states: *"I love dealing with Sonal – a very good lawyer, enthusiastic and responsive."*

Taylor Wessing

Taylor Wessing is well regarded for its quality of service, with a source saying: *"The team is very efficient, they are always available on email and phone and answer enquiries quickly."*

The team is recognised for regularly advising affluent clients on matters relating to high-value residential properties in prime London locations. *"Taylor Wessing is my top team for big complicated deals,"* says an industry commentator.

Notable practitioners

Lisa Bevan acts for foreign and domestic high net worth clients on high-value residential property transactions in London. *"She is incredibly efficient, very proactive, responsive and happy to take calls. I would describe her as a problem solver."* **Elaine Dobson** is *"very well established and very senior. She has a high level of skill alongside being responsive and efficient,"* says a source. Dobson has a solid reputation and is experienced in advising on complex residential property transactions. An interviewee says: *"She is prompt and responsive, rolls up her sleeves and works till late when needed."* **Luke Callaghan** frequently acts for ultra wealthy clients on large property transactions. Sources commend him for his ability to problem solve, and one market commentator says: *"He's very efficient, speedy, thorough, responsive and excellent."*

Band 3

BDB Pitmans LLP

BDB Pitmans is well regarded in the high-value residential property world, with several sources commending the team for the quality of service it provides. One interviewee says: *"BDB Pitmans have always been responsive, knowledgeable and helpful to clients."*

The team acts for affluent domestic and foreign clients on complex property transactions. *"When I work with the team on matters, we would always find solutions to things. They also deal with emails quickly and work well with clients' timelines,"* a source enthuses.

Notable practitioners

John Stephenson *"has a vast amount of knowledge in the residential property world and has been here for a very long time,"* says a market commentator. He is particularly respected by industry figures for his expertise in leasehold enfranchisement and lease extension matters. **Tristan Ward** *"appears on big transactions"* and *"is well known in the London property market,"* according to commentators. He leads the firm's landed estates and agriculture team and is an expert on rural property matters. **Hema Anand** regularly acts for clients on high-value residential property acquisitions and sales. She also handles enfranchisement matters.

Macfarlanes LLP

Macfarlanes has a *"great depth of knowledge across the board and a good mixture of senior and junior advisers,"* says a source,who adds that the residential property team has a *"structured and very hands-on approach when required."*

The team regularly advises clients on large and complex property transactions in London. One market commentator asserts: *"There's never anything to worry about with them. They know what they're doing and can do the work fast and provide the right answer."*

Notable practitioners

Clare Breeze (see p.322) has extensive experience in handling residential property transactions in prime London locations and leads the firm's real estate group. *"She works hard to get deals done and I really appreciate that,"* says an interviewee.

Payne Hicks Beach LLP

Payne Hicks Beach is respected for its ability to handle complex property work. *"There is no doubt that their property team is well structured and rigorous in their due diligence, while retaining the ability to judge what matters in real commercial terms,"* observes a commentator.

The team advises ultra wealthy individuals on high-value residential property transactions, rural property matters and landed estates. A source says that *"Payne Hicks Beach had a good understanding of the task and was very responsive to any communication."*

Notable practitioners

Emma Copestake (see p.324) is a respected presence in the market. She has a broad property practice that includes difficult leasehold enfranchisement matters. *"Emma is amazingly impressive. She manages to juggle a significant portfolio of top-drawer clients and provide clever commercial solutions,"* says an interviewee, and another source states: *"Emma is a delight to work with. I have complete confidence in her advice, which is always well considered and given with good humour. Her contacts are impressive, as is the range of her knowledge."* **Andrew Berry** (see p.320) has a mixed practice that includes advising on commercial property matters, as well as on high-value residential transactions. *"He is a pleasure to deal with,"* observes a source.

Wedlake Bell LLP

Wedlake Bell has a respected property practice handling complex transactions. *"They are extremely knowledgeable and professional,"* says a source, who further explains that the team has *"the ability to advise clients on a range of areas and provide an exceptional service to clients and are always very communicative with agents."*

"Whenever I get Wedlake on the other side, I always expect to see a good, competent lawyer," says an interviewee.

Notable practitioners

Jonathan Achampong (see p.318) regularly advises clients on high-value property transactions in prime London markets, and also advises on lease extension matters. He works with a wide range of wealthy clients, including company executives. **Nick Stone** (see p.344) acts for high net worth clients on property purchases and has a long-standing reputation in this space. *"Nick is really excellent,"* says an interviewee, adding: *"I'm happy to introduce him to clients. He is always available, very diligent and gives very clear advice to clients."* Another source says: *"Nick is by far one of the best solicitors I've ever worked with. I always know my clients will be in good hands when I put them in touch with him. He offers exceptional advice and incredible service."* **Tom Allfree** (see p.318) acts for wealthy clients on residential property sales and purchases. *"Tom is one of the most diligent, pragmatic and expert solicitors in London,"* says a source, who adds that: *"He is a top-quality lawyer of the highest order."*

Band 4

Keystone Law

Keystone Law regularly acts for international high net worth clients on property transactions in prime central London areas. *"They all were incredibly responsive, helpful and supportive. I was very impressed by their ability to handle complex and sophisticated matters in a very short space of time,"* says a source.

"They are always able to find a solution to any problem that arises to ensure the transactions can proceed, and they take the time to make sure

the client understands the situation," observes a market commentator.

Notable practitioners

Ian Cooke (see p.324) has a superb reputation for handling high-value property transactions. *"Ian is the finest property expert in London. He has an encyclopaedic knowledge of the market in the UK, and is quick with his work,"* says an interviewee. *"He is a delight to deal with, an exceptionally good lawyer if you get him on the other side. You're going to get well-set-out documents and he is a formidable negotiator,"* says a fellow lawyer, and another commentator states: *"Ian is an impressive and outstanding operator who consistently delivers high-quality work and service levels."* **Sakhjit Randhawa** (see p.341) is an experienced property lawyer who regularly advises on transactions in prime London areas. *"Her ability to foresee issues and offer routes through these has been extremely reassuring,"* says an interviewee, and a fellow lawyer states that *"she is a pleasure to deal with, very helpful and someone you know will get things done."* **Hugh Murphy** (see p.338) frequently acts for wealthy clients on transactions in London and also handles rural real estate matters, including those concerning equine property. *"Hugh is extremely efficient, a pleasure to deal with. He makes difficult situations pleasurable, is proactive and sensible in his advice,"* states a source.

Band 1

Burges Salmon LLP

Burges Salmon LLP has a long-standing reputation in the high value residential property world. A source describes the residential property team as *"efficient and highly professional."*

The team acts for clients on various issues regarding the sale and purchase of residential property. An interviewee says: *"They provide an excellent support, and give clear and detailed explanations."*

Notable practitioners

Zoe Longman leads the firm's residential property team and advises clients on sales, purchases, mortgage matters and enfranchisement issues. *"I am very satisfied with the assistance and follow-up of Zoë on each matter,"* says an interviewee.

Band 2

Birketts LLP

East Anglian firm Birketts acts for clients on rural property matters and other high-value residential property transactions. *"The team has a lot of experience and an ability to draw on the firm's wider knowledge and expertise,"* reports a source, who adds: *"They have the ability to advise on complex and sophisticated issues with speed, practicality and accuracy."*

Sources commend the team for its approach to dealing with clients and other professionals. One source enthuses: *"Birketts are certainly one of the best at communicating and going the extra mile if needed."* An interviewee says: *"They are competent and have a market-leading attitude to communication with other professionals."*

Notable practitioners

Amanda Angel in Ipswich leads the residential property team.

B P Collins LLP

B P Collins is respected for its handling of significant property matters. *"They have been the most responsive, quickest and most knowledgeable solicitors I have used, they have been consistent with the service they provide on each case,"* says an interviewee.

The team acts for clients on high-value residential property transactions and is commended for the quality of its client service. A source says: *"They are extremely responsive via email and telephone and they fully delivered on all timing commitments."*

Notable practitioners

Martina Razaq (see p.341) regularly advises clients on high-value transactions in Buckinghamshire and London. A market commentator says: *"Martina is highly recommended. She is professional, approachable and a pleasure to work with."* Another source states: *"Martina was amazing – prompt service, excellent knowledge and speed of service."*

Cripps

The team at Cripps is experienced in advising on residential property sales, purchases and enfranchisement matters. One source remarks: *"They are a big player in enfranchisement and act for very large clients."*

An interviewee says the team provides a *"high level of service and responsiveness,"* while another source notes: *"The fee earners have a great deal of knowledge and experience and are really able to add value in complex and sophisticated matters."*

Notable practitioners

Sally Firby regularly advises wealthy clients on residential property transactions in the south of England. *"Sally is very personable, proactive, pragmatic and thinks in the client's best interest. She is incredibly knowledgeable, capable and fantastic,"* An impressed interviewee remarks: *"Sally is the go-to person for all matters affecting the sale or purchase of farms, country estates and prime residential property."*

Mills & Reeve LLP

National firm Mills & Reeve acts for high net worth individuals and companies on residential property transactions. *"Everyone I was in touch with gave clear and detailed responses and I was kept updated. Everything was clear and explained thoroughly to me from the start,"* says an interviewee.

Commentators commend the team for its experience, service level and problem-solving skills. *"There is a good depth of knowledge in the team and they have the ability to come up with pragmatic solutions,"* a source remarks.

Notable practitioners

Amanda Tagg leads the residential property team.

Thomson Snell & Passmore

Thomson Snell & Passmore is commended by market sources for its professionalism, experience and depth of knowledge in the property market. *"Their responsiveness is faster than what I have had with any other company. Their service level is above and beyond what you would expect,"* a source remarks.

"The firm has great lines of communication and is very collaborative with any process. Their breadth of knowledge is fantastic," says a market commentator, who adds: *"With an expansive range of legal services within their firm, they are well placed to offer excellent advice and problem solve for clients."*

Notable practitioners

Rebecca Swain is noted by multiple sources for being client-focused. *"Rebecca is very experienced and goes the extra mile for clients,"* says an interviewee, while another source remarks: *"She is efficient, thoughtful, reliable and has a sense of humour but is always professional."* **Claire Josef** *"has consistently been very professional, thorough and diligent. She is very aware of current legislation, which is incredibly useful, and she is also approachable – which is a great mix of skills,"* a market commentator explains. Another source remarks: *"Claire is a pleasure to work with; she is communicative, collaborative and transparent, ensuring an easy working relationship."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Helen Curtis-Goulding of Fladgate LLP is head of the property team at the firm. *"Helen is extremely approachable and will assist with legal queries that we have,"* says a source, who adds that *"pragmatic solutions are found when potential issues are discovered."* Another commentator states: *"There is no one I'd rather deal with. Helen is professional, efficient, committed and a thoroughly nice person to work with. She strengthens a buyer's position by being involved."*

Simon Mapstone (see p.337) of Russell-Cooke is a highly respected lawyer who has maintained a fine reputation in the residential property market. A source says that *"he has a razor-sharp mind; he is really good to have on the other side."*

Bristol-based **Christian Massey** of Michelmores LLP is regularly involved in transactions concerning agricultural property and landed estates. *"Christian is excellent to work with and I have no hesitation when referring him to others,"* says a property industry source, and another states: *"Christian is first-rate. He is excellent with clients, thoroughly professional, but able to give pragmatic advice when a client needs to take a view."*

Rosie McCormick Paice leads the residential property practice at Edwin Coe LLP. She advises wealthy clients on prime London purchases and also assists with rural property matters. *"Rosie has a can-do attitude,"* says an interviewee.

Bethan Owen leads the real estate practice at Kingsley Napley LLP and is highly regarded by market sources. An interviewee says: *"She is extremely thorough, has excellent communication and is approachable."* Another source enthuses: *"Bethan is an excellent lawyer who is proactive and makes the process enjoyable. She informs you what is important and delivers in an efficient manner. You want her in your corner and she is extremely conscientious. She is an absolute joy to work with."*

Anoushka Parker of Irwin Mitchell routinely acts on high-value property transactions in prime cen-

tral London locations. *"She is a good lawyer and well known,"* says a market commentator, and another interviewee describes her as *"speedy and very good."*

Caroline Roberjot of Harbottle & Lewis LLP is well regarded for advising clients on complex property transactions. *"Caroline is very client-focused and nice to deal with,"* says another solicitor, and a further source states: *"She is a capable lawyer. I'm happy when I see her on deals."*

Tax Private Client

Tax: Private Client
Leading Firms
Band 1
Harbottle & Lewis LLP
Joseph Hage Aaronson LLP
Macfarlanes LLP
RPC
Withers LLP
Band 2
Mishcon de Reya LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Aaronson Graham *Joseph Hage Aaronson LLP*
Ashford Gary *Harbottle & Lewis LLP*
Craggs Adam *RPC*
Martin Maurice *Withers LLP*
Band 2
Allen Leslie *Mishcon de Reya LLP*
Hyde Ian *Osborne Clarke LLP (ORL) ◊*
Lorimer Tessa *Withers LLP **
McGhee Helen *Joseph Hage Aaronson LLP*
Pickstone David *Stewarts (ORL) ◊ **
Reed Edward *Macfarlanes LLP **
Sanitt Gideon *Macfarlanes LLP **
Up-and-coming individuals
Austen James *Collyer Bristow LLP (ORL) ◊*
Giangrande Richard *Macfarlanes LLP **
Associates to watch
Christofi Constantine *RPC*
Ofili Morag *Harbottle & Lewis LLP*

* *Indicates individual with profile.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Accountants & Tax Advisers
Tax Investigations & Litigation
UK
Leading Firms
BDO LLP
Blick Rothenberg
Evelyn Partners
Grant Thornton UK LLP
Rawlinson & Hunter

Band 1 Tax: Private Client

Harbottle & Lewis LLP

Harbottle & Lewis receives strong praise for the development of its private client tax practice over recent years. One source says: *"The team has recruited a number of very strong individuals over recent years and has depth and strengths across a broad range of private client/tax areas. There are a number of individuals whose abilities are excellent and mutually complementary."*

A client describes the team as being composed of *"excellent tacticians who get to the heart of the matter ably and quickly, with a sharp focus on delivering the optimum outcome."*

Notable practitioners

Gary Ashford is a Chartered Tax Adviser and former Revenue officer, and has a strong background in tax disputes work for private clients. One source says: *"He's got amazing knowledge on tax regulations but can also see the big picture on what clients need to do and where things might be going."* Another reports that *"his working at HMRC means he's got an impressive knowledge of UK tax. Any question you have, he knows the answer off the top of his head or will find it for you quickly. He's very good with clients too."* **Morag Ofili** wins praise for her ability to combine strong technical tax knowledge with impressive client-handling skills. One source reports that, in a recent matter, Ofili *"handled client calls incredibly well and set out a clear vision."* Another says that *"Morag has a very good client manner; she's able to put the client at ease, answer all their questions, reassure them and make sure they understand from a legal point of view what all the issues are."*

Joseph Hage Aaronson LLP

JHA is a tax boutique and has a strong reputation for its work with private clients. *"All matters on which we have worked with JHA have been both complex and sophisticated, and their involvement has been invaluable,"* says one source, adding: *"They blend a fastidious approach to the underlying evidence and source material with an enviable and thorough understanding of tax legislation to serve as the bedrock for a strategic approach to resolution of tax disputes."*

Another interviewee describes the team as *"approachable, professional, available and second-to-none experts in their field. Their personalities make them a delight to work with in what can involve very complex and technical questions."*

Notable practitioners

Graham Aaronson QC leads many of the firm's most significant commercial and private client tax matters. *"Graham sets the bar very high indeed, in all respects,"* says one interviewee, and another describes Aaronson as *"excellent; a name that really sticks out in this space."* **Helen McGhee** leads an impressive range of mandates including major private client tax cases. *"Helen McGhee is a pleasure to work with,"* says one source, adding: *"Not only is Helen highly competent technically but she is very affable and great with clients. Helen is efficient and determined and achieved a fantastic result."* Another says: *"Helen has always been my go-to person with any tax query as she is able to turn her hand to anything that comes across her desk, swiftly evaluate the tax issues and deliver a considered, thorough and easy to digest opinion."*

Macfarlanes LLP

Macfarlanes is a premier private wealth firm with a strong practice in private client tax. *"If anything, they are the leader in private client,"* says one interviewee, adding: *"It's the quality of its lawyers, the sophistication of its work, and the depth they have. The technical side is superb, and their ongoing work with leading tax counsel across the piece keeps them at the front end across this. They also have a very good practical experience on the ground."*

"They represent the premium service for clients in terms of technical matters," says a source, adding: *"When a client uses them, the advice is so comprehensive and clear. I love working with them; I know I'm dealing with a lawyer who will have thought of everything, and it is very rare to see them make mistakes. They're technically gifted, and they work incredibly hard."*

Notable practitioners

Edward Reed (see p.341) is particularly strong on cross-border tax and trusts matters. *"Edward Reed is a highly skilled and experienced lawyer in the private clients field and an expert in trust law,"* says one source; *"he has an in-depth level of knowledge that allows him to address highly complex issues."* Another source reports that *"his advice is of great value. He has a real talent for making complex issues understandable."* **Gideon Sanitt** (see p.343) handles complex tax litigation. *"He's everything you'd want in a solicitor organising a case like this,"* says an interviewee. Another describes him as *"creative and tactically astute, and with an invaluable knowledge of procedural aspects. You would want Gideon on your side in a negotiation."* **Richard Giangrande** (see p.329) is widely regarded as a highly intelligent and technically able tax and private wealth practitioner. One source says: *"He's a very intelligent, articulate communicator around very complex tax issues. If Richard has thought about it and delivered his view on it, I'd bet on it being right. He is a very thoughtful man."* Another interviewee concurs, saying that Giangrande is *"thoughtful and thorough, combined with a very strong grasp of technical aspects. If there is any angle, Richard will find it."*

RPC

"RPC have very able lawyers across a range of disciplines and they are very experienced litigators," says a source. The firm's tax disputes team handles a range of investigations and litigation

matters, including impressive private client tax matters.

"Service levels are first-class and you never have to chase up responses, unlike many lawyers," says another source; *"moreover, they are sensitive to the needs of clients. They are straight-talking when required and always provide when it is needed."* A third source says: *"There is a huge amount of expertise there. What is particularly impressive is not merely the depth of knowledge but the ability to bring it together and present it as a team. They work extremely well together."*

Notable practitioners

Adam Craggs heads the firm's tax disputes team and has substantial practice handling contentious tax matters for high net worth clients. One source praises his *"excellent client service delivered through his significant experience in the tax litigation field.""Adam is exceptionally knowledgeable and perceptive, and brings a high degree of insight to everything he does,"* says another source, adding: *"In client conferences he is notable for his ability to engage with the clients and to identify how their commercial needs engage with the legal outlook of a given case."* **Constantine Christofi** is a senior associate on the team who advises on tax disputes brought by HMRC against high net worth individuals. One source says: *"Constantine is an exceptional lawyer who has a huge understanding of his area which he has brought to bear so as to engage with the technical and practical aspects of each case in which we have been involved. This is enormously important in providing a nuanced and effective service to clients, something at which he excels."* Another interviewee reports that *"he's such an asset"* to RPC's practice, explaining that Christofi is *"very charming and clever, and has a very easy manner with the clients. Clients get no fuss, he gets the litigation done, he's the guy who's really good at managing these clients. He's the guy who makes that happen."*

Withers LLP

Withers is one of the premier full-service firms for private wealth, and it has a strong tax litigation practice. *"Withers have strength and depth at all levels,"* says an interviewee; *"their tax partners have such great experience in dealing with HMRC and client care, and their associates are some of the brightest and most hard-working I have ever come across."*

"They provide a comprehensive service to their clients, with no detail being overlooked," says another source, adding: *"From partner to junior trainee, they provide a high-quality, high-calibre team. The level of service and timeliness of response are uniformly of the highest quality. Even so far as the wealthiest of clients are concerned, budget is adhered to and value for money is prioritised."*

Notable practitioners

Maurice Martin is *"very able and uses his experience to great effect"* in tax litigation, a source says. *"Maurice has such a great depth and breadth of experience,"* says another; *"there is no problem he hasn't solved before."* Martin is further described as *"a consummate professional."* **Tessa Lorimer** (see p.336) is a consultant at the firm and a qualified barrister who advises high net worth individuals on HMRC investigations. *"She has a great rapport with the clients and is very user-friendly, as well as having all the necessary expertise,"* says one source. Another says: *"Tessa Lorimer is highly sophisticated, very service-oriented and commercially aware. Her attention to detail is unrivalled and her interpersonal skills are exceptional."*

Band 2 Tax: Private Client

Mishcon de Reya LLP

Mishcon de Reya assists high net worth clients with a wide range of tax matters, including investigations and litigation.

Notable practitioners

Leslie Allen is a barrister with substantial experience advising high net worth clients involved in HMRC tax litigation and investigations.

Band 1 Accountants & Tax Advisers: Tax Investigations & Litigation UK

BDO LLP

"BDO has a massive tax investigations operation," says one fellow accountant, adding: *"They have a massive team and resources."*

"I'd put them up there in their resources and the brainpower," says another source; *"the fact they're really well spread across the UK too."*

Blick Rothenberg

One source says that, compared with other accounting firms, *"Blick is a much smaller firm with a stronger, client-focused, perhaps entrepreneurial approach which probably suits working with lawyers a bit better."*

Other sources describe it as a *"very, very good firm"* which is *"terrific"* for tax investigations work.

Evelyn Partners

Accounting firm Smith & Williamson and wealth manager Tilney recently rebranded as Evelyn Partners. *"Smith & Williamson we work with, as do lots of others here at the firm,"* says a private client tax lawyer; *"they have a strong investigations team."*

"Smith & Williamson has been good," says another source; *"a case I did with them was very helpful, practical and cost-effective."*

Grant Thornton UK LLP

Grant Thornton's tax investigations practice is seen as one of the leading teams in the UK.

"Grant Thornton are very good on investigative work," says a source; *"I've got a couple of cases with them at the moment and they're excellent."*

Rawlinson & Hunter

Rawlinson & Hunter is widely considered to be one of the top private client-focused tax and accounting firms in the UK and internationally, and it has a strong investigations practice as well. One source says: *"In forensics or any litigation they're very strong. I definitely rate them and use them for very complex things."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

James Austen of Collyer Bristow LLP advises high net worth individuals on a range of tax matters, including disputes.

Ian Hyde heads Osborne Clarke's international tax dispute practice. He is noted as being highly knowledgeable on tax litigation matters.

David Pickstone (see p.340) of Stewarts has considerable experience advising high net worth clients on complex tax disputes with HMRC.

Tax Private Client London

Tax: Private Client
Leading Sets
Band 1
Pump Court Tax Chambers
Band 2
Devereux
Old Square Tax Chambers
5 Stone Buildings
Wilberforce Chambers
Band 3
Field Court Tax Chambers
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
McCall Christopher *Maitland Chambers (ORL) ◊*
Leading Silks
Star individuals
Massey William *Pump Court Tax Chambers*
Prosser Kevin *Pump Court Tax Chambers*
Band 1
Baker Philip *Field Court Tax Chambers*
Cullen Felicity *Devereux*
Davey Jonathan *Wilberforce Chambers*
Ghosh Julian *One Essex Court (ORL) ◊*
Hardy Amanda *5 Stone Buildings*
Kessler James *Old Square Tax Chambers*
Band 2
Ewart David *Pump Court Tax Chambers*
Green Brian *Wilberforce Chambers*
Nathan Aparna *Devereux*
Nawbatt Akash *Devereux*
Rivett James *Pump Court Tax Chambers*
Vallat Richard *Pump Court Tax Chambers* Ⓐ
Venables Robert *Old Square Tax Chambers*
Way Patrick *Field Court Tax Chambers*
Yates David *Pump Court Tax Chambers*
Band 3
Bremner Jonathan *One Essex Court (ORL) ◊*
McCarthy Hui Ling *11 New Square (ORL) ◊*
Wilson Elizabeth *Pump Court Tax Chambers*
New Silks
Mullan Rory *Old Square Tax Chambers* Ⓐ
Ⓐ *direct access.*
◊ *(ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.*
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Tax: Private Client
Leading Juniors
Star individuals
Chamberlain Emma *Pump Court Tax Chambers* Ⓐ
Band 1
Lemos Marika *Devereux*
Band 2
Afzal Imran *Field Court Tax Chambers*
Akin Barrie *Devereux*
Brown Harriet *Old Square Tax Chambers*
Poots Laura *Pump Court Tax Chambers* Ⓐ
Soares Patrick *Field Court Tax Chambers*
Band 3
Campbell Emily *Wilberforce Chambers*
Conolly Oliver *Pump Court Tax Chambers* Ⓐ
Elliott Ben *Pump Court Tax Chambers*
Hughes Ruth *5 Stone Buildings*
Marre Oliver *5 Stone Buildings*
Murray Rebecca *Devereux*
Schwarz Jonathan S *Temple Tax Chambers (ORL) ◊*
Stone Christopher *Devereux*
Vaines Peter *Field Court Tax Chambers*
Waldegrave Edward *Pump Court Tax Chambers*
Up-and-coming individuals
Ashley Mary *Old Square Tax Chambers*
Birkbeck Ross *Old Square Tax Chambers*
Pearce Emma *Pump Court Tax Chambers*

Band 1

Pump Court Tax Chambers

Pump Court Tax Chambers remains the pre-eminent set for private client tax work. One source calls it *"the best tax chambers in the UK"* and several describe it as their go-to tax set. *"I've used heavens knows how many barristers from Pump Court Tax over the years,"* says one solicitor; *"they're generally acknowledged as one of the best and largest tax chambers in the UK. They provide an excellent service, they're incredibly helpful."*

Mark Rushton is the set's director of clerking and John Poyser and Bruno Antoniotti are its team leaders. *"The service levels and speed of response from all the clerks never lets me down and is always dependable,"* says an instructing solicitor.

SILKS

William Massey QC is a noted expert on Inheritance Tax (IHT), particularly Agricultural Property Relief (APR) and Business Property Relief (BPR) matters. *"William has excellent vision all around matters put to him and is willing to comment helpfully on matters at the periphery of his instructions,"* says one solicitor. *"William's long experience in the landed estates area makes him the go-to around capital tax planning and IHT planning,"* says another interviewee, adding: *"For the last few decades he's made his name in classically landed estates. That's driven by case law, much of which he's been involved in."*

Kevin Prosser QC is *"a consummate advocate before the Tax Tribunal,"* says a source; *"you know you're in safe hands when Kevin is acting for you."* *"Kevin is simply superb,"* says an instructing solicitor, adding: *"He grapples with the most difficult tax issues, comes up with an answer at amazing speed, and is always right."* Another reports that *"I always think he's extremely good value, based on his ability to get on top of real complexity. Within 40 minutes he's figured everything out, despite you setting aside three hours for it."*

David Ewart QC is a tax specialist with a broad practice, including private client tax work. One source says: *"I think David Ewart has an excellent technical knowledge and that's allied to a good ability to explain not only to his lay client but also in a persuasive way to the court."*

James Rivett QC is *"really good,"* says a source; *"he really knows his stuff on the private client side. He's really good to work with."* Another source says: *"He has an incredible ability to be incisive, his mind is like a knife through butter."* A client reports that *"he's one of the most knowledgeable people in the field. He's lovely and everyone adores him."*

One client says **Richard Vallat QC** is *"the cleverest man I have ever met."* An instructing solicitor describes Vallat as *"properly clever, rated extremely highly and a go-to barrister."* Vallat acts for taxpayers and HMRC on a wide range of matters.

David Yates QC has a broad tax practice, acting both for the Revenue and taxpayers. One source says he is *"an absolutely exceptional barrister who combines excellent intellect with a down-to-earth and friendly approach."* *"I've used David on pure tax, but also tax professional negligence and he's cornered the market on that,"* says another source; *"I'd always go to him for that, based on his commercial background and understanding of tax."*

Elizabeth Wilson QC *"is very reassuring,"* says an instructing solicitor; *"she has done a lot with the Revenue and knows how they think, which is very useful for us to work out how to get through things. She helps people take realistic views on things, and I like that."* Another solicitor says that *"Elizabeth is hands-down the tax counsel I would go to. She has a real skill at being able to articulate highly technical tax terminology that not only you can understand as a tax practitioner but so can the lay client. She's a real lateral thinker and her drafting is superb."* This interviewee also highlights Wilson's *"exceptional personable manner,"* explaining that *"she inspires confidence in the client in an area that I think is really tricky."*

JUNIORS

Emma Chamberlain is one of the best-known and most admired tax counsel at the Bar, known for her enormous intellectual ability on complex private client tax matters matched with strong client-care skills. *"She's like a walking book on tax, but she's a complete human being at the same time,"* says an instructing solicitor; *"she's got fantastic presence and gravitas, and there's nothing she doesn't know about tax. She goes the extra mile with client care; she takes her time, likes to get the client onside and gets to know the client. She's persuasive as well: she's interested in persuading you, matched by this sheer intellectual brilliance. She really is impressive."* Another interviewee describes Chamberlain as *"simply brilliant; whether advising in conference or on her feet arguing a point in court, there is no one better."*

Laura Poots acts on a range of private client tax matters, and often acts for the Revenue. *"Laura Poots is my go-to barrister on complex tax aspects with a cross-border aspect,"* says an interviewee, adding: *"She is always available when I need to check anything with her. I find her extremely good at not just looking at the tax rules but looking at the commercial realities behind the transaction."*

Oliver Conolly wins frequent praise for his advisory work. One instructing solicitor reports that *"Oliver's advice on a complex issue was really clear."* Another says that *"Oliver's advice was clear and easy to follow."*

Ben Elliott is *"a rising star,"* says an instructing solicitor, explaining that he is *"extremely easy to engage with, very hard-working, understands the technical issues of tax law that arise. Ben will communicate with you and clients in a way that allows you to practically progress the case. He handles*

a very complex and tricky case, and his input has been critical, showing maturity beyond his seniority." Another interviewee describes Elliott as *"the best tax junior I have worked with."*

Edward Waldegrave handles both litigation and advisory matters for high net worth clients. *"I find him very impressive,"* says a source, adding: *"He has a very clear and concise style of written advocacy which is a real benefit. He has a way of getting a point across in an understated way which makes it irresistible."*

A client describes **Emma Pearce** as *"wonderful,"* explaining that *"she's one of the cleverest people you could hope to meet and she's imaginative and understanding and extremely charming."* Pearce is also popular among instructing solicitors, one of whom says: *"I think Emma is a really capable barrister. She's got a really good understanding of the subject. She's very thorough, competent, you're always happy that she's looked at and thought about everything when working through it. She's always felt like my go-to barrister for tax opinions."*

Band 2

Devereux

One source describes Devereux as a *"very assured set with the ability to set out what are complex issues in a clear, commercial context."* Another reports that *"Devereux continues to expand and progress their tax practice. They're forever getting involved in more technical tax work."*

Its clerks are said to be *"approachable and pragmatic."* Senior practice manager Glenn Billenness is a key member of the clerking team.

SILKS

One source says **Felicity Cullen QC** is *"completely dedicated to her clients,"* explaining that *"she is unafraid to take robust positions on behalf of taxpayers, but equally is very attuned to modern sensibilities and will not push clients into aggressive positions."* Another reports that *"she knows the tax code better than any lawyer I have met in the UK, and she did an outstanding job for our client."*

Aparna Nathan QC is *"one of the best tax counsel operating today,"* says an impressed instructing solicitor, adding: *"If only she wasn't so busy! Always helpful, clients love her, an outstanding mind, we could go on but then it would mean an even longer line of clients! She is the first call for our problems of a highly technical nature and is great when dealing with issues with HMRC."*

Akash Nawbatt QC *"is an extremely calming presence, a very good advocate and very enjoyable to work with,"* says a source. Sources highlight his strong experience acting for the Revenue and describe him as being *"exceptionally good with clients."*

JUNIORS

Marika Lemos *"is able to balance the law and its practical application in a keen manner,"* says an interviewee, adding: *"At all times she went above and beyond to ensure the best possible service to our clients."* Another says: *"Marika is superb. She has a fine eye for detail while still being able to keep focused on the prize. Without doubt she is the go-to barrister for complex international IHT advice."*

Barrie Akin is said to be *"great to deal with, offers a truly collaborative approach and is commercial in delivering results."* One source describes Akin as *"straightforward and technically brilliant."* This interviewee explains that *"he was a partner at EY – he trained as an accountant and as a barrister. So with tax problems you show him the accounts and he's actually really good at reading them, and not every lawyer is with financial data. I'm a big fan of his."*

Rebecca Murray is *"overall a brilliant practitioner,"* sources say, and has a strong tax advisory and litigation practice. Another source reports that, in a recent matter, *"Rebecca was responsive and engaged closely with the issues."*

Christopher Stone is *"unflappable,"* says a source; *"he is able to get to the nub of the technical issue – what does it all turn on, that's what he's good at."* Stone is particularly highlighted for his Revenue work. *"Chris is building a really exceptional practice in the area of government work, he seems to be their go-to man,"* says a fellow barrister, adding: *"I keep seeing his name on judgments."*

Old Square Tax Chambers

One source says: *"The work I carry out is largely complex and requires a detailed knowledge. Old Square have the personnel to provide support for this work. Whatever the level of experience, the chambers have the very best counsel available. The various barristers I have worked with have always been extremely responsive and provided complex advice within tight deadlines."* Another describes it as *"a big-hitting and well-renowned tax chambers with some excellent juniors and silks – up there with the best. They are also very proactive behind the scenes with some talented and sensible clerks."*

The clerking team is led by senior clerk Cliff Holland. A source reports that *"they were clear in the cost estimates and looked to work with the client to arrange the best payment timetables and terms."*

SILKS

One source reports that **James Kessler QC** *"is unique – he has an incredible mind,"* and another says that *"he has got an amazing brain and is the go-to person for difficult offshore tax issues."* Kessler is particularly well known for work on domicile and residency issues. *"The guy has written three of the books that pretty much everyone looks at,"* notes one interviewee. Another says: *"His book on non-domiciled individuals is really the bible, it's just vast, really well written I think and incredibly useful."*

Robert Venables QC is a highly experienced tax silk with a broad practice. He is particularly expert on IHT planning, offshore tax and related issues.

Rory Mullan QC is *"a first-rate tax barrister,"* says an instructing solicitor, who explains that *"his written work is excellent: combining technical proclivity with excellent communication skills. His advocacy is likewise authoritative, and he is able to command the courtroom well. He regularly acts without any junior support and is capable of running a case on his own."* Another source reports that *"clients are impressed with his knowledge and ability to communicate effectively with all parties."*

JUNIORS

Harriet Brown has a broad tax practice. *"Her main strength is her technical tax capability,"* says an interviewee, adding: *"She is very easy to deal with and approachable for the clients."* Another reports that *"Harriet is an effective adviser. She is clear, thorough, and an asset to the team."*

Mary Ashley is said to be *"very reliable"* and to have *"good judgement"* on tax matters. *"I find Mary one of the strongest technical tax juniors in the business,"* says one instructing solicitor, adding: *"Mary is technically excellent and covers a wide range of tax specialist areas. Mary is very approachable and accessible, she is always willing to go the extra mile and provides both practical and commercial advice in an easy-to-understand format."*

Ross Birkbeck is *"technically strong"* and *"commercially astute,"* according to one source, adding: *"Ross is a pleasure to work with."* Birkbeck has a strong tax litigation and advisory practice. *"I have worked with many barristers over many years, who have been at different levels of years' call,"* says an instructing solicitor; *"Ross Birkbeck is among the very best I have worked with, full stop. He is bright, commercially aware and user-friendly, willing to adapt the way he works to my needs and the demands of the client and legal issue at hand."*

5 Stone Buildings

5 Stone is a strong traditional chancery set with an impressive and complementary private client tax practice. *"Complex and sophisticated matters are their forte, with clear communication style,"* says an interviewee; *"they always come back promptly to queries, even initial approaches which may not result in an instruction."*

"Paul Jennings, the senior clerk, is terrific," says a source. *"5 Stone Buildings are extremely responsive,"* says another, *"with the clerks providing an excellent bridge between instructing solicitors and counsel, and good service received by us – which is also greatly appreciated by our clients."*

SILKS

Amanda Hardy QC is highly rated for her tax expertise. *"I rate Amanda very highly,"* says a fellow barrister, adding: *"She's a very engaging, clear, non-fussy advocate."* Another interviewee says that *"Amanda really puts the clients at ease and explains complex issues in a straightforward manner that they can understand. Amanda is also prepared to litigate, which is a positive should clients need it. She brings a wealth of experience and provides practical advice on how to present matters to HMRC. I have also found her very responsive."*

JUNIORS

Ruth Hughes is widely regarded as a highly effective junior for traditional chancery and tax matters, and is often instructed by the Revenue. One source says Hughes is *"extremely competent"* with *"a very big brain,"* explaining that *"she's always making a point at conferences no one else has even thought about."* Another interviewee reports that Hughes provides *"always excellent advice"* and is *"a pleasure to work with."*

Oliver Marre is a highly regarded tax junior. One source says: *"Oliver is very thorough and on the occasions I have instructed him he has been very*

solution-focused and client-friendly." Another reports that *"Oliver provides pragmatic, expert tax advice in an accessible style which is appreciated by both advisers and clients."*

Wilberforce Chambers

Wilberforce is widely known as one of London's top chancery sets, regularly involved in the largest litigation matters in the UK and offshore. It also has a high-end tax practice for private client matters. *"I am fully confident in their breadth of expertise to handle expert and complex matters,"* says a source; *"they can advise on pretty much every aspect of offshore tax, which is extremely difficult to do,"* says another.

"The staff and clerks I have dealt with have always been very efficient and pleasant to deal with," says a source. Another reports that Wilberforce's *"clerks are some of the best in the business."* Nicholas Luckman is the set's practice director.

SILKS

Jonathan Davey QC is *"a very good advocate"* with an *"excellent manner in court,"* says a source; *"I've always been impressed by his economy as an advocate. He focuses on the key points and presents matters attractively."* Davey is well known for his work on high-level tax litigation matters. Another source highlights Davey's client-handling skills, saying: *"He's very approachable and makes them feel very comfortable. He's got a very succinct approach."*

Brian Green QC *"is one of the most well known practitioners in this area,"* says a source; *"he's got an extremely good reputation."* Green has a broad practice which includes advising on trusts tax matters. Another source describes him as *"an extremely bright individual; he advises on our most complex and largest trusts. It's always difficult for some who are so clever to get down to our level, but he is good with clients. He does have a really good client manner as well as being able to explain tricky and difficult things in lay terms."*

JUNIORS

Emily Campbell is a trusts and tax specialist who has a broad practice. *"Emily is an excellent barrister – clever and a pleasure to work with,"* says one interviewee. *"Emily is my go-to counsel for any complex tax or trust issue,"* says another.

Band 3

Field Court Tax Chambers

Field Court Tax Chambers' members handle a range of tax matters. *"The tax chambers has a wide range of barristers who can give advice on most areas of tax,"* says an interviewee. Another reports: *"The set is definitely easy to work with: its clerks are great, and they do updates regularly which are very technical and really well written."*

Marie Burke is the set's practice manager and Stephanie Talbot is assistant practice manager. A source says: *"They've always been very responsive and helpful."*

SILKS

Philip Baker QC has an *"extremely broad and deep knowledge of cross-border tax issues,"* according to one source. Another says: *"He is the doyen of international tax advisers in the UK, knows more about double tax treaties and relief than anyone else. Very thorough and engaged, he's very constructive in working with us to create the written arguments and his pleadings before the court were very helpful. His advocacy was excellent."*

Patrick Way QC regularly acts for high net worth individuals on tax matters. One source says they *"always have the highest regard and professional respect for Mr Way,"* explaining that *"his advice is second to none."*

JUNIORS

Imran Afzal is *"a very talented junior with great attention to detail in relation to tricky points of tax law,"* says a source. Another describes Afzal as *"very strong technically,"* and says he *"drafts excellent, clear submissions."* A fellow barrister reports that *"he's brilliant and extremely good on his feet. He's extremely bright."*

Patrick Soares advises on a wide range of tax issues. He is known for his advisory practice.

Peter Vaines wins praise for his *"good level of knowledge and practical approach."* One interviewee says: *"Peter Vaines has given us fantastic advice and the service is par excellence."* Another reports: *"I find Peter very easy to work with, clear and practical. I would certainly instruct him again."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Jonathan Bremner QC of One Essex Court has a strong private client tax practice. He is *"very composed and able to put you at ease,"* according to one source. Another reports that he is *"excellent working with clients in conference; not overly technical and he gives pragmatic advice. Importantly for me, he doesn't just tell the clients what they want to hear; he interrogates the fact pattern."*

Julian Ghosh QC of One Essex Court *"is highly, highly technical, very, very detailed and thorough,"* says a source; *"he is fantastic."* Another describes him as *"our go-to tax counsel."*

Christopher McCall QC of Maitland Chambers is a very well-respected senior chancery silk. He also has considerable expertise on private client tax matters, as well as charity law.

Hui Ling McCarthy QC of 11 New Square *"is an absolute pleasure to work with,"* says an interviewee; *"her insights into complex and sometimes unfathomable tax legislation are stunning. She has the ability to get to the core of a complex issue and explain it in clear and concise language which is understandable both by the court and the client alike. As an advocate, she has the ability to put forward submissions logically and sensibly in a way that makes the answer obvious, even if in fact it is not."*

Jonathan Schwarz of Temple Tax Chambers specialises in international tax. One interviewee reports that *"Jonathan brings a good understanding of complex issues and his opinion is succinct and relevant."* Another says: *"His knowledge of tax in a cross-border situation is second to none. He is technically superb as well as extremely clear in his advice. I have worked with many barristers specialised in this field and in my opinion he is a leader in cross-border tax advice."*

Trusts Mediators

Trusts Mediators

Leading Individuals

Band 1

Allardice Miranda *5 Stone Buildings*
Burns Julia *Dove in the Room*
Keeley Mark *Freeths LLP*
Lowe Samantha *Concentus Mediation*
Marsh Matthew *3 Stone Buildings*
Plowman Martin *Mediation-1st*
Reed Penelope *5 Stone Buildings*
Rogers Beverly-Ann *Serle Court*

Band 2

Attree Rebecca *IPOS Mediation*
Edge Charlotte *5 Stone Buildings*
Jackson-Stops Mark *IPOS Mediation*
Jones Elizabeth *Serle Court*
King Michael *XXIV Old Buildings*
Rich Barbara *5 Stone Buildings*

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Ranked Lawyers

Miranda Allardice of 5 Stone Buildings is *"a leader in her field"* according to an interviewee. A respected traditional chancery barrister, she is also sought after in her capacity as a mediator. A solicitor reports: *"She is very hands-on and provides excellent advice and ongoing support, cutting to the heart of the matter swiftly and logically."*

Rebecca Attree of IPOS Mediation handles both domestic and international contentious probate matters, often involving high-value estates. Solicitors value her approach to these disputes; one notes that *"Rebecca has a calm, professional manner which provides a sense of trust in the knowledge in which she delivers,"* and another source reports that Attree is *"excellent on all fronts: commercially astute as well as sensitive to each party's issues."*

Julia Burns of Dove in the Room is *"a very competent mediator who leads the way on the work she does with clients pre-mediation,"* reports an interviewee, who explains: *"I have found that she saves significant time on the day by speaking with the parties in detail before the mediation and getting them to focus on a number of questions. This has always led to quicker mediations, where Julia can then use her knowledge and practical problem-solving techniques and focus on getting a deal."* Another source says that *"we put her forward a lot"* for mediations, explaining that *"she is good because she really understands the issues. She is still relatively junior in this area, but has a bright future ahead in this space."*

Charlotte Edge of 5 Stone Buildings practises exclusively as a mediator, drawing on expertise in chancery and Court of Protection litigation. *"Charlotte is really making a name for herself quickly,"* says a solicitor.

Mark Jackson-Stops of IPOS Mediation is a *"very seasoned litigator who has a number of tools at his disposal to help achieve a positive outcome,"* enthuses one interviewee. Jackson-Stops is often instructed to mediate family business, trust and inheritance disputes. Another source remarks: *"His general statesmanship and demeanour was impressive. He managed individuals well, and his communication was impressive. Most impressive was the ability to really get into the crux of the matter and help the sides to see different perspectives."*

Elizabeth Jones QC of Serle Court is sought after for complex trust dispute work that requires mediation. Jones has a *"unique approach that really achieves results,"* a source says, adding: *"I have been left very impressed."* A private wealth solicitor adds that Jones' technical ability is complemented by *"soft skills and emotional intelligence, which really places her as a strong mediator."*

Mark Keeley leads the private litigation team at Freeths LLP, and premier law firms across the UK regularly choose him to mediate contentious probate and trust disputes. *"We always think of Mark first when we have a mediation,"* reports one such solicitor, who adds: *"He is practical and lovely to deal with."* Another says: *"I am not sure I have ever had a failed mediation with Mark; his success rate is top. He pushes the right buttons at the right time. He is pretty much always on my shortlist for mediations."*

Michael King of XXIV Old Buildings is a distinguished chancery barrister who mediates trust, probate and estate disputes. A solicitor appreciates his approach in achieving results, remarking: *"He is calm, cool and collected. He always manages to get a settlement – he always seems to pull it out of the bag."*

Samantha Lowe of Concentus Mediation brings her background as a private client disputes solicitor to her mediation practice, often handling contentious probate disputes. Solicitors and clients speak very highly of Lowe. *"Samantha is probably my favourite mediator, she is incredibly popular,"* says one solicitor; *"she oozes emotional intelligence and understands that mediation is more than just the law."* Another source adds that Lowe *"quickly establishes a rapport with clients, reassuring them as needed and winning their confidence."*

Matthew Marsh of 3 Stone Buildings is an expert in trust and probate disputes. As a former Chief Chancery Master, he has considerable legal expertise that enables him to handle the most complex of disputes. An interviewee remarks: *"He is a good mediator; he has the gravitas and the right manner for it."*

Martin Plowman of Mediation-1st handles contentious probate matters, specifically Inheritance Act claims, as part of a comprehensive mediation offering. A solicitor hails Plowman as *"perhaps the Holy Grail of mediators"* who *"balances everything from gravitas, to empathy, to legal knowledge, to being able to look at things in different ways."* Another source says they *"can't speak highly enough of him,"* explaining that Plowman *"works so hard for the client and the case. He has a gravitas that you need for disputes; a highly skilled individual."*

Penelope Reed QC of 5 Stone Buildings is *"the doyenne of trust mediation, surpassing all the competition,"* a source enthuses. Reed often oversees 1975 Act claims involving the estates of high-profile individuals, as well as high value disputes around Court of Protection applications. A solicitor recognises that she mediates *"efficiently and sensitively,"* while another adds that she is *"the star of the mediator world."*

Barbara Rich of 5 Stone Buildings has a vibrant mediation practice. She oversees various types of trusts and inheritance disputes, which can involve issues of mental capacity. Solicitors agree that she is *"highly reputable"* as a *"strong and effective mediator."*

Beverly-Ann Rogers of Serle Court is a pre-eminent mediator, handling contentious probate and trust claims as well as beneficiary disputes. She is described as a *"go-to mediator"* by several private client solicitors; one interviewee adds that *"she is very well known and has been doing it a long time. She goes the extra mile even in tricky cases."*

Accountants & Tax Advisers

Accountants & Tax Advisers

Leading Firms

Andersen
BDO LLP
Blick Rothenberg
Buzzacott
Crowe U.K. LLP
Deloitte
Dixon Wilson
Evelyn Partners
EY Frank Hirth
KPMG LLP
Rawlinson & Hunter
Saffery Champness

Leading Individuals

Brennan Lucy *Saffery Champness*
Clark Helen *Dixon Wilson*
Coker Akin *Buzzacott*
Egan Trevor *Buzzacott*
Grist Ben *Dixon Wilson*
Nelberg Julian *Andersen*
Privett Graeme *Rawlinson & Hunter*
Shah Nimesh *Blick Rothenberg*
Younger Iain *EY Frank Hirth*

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Andersen

Andersen are well known for advising high net worth individuals and families on a range of matters.

Key contact:
Julian Nelberg, Head of Private Client

BDO LLP

BDO has a strong accounting presence in the UK and internationally. *"They provide great and efficient services with fantastic technical knowledge,"* says one interviewee.

Fiona Hall in the firm's Belfast office is *"an expert in IHT,"* remarks a local source, adding: *"I would have the most faith in her advice and wouldn't hesitate to recommend her."*

Blick Rothenberg

Blick Rothenberg is widely regarded for providing *"a strong US tax offering"* for high net worth clients in the UK. The group often handles cross-border tax matters for domestic and international high net worth clients.

Key contact:
Nimesh Shah, CEO

Buzzacott

Buzzacott is a highly regarded accountancy firm that assists high net worth clients on a full range of matters, with particular expertise handling US/UK tax.

Key contacts:
Akin Coker, Partner and Head of Private Clients
Trevor Egan, Partner

Crowe U.K. LLP

Crowe is well recognised across the UK for its private client offering. The team advises high net worth individuals and families on a wide range of matters including tax, succession and compliance.

One interviewee praises Rebecca Durrant, saying: *"Crowe and in particular Rebecca Durrant have the ability to deliver complex advice to clients in a manner which they can understand and then project manage the implementation to ensure everything goes smoothly. The technical nature of the advice is a given, but they give proper advice to the client rather than options, making it easy for the client to understand the best way forward."*

Deloitte

Deloitte has a well-known private client practice and provides accounting, auditing and tax services to high net worth clients and their businesses.

Dixon Wilson

Dixon Wilson has an excellent reputation for providing accounting and tax advice to clients in the UK. They are particularly well regarded by interviewees for their expertise in the private client space.

Key contacts:
Helen Clark, Partner **Ben Grist**, Partner

Evelyn Partners

Smith & Williamson, which recently rebranded to Evelyn Partners, is a well-recognised firm in the UK market. The team advises high net worth clients on a broad spectrum of matters including tax and succession planning. *"They are excellent, really first-class,"* says a source, adding: *"They are big players on the estates side."*

EY Frank Hirth

Highly regarded US/UK tax specialists Frank Hirth merged with EY in 2021. The team is very visible in the US private client space and remains well regarded for US/UK work.

Key contact:
Iain Younger, Partner

KPMG LLP

KPMG has a dedicated private client team with in-depth experience advising high net worth individuals and families. The group is capable of handling a wide array of matters including tax and family office services.

Rawlinson & Hunter

Rawlinson & Hunter is well recognised in the UK for advising high net worth clients on tax and accounting matters. *"They are the main players in the private client space,"* says one interviewee, and another remarks: *"They have got really good people."*

Sources praise Graeme Privett. One source comments: *"He is a very technically able guy and good on client-facing work."*

Key contact:
Graeme Privett, Partner

Saffery Champness

Saffery Champness is *"a very good name in the traditional private client advisory space,"* says a source, adding: *"They have some heavyweight advisers."*

A market source says: *"They are a leading firm for big onshore private clients,"* and another interviewee states: *"They are big on landed estates and in rural areas."*

Key contact:
Lucy Brennan, Partner

Buying Agents

Buying Agents

Leading Firms

- Aykroyd & Co
- Black Brick Property Solutions LLP
- The Buying Solution
- Charles McDowell Properties
- Crown Mayfair
- Eccord
- Garrington
- Louise Hewlett Property Consultants Limited
- Mercury Homesearch
- Middleton Advisors LLP
- Nathalie Hirst Ltd
- Prime Purchase
- Property Vision LLP
- RFR
- Robert Bailey Property Limited
- Stroud & Fuller Property
- Turnbull Property

Leading Individuals

- **Bailey** Robert *Robert Bailey Property Limited*
- **Bond** Kate *Crown Mayfair*
- **Dell** Camilla *Black Brick Property Solutions LLP*
- **Eastwood** Philip *The Buying Solution*
- **Eccles** Jo *Eccord*
- **Hirst** Nathalie *Nathalie Hirst Ltd*
- **McGivern** Jeremy *Mercury Homesearch*
- **Meacock** Guy *Prime Purchase*
- **Rogerson** Richard *RFR*
- **Rogerson** Sophie *RFR*
- **Stroud** Alex *Stroud & Fuller Property*
- **Turnbull** Johnny *Turnbull Property*
- **Watson** Will *The Buying Solution*

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Aykroyd & Co

One industry insider describes Aykroyd & Co as *"very knowledgeable about the market"* and notes that *"it has great connections with agents and sellers."*

"Aykroyd responds very quickly to my emails and calls, and clients are very impressed by their professional but friendly approach," says a source. Another interviewee remarks: *"The team is faultless. They are prompt and efficient."*

Black Brick Property Solutions LLP

Black Brick Property Solutions is a well-regarded player in the market.

Sources highlight Camilla Dell as a highly recognised figure in the industry. *"Camilla is super famous, she's a star in the industry,"* says a source.

Key contact:
Camilla Dell, Founder

The Buying Solution

The Buying Solution is highly regarded and considered by a source to be *"at the top of the industry."* A market commentator states: *"They deal with a lot of celebrities and footballers. Clients love them."*

Several sources recommend Philip Eastwood for his expertise. Interviewees describe him as *"excellent"* and *"technically competent."*

Key contacts:
Philip Eastwood, Partner and Head of London
Will Watson, Partner

Charles McDowell Properties

Charles McDowell is highly respected for its expertise in the prime London property market.

"Charles is a proper heavyweight veteran of the London market," says a source, who adds: *"It is a very good business on the back of Charles' extraordinary ability to network."*

Crown Mayfair

Crown Mayfair advises clients on property acquisition in London and the Home Counties. The team has a notable affinity for working with overseas buyers.

Key contact:
Kate Bond, CEO

Eccord

Eccord, previously known as SP Property Group, advises clients on the acquisition of prime central London real estate. The founder, Jo Eccles, is highly regarded in the market for going the extra mile for her clients.

A source says: *"They have all their clients really organised and it's a seamless process to deal with them."*

Key contact:
Jo Eccles, Managing Director

Garrington

Garrington assists clients with property acquisitions in London and across the country.

An interviewee says: *"Garrington is a good firm with nationwide coverage."*

Louise Hewlett Property Consultants Limited

Louise Hewlett Property Consultants is acknowledged by market commentators for working *"at top end for private clients,"* and *"dealing with super prime property."*

Louise Hewlett is commended for having *"an amazing black book,"* and being *"excellent."*

Mercury Homesearch

Mercury Homesearch advises clients on high-value real estate acquisitions in prime central London.

Key contact:
Jeremy McGivern, Founder

Middleton Advisors LLP

Middleton Advisors is a *"very well-respected"* team of agents in the industry. *"It is an excellent team, heavily involved in London and countryside work,"* a source notes.

Nathalie Hirst Ltd

Nathalie Hirst advises clients on high-value property transactions in London. One interviewee reports that the team has a *"good reputation in the market,"* while another source suggests the team benefits from being *"independent and a big name."*

Nathalie Hirst is lauded by a market commentator, who says that *"she provides an excellent service to clients."* Another interviewee adds: *"She is incredibly professional and diligent."*

Key contact:
Nathalie Hirst, Founder

Prime Purchase

Prime Purchase is a well-established team of *"pure buying agents"* in this market. It advises clients on property acquisition in London and the countryside. Sources say that as an independent subsidiary of leading estate agency Savills, they are *"very good, the top team in the industry."*

Sources praise Guy Meacock for his *"hands-on"* approach with clients and also say: *"He is excellent, incredibly dedicated, and goes the extra mile."*

Key contact:
Guy Meacock, Director

Property Vision LLP

Property Vision is highly regarded amongst market commentators for its *"sheer quality."* An interviewee enthuses: *"Property Vision is the crème de la crème here."*

Another source enthuses: *"The team has been around the longest, they are a success story. They are the best in London and in the country."*

RFR

RFR was set up by former lawyers at a top-rated law firm. *"Their reputation precedes them, they are the leading property buying agents in the UK,"* saysa market commentator, who adds: *"RFR is very practical, accurate and diligent in their approach. They also have an ability with clients to build trust and be direct and honest with them when needed."*

Key contacts:
Richard Rogerson, CEO **Sophie Rogerson**, Managing Director

Robert Bailey Property Limited

Robert Bailey Property is *"a class act, a very good team, and doing the biggest deals,"* a source says, adding that *"they are tenacious and hard-working."*

The team has a *"traditional approach"* and *"provides a very personal service,"* according to market commentators.

Key contact:
Robert Bailey, Founder

Stroud & Fuller Property

Stroud & Fuller Property are regarded as top-tier agents in this space. A source says: *"Stroud & Fuller work easily with clients based overseas."*

Key contact:
Alex Stroud, Founder

Turnbull Property

Turnbull is a buying agent with an excellent reputation among market insiders. *"They have the top agents in this industry and they are who I would turn to if I was a client,"* says an interviewee.

Key contact:
Johnny Turnbull, Managing Director

Estate Agents

Estate Agents
Leading Firms
Aylesford International
Knight Frank LLP
Russell Simpson
Savills
Strutt & Parker
Wetherell

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Aylesford International

Aylesford International is highly regarded for its offering in London. *"Aylesford has historically been a very strong brand,"* explains one market insider, who adds: *"It is known for doing the bigger deals. They have a nice approach to handling clients."* Another reports: *"They are a small, efficient, personal and independent team."*

Knight Frank LLP

Knight Frank maintains its impressive reputation as one of the leading prime property agents in the London market, around the country and internationally. *"We see a huge amount of them in Chelsea and in Belgravia, Knight Frank has been seen on the biggest deals this year,"* reports a market commentator. *"They have a presence all over London, they are key players and have a solid brand,"* says a source, while another interviewee adds: *"Knight Frank dominate the market, they are giants of this world and do prime London and prime country work."*

Russell Simpson

Russell Simpson is an *"old family-run business who are doing great transactions in Chelsea,"* enthuses a source. The boutique, family-owned West London agency is also strong in Holland Park, Notting Hill and Kensington. A source says: *"Russell Simpson is very respected, I think they're a strong force, it's a family-run outfit and an incredibly hard-working team."*

Another interviewee notes: *"Russell Simpson is the best firm on the selling side, they are really strong and cover the whole price range – from small flats to massive houses. They look out for their clients very well."* This source adds: *"They are independent and have a discreet approach, which I really rate them for."*

Savills

Savills enjoys an excellent reputation for its offering across the prime property market. One market commentator says: *"It is a good team, they are a big name for a reason – they have the strength and depth,"* adding: *"They are doing huge and sophisticated deals in the market."*

One source says: *"They have been impressive, they make transactions much smoother for everyone."* Another source says: *"Savills are market leaders in the prime Central London market."*

Strutt & Parker

Strutt & Parker is a national agency with good coverage of the London market. One source says that *"they are very strong in London."*

"It is a team of fantastic agents, in terms of quality and the houses they get. Also, the knowledge they have over there is to be commended," says one interviewee, while another source adds: *"They are incredibly knowledgeable and useful in transactions."*

Wetherell

Wetherell is well known in the prime and ultra-prime residential property market. *"It is very strong in the Mayfair area especially,"* says a source.

Sources praise Peter Wetherell. A market commentator says: *"He is a fantastic agent, niche but excellent."*

Financial Planning & Pensions

Financial Planning & Pensions
Leading Firms
Brewin Dolphin
Crowe Financial Planning UK Limited
Investec
Irwin Mitchell
Rathbones
Tilney Group
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Brewin Dolphin

Brewin Dolphin is well regarded in the market for offering high net worth clients a wide array of financial planning services.

"I rate both their technical expertise and their client-care approach," says an interviewee, who adds that *"they're a real mainstay of the private wealth space."*

Crowe Financial Planning UK Limited

Crowe offers a wide range of financial planning services to affluent individuals, including retirement planning, pensions and investment services. *"Crowe is one of my go-to advisers for advice,"* says an industry commentator, adding: *"I have found them excellent to deal with on a variety of matters ranging in complexity."*

Investec

Investec provides financial planning and investment management services to high net worth individuals and families. *"I have worked with them quite a lot, and I would rate them highly. They're very much a fixture in the market,"* states an interviewee.

"They are very entrepreneurial and responsive with clients – I rate them," says another commentator.

Irwin Mitchell

IM Asset Management, which is part of Irwin Mitchell, provides a range of services to clients including financial planning, retirement planning and investment management. *"Irwin Mitchell are extremely supportive and provide excellent advice."* Interviewees comment on the team's client service and expertise. One source says that *"they respond extremely quickly"* and that *"their communication is excellent."* Another source notes: *"The team has a wide knowledge base and is able to call on specific expertise if necessary."*

Rathbones

Rathbones are well known for advising high net worth clients on a wide range of financial planning matters. The firm is respected by interviewees, and one source states that *"they're well thought of and clients tend to stay for many years."*

One market commentator observes: *"They're good and efficient and responsive."*

Tilney Group

Evelyn Partners, formerly Tilney Smith & Williamson, offers a range of services to high net worth clients including financial planning, wealth management and investment management.

A source says of the team: *"They have a really good, holistic approach and the advisers are very helpful."*

Private Banks

Private Banks

Leading Firms

- Arbuthnot Latham & Co
- C Hoare & Co
- Coutts & Co
- Goldman Sachs International
- Handelsbanken
- HSBC Private Bank (UK) Ltd
- JPMorgan Chase & Co
- Julius Baer International Limited
- UBS AG
- Weatherbys Group Ltd

Leading Individuals

- **Allatt** Sarah *UBS AG*
- **Bradshaw** Paul *HSBC Private Bank (UK) Ltd*
- **Franks** Jeremy *HSBC Private Bank (UK) Ltd*

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Arbuthnot Latham & Co

Arbuthnot Latham is well regarded for its UK banking services. The team also has particular expertise assisting Middle Eastern clients due to its strong presence in the UAE.

C Hoare & Co

Hoare & Co is well known for its private banking offering to high net worth and ultra-wealthy clients.

A market source explains: *"They are more flexible and get to know the private clients. It makes the process feel so much more bespoke and is very refreshing for clients."*

Coutts & Co

Coutts has a long-standing reputation for providing private banking services to wealthy clients.

A wealth professional states: *"They provide a good service. They are always diligent in their advice and service."*

Goldman Sachs International

International bank Goldman Sachs has a strong reputation among sources for dealing with some of the most high net worth clients and on their largest projects. A source notes: *"They have an immense reputation and capabilities."*

Handelsbanken

Handelsbanken has a significant presence throughout the UK. One interviewee comments: *"They are an excellent boutique for wealthy people, they provide an excellent service. They have a very hands-on and personal approach."*

HSBC Private Bank (UK) Ltd

HSBC is highly regarded for its private banking services, which it offers to domestic and international high net worth clients.

Head of Wealth Planning Jeremy Franks has a strong reputation, with one interviewee noting: *"He's excellent."* Paul Bradshaw is also praised by interviewees.

Key contacts:

Paul Bradshaw, Associate Director **Jeremy Franks**, Head of Wealth Planning

JPMorgan Chase & Co

JP Morgan enjoy an excellent reputation as a go-to private bank for high net worth clients. One commentator notes: *"They have a very comprehensive and well worked-out client offering."*

Another source observes: *"They have an excellent reputation and are advising the ultra HNW clients."* This source praises the team's *"finesse and personal touch."*

Julius Baer International Limited

Julius Baer has a long-standing reputation in the UK market for private banking.

"They are excellent," reports an interviewee, and another source explains: *"They have a very good reputation. They have a very good Scandinavian desk too. They are highly respected and do a good job. They have quality and quantity."*

UBS AG

UBS offers wealthy and ultra-wealthy families a range of private banking services. One source states: *"They have some really great technical expertise there."*

Another interviewee states: *"They have an amazing calibre of clients and are always a pleasure to deal with."*

Key contact:

Sarah Allatt, Executive Director

Weatherbys Group Ltd

Weatherbys has a long-standing reputation in the market for providing private banking services to high net worth clients. It has long been seen as the favoured bank of the British horse racing community.

One interviewee reports: *"Weatherbys are quite flexible and look to work with the client proactively."*

Wealth Managers

Wealth Managers

Leading Firms

- Cazenove Capital
- LGT Vestra LLP
- Rothschild Private Wealth
- Shard Capital Partners LLP
- Stonehage Fleming

Leading Individuals

- **Bailey** Tim *Cazenove Capital*
- **Barran** Nick *Rothschild Private Wealth*
- **Gladstone** James *Cazenove Capital*
- **Peterson** James *Rothschild Private Wealth*

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Cazenove Capital

Cazenove Capital is a strong choice for wealth management for high net worth clients. *"They're very slick, they mix elegance and professionalism and they have a very good reputation in the market,"* states a source.

Key contacts:

Tim Bailey, Portfolio Director **James Gladstone**, Head of Wealth Planning

LGT Vestra LLP

LGT Vestra is highly respected for providing high net worth clients with wealth management services.

A market source highlights the team's capabilities on the immigration and investor visa side, saying: *"They're very good."*

Rothschild Private Wealth

"They are very high calibre," states a source about Rothschild Private Wealth. Another source notes: *"They're really excellent and have got some very bright people working there who are lovely."*

Another interviewee says: *"They provide a very good service and care for clients. They have always had a very good name in the market."*

Key contacts:

Nick Barran, Managing Director **James Peterson**, Managing Director

Shard Capital Partners LLP

Shard Capital provides wealth and asset management services to high net worth clients. The team also provides an investor visa service to international clients.

Stonehage Fleming

Stonehage Fleming is well regarded in the market for advising high net worth clients on wealth man-

agement and investment management services.
One source explains: *"I have been really impressed, their whole offering is great, they know their stuff."*

Leaders' Profiles in UK

ABBOTT, Laura
Shoosmiths LLP, Birmingham
01926 883059
Laura.Abbott@wrighthassall.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Midlands)
Practice Areas: Laura is a solicitor in the Disputed Wills and Trusts team. Laura deals with disputes relating to wills, trusts and estates and in particular bringing and defending claims: •for reasonable financial provision pursuant to the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975; •regarding the validity of wills; •to resolve disputes between executors and trustees including seeking their removal; •relating to professional negligence in will preparation or estate administration; •concerning the interpretation, and rectification of wills and trusts; Laura also has niche experience in Presumption of Death Act 2013 applications and donatio mortis causa claims.
Career: Laura qualified in 2008 and joined Shoosmiths in June 2021.
Professional Memberships: Laura is a full member of STEP, the global professional association for those advising in private client work. She has also completed the ACTAPS education course for contentious trusts and probate practitioners and is a member of ConTra, the contentious trusts association.

ACHAMPONG, Jonathan
Wedlake Bell LLP, London
jachampong@wedlakebell.com
Featured in Real Estate (London)
Practice Areas: Jonathan is an award winning property solicitor and partner in the residential property team. While he handles a wide range of residential property transactions, a large proportion of his clients are high net worth individuals buying, selling, leasing or developing high value freehold and leasehold properties in central London and the Home Counties. Jonathan also specialises in acting for landlords and tenants dealing with lease extensions claims, collective enfranchisements claims and landlord and tenant matters (including breaches of covenant, licenses, and rights of first refusal). Jonathan regularly contributes to trade press on the issues affecting the residential property sector. He also lectures on property law, as well as career development, diversity and personal branding to help shape the future business leaders.

ADAMSON, Barry
Keystone Law, London
07759852379
barry.adamson@keystonelaw.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Barry is a private client lawyer with over 30 years' experience. His practice focuses on advising high net worth individuals and their families how best to arrange their affairs to best protect and organise them for future generations. This often involves advice on tax planning, wills and trusts (including their planning, creation, administration and winding-up). Barry also deals with the administration of substantial estates, often with an international element. Throughout his career Barry has acted for a wide range of clients including authors, farmers, entrepreneurs, actors, historians, musicians, fashion designers, magazine editors and theatre producers and in relation to a number of landed estates.
Career: Barry qualified as a solicitor in 1989. Prior to joining Keystone Law in 2019, he worked at the following firms: Moore Blatch Berkeley Law Maclay Murray & Spens Shoosmiths
Professional Memberships: Member of the Society for Trust and Estates Practitioners (STEP)

AGUILAR, Lisette
Keystone Law, London
+44 20 3319 3700
lisette.aguilar@keystonelaw.co.uk
Featured in Art and Cultural Property Law (UK)
Practice Areas: Lisette specialises in art-related disputes and transactions, and also has a general commercial litigation background. During her 12 years as a senior in-house lawyer at Sotheby's, Lisette worked on some of the most high-profile cases in the art world. Lisette's auction-house background has given her extensive experience of handling issues arising from questions of authenticity and attribution, provenance and ownership, World War II restitution, cultural property claims, export, loss and damage, and copyright, both in Europe and Asia. Lisette also advises on contracts relating to the purchase and sale of art, both at auction and privately, as well as settlement agreements and confidentiality agreements. She frequently works with private and corporate collectors, trustees and family representatives, artists and artists' estates, dealers, art advisors, museums and independent art experts.
Career: Lisette qualified as a solicitor in 2001. Prior to joining Keystone Law in 2019, she worked at the following firms: Sotheby's Office of the Parliamentary Counsel Slaughter and May

AHMED, Pervaze
Withers LLP, London
+44 (0)20 3755 5576
pervaze.ahmed@howardkennedy.com
Featured in Real Estate (London)
Practice Areas: Pervaze is a partner in the private client team. Pervaze advises on all aspects of residential property in England and Wales. He has a diverse client base ranging from overseas investors, high-net-worth individuals and their companies, to trust companies, trustees, investment companies, trading companies, and banks. He purchases or disposes of prime or super-prime residential property predominantly in London, often involving complex offshore structures and time sensitive lending requirements. As a result of his extensive experience dealing with trustees and trust companies in the Channel Islands and British Virgin Islands, he seamlessly navigates the regulatory and fiduciary requirements specific to the region when acting on multi-jurisdictional transactions. He also has strong connections throughout the UK and overseas, particularly in the Middle East and South East Asia.
Career: Pervaze joined Withers in 2022.
Professional Memberships: The Law Society

ALI, Sarfraz
Withers LLP, London
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Having spent his entire career to date working with some of the most pre-eminent practitioners in generations before him, Sarfraz has accrued significant expertise across the whole spectrum of family law work. He has particular experience advising HNW and UHNW clients on complex, and often international, financial disputes arising on divorce/separation, nuptial agreements, contested children matters and cases concerning the international relocation of children. Combining a broad strategic focus with impeccable attention to detail, Sarfraz has a formidable track record in delivering solutions for his clients even in the most financially and emotionally complex cases. Sarfraz's aim in all cases is to diffuse conflict and resolve issues in his client's best interests. He is a strong proponent of alternative forms of dispute resolution but also an extremely talented litigator who will fight his client's corner where necessary to achieve a positive outcome.
Professional Memberships: Resolution YResolution (Sarfraz sits on the National Committee)
Publications: Sarfraz has written for a number of publications on a wide variety of family law issues, including The Independent, The Family Law Journal and AIAF Magazine.

ALLAN, Edward
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
eallan@boodlehatfield.com
Featured in Real Estate (London)
Practice Areas: Edward is a Partner in the residential property team. He has experience in all aspects of residential property work including listed buildings and new prime London apartments. He focuses in particular on the prime and super prime ends of the London and country property markets and regularly assists individuals who are purchasing, selling, mortgaging or letting high value homes, investment properties or country houses. Edward also advises both landlords and tenants in respect of statutory lease extensions in some of the most desirable parts of London. He works hand in hand with our private client and corporate teams in structuring transactions in a tax efficient manner.

ALLFREE, Tom
Wedlake Bell LLP, London
Featured in Real Estate (London)
Practice Areas: Tom's practice covers all aspects of residential conveyancing, acting for UK and overseas individuals, estates, companies, banks and funds advising on disposals and acquisitions of freehold and leasehold properties as well as general landlord and tenant issues.

ALLISON, David
Family Law in Partnership LTD, London
0207 420 5000
dna@flip.co.uk
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: David is a director at Family Law in Partnership. He acts for a wide range of individuals including business owners, entrepreneurs, bankers, other lawyers and their partners. The focus of his practice is financial claims on divorce, particularly those with an international element, but he is also well known for his expertise in

the legal issues affecting cohabitants, same sex couples and civil partners. David was named Family Law Partner of the Year at the Family Law Awards 2019. David settles the vast majority of his cases outside the Court process but where cases have to go to court he is a determined and effective litigator. His goal is to achieve the best outcome for his clients and to do so in a way that produces an efficient, fair and positive result.

Professional Memberships: International Academy of Family Lawyers, and chair of the LGBT committee. UK & Ireland LGBT Family Law Institute. Former chair of the International Family Law Committee of the American Bar Association, International Section. Past chair of Resolution, the family lawyers association. FMA senior mediator status. Resolution collaborative specialist.

ANNETTS, John
Howard Kennedy LLP, London
02037555362
john.annetts@howardkennedy.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Practice Areas: John specialises in the administration of high-value and complex estates, often containing business assets and offshore elements, guiding executors through the practical complexities of the estate administration process. As part of his estate administration work, he advises on post-death planning and tax mitigation opportunities using deeds of variation and the restructuring of assets, for example, private company shareholdings. He acts for high net worth individuals and families on their lifetime UK tax and estate planning, which often involves preparing complex wills and creating trusts to fully utilise various tax exemptions and reliefs and to protect family assets for future generations. John advises UK trustees and beneficiaries on both trust law and taxation issues related to the general administration of trusts and the exercise of the trustees' powers. He also deals with matters involving the Office of the Public Guardian, including preparing and registering lasting powers of attorney.

Professional Memberships: Chartered Institute of Taxation; Association of Tax Technicians; Private Client Section of the Law Society.

ARCHER, Clare
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP, London
020 7457 3251
clare.archer@penningtonslaw.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Practice Areas: Clare's focus is on relationships with landed and business families, including some of the firm's longest standing clients. She advises on generational planning and governance often to avoid disputes.

Professional Memberships: Clare is Editor in Chief of "Family Offices: The STEP Handbook for Advisors" and an active member of STEP having been the chair of the contributors for the STEP UK and England and Wales Yearbooks since its inception. She is also a member of ACTAPS.

ARR, Jonathan
Macfarlanes LLP, London
44 (0)20 7849 2810
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Career: Jonathan specialises in international contentious trust, probate and succession disputes, high-value family disputes and commercial litigation. He acts for high-net-worth individuals from the UK and around the world, trustees, protectors, wealth managers and multinational businesses. Jonathan has a wealth of experience litigating in both UK and international courts, including Bermuda, the Cayman Islands, BVI, Jersey, Guernsey, Singapore, the Isle of Man and Mauritius. He acts on the full range of matters affecting private clients and their structures, including: applications to deal with mistaken advice or flawed decisions by way of rectification or revocation; breach of trust claims; fraud claims; disputes between family members regarding their interest in family trusts and the operation of underlying corporate entities; trustee directions and court approval/blessing applications; advice about and disputes involving loss of capacity by family members or fiduciaries; challenges to wills and Inheritance Act claims; and art and cultural property disputes. He has particular expertise resolving difficult and long-running disputes between beneficiaries of both English and offshore family trusts owning large multinational businesses. As well as acting in court and arbitration proceedings, he has also advised clients in numerous successful large-scale settlement negotiations and mediations, particularly in the context of family disputes. Jonathan is a member of the Association of Contentious Trusts and Probate Specialists. His work helping clients resolve mistakes and undo their consequences means Jonathan frequently acts for claimants on professional negligence claims. He also regularly acts for clients in commercial litigation, with particular expertise in disputes involving breaches of fiduciary duty and conspiracy, including high-value employment disputes in the High Court and employment tribunals, and associated internal investigations.

ARTHUR, Saskia
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
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Featured in Real Estate (London)

Practice Areas: Saskia has a diverse client base and wide ranging practice focusing on the residential, rural and landed estates sectors and advising on all areas of property law that impact on high net worth individuals, large land owners and estates. She heads the firm's residential practice and acts for both domestic and foreign nationals and works closely with our tax, private client and corporate teams on the often complex arrangements surrounding such transactions. With a number of urban and country estate clients, along with property investors and private clients, she acts on all major property matters including sales and purchases of high value residential property, landed estates and commercial farming operations, overage arrangements, landlord and tenant issues (whether residential, commercial or agricultural), easements, first registrations, sporting and telecommunications, together with the ongoing day to day management advice on a myriad of issues. She regularly acts on acquisitions and purchases of the most expensive land, farms and residential properties and estates in England.

ASPDEN, James
Wilsons, Salisbury
01722 427 677
james.aspden@wilsonsllp.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (The South)

Practice Areas: James is a partner, and specialises in resolving trust and probate disputes. James' work ranges from claims concerning the validity and effect of wills, claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975, undue influence and equitable claims, to actions by or against trustees of landed estates and international trust disputes. He regularly acts for clients in mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution. James is currently ranked band 1 for Private Wealth Disputes The South in Chambers High Net Worth Guide and band 4 for Charities UK-Wide in Chambers Guide. James' best known case is Ilott v Mitson where he acted for the defendant charities, including in their successful appeal to the Supreme Court in 2016/17. Recent reported cases include James v James [2018] EWHC 43 (Ch) and Habberfield v Habberfield [2018] EWHC 317 (Ch). These two decisions are regarded as illustrating the two different approaches to estoppel that currently prevail – quasi-contractual vs relief-based – and the Habberfield case was considered by the Court of Appeal for 2 days in May 2019, tackling a number of important questions about the scope of the court's powers when using estoppel remedies.

ATKINSON, Toby
Stewarts, London
020 7822 8000
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)

Practice Areas: Toby advises clients in relation to a broad range of family law issues arising on the breakdown of marriage or cohabitation, with an emphasis on the financial claims that arise on divorce. He has particular experience of international cases, often involving jurisdiction disputes. Toby has significant expertise in cases concerning highly contested contact arrangements. He is an experienced practitioner in the field of international child abduction and is regularly instructed in cases concerning applications under the Hague Convention, applications for permission to relocate and decisions about a child's habitual residence. On the non-contentious side, Toby regularly advises in relation to pre-nuptial and post-nuptial agreements, cohabitation contracts and asset protection.

Career: Toby graduated from Edinburgh University in 2001. He joined Stewarts from Charles Russell Speechlys in 2015.

Professional Memberships: Toby is a committed member of Resolution, having been on the London Young Resolution Committee for several years.

Publications: Toby is a regular contributor of articles to legal publications and the wider media, and has been featured in the Times, the Financial Times, Spear's, Citywealth and the New Law Journal.

BAILEY, Hayden
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
020 7079 8235
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Practice Areas: Hayden has an extensive range of private client and tax planning experience and advises entrepreneurs, family business owners and city executives on their UK capital taxation strategy, wills, trusts, life assurance based products, partnerships, shareholder issues and corporate governance. Hayden also advises non-UK domiciliaries on their UK taxation exposure and asset holding structures and Family Office arrangements.

Professional Memberships: Committee member of the City branch of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP); Committee member of the TAGLaw/TIAG International Tax Group Steering Committee; Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) (STEP student liaison officer); Chartered Institute of Taxation

BARCLAY, Piers
Macfarlanes LLP, London
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Career: Piers is the head of private client. Piers specialises in succession, tax and estate planning advice for individuals and their families as well as related advice to trustees and other private client service providers, such as family offices. In addition to UK-based clients, much of his work has an international element, including structuring multi-jurisdictional estates, using trusts in civil law and Shari'a law countries and advising non-UK trustees on tax and fiduciary matters. He has experience in UK pre-arrival planning for non-domiciliaries, remittance basis advice and the implementation of trusts, wills and associated mechanisms on arrival, both for entrepreneurs and for other high-net-worth individuals. Piers is also involved in the post-death administration of estates, both in the UK and in the international context. Before becoming a partner, Piers spent six months on secondment in the trusts department of a leading international law firm. Piers is ranked as a Tier One adviser in the UK and Global editions of the independ-

ent Chambers guide and as a leading individual in the UK Legal 500 guide. He has been recognised in the eprivateclient 2021 50 Most Influential list and is recommended in the 2021 Private Client Global Elite guide.
Professional Memberships: STEP (Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners)

BARK-JONES, Giles
Bark&co, London
020 7353 1990
gilesbark-jones@barkco.com
Featured in Financial Crime (UK)
Practice Areas: Giles Bark-Jones has defended clients in many of the largest white-collar crime and fraud cases of recent times. His impressive track record and wide experience includes representing high-net-worth individuals in prosecutions and investigations brought by the SFO, the FCA, HMRC and other bodies. Giles's track record includes the SFO investigation into Rolls-Royce, acting for a number of key individuals; R v Asil Nadir (an SFO prosecution involving allegations of theft from Polly Peck International); and the Adoboli case (involving a US$2.3bn trading loss fraud at UBS). Other recent highlights include acting for three-time Wimbledon champion Boris Becker in relation to criminal charges brought by the Insolvency Service following his bankruptcy, and acting for the Prime Minister of Northern Cyprus in connection with the Polly Peck/Asil Nadir case. On the tax side, Giles has a similarly impressive record including a substantial MTIC fraud case involving an OCG; an £800m international tax fraud; and a case involving NCA / SKAT (Danish tax authority) investigations into a £1.5bn fraud against the tax authorities in multiple jurisdictions. Giles is an expert in serious general crime as well as criminal fraud, and his practice includes high-profile murder/manslaughter cases and cases involving offences under anti-terrorism legislation.

BARKER, Sarah
Withers LLP, London
020 7597 6838
sarah.barker@withersworldwide.com
Featured in Art and Cultural Property Law (UK)
Practice Areas: Sarah has been advising clients in the art sector for nearly twenty years. Sarah is a Partner in Withers' Business Division, and assists her clients with all their art business-related matters; both advisory and transactional. She is deeply immersed in the art and luxury goods industries working with artists and their estates, collectors, galleries, agents, brokers, and other industry players, as well as luxury brands on all their business matters. As part of her role as trusted adviser to artists and entrepreneurs, Sarah frequently helps her clients reach a solution in times of dispute. Sarah is a frequent panel speaker, and her views on art law and business have been sought by various publications including the Financial Times and Bloomberg Law. She is a regular contributor to Apollo Magazine, and has lectured at the Sotheby's Institute of Art.
Professional Memberships: Member of PAIAM , AWITA and the Institute of Art & Law.
Personal: Sarah sits on the Advisory Council for ArtClear and sat on the Advisory Council for CIRCA Art. She is the former Chairman of the RA Schools' Patrons Committee, and sat on the Arts & Heritage Giving Committee for one of the UK's largest philanthropic foundations.

BASHA, Hanna
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
2074654371
hbasha@phb.co.uk
Featured in Defamation/Reputation Management (UK)
Practice Areas: Hanna specialises in defamation, privacy and breach of confidence, with a wealth of expertise in reputation and crisis management. Hanna is highly regarded within her field having acted in a number of landmark defamation and privacy cases. She represents prominent and high net-worth individuals and corporates seeking to prevent the publication of private and sensitive information and defamatory allegations. In particular, Hanna focusses on media and crisis management and advises clients on strategies for preventing and dealing with significant reputational attacks. She is able to put a responsive strategy in place quickly and effectively when clients are facing unwanted media attention. She skilfully manages media storms.
Career: Qualified 1999: Solicitor Schillings; Partner Carter-Ruck; Partner Payne Hicks Beach.

BERMAN, Helena
Stephenson Harwood LLP, London
020 7809 2196
helena.berman@shlegal.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Helena has over 20 years' experience in complex high value contentious trust disputes. Helena is recognised as a leading industry figure and is regularly called upon by clients and peers for opinions on some of the most complex contentious issues, both on and offshore. Helena acts for HNW individuals, entrepreneurs and families helping them to resolve and sensitively deal with the whole range of disputes that can affect them, from 'the cradle to the grave'. Such disputes can relate to issues involving the businesses they run, the trusts they have set up, issues between family members/beneficiaries and disputes that arise on death and on divorce. Helena also advises trustees and financial institutions in relation to these same issues and the professional advisers who provide services in relation to these matters, and she has a particular expertise in both bringing and defending claims for professional negligence against these professionals. Helena has acted on a number of high profile reported cases and has successfully challenged orthodox thinking on important issues such as the law of limitation and construction of trust documents. She is also experienced in advising HNW clients in relation to recovering misappropriated trust assets in multiple jurisdictions.

BERRY, Andrew
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
0207 465 4300
aberry@phb.co.uk
Featured in Real Estate (London)
Practice Areas: Andrew has an excellent reputation in the purchase, development and disposal of high value residential property and farms where his knowledge is vital to the firm's clients who rely on him to find solutions. His in-depth knowledge of the prime central London market has increasingly led to him being instructed in many high value residential property deals for both on-shore and off-shore clients. Andrew is best known in prime Central London where for those foreign investors, whose private offices are unfamiliar with the nuances and, as important, style of this increasingly international enclave, he is able to fulfil the role of both ambassador and decision maker, coordinating everything from appointing professionals, negotiating the price, instructing contractors, to employing staff. "He makes one feel comfortable and relaxed with his strong family values and sense of continuity" (Quote from client)
Career: Qualified 1984, joined Payne Hicks Beach 1982, partner 1987.

BISHOP, Andrew
Shoosmiths LLP, Northampton
3700865634
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (North West)
Practice Areas: Andrew is a Solicitor in the Personal Advisory Division based in Manchester. Andrew qualified in March 2016 and joined Shoosmiths LLP in summer 2017. He is recognised by Legal 500 as "tremendously hardworking, knowledgeable" and "one to watch". Andrew deals with disputes relating to wills, trusts and estates and has particular experience with claims relating to: •failure to make reasonable financial provision under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975; •claims relating to the validity of a will; •removal of Executors and Trustees; •claims for the interpretation and correction of wills and trusts; •executor disputes; and •professional negligence claims. Andrew has acted for clients nationally and overseas. He takes instructions from those disputing estates and also those defending their interests. Andrew also advises high net worth and high profile individuals and is also able to act for corporate clients such as Trustees and Charities, or other companies that are in dispute over their rights to estate assets or monies owed. Andrew's notable experiences include: •successfully acting for a client in a multi-million pound dispute in respect of their claim for further provision from a relative's estate; •attending court personally to successfully obtain a final charging order to ensure recovery of costs from the defendant; •attending the district registrar personally to successfully obtain an order for estate accounts. This was significant to allow the client to understand the action taken by the executor to date; •acting in A v A over the entitlement to administer an estate. The Applicant was able to obtain a declaration that her marriage was valid, and therefore that the subsequent marriages were bigamous. •acting in Bullock v Denton which secured the right for reasonable provision from an estate. This case was the first authority that allowed recovery of a success fee. LLB Law, First class (The University of Liverpool). Legal Practice Couse, Distinction (The University of Law).

BISHOP, Camilla
Keystone Law, London
020 3319 3700
camilla.bishop@keystonelaw.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Brighton and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Camilla is an experienced lawyer who specialises in all aspects of estate planning with a particular focus on Inheritance Tax. As an expert in will drafting and the use of trusts along with trust administration, she provides practical tax-efficient solutions and deals with everything from everyday family needs to the very complex. Camilla is experienced in estate administration and probate, advising on reliefs and exemptions (including Business Relief and Agricultural Relief) and post-death planning using deeds of variation. Camilla's expertise also extends to assisting elderly and vulnerable clients with lasting powers of attorney, deputyship applications and other Court of Protection matters.
Career: Camilla qualified as a solicitor in 2010. Prior to joining Keystone Law in 2021, she worked at the following firms: DMH Stallard Irwin Mitchell Thomas Eggar
Professional Memberships: Camilla is a full member of the Society of Trust & Estate Practitioners (STEP) and is on the committee of STEP Sussex.

BISHOP, Gillian
Family Law in Partnership LTD, London
(0)20 7420 5000
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Gillian is a consultant and founding member of Family Law in Partnership. As an experienced family lawyer, Gillian wanted to create a firm for clients looking for a holistic approach to their divorce. Gillian's aim is to keep the family unit as amicably cohesive as possible. Gillian currently practises as a family arbitrator for children issues drawing on the considerable depth and breadth of her experience as a family lawyer to deliver outcomes for families. She also guides prospective clients to the specialists at FLiP best placed to support their family law needs.
Career: Founding member of Family Law in Partnership, 1995. Established FLiP Faculty, 2017.

Professional Memberships: Family Mediators Association. Resolution. Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. Institute of Family Law Arbitrators.
Publications: Author of "A Client's Guide to Collaborative Divorce – Putting Your Family First".

BLAKEMORE, Claire
Withers LLP, London
0207 597 6000
claire.blakemore@withersworldwide.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Claire gets to the heart of situations fast, giving reliable indications of best outcomes from the outset. She's strategic, commercial and practical but with strong emotional intelligence, understanding her clients wants and needs well. Recognising the need for new and flexible ways of resolving disputes, Claire created an innovative and unique method by which couples can reach resolutions in a non-positional way. Uncouple provides a means of reaching resolutions without going to Court and working in a solution focused way with couples, but determining issues quickly and privately, if agreement can't be reach. This award winning method was first for family law. Whilst Claire is a long standing mediator and collaborative practitioner, she identifies the best route to a resolution from the beginning and isn't shy of using her vast complex litigation experience, and taking a tough line in contested cases, when required. Whether working with clients, she deals with complex financial claims, children issues and pre/post-nuptial agreements. She has far-reaching knowledge of trust and divorce law and is regularly instructed on cases involving trusts, whether acting for one of the parties or for the trustees, either as part of the financial remedy proceedings or in respect of enforcement proceedings.

BLEAKLEY, Neil
Carson McDowell, Belfast
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Northern Ireland)
Practice Areas: Neil has significant experience in private client law. He provides specialist advice and assistance on a range of private client or personal legal matters, including wills and estate planning, probate and administration of estates, trusts and inheritance tax planning.
Career: Neil joined Carson McDowell as an apprentice in 1996 and qualified as a solicitor in 1998. From qualification, Neil has worked in the Private Client team, becoming head of the team in 2002.
Personal: Neil graduated from Queen's University, Belfast in 1995 with a degree in Law (LLB Hons.), before attaining a masters degree (LLM) in Computers and Law the following year, also from Queen's University, Belfast.

BLUNDELL, Neill
Macfarlanes LLP, London
0207 849 2209
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Featured in Financial Crime (UK)
Career: Neill is head of the firm's corporate crime and investigations practice. He is a specialist white collar defence and criminal investigations lawyer who advises both individuals and corporates on compliance, pre-investigations, investigations and prosecutions conducted by agencies such as the SFO, FCA, CMA, HMRC, NCA, Civil Aviation Authority and the CPS. He also assists in multi-jurisdictional investigations involving agencies such as the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and the FIOD (Netherlands), the US Department of Justice, the US Securities & Exchange Commission and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Neill has significant experience of acting for clients (both corporates and individuals) facing criminal investigations and prosecutions. He has been involved in some of the highest profile bribery investigations into BAE, Rolls-Royce and Airbus, as well as benchmark rigging (LIBOR) and the investigation into Barclays regarding the 2008 fund raising. He is also an expert on building anti-fraud, anti-bribery and Criminal Finance Act compliance programmes and in providing the training for clients in anti-fraud and culture awareness. Neill is a qualified solicitor-advocate.
Professional Memberships: Professional Memberships – Fraud Lawyers Association (Committee Member) – Proceeds of Crime Lawyers' Association – Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers – European Criminal Bar Association – European Fraud & Compliance Lawyers – International Bar Association

BOOTHMAN, Alex
Keystone Law, London
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Alex is a private client solicitor who specialises in advising private individuals in relation to all aspects of their personal affairs. Alex regularly advises on traditional UK tax planning, wills, trusts and estates. However, his particular expertise lies in advising high- and ultra-high-net-worth non-domiciled individuals and their advisors in relation to onshore and offshore tax planning, trusts, asset protection, wealth preservation, estate planning, and complex cross-border probate and estate administration.
Career: Alex qualified as a solicitor in 2013. Prior to joining Keystone Law in 2018, he worked at the following firms: Irwin Mitchell Berkeley Law

BRADBURY, Kathryn
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
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Featured in Immigration (UK)
Practice Areas: Kathryn practises across the spectrum of UK immigration and nationality law. She has extensive experience in applications under the investor, global talent, sole representative and innovator categories and associated applications for high net worth and high profile individuals. Her work in personal immigration extends to applications under the rules relating to partners, elderly relatives and children. She has significant expertise in applications for British citizenship and in complex applications and litigation.
Career: Ghersons 2001-2015; joined Payne Hicks Beach as a Partner in 2015.
Professional Memberships: Immigration Law Practitioners Association.

BRAITHWAITE, Matthew
Wedlake Bell LLP, London
44 (0)20 7674 0532
mbraithwaite@wedlakebell.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Matt advises a wide range of UK and international clients, from individuals, families, trustees, beneficiaries and family offices on a wide range of private client issues, including UK tax, estate and succession planning. Matt acts for high net worth individuals and families including business owners, professional executives and entrepreneurs. Matt advises on the establishment and use of trusts and other wealth holding structures, and also on the succession of family trusts and businesses and governance issues. He also advises on Wills and wider estate and succession planning issues.

BRAND, Emily
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
+44 (0) 20 7079 8168
ebrand@boodlehatfield.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Emily specialises in family law with particular expertise in complex financial proceedings, often with an international dimension. Emily's experience ranges from drafting pre and post nuptial agreements to litigating on children disputes in the High Court. Emily frequently advises on cases involving family businesses or private equity assets. She is widely respected for her combination of compassion for her clients' unique circumstances, and her astute ability for intelligent problem-solving.

BRANDIS, Matthew
B P Collins LLP, Gerrards Cross
01753 279039
matthew.brandis@bpcollins.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Thames Valley)
Practice Areas: In addition to commercial disputes, Matthew specialises in contentious probate matters, handling a range of litigation involving wills, trust and probate. He has a particular focus on contentious inheritance disputes, including the validity of testamentary documents, claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act 1975 and disputes regarding the administration of trusts and estates. Matthew is also a member of the Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS). His advice is sought by a large number of companies and individuals on a wide-range of disputes for over 22 years. Chambers UK notes that Matthew is "highly experienced" with a "reassuring and calming manner" an "ability to connect at all levels", "a steely opponent and someone who I can really trust to win" and "exceeding expectations". A client remarked to the firm that "Matthew is everything you want in a lawyer: expert, precise, detailed, always prepared, direct when needed, but professional at the same time. With common sense, a sense of humour and a refreshing ability to deliver no-nonsense, commercially sound guidance, that wastes neither your time nor money".
Professional Memberships: Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS) Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR)

BRANT, Nicola
Thomson Snell & Passmore, Tunbridge Wells
01892 701330
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Kent)
Practice Areas: Nicola is Head of the Estates, Tax & Succession department and is responsible for the management of three divisional teams: Wills, Estates & Tax, Trust & Tax Management and Probate. She has an extensive client base of high net worth individuals and families and a strong public profile. Nicola's particular expertise is in advising individuals and families on all aspects of estate planning, asset protection and associated Inheritance Tax, and Capital Gains Tax planning. Practise areas include: tax planning, wills, trusts and corporate structures. The administration of estates, trusts and philanthropy, powers of attorney and transactions requiring a notary.
Career: Nicola's advises on all aspects of estate planning, asset protection and associated tax. This includes advising on lifetime gifts, the creation/administration of trusts and other structures for protecting and passing on assets. As a Citywealth Leader Nicola has an extensive client base of high net worths', with leading banks, IFAs and big 4 accountants as regular referrers.
Professional Memberships: Member of: Society of Trusts and Estate Planning The Charity Law Association The Notaries Society. Nicola is also listed as a Citywealth Leader and sits on the council of the local law society.
Publications: Nicola is a past panellist of BBC Radio 4's Moneybox Live programme. Over the years Nicola has provided content for most national newspapers as well as specialist tax and trust publications.
Personal: Nicola trained at Thomson Snell & Passmore and qualified in 2000. For 15 years she worked for some prominent private client firms in both London and the South East before returning to Thomson Snell & Passmore.

BRAZIL, Shaul
BCL Solicitors LLP, London
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Featured in Financial Crime (UK)

Practice Areas: Shaul Brazil is a partner at BCL specialising in business crime and regulatory enforcement. Recommended in Chambers UK and Chambers HNW, he is also ranked as an expert in Who's Who Legal (Business Crime Defence and Investigations). Shaul specialises in acting for individuals and companies in complex cross-border matters. He has extensive experience advising on multi-jurisdictional corruption and fraud investigations, asset recovery proceedings (in the UK and overseas), and extradition proceedings (in particular, politically motivated requests). He has acted in numerous high-profile investigations and prosecutions brought by the SFO, US Department of Justice and many other UK and overseas enforcement authorities. Shaul also has broad experience acting in ancillary matters such as judicial review proceedings, FCA investigations and applications to Interpol for the deletion of notices or diffusions. He advises companies in relation to regulatory and criminal law issues such as anti-bribery and corruption and anti-money laundering compliance, data protection and responding to requests for assistance in law enforcement investigations.
Career: Called to the Bar 2003, trained QEB Hollis Whiteman Chambers and joined BCL Solicitors in 2007 becoming a partner in 2013.
Professional Memberships: International Bar Association; Fraud Lawyers Association; Defence Extradition Lawyers' Forum; Lincoln's Inn.
Publications: Shaul is frequently quoted in the press on Anti Money Laundering, banking and regulation. https://globalinvestigationsreview.com/article/1189557/euribor-%E2%80%9Cthe-senior-managers-should-have-known%E2%80%9D https://www.law360.com/financial-services-uk/articles/1142755/hard-brexit-could-put-chinks-in-uk-s-financial-crime-armor
Personal: Alleyn's School, London (1997), University of Bath (2001).

BREEZE, Clare
Macfarlanes LLP, London
020 7849 2404
clare.breeze@macfarlanes.com
Featured in Real Estate (London)
Career: Clare is a partner, co-head of the commercial real estate group, and head of the private client property group. Clare regularly advises investors, developers, private clients, family offices and funders on a wide variety of both domestic (UK) and cross-border commercial and residential real estate transactions with an emphasis on investment, development, leasing, joint ventures and real estate finance. Her sector experience includes prime residential, build-to-rent (BTR) and private rented sector (PRS), student accommodation, offices, retail, industrial, hospitality and leisure.

BRODRICK, Robert
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
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rbordrick@phb.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Robert advises on tax, trust and estate planning for wealthy individuals, their advisers and trustees. He acts for a wide range of clients including non-domiciliaries, international families with assets in multiple jurisdictions as well as UK based families and the owners of landed estates. Robert's practice is divided into three main geographic areas of clients: Middle East; US/UK and UK domestic (which also includes UK resident non-doms).
Career: Robert qualified in 1998, joined Payne Hicks Beach as a partner in 2012 and became Chair of the Management Board in 2019, having trained at Withers and been a partner at Trowers & Hamlins since 2007.
Professional Memberships: STEP

BROWN, Lucinda
BDB Pitmans LLP, Cambridge
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lucindabrown@bdbpitmans.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (East Anglia)
Practice Areas: Private Wealth Disputes
Career: Trained Hewitsons LLP, Qualified 2004, Partner with Hewitsons LLP 2010–2020 (HCR Hewitsons) , Partner and Head of Will and Trusts Disputes BDB Pitmans LLP 2020–present
Professional Memberships: ACTAPS, Law Society

BRUCE, Simon
Dawson Cornwell, London
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Simon has been practising for over 35 years, and regularly does the top cases. Almost uniquely, he has wide expertise in money and children cases. As well as his career at Dawson Cornwell, Simon works pro bono in family law clinics, where most of his work relates to child arrangements. His naturally empathetic and caring style is widely admired by clients, they can be reassured by his pragmatic approach to dealing with difficult situations, as well as his extensive experience. Simon always tries to reach a settlement in the quickest and most efficient possible way. He likes to be absolutely up to date with developments in family law–and has made new law, for example with prenups and postnups. He loves to mentor young lawyers. Simon is an experienced collaborative lawyer and trained mediator; he is a Resolution Accredited Specialist in Big Money cases and Emergency Procedures in financial relief cases. Simon speaks French, and has many international cases and contacts. He has good friends throughout the family law world.
Professional Memberships: Resolution, the International Academy of Family Lawyers (formerly sat on its Executive Committee), the Union Internationale des Avocats (UIA) (formerly being the elected President of its Family Law Commission).

BRUNSDON-TULLY, Matthew
Wedlake Bell LLP, London
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Matthew's background is as a family law barrister and litigator in financial remedies, private law children and jurisdiction disputes as a barrister at 1 Hare Court (Band 1). He moved to Forsters LLP in 2019 and then Wedlake Bell in 2022 and is now highly experienced at dealing with pre-nuptial agreements and cohabitation agreements. In addition he is a CEDR-trained mediator, and experienced at providing representation for clients within lawyer-led mediations and Private FDRs.

BUCKMASTER, Camellia
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
020 7465 4400
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Camellia advises on all aspects of family law including: complex financial disputes, divorce, co-habitation, pre/post nuptial agreements, and jurisdictional issues. She also advises in relation to disputes concerning children including living arrangements, international relocation and financial issues for married and unmarried parents (Schedule 1). Camellia was listed in the Citywealth Future Leaders Top 100: 2020 and shortlisted for Family Lawyer of the Year, senior/managing associate in the Citywealth Future Leaders Awards 2020.
Career: Camellia trained at Slaughter and May, qualifying in September 2014. She joined Payne Hicks Beach in 2016 and was promoted to senior associate 2018.
Professional Memberships: Camellia is a member of Resolution.
Personal: Camellia read Philosophy and Theology at Durham University

BURTON, Ian
BCL Solicitors LLP, London
020 7430 2277
ian.burton@bcl.com
Featured in Financial Crime (UK)
Practice Areas: Ian Burton is a senior partner and founder of BCL Solicitors. Having worked on most of the significant business crime investigations and prosecutions brought by the UK authorities over the last 25 years, he has unrivalled strategic judgement and experience. He is internationally recognised as the pre-eminent adviser in high-profile criminal representation. Ian has a reputation as a masterful problem solver providing discreet, prompt and clear advice to high-profile and high net-worth individuals, CEOs, corporations, heads of government and government bodies on complex and sensitive issues. His cases involve commercial fraud, international financial regulation, money-laundering, corruption, sanctions, price-fixing, extradition, tax and company investigations including acting in two of the largest back duty tax investigations ever conducted by the HMRC. Outside of the traditional areas of practice, Ian often works alongside high profile heads of corporations as a personal adviser; looking after their personal interests away from their obligations as a majority shareholder. His unique skillset and experience provides clients with the strategic oversight they often require, managing complex litigation including commercial and personal disputes, settlement negotiation and international, multi-jurisdictional arbitration. With a career spanning nearly 50 years, Ian has amassed a considerable network of skilled professionals to call upon including overseas lawyers, accountants, tax and media advisers allowing him to bring together the best team required, no matter the crisis or location for the client. "Ian Burton is probably the best white-collar criminal solicitor in London," enthuses a leading barrister adding: "He is the doyen of financial crime." "He's simply fantastic –he has an extraordinary wealth of experience to draw upon and the wisdom of Solomon," says a client. Another client comments: "Ian Burton has a huge and well-deserved reputation as the leading figure for high-profile criminal representation. He is a deep strategic thinker and has an unbelievable depth of experience." A market insider reports that "Over the years Ian has appeared in numerous cases working with high-profile politicians, businessmen and celebrities. He has vast experience and good judgement, he is an extremely safe pair of hands when it comes to managing complex or difficult cases."
Career: Trained Copeland Glickman qualified 1971; founded Burton Copeland 1982. Established Burton Copeland London in 1991, later becoming fully independent and named BCL Solicitors LLP.
Professional Memberships: International Bar Association; American Bar Association; Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers; Commercial Fraud Lawyers Association.

BYWATER, Russell
Dawson Cornwell, London
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: All aspects of family law, including complex money cases, private law children cases and non-marital law. Many of his cases involve cross-jurisdictional and international trust elements.
Career: Qualified in 1985, Partner at Dawson Cornwell since 1989. Reported cases: Villiers v Villiers [2020] UKSC 30; Hope v Krejci [2013] 1 FLR 182; Mittal and Mittal [2013] EWCA Civ 1255; Hope v Krejci and others [2012] EWHC 1780 (Fam); C v S (Divorce jurisdiction) [2010] EWHC 2676 (Fam); Re A (a minor) Abduction [1988] 1 FLR 365.
Professional Memberships: Law Society of England and Wales; International Bar Association.
Publications: Atkins Court Forms Butterworths.

Personal: Born 1960, married, three children, lives London and Carmarthenshire. Patron of Llandovery RFC. Season ticket holder Club Wembley, Barnsley FC and Yorkshire CCC.Member of Royal Overseas League (ROSL).

CAIRNS, Sarah
Shoosmiths LLP, Birmingham
03780 864 300
sarah.cairns@shoosmiths.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Birmingham and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Sarah advises clients in connection with wills, powers of attorneys, estate planning, the administration of trusts and estates, the constitution or winding up of nil rate band discretionary trusts and deeds of variation. She regularly deals with the administration of high value estates and has a wealth of experience in dealing with foreign, business and agricultural assets and in claiming the appropriate inheritance tax reliefs. Sarah has also dealt with insolvent estates and complex intestacies. Sarah's skills and experience enable her to advise effectively on complex family and financial circumstances offering an efficient and friendly service. She has well established clients who appreciate her straightforward, uncomplicated and personable manner resulting in loyal clients and referrals to their friends and family.
Career: Sarah trained and qualified at Thursfields in March 2007. Sarah joined Higgs & Sons in December 2008 and gained experience and a promotion to Associate there. Sarah joined Shoosmiths in September 2015 and became head of the Birmingham Wealth Protection team team in January 2018. She was promoted to Principal Associate in May 2020.
Professional Memberships: Sarah is a member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) having obtained full membership in 2011

CARLYON, Rebecca
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP, London
020 7753 7722
rebecca.carlyon@penningtonslaw.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Rebecca is a partner in the family department, advising on all issues arising from divorce and relationship breakdown, both financial and children related. She is experienced in drafting pre-and post-nuptial agreements, both domestic and international, and in resolving issues between unmarried couples. A member of Resolution, the leading association of family lawyers in England and Wales, she is also a trained collaborative lawyer. Highly regarded by clients and her peers, she is one of the few family lawyers to have been recognised by The Lawyer as a prestigious 'Hot 100' alumni. She is also listed in the Citywealth Leaders List. Her work includes acting in the reported case of AI and MT, where the High Court agreed to refer the children, divorce and financial issues between a couple to religious arbitration; advising the successful defendant in F v Y (Abduction: Acquiescence) involving an alleged wrongful removal of a child to Russia; and acting in Re: B (Children), one of the first reported Court of Appeal cases to focus on the English court's jurisdiction under Article 3 of the European Maintenance Regulation.
Career: Trained RPC; qualified 2004; Manches 2006; partner Manches and Penningtons Manches 2013.
Professional Memberships: Resolution; London Family Solutions Pod; AIJA.

CARR-WEST, Jo
Hunters, London
+44 (0)20 7412 0050
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Jo is a partner in Hunters' family team specialising in complex high value financial claims on divorce, with a particular focus on business, trust and inherited assets. Jo also regularly advises on wealth protection through nuptial agreements, as well as on claims arising on the breakdown of cohabiting relationships. Jo also has extensive experience advising on arrangements for children, with particular expertise on disputes relating to the international relocation of children. Attracting high profile clients and complex cross-border cases, Jo is regarded as a talented negotiator and litigator, known for her creative and solutions-focused approach, sensitivity and pragmatism. Jo received a Woman of the Year – Future Leaders (Gold) award at the Citywealth Powerwomen Awards 2020. Jo is a trained mediator and collaborative lawyer.
Career: Jo joined Hunters on qualification in 2004, becoming a Partner in 2016.
Professional Memberships: Jo is an active member of Resolution and sits on their Pensions Tax and Financial Remedies committee.
Publications: Jo contributes regularly to the legal and national press on family law issues.

CARROLL, James
Russell-Cooke, London
020 7405 6566
james.carroll@russell-cooke.co.uk
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Family law; married family, civil partnerships and same-sex relationships, cohabitation and property. Focus on international matters; tax, trust and businesses. Expert in pre-nuptial agreements. Strong reputation in resolving matters through constructive discussions; accredited mediator and collaborative family lawyer.
Career: Anthony Gold (qualified 2001), Campbell-Hooper (2001 to 2009: Partner), Russell-Cooke (2009 to date: Partner). Acted in the Chancery Law case of Ashby v Kilduff regarding the disputed ownership of a number of properties following the breakdown of a same-sex cohabiting relationship; the case of F v F (S intervening) relating to the husband's attempts to bankrupt himself to avoid his wife's financial claims; and leading case on nullity and Islamic marriages of El Gamal v HRH Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed al-Maktoum.
Professional Memberships: Law Society (member and former Chair of the Family Law Committee); Resolution; FMC; IAFL Fellow; Chair and Convener of the Family Law and Brexit Group; Member of the Editorial Board of the Practical Law, Family Division.
Publications: Co-author of The Law Society's Family Law Protocol. Lectured nationally and internationally. Regularly called upon by media outlets, e.g. the Today programme, the BBC, Sky, Channel 4 News, for comment on family law matters.
Personal: Shortlisted for Jordan's Publishing 'Family Law Partner of the Year' Award.

CARSON, Elizabeth
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP, London
0207 753 7409
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Dual qualified in England and Wales and New York, Elizabeth drives the team's US offering, focusing on the needs of HNW individuals with a US connection. The firm's US offering is an integral part of the firm's Private Wealth Group. Penningtons Manches Cooper is the only leading London family department to have a dedicated US desk, offering family and private client advice to HNW individuals with close connections to the US. Elizabeth was admitted as a fellow of the prestigious International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL) in May 2021 and has a thriving international practice including a significant amount of cross-jurisdictional work involving the USA and France, among others.

CASH, Michael
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP, Basingstoke
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (The South)
Practice Areas: Michael specialises in domestic and international trust and estate litigation including disputed wills, breach of trust claims, administration of estate disputes, and claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975. In addition, he advises on contentious applications in the Court of Protection, succession planning and acting for charities. He has also represented clients in numerous mediations, as well as reported cases, in getting their disputes resolved and regularly gives evidence as an expert witness in court proceedings outside the UK. Michael qualified in 1993, joined Penningtons Manches in 2002 and became a partner in 2003.
Professional Memberships: Michael is a member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP), the Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS) and the Charity Law Association.

CHAPMAN, Sophie
Stewarts, London
020 7822 8024
schapman@stewartslaw.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Sophie advises clients on a broad range of family law issues, including divorce and the financial consequences of relationship breakdown, pre-nuptial and post-nuptial agreements, and disputes between parents over the residence and contact arrangements for children, including applications by one parent for permission to relocate abroad. Sophie has particular experience representing clients in cases involving inherited wealth, family businesses and complex issues of valuation.
Career: Sophie trained and qualified as a family lawyer at Withers LLP. She also spent two years working as a philanthropy advisor in the High Net Worth team at King's College London.
Professional Memberships: Sophie is a member of Resolution.
Personal: Sophie is a keen runner and yoga enthusiast. She enjoys spending time in her garden and cooking for family and friends.

CHIMA, Mandeep
Shoosmiths LLP, Basingstoke
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Thames Valley)
Practice Areas: Mandeep qualified as a solicitor in 2003 and joined Shoosmiths in January 2013 and is a part of the Disputed Wills and Trusts team. She is also a member of the Shoosmiths Private Wealth team. Mandeep acts for claimants, defendants and executors in a wide range of disputes: •challenges to the validity of a will; •claims for reasonable financial provision under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act 1975; •professional negligence arising out of negligent will drafting or estate administration; •rectification and construction claims; •removal of executors; •trust disputes; and •proprietary estoppel claims. Mandeep's work highlights include: •acting for a claimant in a multi million pound dispute in a proprietary estoppel claim involving a family farm; •acting for a beneficiary of a multi million pound family trust where there was a dispute between the beneficiaries and trustees regarding the administration of the trust and maintenance of trust property; •acting for a claimant in a rectification claim where the will failed to give effect to the testatrix's intentions; •acting for a claimant in the removal of an executor of her late father's estate; •defending a claim for reasonable financial provision being made by a cohabitee; •acting for an adult child in a claim for reasonable financial provision; •acting for a claimant in a professional negligence claim arising out of the negligent administration of a trust; and •acting for a claimant challenging the validity of her late mother's will on the grounds of undue influence. Mandeep is based in

the Reading office but acts for clients nationally and internationally. Mandeep is a member of the Institute for Legacy Management (ILM).

CHISM, Debbie
Stewarts, London
020 7822 8023
dchism@stewartslaw.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Debbie's practice encompasses all aspects of family law (complex asset valuation, business interests, trusts and wealth protection structures). She advises regularly on international pre-nuptial agreements. One of Debbie's particular areas of expertise is collaborative law, having co-founded England's first multi-disciplinary group of collaborative professionals (Creative Divorce). Debbie acted for HRH Prince Louis of Luxembourg in the successful application for a reporting restrictions order relating to family proceedings – [2017] EWHC 3095 (Fam). Debbie also recently acted for the wife in XW v XH 2017 EWFC 76 (and XW v XH (No.2) (Reporting Restrictions Order) [2018] EWFC 44) in which the wife was awarded one of the highest recorded English divorce settlements. In addition the case dealt with issues of special contribution, privacy and whether foreign marital contracts should be treated as pre-nuptial agreements. Debbie recently represented the wife in her successful application for the continuation of the reporting restrictions order, exceptionally, in the Court of Appeal (XW v XH [2019] EWCA Civ 549).
Career: Debbie graduated from Oxford University (Jurisprudence) in 1990. Debbie was crowed Spear's Family Lawyer of the Year in 2019.
Professional Memberships: Debbie is a fellow of the International Academy of Family Lawyers and the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals.

CLARK, Fred
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
fclark@boodlehatfield.com
Featured in Art and Cultural Property Law (UK)
Practice Areas: Fred is an Associate in the Corporate team and merges his corporate and commercial expertise with his deep knowledge of the arts sector. He advises clients from the art and cultural property sector as well as entrepreneurs and privately held businesses. Fred's expertise covers the full spectrum of commercial art matters including sale and purchase agreements, consignment agreements, commission agreements, loans, terms of business and import and export matters. He also advises on M&A, debt and equity finance, shareholder and Board governance issues and other corporate and contractual matters.

COBB, Joe
JMW Solicitors LLP, Manchester
joe.cobb@jmw.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Manchester and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Joe Cobb is a Partner and Head of the Private Client Department in JMW's Manchester Office. His expertise relates to providing tax, estate and succession planning to ultra-high net worth individuals, institutional clients and entrepreneurs, with a focus on owner-managed businesses and corporate vehicles. He also has extensive experience advising on trust formation and administration, high value and international estate administration, and contentions trusts and estates. Joe's experience includes the following: ·Advising as to the restructure and sale of numerous family owned businesses taking into account ownership by family trusts, taxation considerations and the corporate issues which arise. ·Advising high net worth clients as to the formation of Family Investment Companies for tax mitigation. ·Administration of complex, multi-million pound, international and litigious estates. ·Advising non UK resident high net worth individuals on funding the purchase of UK properties and tax efficient structures, including advising on income tax, capital gains tax and inheritance tax implications of purchasing and owning assets personally or through various corporate structures ·Incorporation and registration of a new charitable companies and the establishment and registration of charitable trusts. Joe is a full member of The Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP).

COCKCROFT, Rebecca
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Rebecca is Co-Head of the Family department and her work covers all aspects of private family law. She has specialist experience in matrimonial finance often with international elements and children matters (Schedule 1 and relocation cases, as well as day to day children cases dealing with living arrangements and schooling issues). Rebecca is regularly instructed in City based divorces (receiving referrals from corporate law firms, leading investment banks and broking houses) and also represents wealthy London mothers, entrepreneurs and unmarried parents. Rebecca heads a strong team delivering a high-level service with astute financial acumen and exceptional emotional support to help clients through the difficult process of divorce/separation. Rebecca is collaborative in her approach but a skilful litigator when necessary. Rebecca tends to settle many of her cases outside of court to protect client privacy and confidentiality. She increasingly uses the forums of private FDRs and Arbitration. Quotes: ·"A star performer who has steadily built a stellar reputation and is razor sharp" – The UK Hot 100 Lawyers ·"Top Recommended Family Lawyer who is outstanding in field and a first rate lawyer with brilliant people skills" – The Spear's Family Law Index 2020
Career: Qualified 2000. Payne Hicks Beach 2014.

COLCLOUGH, Jonathan
BDB Pitmans LLP, London
0044 20 7783 3805
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (South Africa), Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Private Client: Wills and Estate Planning, International Tax and Estate Planning, and Wealth Structuring
Career: Nearly 20 years as a private client practitioner.
Professional Memberships: STEP, Law Society, Fiduciary Institute of South Africa

COLLINS, Richard
Keystone Law, London
020 3176 0556
richard.collins@keystonelaw.co.uk
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Richard is a highly experienced French-and German-speaking family lawyer who advises domestic and international clients on every aspect of family law including complex financial and business cases, private children issues, cohabitant disputes and cases involving offshore trusts and tracing assets. Richard specialises in cases which involve depression and mental health and addictive behaviour issues including alcoholism and substance misuse. He has particular expertise in civil partnership cases, UK and foreign child relocation cases, and cross-border jurisdiction disputes. He also advises those who are not married on disputes over property, child arrangements and financial claims for the maintenance of children. Richard's clients are a wide range of professionals in business, law and finance, individuals with private wealth, those in the arts, media and in the public eye and their spouses and partners. While experienced in complex claim litigation, he is also committed to dispute resolution solutions and is a trained collaborative lawyer and mediator.
Career: Richard qualified as a solicitor in 1996. Prior to joining Keystone Law in 2018, he was a partner at Charles Russell Speechlys from 2005.

COOK, Rachel
Peters & Peters Solicitors LLP, London
0207 822 7772
rcook@petersandpeters.com
Featured in Financial Crime (UK)
Practice Areas: Rachel is a senior solicitor specialising in corporate and financial crime (principally cases involving fraud, international corruption, tax enforcement and money laundering), serious general crime and regulatory enforcement. Rachel provides a range of crisis management services to individuals. She has significant expertise in criminal tax litigation and cases involving fraud, insider trading, anti-trust offences, money laundering and bribery. She is also experienced in dealing with foreign and cross-border investigations, including requests for mutual legal assistance, extradition and INTERPOL Notices. Rachel regularly acts for corporates, politically exposed persons and high-net-worth individuals.
Career: Rachel trained at Peters & Peters Solicitors LLP, qualifying in the firm's business crime department.
Professional Memberships: ·Association of Commonwealth Criminal Lawyers ·City of Westminster & Holborn Law Society ·Fraud Lawyers Association ·International Tax Planning Association ·Women In Tax ·Defence Extradition Lawyers Forum (DELF)
Publications: Rachel is a consultant editor for the Lloyds Law Review: Financial Crime. She is the author of numerous articles, including: ·"Aftermath – attention turns to Covid-relief abuse" Fraud Intelligence – November 2020 ·"The beginning of the end for Unexplained Wealth Orders?" Wealth Net – July 2020 ·"Unexplained Wealth Orders: what advisers must be aware of" International Adviser – May 2020 ·"HMRC may come knocking, but will corporates be ready?" Accountancy Age – March 2019 ·"Preventing corporates from evading taxes" FT Adviser – March 2019
Personal: Rachel is Of Counsel at Peters & Peters.

COOKE, Ian
Keystone Law, London
Featured in Real Estate (London)
Practice Areas: Ian is a Private Property solicitor with nearly 30 years' experience handling prime and super-prime London residential property transactions. He has advised some of the world's most powerful people investing in the London prime residential property sector on buying, selling and developing in London. Most of Ian's clients are international, and have included foreign royal families, country leaders, and the owners of successful businesses. As well as advising high-net-worth individuals, Ian advises major property companies. He has also assisted international banks with property finance deals. Ian is dual-qualified in England and Wales and in the British Virgin Islands. He often advises banks, companies and law firms on the ability of BVI companies to enter into property and other transactions.
Career: Ian qualified as a solicitor in 1993. Prior to joining Keystone Law in 2019, he worked at the following firms: Charles Russell Speechlys Norton Rose Fulbright

COPESTAKE, Emma
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
020 7693 5823
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Featured in Real Estate (London)
Practice Areas: Emma is a partner in the Property department. She advises on all aspects of residential property with particular expertise in landlord and tenant matters, leasehold enfranchisement development, complex funding arrangements, acting for clients from overseas and ancillary tax matters. Emma acts for high net worth private individuals, investors, developers, banks and institutions. She frequently acts for clients from overseas and often leads teams of advisers in a number of different jurisdictions.

Professional Memberships: The Law Society; The Arab British Chamber of Commerce.
Publications: Author – Hill & Redman's Law of Landlord and Tenant: residential tenancies precedents.

COURT, Oliver
Macfarlanes LLP, London
44 (0) 20 7849 2783
oliver.court@macfarlanes.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Career: Oliver advises individuals, families and trustees based in the UK and abroad on UK tax, estate planning and asset structuring. His clients range from UK families and executives to European and US entrepreneurs and their structures. Oliver specialises in advising on UK/US situations and spent time on secondment with the trusts and estates group of a leading New York law firm. He also works with families to establish and reorganise international family office and asset-holding structures and put in place family constitutions. Oliver is a member of the firm's trust and probate litigation group and has worked on large-scale trust litigation both in England and overseas.
Professional Memberships: STEP (Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners)

CRAIG, Jane
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP, London
020 7753 7533
jane.craig@penningtons.co.uk
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Jane specialises in the financial aspects of high value divorces and civil partnership dissolutions, complex disputes about residence, contact and other welfare issues concerning children, financial settlements for children of unmarried parents and disputes arising from the breakdown of cohabitation. Many of her cases have an international dimension. Jane is widely recognised as a leading individual in family law by the legal directories in which she is described as "very experienced and very good with clients" and is recommended for her "perception and good judgement". Super Lawyers magazine ranked Jane in the Top 100 and the Top 50: Women London Super Lawyers. She is also recognised by Best Lawyers International and appears on Citywealth's Power Women and Leaders' Lists (Honours). She has previously been shortlisted for the Citywealth Magic Circle Awards Woman of the Year Award.
Professional Memberships: A passionate campaigner for reform of the law relating to cohabitants, Jane was a member of the Law Commission's Legal Advisory Group when it reported on the law in this area. She is a member of Resolution's Cohabitation Committee; is editor and co-author of the Resolution Guide to Good Practice in Cohabitation Cases and a co-author of Resolution's Cohabitation Agreement Precedents. Along with other members of the committee, she is currently drafting precedents for the forthcoming publication 'Separation Agreements for Cohabiting Couples'. She chaired the Family Justice Council's Children in Families Committee and was responsible for the "Everybody's Business" report which led to a change in the law relating to child contact and domestic violence. Jane has recently been invited to join a new Family Justice Council financial remedies working group, chaired by Mr Justice Peel, the High Court Judge Member of the Council which commences work in January 2022. Former national Chair of Resolution, the country's leading family law organisation. Fellow of the International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL) Appointed the first Private Law Solicitor Member of the Family Justice Council which advises the government on family law issues. This was a public appointment.
Publications: Contributor: Family Justice Council's 'Sorting out finances on divorce' Editor and co-author: The Guide to Good Practice in Cohabitation Cases

CROSSLEY, Dominic
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
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Featured in Defamation/Reputation Management (UK)
Practice Areas: Dominic specialises in the law of privacy, breach of confidence, defamation and harassment but his practice covers a wide range of different practice areas. Dominic has acted in leading cases for well-known actors, preeminent businesspeople, prominent politicians, sportspersons and musicians. Dominic's work is often highly confidential however instructions in the public domain include: the Leveson Inquiry (he acted for all 53 "Core Participant Victims"), Max Mosley's claim against News Group Newspapers, Issam Hourani's successful libel claim and (amongst a number of such claims) the settlement of Steve Coogan's phone hacking claim.
Career: Partner at Payne Hicks Beach since 2014. Head of Dispute Resolution Department from 2018 and Member of the Payne Hicks Beach Management Board.
Publications: UK press: articles/ quotes.

CROSSMAN, Allison
TWM Solicitors LLP, Cranleigh
01372 380974
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Guildford and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Allison has over 20 years' private client expertise, joining TWM in 2008 and led the Private Client team between 2010 and 2019. During her time as Head of Department, Allison steadily grew the department, and, in particular, focused on developing the firm's tax/trust service to provide specialist tax advice for both private clients and to clients of other departments. Allison specialises in advising high-net-worth clients on tax planning matters, succession, inheritance tax mitigation, Wills and the administration of estates. Prior to specialising in private client, Allison gained many years' experience in residential conveyancing and the combination of property and private client expertise is hugely beneficial in advising clients. She takes a lead role in matters where the firm's Trust Corporation is appointed as Attorney or Deputy for clients lacking mental capacity.

CUKIER, Gerard
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Featured in Defamation/Reputation Management (UK)
Practice Areas: Gerard has been advising high-profile individuals in the political, sports and media world, along with high-net-worth individuals, for over 30 years. A trained litigator and experienced commercial lawyer, Gerard is extremely well placed to advise clients on a range of issues from defamation, blackmail and extortion to sponsorship agreements and music licensing deals. Gerard also enjoys advising on high-profile international commercial disputes often leading to international arbitrations and enforcement of international judgments and awards. Gerard's reputation in the market has led to clients from across the world (in particular, Monaco, France, the US and Israel) turning to him to protect their business and personal affairs. Gerard is UK-based but he speaks fluent French and frequently travels to meet with clients.
Career: Gerard qualified as a solicitor in 1980. Prior to joining Keystone Law in 2019, he worked at Kingsley Napley and Manches & Co.

D'AQUINO, James
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james.daquino@penningtonslaw.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: James specialises in providing tax, trust and succession planning advice to UHNW individuals, families, family offices and trustees in the UK and abroad. He has an enviable client list, comprising several billionaires and enjoys the variety and range of a wide and varied client base. James' advice includes complex tax planning, estate planning, negotiations with HMRC and some contentious trust and estate matters. James has also spear-headed the launch of our Tax Disputes Team – a cross-disciplinary group of colleagues from Corporate Tax, Private Client, Contentious Trusts & Estate and Commercial Dispute Resolution, bringing together exceptional experience. James is also a leading member of the firm's India and Yachting Groups. In addition, James is also mentioned in a significant number of cases submitted by our teams in Family and Immigration, an indication of his high level of client service and the quality of his advice. James' international background, having grown up and lived in several jurisdictions including time spend working in Switzerland, means he brings a unique perspective for clients. He also advises clients in Europe, Eastern Europe and the CIS, the Caribbean, the Middle East, Far East, Australia, and the US. Ordinarily, in more usual years, James spends time travelling to Switzerland, Dubai, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

DADSWELL, Laura
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP, London
020 7457 3158
laura.dadswell@penningtonslaw.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Laura's practice has an emphasis on international work, particularly US/UK cross-border matters. She is an international tax specialist with particular expertise in working with US issues and corporate wealth structuring. Laura continues to edit Context, Penningtons Manches Cooper's private wealth publication. The magazine explores global issues and trends we see shaping the future of Private Wealth. The latest issue is called 'The Family Issue' and features articles on sibling business relationships, cohabitation around the world, yacht ownership, mental health during lockdown and working and living abroad.

DAVIES, Ashton
Adams & Remers, Lewes
01273 403 211
ashton.davies@adamsandremers.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (The South)
Practice Areas: Litigation – Contentious Trusts & Probate
Career: Prior to joining Adams & Remers, Ashton was a senior member of the Contentious Trust & Probate Team at a Top 100 Law Firm, twice shortlisted for the STEP Contentious Trust & Probate Team of the year. Ashton specialises in claims involving trusts and estates and acts for professional and lay trustees, executors, attorneys, deputies and beneficiaries. He provides clear and practical advice so as to resolve disputes as expeditiously, sensitively and cost effectively as possible for the benefit of his clients who include private individuals, charities, and those in the financial services industry. Ashton's case load covers a wide variety of issues including but not limited to: challenges to the validity of wills; 1975 Inheritance Act Claims; financial abuse of the elderly and / or the vulnerable by attorneys and / or deputies; misappropriation of estate / trust assets; claims for construction / rectification and applications for removal of trustees / executors. The estates and trusts involved range in value from several hundred thousand to multi millions of pounds.
Professional Memberships: Ashton is a member of the Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS) and STEP Special Interest Group for Contentious Trust & Probate.

DE JERSEY, Shula
BCL Solicitors LLP, London
07887 792 571
sdejersey@bcl.com
Featured in Financial Crime (UK)
Practice Areas: Shula de Jersey, a partner in BCL Solicitors LLP, special-

ises in business crime and regulatory defence. She has considerable experience in representing individuals, including high net worth individuals, in high-profile and complex fraud, money laundering, bribery and corruption investigations particularly those conducted by the Serious Fraud Office. Her recent experience includes representing senior executives in the SFO investigations Airbus, De la Rue, Serco and Glencore SFO investigations as well as financial crime cases conducted by HMRC, NCA and the FCA. Many of her cases are multi-jurisdictional investigations, including the US, France, and India, and she is experienced in working alongside, and co-ordinating with, teams of international lawyers. Recently she represented an English QC in respect of a high-profile corruption investigation in Trinidad & Tobago. Shula is ranked by Chambers UK in Financial Crime: Individuals – London (Band 3).She is described as "an excellent practitioner, who is very good and experienced and very good with clients" and "very approachable and very understanding.... Instils confidence".

Career: Qualified in 2006 at Russell Jones & Walker (now Slater & Gordon); joined BCL Solicitors LLP as a Partner in 2017.

Professional Memberships: Shula is a founding Committee member of the Fraud Lawyers Association and became Chair of the Association in 2020; European Criminal Bar Association; European Fraud and Compliance Lawyers; The Law Society.

Publications: Consultant Editor Lloyds Law Reports: Financial Crime.

DEELY, Tom
Russell-Cooke, London
020 8394 6571
tom.deely@russell-cooke.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Practice Areas: Acts for both claimants and defendants on complex matters including domicile disputes, claims regarding the administration of estates and trusts (domestic and international), applications to remove trustees and personal representatives and claims pursuant to the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975. Tom also acts in relation to disputed Court of Protection matters.

Career: Tom qualified as a solicitor in 2013 and joined Russell-Cooke in 2018. He was promoted to senior associate in 2020.

Professional Memberships: ACTAPS

DEL PANTA, Luca
Stewarts, London
ldelpanta@stewartslaw.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Practice Areas: Luca advises individuals and institutions on a range of trust and succession disputes, both in the UK and abroad. His clients include entrepreneurs, charities, family businesses and trust companies. He is bilingual in Italian and English with a good knowledge of Spanish and Mandarin and enjoys using his language skills to the benefit of Stewarts' international client base. Luca has experience of disputes about the validity and administration of trusts (including directions applications, requests for information, and applications for the removal of trustees and protectors) as well as blessing applications in complex trust restructurings. He also has experience of a variety of will and probate disputes (including lack of capacity, want of knowledge and approval, and undue influence claims, as well as construction issues, claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975, and proprietary estoppel claims). Luca has also acted in a number of commercial disputes with trust law aspects or allegations of fraud or breach of fiduciary duty.

Career: Luca read Classics and Sanskrit at Oxford. He trained at Withers LLP and spent three years at Farrer & Co before joining Stewarts in 2018.

Publications: Proceed with care: legacy disputes and the duties of charity trustees, Trusts & Trustees, May 2018 The cost of obstinacy (with Emma Holland), Trusts and Estates Law & Tax Journal, November 2019

DIXON, Basil
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
44 (0)20 7465 4302
bdixon@phb.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Practice Areas: Basil's practice is broad-based and encompasses the whole spectrum of private client onshore and offshore work. He frequently advises on ultra-high net worth matters with his clients ranging from landed estates with the deepest of roots in the UK to those with no connection with the UK at all. Basil advises on issues concerning onshore and offshore tax planning, the establishment and use of trusts and other structures, US/UK planning, family governance, philanthropy and conflict of laws. Basil works closely with trustees, lawyers and other advisers in a number of jurisdictions including France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, the Channel Islands, the Caribbean, Singapore, India, the Middle East, the US and Canada.

Career: Allen & Overy LLP, 2007-2009 Maurice Turnor Gardner LLP, 2009-2014 Payne Hicks Beach, 2014-Present

Publications: FT Weekend

Personal: Bedford School, 1993-2000 Oxford University, 2001-2004

DOHERTY, Elizabeth
Macfarlanes LLP, London
0207 849 2859
elizabeth.doherty@macfarlanes.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Career: Elizabeth specialises in international contentious trust, probate and succession disputes and related regulatory investigations, high-value family disputes and proceedings in the Court of Protection. Elizabeth acts for a wide range of UK and international clients including multinational corporations, trust companies, private companies and a diverse spectrum of high-net-worth individuals. She has substantial experience as a litigator in the UK courts and in foreign courts, including Bermuda, the Cayman Islands and the British Virgin Islands and has particular expertise in resolving complex and multi-jurisdictional disputes involving the trustees, beneficiaries and protectors of English and offshore family trusts, including through alternative dispute resolution. Elizabeth has acted for numerous clients in sensitive and highly confidential disputes in the Court of Protection and has advised fiduciaries who become involved in cross-jurisdictional regulatory investigations (including criminal investigations).

DRAKE, Alexandra
Taylor Walton LLP, St Albans
01727 845245
alex.drake@taylorwalton.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Watford, Uxbridge and surrounds)

Practice Areas: Alex offers specialist advice on Wills and Estate planning, Inheritance Tax mitigation, Grants of Probate and administration of Estates (acting as an Executor if required). She also prepares Lasting Powers of Attorney and acts as an attorney or deputy for some clients. Alex also advises on Trusts and acts as a Trustee. Alex has a significant personal following, having acted for several generations of high net worth families.

Career: Alex trained with a London firm (qualifying as a solicitor in 1989) and worked there for over ten years. She moved out of London to work more locally as Head of Department, joining Taylor Walton in 2009 as a Partner. She became Head of Department in 2019. Alex has over 30 years' experience in the Private Client field.

Professional Memberships: Member of The Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP).

Publications: Regularly publishes items in the local press.

Personal: Alex was born and grew up in Harpenden, Hertfordshire and attended schools locally. She graduated from Durham University and after attending Guildford Law School trained and worked initially in London and then in St Albans. In her spare time Alex enjoys travelling both within the UK and abroad, gardening, eating out and spending time with her family.

DRAPER, Adam
Shoosmiths LLP, Manchester
0370 865 853
adam.draper@shoesmiths.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (North West)

Practice Areas: Adam is a partner and head of the Disputed Wills & Trusts team. Adam specialises in all types of trust and succession disputes. He advises high net worth and high profile individuals as well as Trustees and Charities. He has expertise in advising and representing in relation to Inheritance Act claims, disputes in relation to wills and trusts, claims against Executors and Trustees, proprietary estoppel. Adam also specialises in resolving contentious Court of Protection disputes. This includes disputed statutory wills and disputes involving Attorneys and Deputies. Slattery v Jagger [2015] – Acted in the successful claim for construction and rectification of a will following a drafting error by the solicitor. Re Daventry District Council [2017] ECC Pet 2. – Acted in the exhumation of ashes wrongly interred in a burial plot belonging to our client. Bullock v Denton [2020] Lexis Citation 199– Acted for the Deceased's partner in a claim under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975. This was the first case to recover a CFA success fee under 75 Act.

Professional Memberships: Adam is a member of the Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS) and the Professional Negligence Lawyers Association (PNLA).

DRURY, Michael
BCL Solicitors LLP, London
020 7430 2277
mdrury@bcl.com
Featured in Financial Crime (UK)

Practice Areas: Michael Drury joined BCL as a partner in September 2010, formerly Director for Legal Affairs at the UK intelligence agency, GCHQ, Michael is described as being "Brilliant to work with, very hands-on, very knowledgeable about criminal procedure and good at anticipating bear traps as well." Michael has a substantial practice in extradition, surveillance and investigatory powers, advising many of the leading global technology giants on electronic surveillance, information/privacy law and cybercrime, as well as acting in criminal investigations for corporates and high net worth individuals in fraud cases – LIBOR is a notable recent example, where no action was taken against his client – and in corruption investigations. Last year he successfully avoided attempts by the NCA to obtain an Unexplained Wealth Order against high net worth individuals who were under threat of this, leaving his clients free to deal with their assets as they wished and without the publicity attaching to court action. He has advised others who hold substantial assets about the means by which it is possible to avoid or mitigate the risk of action by the UK authorities in the UWO, suspected criminal property and sanctions fields. He is presently resisting action sought to be taken by the NCA on the basis of mutual legal assistance being provided to criminal investigators overseas, involving the most sensitive personal and business records of those involved. One source stated '.... he is fearless when dealing with the SFO and FCA, and other international investigating agencies' and that he is 'excellent in giving firm, but good advice, with the client's best interest at heart'. Michael acted in the most important and high-profile English extradition case of 2018, brought by the Turkish state against Hamdi Akin Ipek, proprietor of several Turkish media outlets and an industrial conglomerate, which had been closed/expropriated by the government. The extradition request

was refused by the English courts as "clearly politically motivated." This was the first time that an English court had been asked to rule on whether such a Turkish extradition request had a proper basis in law and whether opponents of the Erdogan regime could expect a fair trial in Turkey. Michael continues to act in connection with high-profile Russian extradition matters involving the direct participation of the President and also in politically motivated INTERPOL 'Red Notice' cases: recently he was able to have removed a Red Notice that had been maintained by the national authorities for 16 years. He has experience in this field in jurisdictions actoss the former Soviet Union and in South America. Latterly in two high profile extradition cases emanating from Georgia, clients were discharged with the proceedings brought against them found also to be 'politically motivated'. His experience in the senior levels of UK Government and knowledge of 'how things work' in central Whitehall departments and in the investigation and prosecution fields – prior to GCHQ and in a 25 year Government career he was one of the founding members of the SFO and has been engaged in the criminal justice system for nearly four decades – gives him an unparalleled insight into and awareness of how the UK agencies operate, to the benefit of those whom represents.

Career: Michael was called to the Bar 1982; Prosecutor for HM Customs & Excise and the Serious Fraud Office; and qualified as a solicitor 1996 and appointed the Director of legal affairs and member of main board of directors, GCHQ. He joined BCL Solicitors as a partner in 2010.

Publications: He is frequently quoted on extradition matters in the national press: https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/jack-shepherd-extradition-a-simple-case-but-it-could-take-six-months-to-resolve-5swrvzhp3 https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/b5092e7a-5bcf-11e9-9d59-dbce4c64073b?utm_source=newsletter&utm_campaign=newsletter_121&utm_medium=email&utm_content=121_5680327&CMP=TNLEmail_118918_5680327_121 https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/criminal-law-should-be-applied-equally-to-abuse-online-and-off-v0xxl5qsz

DUGGAN, Jenny
Stewarts, London
jduggan@stewartslaw.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)

Practice Areas: Jenny is a family lawyer, focussed on finding an emotionally intelligent route through separation and divorce as well as resolving child arrangements.

Career: Jenny graduated from the University of Cambridge with a first class degree in Social and Political Sciences before working in the Constitution Directorate at the Ministry of Justice. After completing her Graduate Diploma in Law and Legal Practice Course in London she trained at Manches, qualifying into the family department in September 2011. Jenny joined Stewarts in October 2012.

Professional Memberships: Resolution (formerly the Solicitors Family Law Association) International Association of Young Lawyers (AIJA) Franco-British Lawyers Society

DUNN, Charlotte
Shoosmiths LLP, Milton Keynes
03700 868 323
charlotte.dunn@shoosmiths.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Milton Keynes and surrounds)

Practice Areas: Charlotte Dunn is a Legal Director at Shoosmiths and National Head of the Wealth Protection department. Charlotte is a HNW specialist with clients including establishment figures, those with landed estates (often acting for multiple generations of the family), those with literary estates or high value chattels, directors and business owners. Offering bespoke planning advice to her clients Charlotte works collaboratively with their other professional advisors to ensure that they have tax efficient succession planning in place; meeting their individual needs. Many of Charlotte's clients have assets in multiple locations so will work with lawyers in other jurisdictions to ensure that their planning fits together. She also has experience in dealing with heritage assets, offers in lieu and chattels lease arrangements. She acts as executor/trustee/attorney for her clients where appropriate. Charlotte has built on her reputation in the market continuing to work on high value and complex matters whilst managing a growing department.

Professional Memberships: Charlotte is a full member of STEP and a member of their International Client Special Interest Group. Charlotte is on the official panel of Professional Deputies of the Court of Protection receiving panel referrals including complex asset structures, family disputes and investigations of theft and fraud.

EDWARDS, Lucy
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP, London
Lucy.Edwards@penningtonslaw.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Guildford and surrounds)

Practice Areas: Lucy is an exceptional practitioner, widely recognised for her technical expertise and warm approach to clients. She advises HNW individuals, families and trustees on a broad range of private wealth, tax and trust matters. Her core focus is on estate and succession planning for UK and international families. She has also co-authored a PLC Multijurisdictional Guide. Lucy's areas of expertise include international private client matters, where Lucy has clients across the globe in the US, continental Europe, Channel Islands, South America, Hong Kong and Saudi Arabia. A member of the firm's Family Investment Companies (FICs) strategy group, Lucy advises on growing use of FICs as an alternative to trusts – writing on the subject in the Charles Stanley client magazine and presenting externally at their Inherited Wealth event. Lucy also advises charities and works to raise awareness of the opportunities and place for charitable giving in estate planning for HNW families. She has worked on a pro bono basis for start-up charities and has collaborated with the head of legacy income at a major national charity to present to their philanthropy team. Thrice named one of eprivateclient's 'Top 35 Under 35', Lucy was also listed as a Legal Week 'One to Watch' in 2018, 2019 and 2020. In 2018 alone, Lucy was shortlisted for 'Young Practitioner of the Year' in the STEP Awards; won the silver award in the Citywealth Future Leaders 'Lawyer of the Year – Partner' category and was included in the Citywealth Future Leaders 100 List. She also retains a position in the Citywealth Leaders List.

Professional Memberships: Lucy is a member of the STEP London City Branch committee, regularly arranging its seminars and administration; gained an Excellence Award for her performance in the STEP Diploma and holds an Advanced Certificate in UK Tax for International Clients. She is also a member of the International Association of Young Lawyers, AIJA.

ELLIOTT, Kate
Family Law Partners, Horsham
01403 599212
kate@familylawpartners.co.uk
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)

Practice Areas: Family Law

Career: City trained and having worked exclusively in specialist family law practices, including two top-tier family law firms, Kate has built an excellent reputation as a highly respected family lawyer. Kate regularly advises clients in relation to complex financial matters involving business assets, inherited wealth, trust assets and pension funds. Kate also has experience in drafting and negotiating pre-nuptial and post-nuptial agreements. She also has considerable experience in international cases with multi-jurisdictional issues. Kate regularly advises in cases involving children matters including parental arrangements, parental responsibility, schooling, matters in which there are safeguarding issues and internal and external relocation. Kate encourages, wherever possible, negotiated and agreed solutions that focus on minimising conflict and consider the needs of the whole family, in particular, the best interests of children. Kate focuses on the strategic issues in each case to help parties find workable long-term solutions that help them to move forward with their lives. Clients have confidence in Kate's detailed approach, her supportive nature and her determination to achieve the best result for them. It was Kate's dedication to finding an alternative route through divorce and separation that compelled her to train as a mediator in 2019.

Professional Memberships: Resolution

EMSON, Lorna
Macfarlanes LLP, London
020 7831 9222
lorna.emson@macfarlanes.com
Featured in Financial Crime (UK)

Career: Lorna is experienced in a broad range of complex commercial litigation matters, with a particular focus on matters involving fraud and financial crime, both for corporates and individuals as well as conducting investigations. Lorna has been involved in several significant and high profile cases in these fields, working for banks, interdealer brokers, oil & gas companies and private individuals including senior executives, politicians and UHNW individuals based both in the UK and internationally. Lorna is a Solicitor Advocate.

Professional Memberships: Professional Memberships – The Fraud Lawyers Association (FLA) – Financial Services Lawyers Association (FSLA) – London Solicitors Litigation Association (LSLA) – Women's White Collar Defense Association (WWCDA)

ERRINGTON, Harriet
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
020 7079 8378
herrington@boodlehatfield.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)

Practice Areas: Harriet's practice covers all aspects of family law, including divorce and the financial consequences of relationship breakdown, pre-and post-nuptial agreements and children matters. Harriet has particular expertise in complex financial disputes involving high net worth individuals, often with an international element. Harriet also specialises in advising clients on private children law matters such as disputes regarding the arrangements for the children upon their parents' separation. Harriet has particular expertise in international leave to remove and child abduction cases.

Professional Memberships: Harriet is a member of Resolution.

EVLOGIDIS, Tracy
Withers LLP, London
020 7597 6030
tracy.evlogidis@withersworldwide.com
Featured in Immigration (UK)

Practice Areas: Tracy is proud to have clocked up over 20 years of exclusive experience in UK immigration, advising on all areas of UK immigration law and particular expertise in providing strategic advice to businesses and senior executives. She leads a team of immigration lawyers in the UK, working with Withers wider immigration team across our global offices advising clients on their global mobility needs. Tracy provides bespoke advice to UHNWIs and their families. She is also known for her work with entrepreneurs and highly talented individuals, especially in the arts and media. She advises a wide range of clients in all business sectors from start-ups to large corporations, household names, entertainers and sportsmen. Tracy has developed particular expertise in advising clients on EU migration and Brexit-proofing their

global mobility. She has worked to keep businesses and employers prepared for Brexit changes.
Career: Tracy joined Withers in 2017 and is head of our Immigration practice in the UK.
Professional Memberships: International Bar Association ("IBA") Immigration Law Practitioners Association ("ILPA") Appointed to Law Society's Brexit Strategy Reference Migration Group

FERGUSON, James
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
020 7629 7411
jferguson@boodlehatfield.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: James is head of the firm's four partner family team and specialises in family law dealing with all matters arising from the breakdown of a marriage/relationship. His legal specialisations include: separation and divorce, financial proceedings, children, and pre-marital pre-civil partnership and separation agreements.
Professional Memberships: James is a member of Resolution

FITZPATRICK, Simon
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
020 7079 8162
sfitzpatrick@boodehatfield.com
Featured in Art and Cultural Property Law (UK)
Practice Areas: Simon is head of Litigation and of the firm's art team at Boodle Hatfield. His practice covers a broad range of commercial litigation for a range of clients including high net worth individuals and privately owned companies. Simon's specialist knowledge of art law and art litigation includes auction house misattribution, auction house negligence, authenticity and provenance claims. Much of Simon's work is for international clients and involves working with lawyers in other jurisdictions to resolve commercial disputes both in this country and abroad.
Professional Memberships: Founding member of PAIAM (Professional Advisers to the International Arts Market) Founding partner on Mayfair Art Weekend

FODEN, Rebecca
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
020 7079 8340
rfoden@boodlehatfield.com
Featured in Art and Cultural Property Law (UK)
Practice Areas: Rebecca has a wide ranging commercial litigation practice with a particular focus on shareholder disputes, art litigation and cross border civil fraud claims. Rebecca acts for companies, international clients and high net worth individuals. In the field of art law, including art litigation, Rebecca represents collectors, dealers, artists, foundations and galleries. She deals with all aspects of art litigation, including cases involving, professional negligence, attribution, authenticity, disputed ownership, fraud, guarantees, recovery, insolvency and enforcement. Rebecca's notable art law cases have included representing a Claimant vendor in a professional negligence claim against a leading auction house relating to the sale of a painting which was sold as a copy but subsequently attributed to Caravaggio (Thwaytes v Sotheby's [2015] EWHC 36 (Ch)); representing Claimant vendors in a professional negligence claim against a leading auction house relating to a painting which was sold as 'studio of Titian' and which is now attributed to Titian. The claim settled immediately before trial, but was widely reported in the media.
Professional Memberships: PAIAM

FOORD, Roland
Stephenson Harwood LLP, London
020 7329 4422
roland.foord@shlegal.com
Featured in Art and Cultural Property Law (UK)
Practice Areas: Roland is Stephenson Harwood's senior partner and leads the art and cultural property group. He has over 30 years' experience advising clients in the art market, and acts for a range of clients, including collectors, dealers, auctioneers, brokers, artists, museums and institutions. His work in this area is a blend of dispute resolution, transactional advice, risk management and insurance – making him a go-to advisor for many art market clients. He regularly advises on matters ranging from the sale and purchase of fine art to the standard terms of business of major market players to export, looted art and related issues. Roland also has extensive experience in matters involving title, provenance and attribution. Roland is a member of the Art, Cultural and Institutions Committee of the IBA and recognised by Chambers for his "very detailed knowledge of the art industry" Roland also has long experience in auction law and has advised leading auction houses on a range of matters, from the enforceability of their conditions of sale to bidding disputes and authenticity warranty claims. Roland is the firm's relationship partner for international auction house Christie's, a long-standing client of the firm's London and Hong Kong offices.

FORTIN LEES, Bibi
Adams & Remers, Lewes
01273 480616
bibi.lees@adamsandremers.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Brighton and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Private Client and Private Wealth Law
Career: Bibi qualified as a solicitor in 1993 at Taylor Wessing (then Taylor Joynson Garrett), where she became a partner in 2001 and head of the Probate Group within the Private Client department. She returned to her home town of Brighton in 2009 to become a partner and then head of the Private Client department in Woolley Bevis Diplock, before joining Adams & Remers in 2017. Bibi advises individuals and trustees on UK capital tax planning, wills and lasting powers of attorney, the administration of trusts, probate, succession and the administration of estates, both domestic and international, and on Court of Protection deputyships. She often works closely with other trusted advisers such as accountants, investment managers and independent financial advisers to provide her clients with holistic advice, delivered clearly and comprehensively.
Professional Memberships: Bibi is a Member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) and the Law Society Private Client Section

FOSTER, Stephen
Stewarts, London
020 7822 8000
sfoster@stewartslaw.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Stephen's clients include figures from the City and entrepreneurs, and many of his cases have an international dimension including Europe, the US and the Middle-East. Stephen is very adept at dealing sensitively with all aspects of children's matters, including international relocation.

FRANKLE, Brett
Withers LLP, London
0207 597 6222
brett.frankle@withersworldwide.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Brett has expertise across the whole spectrum of family law work, with a particular focus on complex, and often international, financial disputes arising on divorce/separation in addition to children matters. Brett is a member of the International Committee of Resolution and has been at the "cutting edge" of important and fast-changing areas of the law, particularly in respect of pre and post nuptial agreements, both as a practitioner and also as a writer. He is commended by clients as 'quick, articulate, pragmatic and always a few steps ahead' and 'superb…[he] represented my interests with deep professionalism to the required level of intensity'.
Professional Memberships: International Committee of Resolution
Publications: Marital agreements and private autonomy in comparative perspective, Oxford: Hart Publishing. Guide to International Family Law, Resolution

FREMLIN-KEY, Andrew
Withers LLP, London
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andrew.fremlin-key@withersworldwide.com
Featured in Defamation/Reputation Management (UK)
Practice Areas: Andy is a Senior Associate in the Media and Reputation team and has been recognised by recent legal directories as a 'rising star', 'associate to watch', 'key lawyer', and 'seasoned practitioner in sports-related matters, advising well-known sports personalities in reputational issues and privacy'. He assists individuals and businesses with a wide range of media issues including contentious data protection, defamation, privacy, blackmail and harassment issues, and right to erasure applications. Recognising the inter-relationship between tax investigations and media issues, Andy has carved out a niche area of practice utilizing his skills and experience to advise a range of high-profile clients on contentious tax litigation and multi-jurisdictional investigations (including COP9 investigations, Unexplained Wealth Orders and Account Freezing Orders). His recent clients include Novak Djokovic, international footballers, sports agents, models, fashion designers, photographers, editors, artists, politicians, members of royal families, charities and chief executives. He has spoken on media and press issues at various events at the Premier Sports Network. He has commented on the BBC and in the mainstream media in relation to a variety of issues.
Publications: Contributed to: 'Could I be sued for writing an online review?', Financial Times. 'How to deal with unexplained wealth orders', International Adviser.

FRIMSTON, Richard
Russell-Cooke, London
020 8394 6217
richard.frimston@russell-cooke.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Advises clients in relation to their estate planning, wills, probate and tax planning issues and offers Notary Public services. Areas of expertise include cross-border estates and international private law issues.
Career: Richard joined Russell-Cooke in 1977, qualified as a solicitor in 1979, became a partner in 1982 and qualified as a Notary Public in 1995. In 2018 he became a consultant.
Professional Memberships: Chair of the EU STEP Committee, Co-Chair of the STEP Public Policy Committee, member of the Law Society's EU Committee, accredited consultant to CRIDON Lyon.

GAJRAJ, Mihiri
Trethowans LLP, Southampton
02380820544
mihiri.gajraj@trethowans.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Southampton and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Mihiri is a Partner and leads the Private Client team at Trethowans. She qualified as a solicitor in 2009 and has been advising clients ever since. Mihiri undertakes all areas of Private Client work, including tax planning, creating trusts, administering trusts, tax calculations, the preparation of Wills and powers of attorney, and probate and estate administration.
Professional Memberships: Mihiri is a member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) – the gold standard in this area of law – and sits on the STEP Central Southern Committee.

GEAREY, Hannah
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP, Guildford
+44 (0)1483 791811
hannah.gearey@penningtonslaw.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Guildford and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Hannah acts on a wide range of complex private client matters, but has a particular expertise in high value, complex probate, often

involving offshore assets. She also acts in a number of substantial philanthropy matters for wealthy individuals. As a result she acts for numerous Charities established by wealthy families who wish to create a lasting legacy in their local communities and for future generations. Hannah also has a specialist knowledge in acting for vulnerable beneficiaries and those in receipt of personal injury awards, setting up and administering trusts and making a number of complex applications to the Court of Protection including Statutory Will applications and Deputyship Orders.
Professional Memberships: Hannah has made a name for herself amongst local referrers and has presented at a number of events, invited to do so by accountants, IFAs and wealth managers from whom she receives a substantial amount of her work. In addition to this, Hannah is a full member of STEP and has edited the Incapacity section of Butterworths' publication 'Wills, Probate and Administration Service' for fellow professionals. She has featured in the Citywealth Future Leaders 100 List for rising stars in the wealth industry in the past.

GIANGRANDE, Richard
Macfarlanes LLP, London
4402078492694
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London), Tax (UK)
Career: Richard advises on all aspects of estate planning and personal taxation and focuses on cross-border tax advice. Many of his clients are individuals with a presence in multiple jurisdictions, and who originate from jurisdictions in Europe, North America and the Middle East. Richard also advises on the establishment and management of international asset-holding structures, focusing both on international taxation and asset protection. Richard has extensive experience in planning for international families, entrepreneurs, finance professionals, and regularly advises clients in relation to complex HMRC enquiries and disputes relating to tax or succession matters. Richard advises individuals, trustees, family offices and investment managers in relation to the tax treatment of complex structures and investment products, and has advised a number of banks and investment managers on the structuring of their investment platforms and the selection of appropriate investments for non-UK domiciled clients. He recently spent six months in New York on secondment to a leading New York law firm, where he worked alongside US lawyers, gaining an understanding of US tax, trust and estate planning that assists him in advising US clients who are resident in the UK or own UK assets. Richard is a regular speaker at wealth planning seminars and events and has written for Trusts & Trustees.

GILMOUR, Robert
SKO Family Law Specialists, Edinburgh
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robert.gilmour@sko-family-law.co.uk
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: The current edition of Chambers and Partners HNW recognises Robert's ability, "One of Gilmour's huge strengths is his ability to analyse and break down complex issues into logical components." A market source enthuses: "He is brilliant, he is the leading person in the country on surrogacy. He is also brilliant with difficult heavyweight money cases.". Robert has unique and unrivalled experience in Scotland in surrogacy and ART (artificial reproductive technology), where the Legal 500 note that he 'is the leading expert in Scotland in assisted reproduction.'. His work in this area of law includes advising individuals who are building their family through surrogacy, surrogates and medical professionals. Robert acted in all of the Scottish cases arising from the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA) legal parenthood audit in 2014. Robert is also particularly known for his knowledge, experience and judgement in cohabitant claims, having acted for the successful applicant in the only case to have reached the Supreme Court, the ground breaking case of Gow v Grant. Robert is considered the 'go-to' person in Scotland for novel and/or complex cases-he is wise, bright and pragmatic: skills used in his work as a mediator and FLAGS Family Law Arbitrator.

GLENHOLME, Susan
Debenhams Ottaway, St Albans
07769 265515
sg@debenhamsottoway.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Watford, Uxbridge and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Susan is the managing partner at Debenhams Ottaway and heads their award winning Wills, trusts and probate team. She helps clients with all the legal aspects of private wealth management, advising them on Wills, probate, trusts, tax planning and estate administration. She specialises in complex and high value estates that often include business assets and international elements, regularly helping clients with succession planning and the protection of family business. Susan works with a range of clients, including business owners, family offices, City professionals, celebrities and wealthy families based in Hertfordshire, London and across the UK. The combination of Susan's outgoing personality, natural warmth and exceptional legal expertise means that she is trusted and well-liked by clients and is regularly appointed to act as their executor, trustee and attorney. Susan is well known and respected in the private wealth sector, putting her in high demand. Her reputation in London continues to grow; she is regularly recommended by international banks, leading accountants and private wealth financial advisers in the City.
Career: Susan trained Turner & Debenhams (now Debenhams Ottaway) and qualified in 2000. She became partner in 2005 and managing partner in 2018.
Professional Memberships: Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners; Private Client Section of the Law Society.

GOLDRING, Simon
McDermott Will & Emery UK LLP, London
07587 637161
sgolding@mwe.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Simon advises clients on a wide range of international private wealth and tax matters. He acts for a variety of clients ranging from high net worth individuals, family offices and entrepreneurs to multi-national corporations both in the UK and internationally including South Africa, Latin America, the Far East and the Middle East. Simon undertakes all types of private client work including the preparation of wills, powers of attorney, domestic trusts and income and capital tax planning. Internationally, Simon advises on residence and domicile planning and structuring both inbound and outbound. From a corporate perspective, he advises on the tax structuring of companies both domestic and international including tax efficient exit strategies for business owners. Simon has worked at various prominent international firms based in the UK and has been head of multiple private client and tax practices. View more details at: https://www.mwe.com/people/goldring-simon/
Professional Memberships: Member of STEP (Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners) Member of the Chartered Institute of Taxation
Personal: Fellow of the Institute of Legal Executives, Solicitors Exams Law Society, Solicitor Institute of Taxation, Advanced Diploma in International Taxation (ADIT) Institute of Taxation, Fellow of the Association of Taxation Technicians (ATT) Institute of Taxation, Chartered Tax Advisor (CTA)

GOODMAN, Dawn
Withers LLP, London
020 7597 6000
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Dawn has a wealth of experience litigating and working proactively with wealth-holding structures across the trust world, Europe, South America, Russia & CIS and the Middle East. She is tri-qualified (England & Wales, BVI and Eire) and acts in and advises on litigation spanning the whole range of trust and succession issues, from prophylactic litigation to the most hostile of cross border and multi jurisdiction cases. Previously a divorce lawyer, she also advises trustees and beneficiaries caught up in divorce proceedings. Garnering her experience as a litigator and fiduciary for a UNHW family, Dawn advises families, family offices and businesses, trustees and other power holders on governance and reduction and management of fiduciary risk. She applies her understanding of conflicts of laws, geopolitical risk, family tensions and succession to wealth and businesses to help clients create or restructure robust trust and succession vehicles with sufficient flexibility to continue through to succeeding generations. Dawn is a CEDR accredited mediator.
Professional Memberships: STEP ACTAPS
Publications: International Trusts and Divorce Litigation Third Edition, 2019 – Co-author Probate Disputes and Remedies Third Edition, 2014 – Co-author

GOTHARD, Charles
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Featured in Family Offices & Funds Structuring (UK), Private Wealth Law (London)
Career: Charles specialises in advising international families and entrepreneurs as well as the family offices, trust companies and other institutions helping them. His work often relates to their estate planning, structures (whether trusts, foundations or other vehicles), philanthropy and personal affairs. This frequently involves complex international tax and estate planning, co-ordinating advice from advisers in different jurisdictions and often in situations with little or no UK connection. He also regularly advises foreign residents on the most tax efficient way to structure UK investments or a move to the UK. Charles also has significant experience of contentious UK and international trust and probate work – resolving disputes between trustees or executors and beneficiaries, acting for either side. Charles heads the firm's family office group and is country partner for Switzerland so has overall responsibility for our relationships in Switzerland. Charles lectures regularly in the UK and abroad and has published articles in many of the leading professional publications. He is the joint editor of The World Trust Survey – an overview of the trust laws of 34 jurisdictions published in 2010 by Oxford University Press and the joint author of a chapter on "Protectors" in Tolley's Administration of Trusts.
Professional Memberships: Charles is a member of ACTAPS (Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists).

GOURIET, Michael
Withers LLP, London
020 7597 6188
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Michael has been an integral member of Withers' family law team for nearly 30 years. Michael advises on all aspects of divorce and family law (including pre-nuptial and post-nuptial agreements) with particular focus on the resolution of financial issues for wealthy individuals, whether married or unmarried and invariably with international interests (including clients from Europe, US, Middle East and Russia). Michael also has extensive expertise of child law matters, including international relocation. He is also

a qualified Arbitrator. Michael has acted in numerous complex high-value divorce cases involving trusts and businesses. His clients include business owners, entrepreneurs, financiers, city professionals, landowners, sports and music stars, politicians, and their spouses/partners. Michael's breadth of work involves liaison with Withers' trusts and estates teams in London, Switzerland, US and Asia–often stress-testing wealth holding structures and advising families on succession.
Career: Partner family law team at Withers (joined in 1993)
Professional Memberships: IAFL (past Treasurer of European Chapter) IAFL DR Forum (London) Resolution Chartered Institute of Arbitration
Publications: Michael provides expert media commentary on family law issues and has chaired and lectured at various family law conferences in England and abroad.
Personal: Michael enjoys playing and watching sport (including running his own cricket side, cycling and tennis).

GREENFIELD, Helen
Family Law in Partnership LTD, London
02074205000
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Helen is a director at Family Law in Partnership. She advises on all matters relating to family breakdown, divorce and cohabitation. Helen has a particular interest in helping those who have been affected by domestic abuse. She recognises that the legal implications of domestic abuse are accompanied by a plethora of emotional and other issues, and she aims to ensure that clients are able to work through them with the right advice and support. Helen is a qualified collaborative lawyer and a trained mediator. She is also a member of Resolution. She sits on the board of Support Through Court which provides pro bono support to litigants in person. Helen also volunteers for the Family Law Panel's domestic abuse helpline (run by OnlyMums and OnlyDads). Helen is based in both Brighton & London and can see clients wherever is most convenient.
Professional Memberships: Resolution. The Law Society.

GREER, David
Katz Partners LLP, London
0203 859 3528
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: David is a founding partner of Katz Partners, and a well-known and very experienced family lawyer. His clients are high-net-worth individuals with complex legal issues including trusts and jurisdictional disputes; many of his cases have an international element. He specialises in complex divorce and children's work, and is also a senior mediator and trained collaborative lawyer.
Career: David trained and qualified at Schillings, where he spent 15 years acting for high-net-worth individuals in the public eye. He has a wealth of experience not only in family law but also in the law of privacy, and has acted in many reported cases (including in a leading case on client privacy in the family court).

GRESWOLD, Peter
Raworths LLP Solicitors, Harrogate
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (York, Hull and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Peter Greswold is a Partner in the Trusts, Wills and Estates team. Peter's clients mainly comprise business people and entrepreneurs, advising on structured capital tax planning, inheritance tax strategies, asset protection and long term succession issues. He also advises on the implementation of off-shore structures, inward investments and issues of residence and domicile. Peter's work involves working closely with UK and overseas accountants and other professionals in connection with pre and post business sale planning. Peter acts as trustee of certain high value and complex trusts and drafts trusts for both private and commercial clients. Peter has strong connections with other professional trustees and is often instructed to advise the trustees on legal matters relating to the trusts. Peter is a member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP).

GROVES, Christopher
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Chris is a partner in the private client and tax team. He advises both UK domiciled and non-UK domiciled high net worth individuals in relation to their personal, business and philanthropic affairs. His practice includes advising individuals and trustees on UK tax issues, investment structuring for private investors and asset managers and UK and international trust and estate planning.
Career: He started work at Withers in 1999 as a trainee, qualifying into the private client department in 2001 and was made a partner in 2007.
Professional Memberships: Law Society of England and Wales Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (Affiliate Member)
Publications: 'The Practice of International Philanthropy', International Charitable Giving, Oxford University Press The Private Wealth & Private Client Law Review–Law Business Research McCutcheon on Inheritance Tax, co-author Barnsley on Land Options, co-author

HALL, Gail
Warners Solicitors, Tonbridge
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Kent)
Practice Areas: Gail offers practical experience and advice to clients who need help arranging their inheritance and estate planning affairs. She advises on Wills, probate, inheritance tax, Lasting Powers of Attorney and Court of Protection issues, acting as an attorney and deputy for clients when needed. She has particular experience in advising farming clients on succession planning, being a member of Warners' agricultural team and she is also a member of the team advising elderly and vulnerable clients. She is a trained 'Dementia Friend'.
Career: Gail started her career as a solicitor with a large firm based in Maidstone. She qualified in 2009 and joined Warners in 2013, becoming a partner in 2015.
Professional Memberships:
•Member of the Society for Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) •Member of STEP Mental Capacity Special Interest Group •Member of Solicitors for the Elderly (SFE)
Publications: Gail contributes articles to local publications relating to her practice area and also local radio.
Personal: Before qualifying as a solicitor Gail spent 15 years working for London fine art valuers and auctioneers, having graduated from the Courtauld Institute, London University, in History of Art and Architecture.

HAMILTON, Kate
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Solicitor, mediator and collaborative lawyer. Kate has considerable expertise in acting for barristers, solicitors and clients in the financial sector. Many of her cases involve foreign jurisdictions with off-shore assets and/or international lifestyles. She has expertise in disputes between property owners, being either family members or couples, financial provision upon divorce/dissolution, intervening in divorces, advising unmarried parents in their claims, undertaking complex children work such as leave to remove applications and negotiating pre and post nuptial agreements with international connections.
Career: After training at Dickinson Dees, Kate joined Russell-Cooke in 2005, where she became a partner in 2012.
Professional Memberships: Member of Resolution, Accredited Resolution Specialist status (gaining a professional qualification in financial provision and cohabitation), Collaborative lawyer, Member of the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals and Mediator accredited with Resolution.

HAMILTON, Marie-Louise
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Leeds, Bradford and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Managing Partner, Marie-Louise, is the joint head of the overall Probate, Trusts & Estate Planning team at Wrigleys. Marie-Louise has a well-established reputation within the high net worth circles and a skill in creating long-standing relationships with her esteemed clients and their families whilst gaining new clients within the football, music and film world, and ultra-high net worth individuals. She specialises in advice on succession planning and asset protection for family business owners and their families and has a particular interest and experience in high value, pre and post nuptial agreements. Marie-Louise is a director on the Wrigleys Trustees Ltd (WTL) board. In this capacity, she attends The Association of Corporate Trustee (TACT) national Private Trusts Committee, meaning the firm is involved and contributes to the national discussion to steer and feedback on the activity of private trusts and policy.
Career: Marie-Louise joined Wrigleys in 1998 after graduating from the University College London having achieved a Bachelor of Laws (LLB). She qualified as a solicitor in 1995 and was promoted to partner in 2008. Marie-Louise has been the managing partner at Wrigleys since 2019.

HARPER, Jennifer
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Featured in Financial Crime (UK)
Practice Areas: Jennifer Harper is an experienced criminal lawyer, specialising in financial crime and regulatory investigations, including those conducted by the Serious Fraud Office, Crown Prosecution Service, Trading Standards, and local authorities. Jennifer defends clients in fraud and other white-collar crime investigations. She advises clients at all stages of the investigation, providing straightforward, strategic advice for both corporate and individual clients. She has experience of advising clients in responding to production orders, Section 2 Notices issued by the Serious Fraud Office (SFO), the submission of Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) to the National Crime Agency (NCA), and cash forfeiture proceedings. Jennifer has experience of advising corporate clients in relation to private prosecutions, having both defended and prosecuted complex, multi-jurisdictional, frauds and other offences. She also advises corporate clients on regulatory investigations involving local authorities, Trading Standards, the Advertising Standards Agency, the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency, and the Food Standards Agency. Jennifer undertakes defence work on behalf of solicitors' firms and individual solicitors facing investigation by the SRA. She represents high-net-worth individuals in general crime matters concerning serious allegations of sexual and physical assault. Jennifer is a member of the Private Prosecutors' Association, Young Fraud Lawyers Association and Female Fraud Forum.

HARRIES, Nicholas
Macfarlanes LLP, London
02078319222
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Career: Nicholas started his career as a barrister, practising from 10 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn (a leading set of traditional Chancery chambers). He subsequently joined Macfarlanes in 2003. He continues to hold Higher Courts rights of audience. Nicholas' current practice draws on both the detailed trust law and drafting experience gained at the bar and the technical tax experience gained later in his career. It embraces the full range of tax, estate and succession planning advice for individual's resident in the UK (UK and non-UK domiciliaries). It also includes advice for internationally-based individuals and their families, often where there is no significant connection with the UK. He works closely with our private client disputes team (drawing on his contentious experience at the Bar) and with our tax team (to deliver co-ordinated advice where both personal and business tax issues are at stake). Nicholas also heads up our charity and probate practices. He has many years' experience advising on all probate related matters.
Professional Memberships: Professional memberships – STEP (Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners) – The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn

HARTLEY, John
Shoosmiths LLP, London
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Featured in Financial Crime (UK)
Practice Areas: John is head of the financial crime and regulatory investigations team at Hodge Jones & Allen and advises individuals and businesses involved in complex fraud cases and regulatory enforcement. He is highly experienced and well known in all areas of business crime investigations including bribery and corruption, insider dealing, tax offences and fraud. John is an expert on Proceeds of Crime Act issues including advising on pre-charge restraint orders, applications to vary restraint orders and confiscation proceedings which may follow a conviction. John is also familiar with Civil Recovery Proceedings in the High Court. John is regularly instructed to advise on investigations by the Serious Fraud Office, Financial Conduct Authority, HM Revenue & Customs and various other government departments such as the Insolvency Service. John has recently represented a former trader accused of manipulating a major benchmark interest rate (EURIBOR) in a high profile SFO prosecution. John is also experienced in dealing with the possible ancillary matters which may arise such as investigations brought by regulatory bodies, director's disqualification and any application to wind up a company in the high court. One example of his regulatory practise was when recently being instructed to represent a school during an investigation by the Secretary of State for Education.
Career: Called to Bar (Middle Temple) in 2005; Admitted as Solicitor in 2008; Joined Hodge Jones & Allen in 2016 as a Partner and head of serious fraud department
Professional Memberships: Fraud Lawyers Association; International Bar Association; Proceeds of Crime Act Lawyers Association; Association of Military Court Advocates
Publications: Contributor to national & local media

HASSALL, Natasha
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Oxford and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Natasha advises on long term estate planning, handling both onshore and offshore trusts, tax planning and wills. She is very experienced in dealing with large landed estates, family offices and, in particular, heritage property issues. She undertakes a great deal of work involving complicated trusts; asset protection and devolution; and capital tax planning and also looks after several large families based outside the UK.
Professional Memberships: Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP); Professional Advisers to the International Art Market (PAIAM); Member of the Trust Law Committee; Historic Houses Association; Heritage Group of Professional Advisers

HATLEY, Emma
Stewarts, London
020 7822 8000
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Emma specialises in complex family cases for high net worth individuals, usually with an international dimension. Emma has a breadth of experience in all areas of family breakdown but with particular focus on the associated financial issues. A significant number of her cases involve trusts, family businesses, inherited wealth and tracing assets. Emma advises regularly in negotiating and drafting pre-nuptial and post-nuptial agreements, both in a domestic and international context. Emma has a leading practice in cases concerning the international relocation of children.
Career: Emma read Law at Cambridge University. She joined Stewarts in May 2009 after 14 years at Withers.
Professional Memberships: ·International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL) ·International Academy of Collaborative Professionals ·Resolution ·Creative Divorce ·Qualified Mediator and Collaborative Lawyer
Publications: Emma has regularly commented on topical family law issues in the media, including appearances on BBC, ITN and Sky News and interviews on Radio 5 and Talkradio. Emma has been recommended in a Tatler magazine article featuring the top divorce lawyers in London.

HAVERS, Sarah
Stewarts, London
shavers@stewartslaw.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Sarah is experienced in high-value, multi-jurisdictional financial proceedings, as well as international jurisdiction disputes. She is described by clients as "absolutely fantastic" and "extremely smart and tough". Sarah advises on all family law issues. Her experience is primarily in high-value, multi-jurisdictional financial proceedings, often involving family businesses, corporate structures and offshore trusts. She also has considerable experience in international jurisdiction disputes and recently acted in the following reported cases: 1. for the husband in Mantegazza v Mantegazza [2017] EWHC 3811 (Fam) in respect of his successful application to stay the wife's English divorce petition on the basis that Switzerland was the more appropriate forum. 2. for the husband in Pierburg v Pierburg [2019] EWFC 24 in respect of his successful challenge to the jurisdiction of the English court to entertain the wife's divorce petition on the basis that she was not domiciled, habitually resident or resident in England.
Career: Sarah studied Modern History at Worcester College, Oxford University. She joined Stewarts in September 2013, having completed a training contract at Manches.
Professional Memberships: Sarah is a member of Resolution (formerly the Solicitors Family Law Association).
Publications: Sarah comments regularly in the press, including most recently in FT Adviser about the introduction of No Fault Divorce in England and Wales.

HEDGES, Caroline
Raworths LLP Solicitors, Harrogate
Featured in Private Wealth Law (York, Hull and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Caroline Hedges is a Partner in the Trusts, Wills and Estates team. Caroline is a highly experienced private client lawyer specialising in providing long term advice to families and their trusts on wealth devolution and capital tax mitigation, often acting as executor/trustee to provide an objective view. Caroline is particularly noted for balancing strong technical expertise with the softer skills necessary to deal with the sensitive situations which can arise within extended wealthy families. Caroline focuses on acting for families on a long term basis where empathy and interpersonal skills are key to ensuring that wealth is suitably protected and passed down the generations in a measured and fair way. This can be seen in the fact that many of her clients have followed her during her career. Caroline has strong Yorkshire roots and well-established relationships with professional contacts, often working alongside them to provide a "family office" service to the region's wealthy families. Caroline was one of the earliest Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) members in Yorkshire and has served on the Yorkshire STEP committee.

HENRY, Michael
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Thames Valley)
Practice Areas: Michael is a senior lawyer specialising in contentious trust and estate disputes, acting for individuals, families, executors, trustees and beneficiaries. His wealth of experience in this niche area includes: Will disputes, disputes involving executors, trusts and beneficiaries, Inheritance Act claims, powers of attorney/Court of Protection and mental capacity disputes, professional negligence in Will writing, challenging lifetime gifts and inheritance disputes involving charities. Michael's priority is to reach a settlement for his clients. He helps them to understand the risks and potential outcomes so they can make an informed decision. Alternative dispute resolution methods are used where possible to avoid a lengthy court case.
Professional Memberships: Full accreditation to the Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS) and Solicitors for the Elderly (SFE).

HENSHALL, Charlotte
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Charlotte is an Associate in the Dispute Resolution department, with particular focus on contentious trusts & probate disputes. Charlotte has experience in a broad range of contentious trust matters, with particular expertise in multi-jurisdictional disputes. Her cases have included trustee and executor removal applications, breach of trust claims, and trustee blessing applications. Charlotte also frequently advises on probate and estate disputes, including claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975, capacity issues and will validity issues.
Career: Charlotte completed her training contract with Ogier in Guernsey and qualified into their Dispute Resolution department before joining Payne Hicks Beach in 2018.
Professional Memberships: Charlotte is a member of STEP, ConTrA and LSLA.
Publications: eprivateclient, Financial Times online
Personal: Charlotte graduated with a First Class LLB (Hons) in Law at the University of Hull.

HENSON, Jessica
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
020 3400 1000
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Jessica is a private client partner specialising in risk and disputes in relation to trusts and estates. Jessica has accrued extensive trust litigation experience both in England and offshore. Her cases have included seeking and defending the removal of trustees, protectors and executors; rectification and variation

of trusts; setting aside and defending trusts on the basis of sham allegations; challenging trustees' fees; claims for breach of fiduciary duty; and associated professional negligence proceedings against tax and legal advisors. Equally, Jessica frequently advises on probate and estate disputes, including invalidity claims, capacity and construction issues, as well as claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975. Jessica draws on her wealth of litigation experience to inform asset protection and estate planning strategies designed to avoid disputes in the future. For this reason, Jessica is frequently asked to advise on the establishment of trusts, nuptial agreements and Wills where there are particular risks or asset protection concerns.
Career: Having studied Classics at Cambridge University, Jessica trained at Herbert Smith and worked at Berwin Leighton Paisner before joining Payne Hicks Beach as a partner 2020.
Professional Memberships: Jessica is a member of ACTAPs and STEP, and a co-founder of ConTrA.

HEWITT, Paul
Withers LLP, London
+44 20 7597 6197
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Paul specialises in all forms of domestic and cross-border trust and succession disputes. He is co-author of Probate Disputes and Remedies and Inheritance Act Claims (3rd edition, May 2022). Inheritance Act successes include Bhusate v Patel (widow bringing claim 25 years out of time), Cowan v Foreman in the Court of Appeal, and Wells v Chorus Law (neighbour prevented from claiming as 'child as deceased'). Described as a 'star litigator' and 'a formidable opponent', Paul represented His Exalted Highness VIII Nizam of Hyderabad in high profile litigation with India and Pakistan over funds held by NatWest since 1948. Paul also advises on Court of Protection disputes, financial, and health/ welfare (including the leading cross border welfare decision Re MN). High profile cases include two Supreme Court matters, acting for the trustees in the Hastings Bass matter of Futter v Futter applying to set aside the result of incorrect tax advice, and in Hodkin v Registrar General of Births, Deaths and Marriages; and for the successful claimants in the Court of Appeal probate dispute Hawes v Burgess and in RSPCA v Sharp. Paul frequently defends charitable legacy income eg Beasant v Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind [2022].
Professional Memberships: ACTAPS STEP CLA

HICKS, Elizabeth
Family Law in Partnership LTD, London
0207 420 5000
eh@flip.co.uk
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Elizabeth is a director at Family Law in Partnership. She specialises in all areas of family law and has a particular focus in advising HNW and UHNW clients on complex cross jurisdictional issues of family, matrimonial and trusts law. Elizabeth's work includes divorce, contested financial remedy cases and asset protection, often involving international aspects. Elizabeth also advises on complicated private Children Act cases and Pre and Post Marital Agreements with both domestic and international aspects. Elizabeth's clients include husbands and wives, cohabitants and sometimes children. They come from a range of backgrounds and include entrepreneurs, City professionals and various high profile individuals and their spouses and partners. As a trained collaborative lawyer, Elizabeth is experienced in using the collaborative process to resolve family law matters.
Professional Memberships: Elizabeth is a fellow of the International Academy of Family Lawyers and has been actively involved in arranging a number of their Education programmes. She is a member of Resolution, the Creative Divorces Collaborative Pod and the London Welsh Lawyers Association. Elizabeth is a native English and Welsh speaker, and is proficient in French.

HIRST, Alexandra
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
020 7079 8150
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Alexandra is a Senior Associate in Boodle Hatfield's leading Family team. She advises clients in relation to divorce and the resolution of financial issues, specifically cases involving substantial sums with complex asset structures. Alexandra is expert at drafting pre-and post-nuptial agreements for spouses as well as cohabitation agreements for unmarried partners. She also advises parents in relation to the care of, and financial provision for, their children following separation. Alexandra also acts for parents who are seeking to move with their children to another part of the country or to another jurisdiction. She regularly represents clients before the High Court.

HOGWOOD, Richard
Stewarts, London
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Richard focuses particularly on negotiating the financial aspects of divorce (and civil partnership dissolution), separation and preparing pre-nuptial and post-nuptial agreements. Often, these matters will have an international element and, with pre-nuptial and post-nuptial agreements especially, Richard is accustomed to liaising with lawyers in several different jurisdictions. Reflective of his private client background, Richard is also regularly involved in cases involving complex tax and trust issues. Richard recently acted for HRH Prince Louis of Luxembourg in the successful application for a reporting restrictions order relating to family proceedings – [2017] EWHC 3095 (Fam). Richard also recently acted for the wife in XW v XH 2017 EWFC 76 (and XW v XH (No.2) (Reporting Restrictions Order) [2018] EWFC 44) in which the wife was awarded one of the highest recorded English divorce settlements. In addition the case dealt with issues of special contribution, privacy and whether foreign marital contracts should be treated as pre-nuptial agreements.
Career: Richard graduated from Oxford University (1997). Upon qualification in 2001, he practised initially as a corporate tax lawyer at Slaughter and May before moving to Speechly Bircham (now Charles Russell Speechlys) as a private client tax and trusts lawyer (and subsequently as a family lawyer).

HOLLAND, Emma
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eholland@stewartslaw.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Emma regularly advises where there is friction between beneficiaries and fiduciaries and also to facilitate separation of beneficial interests, assisting with associated court applications both on-and off-shore. Emma advises on succession issues and the validity of wills, including issues of capacity and advises where conflicts of private international law arise. She also assists with claims made under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975. Emma often advises in relation to the affairs of those who have lost capacity and associated applications in the Court of Protection.
Career: Emma graduated from Exeter University having studied Law with European study in Italy. She joined Stewarts in 2017 after spending eight years at Withers LLP. In 2019 Emma achieved the STEP Advanced Certificate in Trust Disputes. She became a partner at Stewarts in 2021.
Professional Memberships: •AIJA (International Association of Young Lawyers) •The Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists •Top 35 Under 35, eprivate client award (2016)
Publications: Emma has featured in the Times in relation to whether the laws around wills are fit for the modern family set-up. Emma has written numerous articles and practice notes including recently for Trusts and Estates Law & Tax Journal, Lexis Nexis and ThoughtLeaders4. She also regularly speaks at conferences.

HOLLAND, Nicholas
McDermott Will & Emery UK LLP, London
+44 20 7570 1406
niholland@mwe.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Nicholas (Nick) focuses his practice on international contentious trusts and estates and acts primarily for wealthy families, individuals, institutional trustees, protectors and enforcers in disputes involving offshore trusts. Nick is also often involved in non-contentious international private wealth matters where he brings his extensive knowledge of offshore trusts and jurisdictions as well as potentially litigious outcomes to bear on the difficulties faced by international wealthy families. Nick is qualified as a lawyer in England and Wales, the Cayman Islands, British Columbia and Ontario; and has played a key role in litigation in the Cayman Islands, Jersey, Guernsey, the Isle of Man, British Virgin Islands, Singapore, Switzerland, Canada and the United States. A Canadian expatriate in London, Nick often advises Canadian individuals and institutions on matters of UK law either himself or where appropriate in conjunction with other members of McDermott's prestigious private wealth or tax teams. View more here: https://www.mwe.com/en/team/h/holland-nicholas
Professional Memberships: Admitted to practice in England and Wales, the Cayman Islands, British Columbia and Ontario University College London, Denys Holland Scholarship Committee.
Personal: University of Toronto, BA, (Hons); University of Toronto Faculty of Law, Bachelor of Laws.

HOOD, Henry L A
Hunters, London
020 7412 0050
henry.hood@hunterslaw.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Senior Partner Henry heads Hunters' family department, bringing over 25 years' experience in HNW family cases. Henry is highly esteemed for his skilled and considered approach to complex, high-value financial remedy cases, often with cross-border elements. Henry has particular expertise with landed estates; his farming background means he is alert to their complexities, including dynastic trusts, partnerships and liquidity. Henry also frequently acts for financiers, entrepreneurs, professionals and other HNW clients and their spouses and is regularly instructed in UHNW nuptial agreements, including those with international elements. Henry is accomplished in sensitive children cases, where his expertise and understanding are highly regarded. He has a strong Dispute Resolution base as an acclaimed mediator and is a trained family law arbitrator (finance) and collaborative lawyer. Henry is an Accredited Resolution Specialist in advanced financial provision and private children law.
Career: Henry joined Hunters in 1985, becoming a partner in 1991 and head of the Family department in 2000.
Professional Memberships: Resolution member; Fellow of the International Academy of Family Lawyers; Lowtonian Society; Institute of Family Law Arbitrators (IFLA); Agricultural Law Association.
Personal: Married with five children, Henry lives in London and Dorset, where he farms (in a non-executive capacity!).

HORWOOD, Richard
Longmores Solicitors, Hertford
0199 2305233
richard.horwood@longmores.law
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Watford, Uxbridge and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Richard Horwood leads the team as Head of the Private Client Practice Area, focusing on strategic planning for families, specialising in estates where there are elements of agricultural property relief and business property relief, often of high value. He regularly acts as professional executor, trustee, attorney, and deputy, liaising with a wide range of accountants, stockbrokers and other financial advisers.
Career: Richard has been with Longmores since 2001, advising individuals and families about their Wills, Trusts and Inheritance Tax planning arrangements. He has headed the Private Client team since 2014, having become a partner in 2008.
Professional Memberships: Richard is a member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP), Private Client Section of the Law Society, a member of the Hertfordshire Law Society Trust and Estate Committee. As well as being on the MENCAP and National Autistic Society panels of specialist solicitors and adviser to the Principal Lawyer at Hertfordshire County Council Adults, Children and Health Legal Services Team in relation to trusts.
Personal: Richard is a fan of all sports, particularly cricket and golf. He's also happy on a sun lounger with a good book. Richard is a keen runner and uses some of the latest technology to track his progress.

HOSKYNS-ABRAHALL, Bertie
Withers LLP, London
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Featured in Real Estate (London)
Practice Areas: Bertie is a partner and co-head of the farms and estates team. He has extensive experience in advising clients looking to purchase estates, farms, country houses and grouse moors, as well as a strong track record in selling estates and advising on future planning for sellers. In addition to his transactional practice, he advises landowners on a variety of management and succession issues. Such advice ranges from everyday solutions to decisions of great importance to the family. Bertie thrives on issues and challenges that face landed families, and is known for his ability to empathise with the client and their family. Bertie is very interested in the future of farming and land management, and is acutely aware of the spectrum of land uses and commercial drivers that influence land management choices today.

HUMPHRIES, Matthew
Stewarts, London
020 7822 8170
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Matthew's expertise is resolving complex financial claims arising on family breakdown. He represents high net worth individuals, or their spouses, frequently in cases involving intricate trust and/or corporate structures often with an international element. Matthew also regularly advises upon the negotiation of pre-nuptial and post-nuptial agreements.
Career: Matthew qualified in 1998, joining Stewarts in 2010.
Professional Memberships: Matthew is a member of Resolution and Resolution's Cohabitation Committee, and the International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL)

HUNTER, Mark
Macfarlanes LLP, London
+44 20 7849 2463
mark.hunter@macfarlanes.com
Featured in Family Offices & Funds Structuring (UK), Private Wealth Law (London)
Career: Mark advises on a broad range of tax, trust and estate planning issues for individuals, trustees and family offices. He has extensive experience working on complex matters with a cross-border element. Mark's work is divided between matters involving UK resident individuals (both UK domiciled and non-UK domiciled) and matters with a more international focus, including pre-arrival tax planning and structuring inbound investments for clients. Mark also advises clients with no significant UK connections on trust and succession issues. Mark advises on the development of family governance, the creation and operation of asset-holding structures and the creation of family office structures for both UK and non-UK based families. He has also been involved in family trust matters with a litigious or a potentially litigious element. Mark has particular experience in advising on matters with a US connection. In 2016 he spent six months on secondment with the trusts and estates group of a leading New York-based law firm and has developed a good understanding of the tax and succession issues for US citizens and residents.

HUNTER-SMART, Angus
Wrigleys Solicitors LLP, Leeds
07718 123 445
angus.huntersmart@wrigleys.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Leeds, Bradford and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Angus's focus is on succession planning, tax planning and long-term asset protection for farming and landowning clients, with a particular focus on maximising business and agricultural property relief. He also advises on the tax implications of owning heritage property and is often involved with complex reorganisations of trusts and tax-efficient partitions of landed estates between family members. Within this work, Angus covers a wide variety of matters including wills, trusts, powers of attorney, partnership agreements and capital tax planning in all its forms.
Career: Angus gained an MA in French and History at the University of Edinburgh. He studied law at the Oxford Institute of Legal Practice and qualified as a solicitor in 2005. Angus joined Wrigleys as an assistant from Forsters (London) in 2009, and was made a partner in 2013.
Professional Memberships: Angus is a member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP), the Country Land and Business Association and the Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust. He also sits on the Country Land and Business Association's national tax committee. Angus is a recently retired trustee of the York Minster Fund and the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust and now assists the Ripon Cathedral Development Trust with their patrons scheme.

IBBS, Dominic
B P Collins LLP, Gerrards Cross
01753 278650
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Watford, Uxbridge and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Dominic's work involving trusts has allowed him to develop the expertise to advise both trustees and beneficiaries on their legal position, obligations and rights. He also deals with all aspects of private client law including wills, probate and estate administration, powers of attorney and applications to the Court of Protection. Dominic is known for his high level of client service and is able to deal with complex issues in a timely and effective way. He is experienced in dealing with high value trusts and estates. As the secretary of B P Collins Trust Corporation Limited, Dominic is involved in the creation and administration of trusts, of which the Trust Corporation is the professional trustee. He is a full member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP)
Professional Memberships: STEP – Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners.

INGHAM, Matt
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
Featured in Immigration (UK)
Practice Areas: Matt advises high-net worth clients in relation to political asylum, judicial review, appeals, complex human rights and removals cases. Matt's breadth of experience allows him to adopt an inter-disciplinary approach: he is well-placed to develop creative, strategic solutions to assist and protect clients, and works alongside the firm's reputation protection and civil litigation teams. Matt has acted for high profile individuals and has been at the forefront of significant cases in the asylum field. He has experience of making asylum claims whilst simultaneously defending extradition requests. He is also able to deploy different legal tools to assist the client such as making and defending civil proceedings based on allegations of fraud and defamation linked to the underlying corporate raiding attempt. His cases range across a number of jurisdictions and his experience includes challenging Interpol red flag notices. In addition, Matt has a breadth of experience of human rights-based judicial review applications with broad advisory and court experience in complex proceedings of this nature. He works closely with the non-contentious Immigration team with regard to UK visas, British citizenship and Indefinite Leave to Remain applications, often with a discretionary element and for applications interlinking with on-going litigation.

JARRON, Edward
Withers LLP, London
020 7597 6124
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Featured in Real Estate (London)
Practice Areas: Edward deals with a broad range of property matters. Although his concentration is in the landed estates sector, his practice areas include buying and selling country houses, agricultural estates, development sites, dealing with commercial leases and renewables projects (both for landowners and developers). Edward undertakes high-end residential work and also the property aspects of tax planning for private clients. Edward's clients include predominantly private individuals (both national and international), family offices and corporate clients (including not for profit organisations).
Professional Memberships: Law Society; Country Land & Business Association (CLA)

JENNER, Sam
Raworths LLP Solicitors, Harrogate
Featured in Private Wealth Law (York, Hull and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Sam Jenner is a Partner in the Trusts, Wills and Estates team. Sam deals with all aspects of private client work including wills, tax and succession planning, trust advice and administration of estates. He has considerable knowledge and practical experience in advising the trustees of family trusts and charitable trusts and, as an example, deals with the administration, processes and policies of a multi-million pound grant making charity. Sam is sought after to provide strategic advice in relation to structures to pass on wealth and businesses in tax efficient and family-appropriate ways, including the use of family investment companies, trusts and LLPs to manage complex assets. Sam regularly attracts high quality client referrals from other professionals who are impressed by his excellent client service and problem solving approach. Sam also has experience in dealing with Court of Protection matters including Lasting and Enduring Powers of Attorney and deputyship applications. Sam a member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP).

JUNOR, Lloyd
Adams & Remers, Lewes
01273 403275
lloyd.junor@adamsandremers.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (The South)

Practice Areas: Litigation – Contentious Trusts & Probate
Career: Before joining Adams & Remers Lloyd was at Thomas Eggar LLP (now part of Irwin Mitchell LLP) and before that Henmans LLP (now Freeths LLP) and Bircham Dyson Bell LLP. Lloyd is highly experienced in litigation concerning trusts and estates – acting for professional trustees, lay trustees and beneficiaries and fiduciaries and their advisers, HNW individuals, and charities. His clients are national and international. He has gained a reputation for robust and effective advice in this complex area of law and has developed a particular expertise acting in disputes involving farms. He is experienced in mediating and resolving contentious trust, estate and probate disputes for beneficiaries, trustees/fiduciaries, executors and administrators both UK and non-UK based. Advising on professional negligence claims against executors and trustees, and advising on Court of Protection disputes.
Professional Memberships: Lloyd is a member of the Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS) and the STEP Special Interest Group for Contentious Trusts.

KAMINSKI, Russell
JMW Solicitors LLP, Manchester
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Manchester and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Russell joined JMW in March 2021 as a Solicitor in the Private Client Department. Complex Wills including bespoke Inheritance Tax and Estate Planning including high net worth individuals and families Creating and administration of Trusts Lasting Powers of Attorney Probate / Estate Administration Russell has a particular interest in digital assets and providing advice on how to ensure that our "digital footprints" and any digital assets are dealt with appropriately after death.
Career: Trained at Brabners LLP in Manchester.
Professional Memberships: STEP affiliate member
Publications: Written articles for the Law Society Private Client Section – https://communities.lawsociety.org.uk/september-2020/life-story/6001333.article

KAPOOR, Emily
Katz Partners LLP, London
020 3859 3525
emily.kapoor@katzllp.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Emily is a founding partner of Katz Partners. She has extensive experience across the spectrum of family law issues, with a particular focus on divorce and very high-value financial claims. She is a highly regarded litigator who has been involved in a number of major cases involving trusts, inherited wealth, offshore assets and family businesses. She also advises on all areas of private children law, including applications for injunctive relief and applications to re-locate internationally.

KATZ, Davina
Katz Partners LLP, London
0203 859 3525
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Davina Katz is senior partner of Katz Partners, a divorce and family law firm specialising in high net worth and complex cases. She is widely recognised as one of the leading divorce lawyers in England and Wales: Davina's practice deals with all private Family law matters with a focus on very high value financial cases upon divorce and complex children matters. She has a long established and highly regarded practice in pre-nuptial and post-nuptial agreements, both domestically and internationally. She is a very experienced litigator who has led proceedings at High Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court levels.
Career: Davina trained and spent eight years at Mishcon de Reya and ten years at Schillings, which she joined in 2009 to establish its award-winning family department. She founded Katz Partners in 2019. Davina is ranked in the Spear's Indices as one of ten of the Top-Flight Family lawyers in England and Wales. She has received numerous industry awards, and is a frequent writer and broadcaster on family law issues on television and radio, and in the national press.

KELSEY, Rachael
SKO Family Law Specialists, Edinburgh
0131 243 2583
rachael.kelsey@sko-family.co.uk
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Rachael was the only 'Hall of Fame' family lawyer in Scotland for the second year running in the Legal 500 (2022 Edition) and the only Scottish lawyer in the Spears 500 Family Lawyers Guide (2022). Chambers and Partners and The Legal 500 both describe Rachael as, 'the doyenne of Scots family law'. President-Elect of the International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL), Rachael is accredited as a Specialist in Family Law and as a Family Mediator. The current edition of Chambers notes, "Rachael is a pre-eminent family lawyer with a unique combination of legal brilliance and client care skills.". The Legal 500 report that "Rachael Kelsey is a superstar" and that, "She is so engaging, very pragmatic and no-nonsense, yet also sensitive and responsive as her clients and the circumstances require.'" Rachael is known as someone who is adept at using her considerable knowledge of the law to deliver novel, yet practical, solutions for clients. She is particularly experienced in acting for individuals for whom there are jurisdictional complexities and/or privacy concerns and is used to managing the issues that flow from people's private lives being in the public eye.

KEMPSTER, Steven
Withers LLP, London
0044 (0)20 7597 6196
steven.kempster@withersworldwide.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Steven specialises in the resolution of disputes relating to trusts and estates in a UK and international context, in particular where cross-border issues and conflicts of law are involved. Recent cases have involved disputes in the Channel Islands, Isle of Man, Switzerland, Gibraltar, Liechtenstein, Hong Kong, Singapore, Cayman Islands and Bermuda. He also advises on dispute resolution where UK charities are involved. Steven has also accepted appointment by the relevant courts to act as a representative party looking after the interests of children and unborn beneficiaries in trusts and estates disputes. He also has particular expertise in guiding clients through alternative dispute resolution processes, including mediation, early neutral evaluation and the evolving use of arbitration in trusts disputes.
Career: Trained and qualified, Herbert Smith LLP, London, 1998 to 2008 Partner at Taylor Wessing LLP, London, 2008 to 2014 Partner at Withers LLP, London, 2014 to present.
Professional Memberships: STEP (elected as committee member for Contentious Trusts Steering Group) Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists
Publications: Editor and contributing author to 'International Trust Disputes', published by Oxford University Press 2013 (first edition) and 2020 (second edition).

KERRIGAN, Simon
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
020 7079 8123
skerrigan@boodlehatfield.com
Featured in Real Estate (London)
Practice Areas: Simon deals with all aspects of residential property work, in particular landlord and tenant matters. He has detailed knowledge and experience in leasehold enfranchisement cases, both for landlords (including large landed estates both in and outside London) and tenants. He also deals with acquisitions and disposals for high-net-worth individuals.

KERTESZ, Geoffrey
Stewarts, London
+44 20 7903 7966
gkertesz@stewartslaw.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Geoff specialises in resolving troublesome issues relating to trusts and estates, whether domestic or international. He has experience with cases involving the UK, US, Channel Islands, Cayman Islands, BVI and Hong Kong, among other jurisdictions. Geoff is equally at ease dealing with purely domestic matters. Unusually for a litigator, Geoff acts as a trustee, which gives him a first-hand view of the issues facing trusts and trustees.
Career: Geoff joined Stewarts in 2020. He originally qualified in San Francisco and cross-qualified as an English solicitor in 2008. On moving to London, he was at Withers and then at Bircham Dyson Bell, where he headed up the will and trust disputes team.
Professional Memberships: The Association of Contentious Trusts and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS) The Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) Trusts and Estates Section of the State Bar of California
Publications: Serle Court International Trusts and Commercial Litigation Conference New York 2019: Confidentiality and open justice in trust and commercial cases Transcontinental Trusts Forum Bermuda 2019: What to do when you are asked for trust documents Contra Trusts in Litigation Conference Athens 2019: Capacity in the trusts context

KINCH, Carly
Stewarts, London
+44 (0)20 7822 8024
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Carly has significant experience with all aspects of family law but her work focuses predominantly on the resolution of complex financial issues, including the negotiation and drafting of marital agreements. Many of her cases involve international issues, trusts, family businesses and inherited wealth. Carly also advises on children disputes, including issues of residence and contact, relocation, paternity and financial provision.
Career: After jointing Stewarts as a paralegal in 2006, Carly completed a training contract with the firm and qualified in 2009. She was promoted to partner at Stewarts in 2018.
Professional Memberships: Carly is a member of Resolution

KINGHAM, Matilda
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP, London
020 7753 7851
kingham.matilda@gmail.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Matilda is an exceptional senior associate who works with a range of Partners in the most complex of cases including children, financial and surrogacy matters, the majority of which involving HNW individuals. She has recently trained as a mediator which, coupled with her year-long course at the Tavistock & Portman: "An Introduction to Counselling and Psychotherapy" ensures that she can offer her HNW clients a well-rounded service. This unique skillset demonstrates her absolute commitment to meeting her clients' needs and sets her apart from her peers. It merits her inclusion as an 'Associate to Watch' in the 2022 Guide.

KLEINKNECHT, Gregor
Keystone Law, London
gregor.kleinknecht@keystonelaw.co.uk
Featured in Art and Cultural Property Law (UK)
Practice Areas: Gregor has a strong disputes and transactional practice in art and cultural heritage law. He acts

for a wide range of private clients, private and institutional art collectors, art dealers, commercial art galleries, fine art agents, funding organisations and various private and public institutions. Gregor advises on the contractual aspects of commissioning, buying or selling art, whether through commissioning agreements with artists, agency or gallery agreements, private treaty sales or consignment by auction, including advice on pre-acquisition due diligence and the application of artists' resale right. In relation to the ownership and management of art collections, he has consulted on matters such as the loan of artworks for exhibition, the use of artworks as collateral for financial transactions, and the restoration and insurance of artworks. When disputes arise, Gregor represents clients in relation to contract and title disputes, historical restitution claims, on questions of misattribution or authenticity of artworks and illegally excavated and/or exported artefacts.

Career: Gregor qualified as a German Rechtsanwalt in 1995 and as an English solicitor in 1996. Following a career at two leading international City of London law firms and at a US law firm, Gregor founded and led the boutique firm of Klein Solicitors. Gregor joined Hunters as a partner in the art, dispute resolution and business services departments upon the merger of the two firms in February 2014.

Professional Memberships: Gregor is a founding member and chairs the board of the Professional Advisers to the International Art Market (PAIAM), a member of the Institute of Art and Law (IAL), Art Law Foundation, Lawyers' Committee for Cultural Heritage Preservation, Institut für Kunst und Recht, the Arts Club and the Fondation Maeght.

KNIGHT, Robert
Keystone Law, London
020 3319 3700
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Crawley and surrounds)

Practice Areas: Robert is an experienced lawyer who provides advice to individuals, families, trustees, executors and beneficiaries on issues relating to succession, trusts and UK personal tax. He has particular experience in the structuring and taxation of wills and trusts, and also advises on probate, powers of attorney and deeds of variation.

Career: Robert qualified as a solicitor in 2007. Prior to joining Keystone Law in 2019, he worked at the following firms: DMH Stallard Rawlison Butler Stephenson Harwood Thomas Eggar

KOUYOUMJIAN, Salpy
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
0207 079 8245
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Featured in Family Offices & Funds Structuring (UK), Private Wealth Law (United Arab Emirates), Private Wealth Law (London)

Practice Areas: Salpy has a strong international client base and specialises in providing international tax and structuring advice to ultra high net worth entrepreneurs (and the trustees and financial institutions who service them) in relation to their multi-jurisdictional private and business assets. She has extensive expertise in advising clients on international and cross border taxation, long-term asset protection/risk management and family/business governance. Salpy has considerable experience in designing and establishing bespoke international asset-holding and wealth management structures including private trust companies, limited partnerships, family offices, pooled investment vehicles and investment management/advisory structures. Salpy has extensive expertise in establishing family offices (single and multi) in numerous jurisdictions and collective investment vehicles to help families or small groups of investors to pool their investments. Salpy also has extensive expertise in Sharia compliant wealth structuring. Salpy is fluent in Arabic, French and Armenian.

KURTH, Natasha
Wedlake Bell LLP, London
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)

Practice Areas: Natasha advises on a variety of family law matters with a particular focus on resolving the financial issues arising on divorce. She predominantly advises in financial remedy cases involving jurisdictional issues, complex corporate structures and assets held in trust. She recently acted in the reported case of FW v FH [2019] EWHC 1338 (Fam). Natasha also has experience advising on pre-nuptial agreements and in relation to Schedule 1 cases. She is known by Counsel and clients alike for her efficient and meticulous approach.

LANDELLS, Katharine
Withers LLP, London
0207 597 6188
katherine.landells@withersworldwide.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)

Practice Areas: Katharine is dynamic and creative, with an abundance of energy which she commits to making positive progress for her clients. She is held in high regard for her ability to drive a clearly mapped overall strategy whilst honing in on the crucial detail. Clients find her approach to be constructive and commercial, combining intelligence with empathy and humanity. Katharine has been involved in some of the leading cases in Family Law, representing clients all the way to the Supreme Court. She will fight her client's corner hard but is also a talented negotiator, working to diffuse conflict, and resolve issues in her clients' best interests. Katharine's clients are typically founders, business owners, decision makers and their partners. She has a track record of dealing with financially and emotionally complex cases, especially those with an international angle; involving privately held businesses; or where there are trusts or other sophisticated asset structures. She is regularly instructed in connection with UK and international nuptial agreements, highly contested children matters and cases concerning the international relocation of children.

Professional Memberships: Resolution

LANGTON, Lois
Howard Kennedy LLP, London
0203 755 5559
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)

Practice Areas: Lois is a family law specialist assisting clients with all aspects of family work. Acting for a number of high-profile and high net worth individuals, Lois has a particular expertise in dealing with complex financial remedy work involving multi-million pound matrimonial settlements. Her work regularly involves tax, trust, off-shore, and corporate structures, with high-end divorce and financial remedy cases and pre-and post-nuptial agreements being the work Lois most frequently undertakes. She also advises on cohabitation, separation, and children matters (including adoption and surrogacy). Lois jointly heads Howard Kennedy's Sport sector group and advises a number of individuals associated with the sports industry.

Professional Memberships: Resolution; Women In Football; China Britain Business Council; The 48 Group Club.

LEDSHAM, Gareth
Russell-Cooke, London
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Practice Areas: Gareth is an expert in the resolution of conflicts arising from trusts and estates, as well as disputes relating to those who lack mental capacity. His practice is both domestic and international, and on the latter front he has a particular interest and experience in matters involving assets in civil law jurisdictions.

Career: Gareth qualified as a solicitor in 2006 and joined Russell-Cooke in 2008. He became a partner in 2015 and was appointed Equality, Diversity and Inclusion partner in February 2020.

Professional Memberships: ACTAPS, STEP (committee member Mental Capacity Global Special Interest Group), CoPPA (committee member of London Branch).

LEVISON, Jeremy
Levison Meltzer Pigott, London
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)

Practice Areas: Jeremy Levison is a founding partner of the firm and has over 45 years' experience in dealing with high-net-worth complex financial settlements. A founder of the International Academy of Family Lawyers, Jeremy's contacts with family lawyers worldwide assist in the successful resolution of a significant proportion of his cases that have an international dimension. As well as being a lawyer, Jeremy is a passionate art collector and a supporter of artists unknown, emerging and emerged. J He also has a love for, and a collection of, classic cars. Jeremy frequently appears on television and radio discussing divorce issues. He was also the inspiration for Clive's divorce lawyer in the irreverent daily cartoon strip in The Telegraph. Jeremy is consistently ranked as a "Leading individual" by both the annual legal research directories, Legal 500 and Chambers & Partners as well as the Spears 500.

LINDLEY, Mark
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Practice Areas: Mark specialises in handling disputes in the field of wills, trusts, tax-planning and the administration of estates. These include disputes relating to multi-million pound estates, trust funds for HNW beneficiaries, trustees and trust companies, both onshore and offshore, and in the Court of Protection. Mark also deals with a range of non-contentious private client work including wills, trusts, the administration of estates, powers of attorney / deputyships and long term tax-planning and succession structures.

Professional Memberships: Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (Exam route – Distinction), Elected Member of the STEP Contentious Trusts and Estates SIG Global Steering Committee, Registered Contentious Trust and Probate Specialist (ACTAPS), ConTrA (Contentious Trusts Associates)

LIPSON, Julian
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)

Practice Areas: Julian is a leading expert in the financial repercussions of relationship breakdown. His work frequently has an international dimension, often involving tax and trust implications, substantial assets or incomes. His reputation is for ruthless efficiency and cutting to the chase, and for giving clients the answer from the very outset. Julian has a market leading practice in negotiating pre-nuptial agreements, whether UK or international ones (often Anglo/US or Anglo/European). This is an area of practice which requires wisdom, direction, experience and tact. He also has considerable experience in disputes relating to children, both within and outside of the Court forum. He frequently acts for (or against) household names, but his clients also include City professionals, entrepreneurs, those in the arts/media, financiers, the independently wealthy and their spouses/partners. He speaks fluent French, and consequently is a leader in the field of Anglo-French work. He deals a lot with cases involving the USA. Julian is independently rated by Chambers & Partners as one of only five 'Star Individuals' practising family law. He headed up the firm's family law practice for 9 years, until 2017. He

is considered one of the best family lawyers of his generation.

LLOYD, Charles
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charles.lloyd@macfarlanes.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Career: Charles specialises in private client disputes, particularly international trust and estates litigation. Charles has been the head of Macfarlanes private client disputes group since 2001. Charles has particular expertise in international trusts and estate litigation for high-net-worth individuals. He has a depth of experience in advising trustees, beneficiaries, protectors, executors, administrators in contentious situations arising out of disputes involving these structures. In particular, he advises on disputes relating to the succession of valuable family businesses held in complex structures, involving trusts, foundations, partnerships and other corporate entities, as well as cross-border estates. He has a depth of experience in Shari'a law succession disputes. He also works increasingly at the point of intersection between traditional private client litigation, white collar criminal, regulatory investigations and fraud.

LONGWORTH, Sam
Stewarts, London
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Sam is instructed by individuals, families, and trustees across the world to address issues arising from divorce, and to assist in the preparation of pre-and post-nuptial agreements. He also has extensive expertise in complex parental disputes, with a particular emphasis on international relocation. His clients range from the sports and entertainment industries to the City and international community, with a particular emphasis on the US, South America, Russia and the Middle East. Sam is known for his complete discretion, commercial advice and ability to achieve swift, best-outcome solutions for his clients. He also has extensive experience in 'private court' based arbitration for family disputes. His recent reported cases include Kelly v Pyres and In the matter of C
Career: After training in London, Sam spent time at a leading regional practice before joining Stewarts in 2007, where he became partner in 2013.
Professional Memberships: Sam is Vice-Chair of the International Family Law Committee of the American Bar Association Section of International Law. He is also an active member of the IBA and Resolution.

LORIMER, Tessa
Withers LLP, London
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Featured in Tax (UK)
Practice Areas: Tessa is a consultant in the private client and tax team, focusing on tax investigations. She is a barrister who specialises in both civil and criminal tax fraud investigations and litigation conducted by the Special Investigation and Criminal Investigation departments of HMRC. Tessa has extensive experience in advising the Board of the former Inland Revenue, Revenue and Customs Prosecutions Office as well as HMRC and SOCA (now NCA) in relation to their most complex direct and indirect tax investigations and prosecutions, as well as money laundering, organised / white collar crime, and regulatory offences. Most of her work has been international in nature and Tessa has considerable experience of mutual legal assistance, extradition, search warrants, judicial review, injunctions, SOCPA production orders and legal professional privilege issues. Tessa now specialises in representing both companies and individuals who are subject to civil and criminal, direct and indirect tax fraud investigations and litigation, as well as defending white collar crime and regulatory offences.
Career: Tessa joined Withers in 2014.
Publications: Tax Investigation Practitioners Group Lincolns Inn

MACCALLUM, Sara
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Sara is the Senior Partner and head of the commercial tax group. She has been advising private clients at Boodle Hatfield for over twenty years with particular emphasis on integrating the tax requirements of their business life into their overall planning strategies. She specialises in providing full service transactional advice and commercial tax planning advice to private clients who are owner-managers or stakeholders in family businesses, whether they hold their interests through onshore or offshore vehicles, as well as trust companies, property developers, investors and entrepreneurs. She advises on all the tax aspects of corporate and property transactions including Stamp Duty Land Tax and VAT.
Professional Memberships: Chartered Institute of Tax; British Property Federation (BPF) Tax Committee

MAILER, Emily
Howard Kennedy LLP, London
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Emily is a specialist in trust and estates disputes, resolving both domestic and international cases. She acts for individuals, families, executors, trustees, trust companies, and beneficiaries. Her wealth of experience includes: conducting cases concerning the validity of wills, claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975, breach of trust claims, construction proceedings and rectification applications, and applications to remove executors and trustees; handling Court of Protection applications (both contested and uncontested) for the appointment of deputies and the approval of statutory wills or lifetime gifts; advising settlors who are establishing trusts on risk management issues, such as the treatment of a trust's assets on the divorce or bankruptcy of a beneficiary. Emily provides robust representation of clients in court but equally helps clients reach a settlement away from the risk and publicity of litigation where possible. She is experienced in various forms of Alternative Dispute Resolution, such as mediation.
Professional Memberships: Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS)
Publications: Emily is a regular speaker at conferences and seminars, for example, The International Trusts and Private Client Forum in Jersey, Cross Border Planning for the Private Client in London and STEP Guernsey.

MALKIEL, Simon
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Simon advises UK and international individuals, families and trustees on tax and succession planning, wealth structuring and asset protection. He acts for a growing and diverse client base of high net worth clients including entrepreneurs, business owners, real estate investors, and individuals in the sports, entertainment, and art sectors. He advises both domestic UK clients and those with an international dimension to their affairs such as UK resident non-domiciled taxpayers, foreign clients with UK assets (particularly UK homes or other real estate holdings), or those coming to or leaving the UK. His practice focuses primarily on estate and succession planning, inheritance tax and capital gains tax planning and mitigation, residence and domicile advice and related UK tax issues, asset protection and wealth structuring advice, and UK and offshore trusts and other structures. Simon guides clients through the preparation of wills, typically incorporating trusts for tax/succession planning purposes, as well as to cater for complex family situations, and lasting powers of attorney. Simon is dual-qualified, being both a solicitor and a Chartered Tax Adviser.
Professional Memberships: Chartered Institute of Taxation

MAN, Julie
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Guildford and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Advises on the full spectrum of private client matters including wills, lifetime tax planning, succession planning, trusts and estate administration. Frequently deals with high net-worth and ultra high net-worth clients and is known for dealing with the specialised areas of private client work involving: –business succession, –lifetime tax planning (involving deeds of gift, structuring assets to take advantage of excess income, dealing with trusts and life policy structuring). –cross border issues including domicile issues and advising on Domicile Statements, issues between married couples where one is UK domiciled and the other spouse is non-UK domiciled leading to IHT issues due to the limited spouse exemption, liaising with her network of referrers to structure matters to deal with payment of IHT. Substantial experience representing international clients on cross-border issues, and has a strong background in the elderly care space where she assists with care home fee planning, lasting powers of attorney and Court of Protection applications
Career: Julie joined Russell-Cooke in 2020 from a major Surrey-based law firm where she was head of their private wealth group for seven years and a Partner for 14 years.
Professional Memberships: Solicitors for the Elderly, STEP.
Publications: Frequently writes on a wide range of private client matters for: -Elmbridge Life covering the Surrey area such as Cobham, Oxshott and Weybridge. -American in Britain, Legal Issues –When in Rome do as the Romans do -Law Society –Giving it Up

MANYON, Richard
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Richard focusses on contentious trusts and estates work, and has received the STEP Global Excellence Award. He is co-chair of the annual Trusts in Litigation Conference. He advises on all aspects of international and domestic trust and probate disputes and presently is busy removing trustees and protectors, seeking and resisting trust disclosure, blessing and voiding trustee decisions and challenging the validity of wills amongst other matters. He has a substantial international caseload presently involving Jersey, Guernsey, Bermuda, Kenya, the US and Cayman amongst others.
Career: Payne Hicks Beach, Partner 2015.
Professional Memberships: STEP
Publications: Numerous industry and national publications.

MAPLE, Melissa
Shoosmiths LLP, Reading
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Reading and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Melissa Maple is a Partner in Shoosmiths' Wealth Protection team and leads the High Net Worth team nationally. She also spearheads Shoosmiths Private Wealth, the firm's new, innovative multi-disciplinary offering for high net worth clients. Melissa advises high net worth clients on the long-term protection and devolution of their assets. She uses sophisticated structures to mitigate tax and safeguard wealth for successive generations but she is also concerned to protect and preserve the values that

generated that wealth. Her strength is in understanding her clients and their motivators as she works alongside each client to apply her deep expertise and keen eye for detail in implementing bespoke solutions. She has a desirable niche advising business entrepreneurs, directors, property owners and developers as part of corporate deals as well as advising companies on life assurance and pension schemes.
Professional Memberships: Melissa is a full member of STEP and a member of their International Client Special Interest Group.

MAPSTONE, Simon
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Featured in Real Estate (London)
Practice Areas: Simon is an expert in residential property work including site acquisitions, secured lending, development and property investment. He has over 40 years of experience of the Kensington & Chelsea and Westminster property markets.
Career: Simon qualified as a solicitor in 1983 and was senior partner at Berger Oliver until 2005. Simon joined Goodman Derrick as partner in 2005 following the merger between Berger Oliver and Goodman Derrick. In 2022 he joined Russell-Cooke as a consultant.

MARMOR, Nicole
Sherrards Solicitors, St Albans
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Watford, Uxbridge and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Nicole is a Partner and Head of the Private Wealth Team at Sherrards solicitors in London and St Albans, Hertfordshire. Her experience stretches across both the UK and worldwide with a particular emphasis on France, Germany and Spain as well as India. She is fluent in German and French, which is valued by her international clients, and is an active member of the Alliott Global Alliance (a worldwide alliance of law and accountancy firms) which Sherrards are part of. She advises many high-net-worth individuals on Inheritance Tax, Capital Gains Tax and Estate Planning, Wills, Trusts and Declarations of Trust as well as Court of Protection matters including Deputyships and Lasting Powers of Attorney and more.
Professional Memberships: Nicole is a full member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) and The Private Client Section of The Law Society.

MAYNE, Frances
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Southampton and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Head of the Private Client Group. Specialises in mental capacity issues and Court of Protection as well as probate & trust related matters as. Frances' mental capacity and Court of Protection practice has grown significantly over the last three years. She acts as a professional deputy and attorney. She also advises on the creation of personal injury trusts. Frances speaks at a wide range of events including, most recently, the BABICM Conference in Manchester. She also has a growing practice acting as an expert witness and has recently been instructed to act as an expert for a case in Jersey.

MCDOWELL, Rosamond
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Rosamond is a partner and heads up Payne Hicks Beach's substantial and energetic Private Client team that continues to go from strength to strength. Her specialist area is estate planning advice, including Wills, Probate and the administration of Estates, Trusts and other financial structures, and associated tax issues. Speaking various languages, and with experience of living abroad, Rosamond is able to assist clients with international backgrounds and assets in navigating conflicting laws of various jurisdictions. With an increasing public awareness of mental illness and capacity issues, and with her vocation and training as an Anglican priest, Rosamond assists in guiding vulnerable clients whose interests may need to be protected, and in dealing with powers of attorney and Court of Protection matters. Rosamond also advises executors, trustees and beneficiaries where difficulties and disputes arise, and has experience of acting as an independent trustee and administrator.
Career: Qualified 1998; Biddle/Pinsents 1998-2004; Collyer Bristow 2004-14 (Partner 2007); joined Payne Hicks Beach in 2014 as a Partner and became Head of the Private Client in 2019.
Professional Memberships: ACTAPS; The Law Society Private Client Section
Publications: Tax Journal, Trusts and Trustees, Accountancy Age, Trusts and Estates, FT Weekend.
Personal: MA Cantab, married, 2 children, ordained Anglican Priest.

MCGUIRK, Philip
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Philip advises on all aspects of family law, with his primary focus on financial remedy work. With a reputation for being commercially minded and pragmatic he is regularly instructed in complex financial litigation, more often than not with an international dimension involving HNWIs. He advises on pre/post-nuptial agreements, separation agreements and cohabitation contracts. Philip has a busy practice in pre/post-nuptial agreements, often with a foreign element working with overseas experts. Philip represented the successful husband in one of the early post Radmacher cases (V–v-V (Prenuptial Agreement) [2012] 1 FLR 1315). Philip also deals with disputes relating to children; principally schedule 1 and section 8 CA 1989 applications. Cases of interest include: •MB-v-EB (No.2) [2019] EWHC 3676 (Fam); •MB-v-EB [2019] EWHC 1649 (Fam); •MA-H-v-ZS [2012] EWHC 3271 (Fam); •H-v-S (Recognition of Overseas Divorce) [2011] EWHC B23 (Fam); •V-v-V (Prenuptial Agreement) [2011] EWHC 3230 (Fam); •B-v-B (Ancillary Relief) [2010] 2 FLR 887; •Judge-v-Judge [2009] 1 FLR 1287 CA; •Corbett-v-Corbett [2003] 2 FLR 385 CA; •Attar-v-Attar (Nos 1 & 2) [1985] FD 649 & 653.
Career: Qualified 1985; James & Sarch 1983-2000; joined Payne Hicks Beach as a Partner in 2000.

MCIVOR, Kieran
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Leeds, Bradford and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Kieran has experience and expertise in the administration of complex and high-value estates, complex tax and succession planning, bespoke Will and Trust drafting and cross-border advice across many different jurisdictions worldwide. Kieran's clients include landed estates, farming families, business figures and clients in the UK and overseas who are in need of complex cross-border advice.
Career: Kieran graduated from Durham University with a Bachelor of Law degree (LLB) before attending the College of Law to complete the Legal Practice course. Kieran qualified as a solicitor in 2010 and joined Wrigleys from Barber Titleys in Harrogate in 2015. Kieran was made a partner in the Probate, Trusts and Estate Planning department at Wrigleys in 2020.
Professional Memberships: Kieran is a full member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) and has been a committee member for STEP Yorkshire Branch since 2018. In addition to completing the STEP Diploma, conferring 'TEP' status, Kieran has completed the STEP Advanced Certificate in Cross-Border Estates (with distinction).

MCKEOWN, Jenny
Stephenson Harwood LLP, London
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Jenny McKeown is a leading contentious trusts specialist and is the head of the employment, pensions and private wealth practice group at Stephenson Harwood. Jenny is widely recognised for her experience in complex, high value and sensitive disputes both onshore and offshore, advising trustees, beneficiaries/private individuals and financial services institutions. She has particular expertise advising on high value multi-jurisdictional disputes often with an Asian focus. Jenny's experience ranges from advising on technical areas of mistake and construction of trust documentation to applications for disclosure of information and seeking to hold trustees to account. She also has extensive experience in contentious tax matters, including claims against professional advisers for negligent tax advice, recovering assets obtained in breach of trust and acting in cases where the capacity of an individual is in issue.
Career: Jenny is enormously valued by clients for bringing a commercial and pragmatic approach to complex legal issues as well as for her unique ability to develop a relationship with clients and guide them through difficult disputes.
Publications: She is regularly asked to speak at leading conferences on topical issues in the private wealth sector and has written a number of published articles.

MELVILLE-BROWN, Amber
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Featured in Defamation/Reputation Management (USA), Defamation/Reputation Management (UK)
See under USA Nationwide for profile.

MENDOZA, Nick
Wedlake Bell LLP, London
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Nick works with high net worth clients, advising on estate and succession planning strategies. He advises on tax efficient lifetime giving, the use of trusts as a vehicle for long term succession planning and the preparation of tax efficient Wills. Nick also has a particular focus on the administration of complex high value estates, often covering multiple jurisdictions. This includes advising families on post death tax planning options. Nick assists with the management of family trusts, as well as providing advice to trustees on a range of issues, including the simplification of complex trust structures and tax mitigation opportunities.

MILLER, Caroline
Wedlake Bell LLP, London
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Caroline leads the Private Client Disputes team and her contentious work includes dealing with disputes arising from either a Will or Trust as well as claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975 ("1975 Act claims"), Variation of Trust Applications, and the removal of personal representative applications. Caroline advises Executors, Trustees, beneficiaries and professionals on their duties, obligations and rights with regards to Wills and Trusts. In addition to this, Caroline also advises on a wide range of non-contentious private client matters, including wealth protection, estate planning, trust and estate administration, and the preparation of Lasting Powers of Attorney, as well as applications to the Court of Protection. Caroline acts as both trustee for her trust clients and executor for her deceased clients.

MILNER, Patricia
Withers LLP, London
020 7597 6220
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Patricia is a partner in the Private Client and Tax Team. She focuses on tax, trust and estate planning for both UK and non-UK resident and domiciled individuals and their families. Patricia has significant experience in advising family businesses and landed estates on succession and capital tax issues. She also advises on governance issues as well as succession and education matters for families. She has been instrumental in the establishment of new family offices as well as providing ongoing strategic advice to families with long established family offices.
Professional Memberships: STEP

MINTY, Hannah
Russell-Cooke, London
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Hannah advises clients from all backgrounds on divorce and financial matters, jurisdictional disputes, prenuptial and postnuptial agreements, property disputes between cohabitees, and financial claims on behalf of children following the breakdown of relationships between unmarried couples. Hannah is dual-qualified as a solicitor in both England and Wales and in Scotland.
Career: Hannah trained with Russell-Cooke and qualified as a solicitor in 2007, becoming a senior associate in 2013. She was promoted to the partnership in 2020.
Professional Memberships: Resolution (current Secretary of the South West London Regional Resolution Group), Law Agreements Group, International Academy of Collaborative Practitioners.

MOTLEY, Kyra
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
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Featured in Family Offices & Funds Structuring (UK)
Practice Areas: Kyra specialises in multi-jurisdictional wealth planning, international tax and trusts, succession planning and family governance for high net worth and ultra high net worth individuals. She has extensive experience in advising on wealth preservation and tax efficient structures in an international context and is well recognised for advising clients in relation to complex cross-border tax and estate planning. Kyra does a lot of work with the Middle East and is recognised as a leader in the field of wealth planning involving Sharia succession, particularly in an international context.

MUNRO, Philip
Withers LLP, London
020 7597 6515
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Philip is a partner in the private client and tax team. He is admitted in England, Hong Kong and the BVI. He has worked for Withers in their London, Hong Kong and Singapore offices. His practice focuses on succession planning for international families. As well as implementing estate planning arrangement for individuals, Philip frequently acts for trustees and financial institutions in relation to trust planning matters. Philip has been involved in recent years in a number of matters involving the use of trusts in commercial contexts.
Career: Philip joined Withers as a trainee in 2004. He became a partner of the firm in 2013.
Professional Memberships: Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners Academician of the International Academy of Estate and Trust Law
Publications: Drafting Trusts and Wills Trusts in Hong Kong, co-author Trusts in Prime Jurisdictions, co-author International Trust Precedents – Editor

MURPHY, Hugh
Keystone Law, London
020 3319 3700
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Featured in Real Estate (London)
Practice Areas: Hugh specialises in acting for clients on a wide range of private-client-related property matters. He acts for private clients, landed estates and institutional clients in relation to all aspects of property law and has particular expertise in guiding clients through the process of both buying and selling country houses, London property, sporting estates, farms, and agricultural land. Hugh also has a wealth of experience in the equine and bloodstock sector, having acted frequently in the sale and purchase of equine property.
Career: Hugh qualified as a solicitor in 2006. Prior to joining Keystone Law in 2017, he worked at the following firms: Bond Dickinson Charles Russell

NATION-DIXON, Francis
Adams & Remers, Lewes
01273403258
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Brighton and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Private Client and Private Wealth Law
Career: Francis qualified as a solicitor in 1983 and after 18 years with major London firms (Withers and Farrers), 10 of which as a partner, he joined Adams & Remers in 2001. He also speaks fluent German and French. Francis advises individuals and trustees with regard to all aspects of UK capital taxation, the creation of trusts, matters of trust law and trusteeship, and Wills, with a particular bias to landed estates.
Professional Memberships: Francis is a contributor to Tolley's "Administration of Trusts" and has lectured on trust law matters. He is a founder member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP).

NECHITA, Olga
Vialto Partners, London
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Featured in Immigration (UK)
Practice Areas: Olga is an Immigration Solicitor with 13 years of experience assisting private clients both in the corporate environment as well as traditional law firms. She currently leads the private client immigration practice within the wider immigration services department at Vialto Partners UK. Olga's specialism includes all spectrum of visa and nationality strategic support and complex cross border consultancy projects to high-net-worth individuals. She plays a key role in advising on the implications of Brexit and post Covid-19 complex planning for high-net-worth individuals and their multinational businesses. Olga has comprehensive experience leading family office and private business transformation projects which drive forward efficiency, immigration compliance, and financial profitability. She has a reputation of being able to provide innovative and pragmatic solutions. Olga has a keen interest in promoting the economic benefits of migration. Throughout her career, Olga has regularly worked with the Home Office and other stakeholders on optimising the immigration rules and providing evidence on the benefits for changes to the visa options with the aim to attract inward investment into the UK.
Professional Memberships: The Law Society EU Mobility Group Immigration Law Practitioners Association
Publications: 'Changes to the UK immigration options for entrepreneurs and talented individuals' in the LexisNexis; February 2022

NEVIN, Stuart
Shoosmiths LLP, Belfast
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Northern Ireland)
Practice Areas: Stuart is a Principal Associate in the Litigation & Dispute Resolution team. Stuart specialises in commercial disputes with a particular focus on real estate litigation, corporate disputes and financial disputes. He regularly advises clients across a number of industries, including property developers, leading financial institutions, public bodies, energy companies and high net worth individuals. Stuart is qualified to practice in Northern Ireland and England & Wales. His recent experience includes acting for: • a major Northern Ireland. contractor in an insurance coverage claim on foot of a multi-million pound development agreement; • the owner of a major retail park in respect of contentious Landlord & Tenant issues; • a leading Northern Ireland energy provider in respect of a multi-million pound termination dispute; • a public body in negligence proceedings against a contractor and developer; • a leading financial institution in relation to a group of high value professional negligence claims; • a major Northern Ireland property developer in a high court dispute concerning a dilapidations claim; • a public body defending High Court proceedings in relation to a adverse possession and right of way dispute; • a prominent property developer relating to a right of way and adverse possession dispute.

NICHOLAS, Elizabeth
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP, Guildford
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Guildford and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Elizabeth advises clients on UK tax and estate planning, including on the use of trusts and other wealth planning vehicles. She is particularly well-known for the cross-border dimension to her work. She has substantial experience in the taxation of UK resident non-domiciled individuals, cross-border structures used for wealth protection and tax planning purposes, planning for individuals moving or returning to the UK from abroad, the acquisition of property or other assets in the UK, remittance basis planning, UK residence and domicile rules, the preparation of complex domicile statements and UK anti-avoidance provisions affecting corporate and trust structures, including the transfer of assets abroad provisions. Elizabeth is a member of the firm's tax disputes team. She is part of the internal team responsible for maintaining and creating precedents. She writes articles on topical matters and was a lead contributor for the firm's client magazine, Context.

O'CALLAGHAN, Katie
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Katie advises clients on all aspects of family law, with a particular emphasis on high net worth financial remedy proceedings on divorce. A high proportion of her workload involves complex wealth structures both in the UK and abroad. She often acts for clients where the majority of the wealth is tied up in a family business which raises issues not only about the value of the company but also the ways in which funds can be extracted from it to buy out one spouse's interest. She has a varied client base with backgrounds in private equity, sport, retail and technology. Katie has a particular interest in the preparation and negotiation of pre-and post-nuptial agreements in order to seek to protect certain assets in the event of a divorce. Katie is also a qualified mediator and is trained to help clients focus on what really matters to them and their family and to help clients to discuss and agree the best arrangements for the future.
Professional Memberships: Member of Resolution

O'HIGGINS, Naomi
Howard Kennedy LLP, London
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Practice Areas: Naomi O'Higgins is an expert in trusts and estates disputes, as well as, Court of Protection work. Much of her caseload has an international element. Naomi is Head of our Trusts and Estates Disputes practice. She supports clients across a range of trusts disputes including breach of trust claims and trustee/beneficiary disputes. She has particular experience of litigation with cross-border elements working with lawyers in offshore jurisdictions. She additionally advises on non-contentious trusts related applications. She acts for clients on inheritance disputes including challenges to the validity of wills, removal of executors and claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975. Naomi works with clients on Court of Protection matters such as statutory wills, disputes regarding the appointments or actions of attorneys, as well as, other cases concerning people lacking capacity to manage their own affairs. She is a private client solicitor who specialises in litigation. This means that she takes a practical and empathetic approach to advising clients facing difficult, often emotional, challenges. Naomi works alongside colleagues in the firm's Private Client and Family teams on complex multi-jurisdictional issues. She has litigated in a number of foreign/offshore jurisdictions including, the Channel Islands, the Cayman Islands, the British Virgin Islands, the Bahamas and Switzerland and has excellent relationships with firms in those and the other major offshore jurisdictions. Naomi is a full member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) and the Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS). She is dual qualified having been admitted to the Roll of Solicitors in Ireland in 2017.

Professional Memberships: Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS); Full member of STEP; Law Society Probate Section.

O'KANE, Michael
Peters & Peters Solicitors LLP, London
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Featured in Financial Crime (UK)

Practice Areas: Michael O'Kane is the Senior Partner of Peters & Peters. He has dealt with a wide range of high-profile business crime matters for high net worth (HNW) individuals, governments and corporations since joining the firm. He has particular expertise in international corruption, criminal cartels, economic sanctions, extradition, mutual legal assistance, private prosecutions and Financial Conduct Authority investigations. He is particularly well known for cases with a complex, international and often political aspect.

Career: Michael was called to the Bar in 1992 and prior to joining Peters & Peters was a senior specialist prosecutor at the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) Headquarters. He was a key member of a small specialist unit responsible for the prosecution of serious and high-profile fraud, terrorist, espionage, and special interest criminal matters, including the Stansted Airport Afghan hijacking and the prosecution of Paul Burrell (Princess Diana's butler). He is listed as one of only 10 of the world's best investigative lawyers.

Professional Memberships: ·American Bar Association (ABA) ·Association of Commonwealth Criminal Lawyers ·Competition Law Association ·International Association of Prosecutors ·International Bar Association (IBA)

Publications: Michael is a frequent writer and commentator in the general and specialist press. He co-authors the leading European Sanctions Law blog (https://www.europeansanctions.com/) and is the author of the leading textbook on the UK Criminal Cartel Offence: The Law of Criminal Cartels – Practice and Procedure, Oxford University Press.

O'KEEFFE, Andrew
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Practice Areas: Andrew advises on a wide range of contentious trust and probate matters with particular expertise in disputes concerning the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975, where he has acted for spouses, partners, both adult and minor children as well as dependants. He has also acted for and advised executors in relation to such claims. Andrew is regularly asked to advise on issues regarding the validity of Wills including issues relating to testamentary capacity, lack of knowledge and approval, undue influence, fraud as well as lack of due execution and revocation. He also has considerable experience in disputes relating to the administration of both trusts and estates where he has advised trustees, executors and beneficiaries on matters such as allegations of breach of trust, actions for an account and disclosure of trust documents. He has also acted in claims relating to the removal of personal representatives or trustees. Andrew also undertakes Court of Protection work and has a particular interest in the professional negligence side of contentious trust and probate matters.

OSBORNE, Emily
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emily.osborne@shlegal.com
Featured in Family Offices & Funds Structuring (UK), Private Wealth Law (London)

Practice Areas: Emily provides international private wealth and tax advice to individuals and trustees of their family trusts on a variety of issues. Her areas of expertise include establishing wealth preservation structures such as offshore trusts, foundations and companies, family governance and business succession planning, advice on residence (whether maintaining, avoiding or changing) and domicile, the reporting of beneficial ownership under the various global initiatives and structuring the acquisition and ownership of UK residential property. Many of Emily's clients are international, meaning much of her work has a cross border element, and entrepreneurial, requiring her to advise on both the personal and business aspects of her clients' lives. She has a particular focus on the Middle East, and together with her Dubai colleagues often advises on the use of local structures to hold regional assets, alongside any international structure. Emily also advises on international pension schemes and other remuneration structures and advises on IPPs, EFRBS, QROPS and QNUPS, acting for both scheme trustees and their members.

OWEN, Astrid B
McDermott Will & Emery UK LLP, London
44 (0) 20 7577 3486
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Practice Areas: Astrid advises internationally based clients and their family offices, trustees and private banks on international trust, tax and wealth transfer issues, with a focus on clients and maters in the United States, the UK, Continental Europe and the Middle East. Astrid has extensive knowledge of the structuring of established and start-up family owned businesses through the use of trusts, foundations and holding companies. She works extensively with the Firm's corporate tax teams in the UK and the United States to develop and implement holding structures for businesses and investments that take account of personal and corporate tax issues affecting the client, their family and their businesses. View more at: https://www.mwe.com/en/team/o/owen-astrid-b

Professional Memberships: International Bar Association Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP)
Admissions: New York

Personal: Harvard Law School, LLM, Law London School of Economics, LLB, Law

PALMER, Liz
Howard Kennedy LLP, London
0203 755 6000
liz.palmer@howardkennedy.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Practice Areas: Liz advises wealthy families, entrepreneurs, and property investors on inheritance tax mitigation and the effective devolution of family wealth. She has particular expertise acting for non-UK resident/domiciled individuals and specialises in the creation of off shore trusts and complex asset structuring for high net worth individuals. Her practice regularly involves cross-border succession planning for international clients who have personal and business assets all over the world. Her expertise extends to dealing with complexities of digital estates. Liz deals with all forms of inheritance tax and capital gains tax planning and also advises on wills and estate planning particularly for clients with interests and connections with the US. She has significant experience advising clients about succession, protection of family businesses and devising family governance. Liz is a solicitor and chartered tax adviser.

Professional Memberships: Chartered Institute of Taxation

PARKER, Diana
Withers LLP, London
0207 5976000
diana.parker@withersworldwide.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)

Practice Areas: Diana is well-known as one of London's divorce lawyer elite. She typically advises clients on high-value matters involving complex finances. Often there are international elements. Whilst she has taken cases to court hearings that have set legal guidelines, her preference is elegant and effective negotiation. Her commercial and pragmatic approach keeps both her and her clients enthused. This approach also makes her accessible and good value for clients who are not high profile but want clear and strategic advice.

PARRY, Alison
JMW Solicitors LLP, Manchester
03458726666
alison.parry@jmw.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (North West)

Practice Areas: Alison is a Partner and is Head of Will and Trust Disputes at JMW Solicitors LLP. Alison has grown the team in this field and they are regarded as one of the stand out teams in the North West for this work. Alison deals with all aspects of contentious probate work including will validity challenges, claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975, trust disputes and proprietary estoppel claims with a particular emphasis on complex and high value claims, often with cross-jurisdictional elements. She prides herself on providing excellent client service and tailoring the service to meet the needs of the individual client at what is often an extremely difficult time for them. She aims to take the pressure away from clients through any claim and get the best and most appropriate resolution for each client in their circumstances, whether that be by utilising the Court system, mediation or any other means.

PARRY-SMITH, Ben
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
020 7465 4300
bparry-smith@phb.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)

Practice Areas: Described in The Lawyer Hot 100 as a "protégé of Fiona Shackleton", Ben advises on all aspects of family law: children, divorce/civil partnership, co-habitation, pre/post nuptial agreements, complex financial disputes and jurisdictional issues. Much of his work has an international element. He has dealt with cases involving the relocation of children and on matters involving same-sex parents. Ben

has experience of dealing with matters where decision-making capacity is an issue and often acts in cases involving trusts. Ben has worked on the leading case involving "special contribution", as part of the team representing HRH Princess Haya and recently on a case where a wife's behaviour was so bad that the judge awarded her less than half the matrimonial pot. He has a broad practice and gives as much care and attention to a case in the Central Family Court where every penny spent on lawyers really matters, as he does to a Supreme Court case. He is one of a handful of lawyers doing heavy weight financial and complex children work. Ben read law at Merton College, Oxford and trained at Mishcon. Clients say Ben always remains cheerful under pressure and tries to find humour when things get grim.

PATCH, Stephen
Shoosmiths LLP, Milton Keynes
+443700 86 8438
Stephen.Patch@shoosmiths.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Milton Keynes and surrounds)

Practice Areas: Stephen is an experienced wealth protection lawyer specialising in estate planning for high net worth individuals as well as farmers and has been doing so since 2004. He is able to navigate clients through complex matters in simple English with his friendly and approachable manner putting clients at ease. Stephen is able to offer both practical and commercial advice to his clients often becoming the 'trusted adviser' and first point of contact. Expertise includes: •Complex wills incorporating trusts •Trusts •Tax and succession planning for individuals, business owners and farmers. •Powers of Attorney for both individuals and business owners •Estate administration The Legal 500 notes that Stephen is known for providing advice within private client practice as a lawyer who is 'very approachable and amenable'. Stephen joined Shoosmiths in March 2020 having been the former head of the private client team at Woodfines as well as previously heading up the tax, trusts & estates Cambridge team at international law firm, Taylor Vinters. Stephen is a full member of the Society of Trusts and Estate Practitioners (STEP), an international quality mark for inheritance and succession planning.

PICKSTONE, David
Stewarts, London
(0)20 7936 8178
dpickstone@stewartslaw.com
Featured in Tax (UK)

Practice Areas: David specialises in complex tax disputes with HMRC and commercial parties before Tax Tribunals, UK and European Courts. He acts for a large number of high net worth individuals as well as various corporate clients across a range of sectors. David has acted on numerous high-profile direct and indirect tax cases before the courts and Tax Tribunals, including two cases before the Supreme Court. In addition to his vast experience in HMRC litigation, David also acts in professional negligence and mis-selling actions and other tax-related commercial litigation.
Career: David joined Stewarts as a partner in 2014 to establish the tax litigation department having spent 10 years as a tax litigation lawyer at PwC Legal.
Publications: David has been quoted in the Financial Times and the Times in relation to proceedings brought by him acting on behalf of investors against Ingenious Media.
Personal: David enjoys spending time with his young family, playing tennis (not well), a glass of wine or two and the outdoors.

PIRRIE, James
Family Law in Partnership LTD, London
02074205007
jp@flip.co.uk
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)

Practice Areas: James is a director at Family Law in Partnership. James specialises in complex financial issues and non-adversarial and cost-effective approaches to divorce and separation including mediation, arbitration and collaborative law. He helps clients take control of the issues that affect them, clarifying priorities, exploring all the options and identifying the best way forward. James is recognised throughout the country for his leadership in alternative dispute resolution. A collaboratively trained lawyer, James is also a family arbitrator (for both financial & children issues) with a thriving arbitration practice. As a family mediator, James also offers direct child consultation and he is qualified in the commercial model of mediation.
Career: Winner of Resolution's John Cornwell Award 2014. First non-American board member of the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals. Financial Planning Certificate and G10 qualifications of the Chartered Insurance Institute.
Professional Memberships: International Academy of Collaborative Professionals. Resolution. Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. Institute of Family Law Arbitrators.
Publications: Author of numerous textbooks on financial provision for children and ADR. Sets the accreditation paper on children's finance, contributed to Resolution's matrimonial consent orders, the President's standardised orders and co-wrote Sweet and Maxwell's cohabitation law and precedents publication.

PLEDGER, Adele
Withers LLP, London
0207 597 6000
Adele.Pledger@withersworldwide.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)

Practice Areas: Adele works in all areas of family law, including divorce and financial remedy upon divorce, cohabitation, private law children matters (Schedule 1 claims and section 8 orders), and pre/post nuptial agreements. She has particular experience in dealing with complex financial division upon divorce for high net worth clients, often with an international dimension. Adele is recognised in the market for her financial acumen, her pragmatic approach to solutions, and friendly yet assertive nature. She was described as 'a Diana Parker in waiting' by Legal 500 2022, ranked as one of Citywealth's Future Top 100 Leaders for 2019, and was shortlisted for the Citywealth Family Law Senior Associate of 2019 and Family Law Awards Senior Associate of the Year 2019. She was previously named as one of seven Rising Stars of Family Law in 2015 by Spear's Magazine and nominated for 'Family Lawyer of the Year' in the Spear's Young Turk Awards 2015.

POLLOCK, Jemma
Russell-Cooke, London
0207 440 4850
Jemma.Pollock@russell-cooke.co.uk
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)

Practice Areas: Family matters including divorce and financial matters following separation, and pre and post-nuptial agreements. Extensive experience of cohabitation and property disputes between both separating couples and family members, and in private law children matters including international relocation cases.
Career: Jemma trained at Russell-Cooke, qualifying in September 2013 and becoming a senior associate in July 2019 and partner in July 2022.
Professional Memberships: Resolution (and former Chair of the London YResolution committee).

POLYCARPOU, Eleni
Withers LLP, London
+44 20 7597 6157
eleni.polycarpou@withersworldwide.com
Featured in Art and Cultural Property Law (UK)

Practice Areas: Eleni is a litigation and arbitration specialist with long standing expertise in art law and is responsible for contentious art matters in London. She is described in directories as 'highly respected within the sector' and 'very knowledgeable and exceptional with clients', someone who 'just gets it, knows how cases should be handled especially when it comes to the very sensitive ones'. Eleni co-heads the firm's international arbitration practice and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators acting as counsel and as arbitrator in commercial disputes in sectors including technology, shipping and banking. She has acted as counsel in many high value commercial arbitration matters in a number of institutions including LCIA and ICC. Eleni is a trusted adviser to high net worth individuals and their businesses often advising on cross-border matters and digital matters including NFTs. She is acting for art galleries, museums, artists and collectors in various art related disputes and transactions and has dealt with high profile international title disputes, consignment, provenance and authenticity disputes. She has recently acted on one of the first NFT injunction matters against persons unknown together with her colleagues in Singapore.
Professional Memberships: Hellenic Law Association of London London Court of International Arbitration

PRICE, James
Stewarts, London
(0)20 7936 8090
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Practice Areas: James has substantial experience in handling complex, high-value and often high-profile litigation, having acted for high net worth individuals in the Bahamas, Cayman, Jersey, Guernsey, Singapore and Hong Kong. He also advises on trust issues arising out of divorce and on claims concerning poor investment performance. Cases on which James has acted include advising a number of discretionary beneficiaries of substantial Bermudian trusts on the validity of the appointment of trustees and protectors, corporate governance and other matters connected with the proposed restructuring of beneficial interests. He has also advised charity trustees on a claim against investment advisers for negligence and a Hong Kong based beneficiary of trusts valued at many billions of pounds on various issues concerning the trustees and agreements with family members.
Career: James joined Stewarts in 2016 to head the firm's contentious trusts and estates practice. Prior to this he trained at Farrer & Co where he became partner in 2005.
Professional Memberships: •The Association of Contentious Trusts and Probate Specialists •The Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) •Commercial Fraud Lawyers Association
Personal: James is married with three children who usually keep him very busy at weekends. When he can, he sneaks off for a swim or bike ride.

PRICHARD JONES, Sebastian
Macfarlanes LLP, London
+44 20 7849 2829
sebastian.prichardjones@macfarlanes.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Career: Sebastian specialises in advising wealthy families on tax and succession issues. Much of his work has an international dimension and many of his clients have no connection with the UK. He advises on the creation and operation of asset-holding structures and family offices. He also advises on tax investigations and litigation involving family trusts. Sebastian advises many UK and non-UK based families on their tax position, both in the UK and internationally. In 2003 he spent six months on secondment with the trusts and estates group of a leading New York law firm and, as a result of this experience, much of his work has a US dimension. Sebastian has lectured in the UK, the US and further afield. Sebastian became senior partner on 1 May 2020.

PROCTOR, Antoaneta
Wedlake Bell LLP, London
442073000000
aproctor@wedlakebell.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Antoaneta advises on international tax and evaluation of tax risk, cross-border succession, structuring for wealth preservation and family governance. She acts for (ultra) high-net worth individuals and their families (both UK and non-UK domiciled), entrepreneurs, family offices and trustees, typically with complex and multi-jurisdictional legal needs. Her practice is truly international, with clients coming from backgrounds as diverse as Russia, Israel, Switzerland, South Africa and the Middle East. She advises on onshore and offshore trust structuring, Family Investment Companies and the institutionalisation of family offices. A significant area of expertise for her is the preservation and nurturing of family wealth, through consultative assessments of the pressure lines and the creation of Family Constitutions. Antoaneta is a skilled technician, focusing on tax advisory and tax regularisation work. She is frequently asked to carry out risk reviews of existing structures from a combined tax and asset protection perspective and assist with remedial work in relation to legacy issues. Antoaneta is also ideally placed to support trustees in developing checklists and protocols for managing institutional risk in connection with UK-related structures. Clients value Antoaneta's sophisticated understanding of their needs and aspirations, and the ability to maintain both empathy and professionalism throughout.

RAESIDE, Dominic
Family Law in Partnership LTD, London
20 7420 5000
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Dominic is Head of Mediation at Family Law in Partnership. His practice is focused on helping couples to reach a consensus about their future as it relates to their children, finances and housing. Dominic mediates both domestic and cross border family disputes including international child abduction, access and custody cases. Having worked for many years in the Courts advising the judiciary in contested children's matters and previously having worked in the field of adult psychiatry, Dominic has a range of skills, knowledge and experience which he uses to help his clients to reach agreement. His work has earned Dominic a reputation as one of the most experienced and respected mediators in the country – many of his mediation clients are referred to him by the top family lawyers in the country. For a number of years Dominic held the prestigious role of the Family Mediator member of the Family Justice Council.
Professional Memberships: Previously Family Mediator member of the Family Justice Council. UKCP registered family and systemic psychotherapist. Chief Assessor for the Family Mediation Council. Previously a member of the Pensions Advisory Group. Member of MiKK pool of qualified cross border family mediators and the Cross Border Family Mediators Network.

RAGGETT, Philip
Warners Solicitors, Sevenoaks
01732 747936
p.raggett@warners.law
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Kent)
Practice Areas: Philip advises on a wide range of estate planning matters including inheritance tax and capital gains tax. Amongst other things, Philip assists individuals and families and helps to achieve their objectives in terms of asset ownership and protection. A significant part of the advice relates to and involves the setting up, administration and winding up of trusts and associated tax advice. Philip's expertise extends to aspects of the ownership and taxation of many different types of asset including trading businesses, landed estates, the family home and contents as well as investments, life assurance and pension arrangements (all from a point of view of mitigating exposure to inheritance tax and/or capital gains tax).
Career: In the 1980s and 1990s Philip worked as an in-house solicitor for three large national and international firms of accountants before joining Warners in 1997. Philip spent four and a half years as head of the Private Client Department at asb law, in Crawley and Maidstone, before returning to Warners in 2015.
Professional Memberships: Member of the Society for Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP)

RANDHAWA, Sakhjit
Keystone Law, London
sakhjit.randhawa@crsblaw.com
Featured in Real Estate (London)
Practice Areas: Sakhjit is a Private Property solicitor with over 20 years' experience dealing with prime and super-prime London residential property transactions, in particular high-value residential property acquisitions, disposals and developments. Her clients include ultra-high-net-worth individuals, property development companies, high-profile entrepreneurs, overseas ruling family members, celebrities and international investors. Most of the transactions she advises on are within the prime and super-prime London postcodes.
Career: Prior to joining Keystone Law in 2019, Sakhjit worked at the following firms: Charles Russell Speechlys Jeffrey Green Russell

RAZAQ, Martina
B P Collins LLP, Gerrards Cross
01753 279065
martina.razaq@bpcollins.co.uk
Featured in Real Estate (National Leaders (outside London))
Practice Areas: Martina regularly handles high value complex property transactions and her expertise allows her to provide solutions to transactional property issues in an efficient manner. She has a proven track record in achieving the outcome a client wants, which is usually a quick move. Martina's expert knowledge of the market she operates in enables her to deal with transactions in an efficient manner. She is often instructed by high net worth clients purchasing and selling in London. Martina is ranked as a leading lawyer by Chambers HNW.

READ, Fiona
Russell-Cooke, London
+44 20 8394 6324
fiona.read@russell-cooke.co.uk
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Solicitor, arbitrator, mediator and collaborative lawyer; undertakes all aspects of family work for married couples, civil partners and cohabitees. Specialises in international divorce cases, substantive financial claims and removal of children from jurisdiction. Fiona is experienced in all forms of dispute resolution covering child arrangements and finances.
Career: Partner at Russell-Cooke since 1995. Mediator on all issues since 1995, family law arbitrator on finances in 2011 and children 2016, appointed as deputy district judge in 2005 and now sits part time.
Professional Memberships: Resolution, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb); Association of Women Solicitors and Judges; Family Mediation Council.
Personal: Born 1962. Resides in London and Cornwall. Interests include sailing, walking, food and wine.

REED, Edward
Macfarlanes LLP, London
+44 (0)20 7849 2568
edward.reed@macfarlanes.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London), Tax (UK)
Career: Edward advises internationally mobile families on their asset structuring, personal tax and succession planning wills, trusts and personal tax planning. Having been educated both in the UK and in France, Edward has developed an affinity for civil law issues generally. He is a bilingual French speaker and fluent in Italian. In conjunction with overseas lawyers, he advises on cross-border estate, succession planning and complex tax investigation issues. He has a particular interest in drafting constitutional mechanisms in asset holding vehicles and has advised institutional and corporate trustees on the drafting of their standard forms, focusing on such issues as settlor reserved powers, settlor-directed investment provisions, protector committees and their appointment mechanisms and the trigger events (e.g. incapacity) for the transmission of key trust powers. Being a trustee and protector himself, he also advises trustees and settlors on fiduciary and tax issues arising out of the administration of existing structures. Edward has been quoted extensively in the press and lectured at industry conferences, as well as publishing articles in English and French on cross-border succession and tax issues. He also advises clients on philanthropic matters. With over 25 years' experience in the field, he advises on UK immigration and nationality law and procedure for private and corporate clients. He has administrative oversight of the firm's wholly-owned trust company, Embleton Trust Corporation Limited and of the Trust Administration Group.
Professional Memberships: Professional memberships – STEP (Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners) – ILPA (Immigration Law Practitioners' Association) – Charity Law Association Edward is also a member of the Capital Taxes Sub-Committee of the Law Society's Tax Law Committee, attends HMRC's Capital Taxes Liaison Group and is a past Chairman of the steering committee of the Cross-Border Estates Special Interest Group of STEP. He is also a member of the committee of the Thomas More Society. Amongst various registered charities, he is a trustee of The Friends of the Institut Français, the David Brownlow Charitable Foundation, the Stanley Smith UK Horticultural Trust and the de Brye Charitable Trust.
Publications: Edward is a contributor to Tolley's Administration of Trusts and the author of the England and Wales Chapter in The World Trust Survey (Gothard & Shah) published by Oxford University Press. He is also co-author of the "Trusts, Trustees and the UK Anti Financial Crime Regime", chapter (C11) in Glasson, The International Trust (3rd Ed. 2011). Most recently, he has co-authored with Iskra Doukova the UK chapter in the STEP Handbook for Advisers "Beneficial Ownership Registers" (August 2021, published by Global Law & Business).

REGAN, Alison
Russell-Cooke, London
020 8394 6549
alison.regan@russell-cooke.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Alison is an expert in contentious trust disputes, leading Russell-Cooke's contentious trust and succession team. She acts for private individuals, charities, trustees, administrators and beneficiaries, routinely acting in trust and succession/inheritance disputes. These may include cross border issues, the removal of fiduciaries and rectification or variation issues. Alison also acts in an advisory and risk management capacity in advising on asset protection or succession planning. With experience in mediation as well as litigation, she is known to try and resolve disputes as quickly and cost efficiently wherever possible, but is also a tenacious litigator where she needs to be.
Career: Alison qualified as a lawyer in 2002 and became a partner at Russell-Cooke in 2010. She is now joint managing partner.
Professional Memberships: ACTAPS, STEP, Resolution (as one of a few private client members), CEDR.

REID, Jessica
Dawson Cornwell, London
020 7539 4820
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Jessica undertakes divorce and financial claims, often with an international element. This includes jurisdictional disputes, pre and post nuptial agreements, financial settlements and enforcement. She has considerable experience in complex, high value financial cases involving non-disclosure, off-shore assets and trusts. She also advises on private children cases including contact, leave to remove and specific issue applications. Jessica conducts her own advocacy wherever possible and appropriate, including cases up to and including FDR hearings and is a Resolution trained mediator.
Career: Specialised in family law since qualifying (2009), joined Dawson Cornwell (2016) and promoted to Partner (2019).
Professional Memberships: Member of Resolution.

RICHARDS, Stephen
Withers LLP, London
0207 597 6276
stephen.richards@withersworldwide.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Stephen focuses on advising on trust, succession and capacity disputes both cross-border and domestically. He is described as "clever and tenacious" and "a strong combination of iron fist and velvet glove." Stephen's reported cases include Morley-Clarke v Brooks concerning the cross border capitalisation of a life interest and acting in the Berezovsky estate (Gorbunova v Estate of Boris Berezovsky & ors) as well as Re. MN, a leading Court of Protection decision on enforcement of foreign orders between California and England. Stephen co-ordinates multi-jurisdictional litigation and dispute resolution, resolving matters away from the public glare wherever possible. He has particular expertise on issues concerning capacity, undue influence and financial abuse. He regularly acts for individuals, beneficiaries, trustees, charities (both national and international) executors and other fiduciaries (including deputies and attorneys). Stephen acted for the successful applicants in the first case before the Isle of Man to successfully rely on the equitable doctrine of mistake, which resulted in significant transfers into Trust being set aside (Smith & Other v Athol Administration & Others).
Professional Memberships: The Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS).
Publications: Stephen is a contributor to Probate Disputes and Remedies and Inheritance Act Claims

ROBERTSON, Ziva
McDermott Will & Emery UK LLP, London
+44 20 7577 3460
zrobertson@mwe.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Ziva a solicitor-advocate, advises clients on dispute resolution issues, including complex trust disputes, contested estates and commercial disputes containing fiduciary elements. She counsels individuals and companies on the conduct and the avoidance of disputes and has extensive experience in cross-jurisdictional and international litigation. Ziva brings her wealth of experience in litigation to advise on structuring trusts and other arrangements to minimize the risk of future disputes. She reviews matters to determine whether the structure will meet the beneficiaries' evolving needs, to ensure the choice of jurisdiction best suits the individual circumstances of the case and that the structure includes as many litigation deterrents as possible. When disputes arise, Ziva will advise on and conduct mediation as well as other forms of alternative dispute resolution. In cases when litigation has been threatened or commenced, Ziva has successfully pursued and defended cases in the UK and abroad, including the Cayman Islands, the British Virgin Islands, the Bahamas, the Channel Islands and the Middle East. View more details here: https://www.mwe.com/en/team/r/robertson-ziva
Professional Memberships: The Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) Association Internationale des Jeunes Avocats (AIJA)
Personal: London School of Economics and Political Science, LLB, Law

RYAN, Ian
Howard Kennedy LLP, London
+44 20 3755 5691
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Featured in Financial Crime (UK)
Practice Areas: Ian has over 21 years' experience advising corporates and individuals on high profile, complex and serious fraud, financial crime and regulatory work. He has specialist experience in solicitors' disciplinary work and SRA investigations. His work covers domestic and international matters. Ian has represented clients in investigations by the SFO, the FCA, the CMA, HMRC, the CPS and the NCA. His experience includes dealing with allegations of bribery and corruption, money laundering, serious fraud, sexual harassment, criminal cartel activity and market abuse/insider trading. He conducts internal investigations for clients and represents individuals during investigations. Ian also acts for high net worth individuals in general crime matters. In 2018 and 2019 Ian successfully defended at trial Achim Kraemer and Andreas Hauschild, who were former senior Deutsche Bank traders charged with manipulating Euribor between 2005 and 2006. He has been involved in the SFO investigations into Patisserie Valerie, GSK and Tesco. He is currently advising a family member of a well-known business dynasty in relation to criminal allegations arising from a family dispute. He recently advised an Oscar winning director in respect of an investigation by PSNI under the Official Secrets Act into a documentary about a notorious UVF massacre during the Troubles.

RYLATT, Simon
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
020 7079 8225
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Simon deals with a wide range of UK and international tax and estate planning matters for individuals, family businesses and trusts, and handles high value, contentious trust and estate disputes for both onshore and offshore clients. He also advises on long term planning strategies for wealthy families and their businesses including wealth protection structures, governance, divorce issues, pre-nuptial agreements and generational succession planning.
Professional Memberships: International Academy of Estate and Trust Law (TIAETL); Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS); Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) (member of the editorial board for STEP Journal)

SALLYBANKS, Richard
BCL Solicitors LLP, London
020 7430 2277
law@bcl.com
Featured in Financial Crime (UK)
Practice Areas: Richard Sallybanks, a partner in BCL for over 20 years, specialises in complex business crime and regulatory defence work. Clients describe him as "very wise, with a cool head, an enormous ability to master the detail of a case and a great tactical brain, an invaluable asset to any defence". He has been involved in numerous UK and international business crime investigations and prosecutions. His core practice is defending senior executives who are suspects in investigations, and his current and recent SFO experience includes the Petrofac, Airbus, G4S, Barclays Qatar, Alstom and Kaupthing Bank investigations as well as leading the team which secured the acquittal at trial of Tesco's former Commercial Director on charges involving an alleged £250m accounting fraud. In the financial sector he has acted for investors, bankers, brokers, traders and senior executives in criminal and regulatory investigations, by the FCA and overseas authorities, including in relation to allegations of money laundering, insider dealing and market abuse. He also advises companies and individuals in their capacity as witnesses to matters under investigation, including responding to request for documentation production and attendance at interviews. Many of his cases are cross-border and Richard is experienced in managing and co-ordinating teams of lawyers in multi-jurisdictional investigations, including the US, France, Switzerland, Denmark, Russia and India. Many of his clients are High Net Worth Individuals / International Private Clients who Richard advises in connection with the implications of overseas criminal investigations, including the mutual legal assistance regime, asset freezing, extradition and Interpol. Richard is ranked by Chambers UK in: Financial Crime: Individuals – London (Band 1); Financial Crime: High Net Worth Individuals – UK (Band 1); and POCA work and Asset Forfeiture (Band 1): "Richard is a superb solicitor," say his clients. "He's very calm and you get a real sense that everything is under control and they can stop panicking. He has a very serious understanding of the law and the client." "He has an unusual background in both commercial law and serious crime, so if you need a solicitor to act in an SFO corporate crime raid, he is your man; he knows everything about companies and everything about criminal cases..." "He's thoughtful, exceptionally intelligent and he has a forensic eye for detail without losing the bigger picture.....He's strategically extremely astute, he has great judgment under pressure and he's also very commercially savvy."
Career: Qualified at McKenna & Co (now CMS), joined BCL Solicitors in 1995 and became a partner in 1999.
Professional Memberships: The Law Society; International Bar Association; American Bar Association; Association of Regulatory & Disciplinary Lawyers; British Russian Law Association; Fraud Lawyers Association.
Publications: He is regularly quoted in the press on key issues in business crime. https://www.bcl.com/richard-sallybanks-speaks-to-the-times-on-sfos-dpa-use-after-failed-serco-trial/ https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-46459884 https://www.ft.com/content/672fdb88-f949-11e8-af46-2022a0b02a6c http://www.cityam.com/270251/serious-fraud-office-trial-against-tesco-executives https://www.ft.com/content/b6c2b688-1f29-11e9-b126-46fc3ad87c65 https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/former-tesco-executive-carl-rogberg-cleared-of-fraud-dkhm8v69d

SALOMONS, Christopher
Russell-Cooke, London
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Advises clients domiciled in both the UK and overseas on a range of tax, trusts, estate planning and succession related matters. Expert in cross-border matters including obtaining UK Grants of Probate for deceased individuals who died domiciled outside the UK. Also advises on property ownership structures for non-doms and general cross-border estate planning.
Career: Christopher qualified as a solicitor in September 2009 and joined Russell-Cooke in September 2013. He was promoted to partner in 2020.
Professional Memberships: STEP, (completed STEP Advanced Certificate in International Succession and Probate), Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Barbers.

SANDERS, Jo
Withers LLP, London
020 7597 6000
Jo.Sanders@withersworldwide.com
Featured in Defamation/Reputation Management (UK)
Practice Areas: Jo leads Withersworldwide's media and reputation team in London. She advises clients on information risk, privacy and reputation arising from their personal or professional lives. Described as 'calm and insightful', Jo guides clients through distressing situations including blackmail threats, false media or online stories, or harassment. Recently she has helped clients avoid unwarranted publication of details of their home and those concerned about misuse of personal data or confidential information. On the crisis front she has supported clients caught up in news events to help ensure fair and accurate reporting, and to make sure that a client was given a proper opportunity to respond to a high-profile public report. She has acted for academics, actors and writers, financiers, doctors, business owners and political figures. She works alongside other professional advisers for clients on privacy planning for key life events, and taking other pro-active steps to ensure the accuracy of recorded personal data, including the verification of profiles in online due diligence databases.
Career: Jo was previously a news journalist and PR adviser before becoming a media litigator.

SANITT, Gideon
Macfarlanes LLP, London
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Featured in Tax (UK)
Career: Gideon specialises in tax litigation but has a background in transactional tax work. His tax litigation work has given him experience at all levels of the UK Courts and the European Courts. Gideon has worked on disputes and investigations involving complex corporate and financial transactions for a variety of multinational and FTSE listed companies across both direct and indirect tax, as well as dealing with investigations involving high-net-worth individuals. Gideon also has significant experience in high value regulatory investigations as they relate to tax issues. Gideon takes a particular interest not just in advising on disputes but in managing the risks of transactions, so that the extent of any such dispute is minimised, and in seeking solutions outside of the Courts, whether through well-run compliance or effective settlements. With a transactional background covering, in particular, M&A and finance, as well as matters with a significant international dimension, Gideon also has experience of how some of the most complex tax rules apply in practice. Such expertise is invaluable in managing the risks of those transactions, advising on any disputes that may arise and finding the most effective solutions.

SAVAGE, David
Stewarts, London
44 2079037904
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Featured in Financial Crime (UK)
Practice Areas: David is head of Stewarts' Financial Crime department. He has extensive private practice and in-house experience in financial crime, and is expertly placed to advise clients on the legal, regulatory, commercial and practical aspects of this fast-paced and nuanced area.
Career: David trained at Reed Smith, qualifying in 2009, before moving to the Financial Crime team at Eversheds Sutherland. In 2017, David moved to Kleinwort Hambros as the Group Senior Sanctions Officer. David successfully represented senior individuals in relation to the SFOs investigations into both Barclays' 2008 Qatari capital raising and the misreporting of profits by Tesco Stores Ltd. He also represented an individual in the DOJ and FBI's investigation into manipulation of global foreign exchange markets, as well as acting in a Metropolitan Police bribery investigation into an energy and assets support company. David recently advised and defended Martin King, director of the Tech Unicorn "Ve", in an HMRC prosecution relating to a corporate tax scheme.

SHACKLETON, Fiona
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
020 7465 4300
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Fiona advises high profile private individuals in relation to complex and confidential divorce proceedings, many of them with an international element. Fiona has earned a variety of accolades and is regularly named amongst the top legal names in the country. She was appointed to the rank of LVO in the New Year's Honours List 2006, given an honorary doctorate by Exeter University in 2010 and made a Life Peer that year. In 2019 Fiona was awarded the prestigious Outstanding Achievement in Legal Services prize at The Legal 500 UK Awards 2019. Fiona has used the knowledge garnered from 40 years in the profession to do a research project in human relationships "The Shackleton Project" with a view to educating people in making the right decision for marriage.
Career: Qualified 1980. Brecher & Co 1982-1984. Farrer & Co 1984-2000. Payne Hicks Beach 2001 as a Partner.
Publications: 'The Divorce Handbook' (Co-author).

SHAW, Becky
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
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Featured in Art and Cultural Property Law (UK)
Practice Areas: Becky is a Senior Associate in Boodle Hatfield's leading art law team and commercial litigation department. Becky advises on authenticity issues, fakes/forgeries, title disputes, damaged artworks, insurance claims, recovery of artworks, art financing disputes, injunctions to prevent sale, and copyright and intellectual property disputes. Alongside her practice, Becky has completed an art history short-course at the Courtauld, a secondment at the Arts Council, and a Diploma in Art Law at the Institute of Art and Law. Becky is a trustee of the De Morgan Foundation and has also spoken at the Courtauld Law Society, Christie's Education and Sotheby's Institute.

SHAW, Mary
Warners Solicitors, Tonbridge
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Kent)
Practice Areas: Mary is Head of the Private Client Team. Mary acts as a professional trustee for numerous trusts and is also a court appointed administrator in a number of contentious estates and trusts. Mary prepares Wills and powers of attorney and advises on the administration of estates, powers of attorney and deputyship orders. She specialises in working with families, in particular helping them manage their assets held in trust. She has kept up her knowledge of family law in order to assist clients in managing trusts resulting from divorce or Children Act proceedings.
Career: Mary has been a partner at Warners since 2013 and before that was a partner/director in solicitors' firms in London and Kent since the 1980s.
Professional Memberships: Member of The Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS); Member of The Law Society Private Client Section; Member of The Kent Law Society
Personal: Mary was educated at New Hall Cambridge University and Heythrop College University of London. Mary is actively involved with a number of charities including: Vincent Housing Association, Newlyn Charitable Trust and Hi Kent.

SMALE, Tristan
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP, London
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Tristan acts for individuals, families, trustees and financial institutions in relation to a broad spectrum of private wealth matters. In particular, he acts for prominent Greek and Cypriot families and their family offices, many of whom work in the shipping industry. Specialising in wealth-and succession-planning structures such as trusts and companies that are designed to protect family assets and mitigate exposure to UK taxation, he also advises on residence, domicile and pre-immigration planning as well as on lifetime giving, complex wills and mental capacity issues. His clients are typically internationally-mobile individuals and families who either live in the UK or have assets or other interests in this country.
Professional Memberships: He is a full member of STEP, the world's leading organisation for private wealth professionals.

SMITHSON, Jennifer
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Career: Jennifer advises on all areas of personal tax and succession planning, with a particular emphasis on cross border tax advice, especially with a US or French aspect. Jennifer also advises on the establishment and management of international asset-holding structures, has experience in planning for entrepreneurs, fund managers and senior executives, and regularly advises clients in relation to complex HMRC enquiries. In 2013 Jennifer spent six months in New York on secondment to a large international private bank. There she worked alongside US and international wealth advisors on cross-border planning issues, gaining an understanding of US tax, trust and estate planning that assists her in advising US clients resident in the UK. Jennifer advises individuals, trustees and investment managers in relation to the tax treatment of complex structures and investment products. She has extensive experience on advising in relation to family office structuring for both UK resident and non-UK resident families. Jennifer is a regular speaker at wealth planning seminars and events and has contributed to a number of articles relating to the FATCA and Common Reporting Standard automatic information exchange regimes.

STEWART, James
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: James, who is widely regarded as 'one of the most visible faces in UK family law', is a Former Chambers HNW Family Lawyer of the Year and since September 2020, a Visiting Professor of Law at Ulster University. Dual-qualified in England & Wales and Northern Ireland, James is a Resolution accredited specialist family lawyer who is regularly instructed in complex international HNW cases. James shines in difficult cases that need strategic vision, diligent execution and a motivated, able team. Frequently described by a leading QC says: 'James is undoubtedly one of the leaders in family law globally. Not only is he highly respected by his peers, he is loved by his clients and has amazing interpersonal skills in the most difficult of situations'. James has acted in many ground-breaking family law cases including Clibbery v Allan [2002], to date the only family case to go to the Court of Appeal on the issue of privacy and press reporting. With a focus on complex family disputes, marital agreements and cases with an international dimension, including claims for financial relief following overseas divorces (Part III), James has become the family lawyer of choice for family offices, trustees and others who find themselves embroiled in complex English divorce and family proceedings. James chairs the

annual Legal Dinner, which raises funds for the leading peacebuilding charity, Co-operation Ireland.
Professional Memberships: Fellow of the International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL). The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (MCIArb).
Publications: General Editor of the 'Blue Book', the definitive comparative guide to international family law (Family Law: A Global Guide, Thomson Reuters 2021).

STEWART-GOULD, Lucy
Stewarts, London
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Lucy has a particular specialism in matrimonial finance law in relation to Trusts. She also has expertise in disputes concerning children, including child abduction, and national and international relocation cases. Having practised in Hong Kong, Lucy retains good connections to that jurisdiction as well as having particular experience of Anglo-French cases. The clients with whom Lucy works have complex lives and they require effective and strategic advice. Her aim is to cut through the complexity and to focus, not on every issue, but on the fights that matter to achieve the best possible outcomes for clients.
Career: Lucy graduated from University College London in 2007 and trained and qualified at Withers in London, subsequently working in the firm's Hong Kong office. She joined Stewarts in January 2014.
Professional Memberships: Lucy is a member of Resolution.

STIRZAKER, Clare
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Clare specialises in succession planning and related legal and tax matters for multi-generational families and their family offices. She works alongside some of the world's leading private businesses and focuses on helping individuals develop their succession planning strategy and designing bespoke asset holding and wealth management structures including PTCs, limited partnership structures and foundations. Clare has particular experience advising families on implementing family and corporate governance frameworks to support successful wealth transition. She also supports clients in developing their philanthropic strategy to enable greater and more effective wealth distribution.

STOCKTON, Candy
Irwin Mitchell, Crawley
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (The South)
Practice Areas: Candy specialises in resolving disputes in relation to wills, estates and trusts. She works with Beneficiaries, Executors and Trustees (including professional Executors/ Trustees) in order to resolve disputes as quickly and efficiently as possible, with a view to minimising costs. She uses alternative dispute resolution methods, such as mediation, wherever possible, to resolve matters in a more timely and cost effective manner. Her experience includes: –Claims against estates or trusts by disappointed Beneficiaries; –Challenges to the validity of Wills; –Disputes between Executors, Trustees, and Beneficiaries; –Removal of Executors; –Disputes about the interpretation of Wills; –Disputes about Estate or Trust assets or their distribution; –Guidance for Trustees or Executors about their obligations; –Claims against professional advisors; –Disputes over property ownership (where a trust has arisen); –Disputes involving the actions or removal of Attorneys; –Disputed deputyships.

STONE, Nick
Wedlake Bell LLP, London
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Featured in Real Estate (London)
Practice Areas: Nick is a partner in the Residential Property team and over recent years he has developed a reputation as being one of the leading lawyers in prime central London within his field of expertise. Nick has a large portfolio of clients and business introducers based not only in the UK but worldwide. Notably this includes travelling to Singapore with a particular focus on creating long term opportunities and business relationships.

STOURTON, Natasha
Withers LLP, London
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Natasha specialises in resolving issues involving inheritance, trusts and estates. She acts for UK and international individuals and corporate beneficiaries, trustees and executors. She has advised in litigation in England, Jersey, Guernsey, Cayman Islands and BVI, amongst other jurisdictions. On the non-contentious front, she uses her litigation experience to stress-test new and existing trust structures. Natasha also advises on matters involving property and financial affairs in the Court of Protection. Natasha is a regular speaker at industry conferences on succession and trusteeship matters involving crypto and digital assets. She is also part of the Withers' Crypto and Digital Assets Special Interest Group.
Career: Natasha started her career in the Bratislava office of a magic circle law firm, before joining Withers in London in 2007. She was promoted to partner in January 2021.
Professional Memberships: The Association of Contentious Trusts and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS) Charity Law Association
Publications: Contributing author to: The Law Society's Probate Practitioner's Handbook, Jordan's International Trust and Divorce Litigation, and Jordan's Probate Disputes and Remedies.

STOVOLD, Kate
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020 7556 2400
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Kate specialises in the resolution of private family law matters, with a focus on financial claims arising on divorce or separation. Kate's practice encompasses a variety of cases, including those with an international element, or involving complex business structures and family trusts, as well as disputes surrounding inherited wealth. Kate is also experienced in the negotiation and drafting of pre and post-nuptial agreements. Complementing her specialist knowledge of financial litigation, Kate also advises parents in relation to disputes about the care of and financial provision for their children. Kate has experience in acting for parents who are seeking to move the family to another part of the country or abroad. Kate is committed to securing the best outcome for her clients whilst simultaneously recognising the need to preserve family relationships, particularly when there are children involved. Kate sensitively tailors her advice to reflect the individual circumstances of her clients' situation and their objectives. As a member of Resolution, a national organisation of family lawyers, Kate conducts all matters in a constructive and non-confrontational way to ensure compliance with the Code of Practice. She strongly believes this alleviates tension for clients at an otherwise extremely difficult time. Whilst Kate has extensive experience of the court process, she also understands the need to consider alternative forms of dispute resolution and will make every effort to settle cases where possible.

STOWE, Benjamin
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020 7556 2400
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Benjamin specialises in all work relating to Family and Child Law bringing his commercial law skills to Divorce Law. An expert in dealing with the financial repercussions of relationship breakdown. His work frequently has an international dimension, often involving tax and trust implications, substantial assets or incomes. He advises clients on the practical, legal and financial consequences resulting from the breakdown of relationships, covering a wide range of assets from the modest to those involving complex business structures. Benjamin has considerable experience in disputes relating to children, both within and outside of the Court forum. Benjamin's clients include City professionals, entrepreneurs, those in the arts/media, financiers, the independently wealthy and their spouses/partners. Benjamin has appeared on BBC Radio 5 Live, LBC and ITV to comment about family law issues. He is also often quoted in the national and international press, most recently in The Times. Benjamin trained, qualified and worked until 2017 with global law firm Ince & Co, specialising in commercial disputes.
Career: Trained Ince & Co; qualified 2015. Stowe Family Law 2017-2018. Joined Levison Meltzer Pigott 2018
Professional Memberships: Resolution

STUART, Henry
Withers LLP, London
07796 264 516
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Featured in Real Estate (London)
Practice Areas: Since 1991 Henry has been the partner heading Withers residential real estate team. Henry has bought and sold many of London's best addresses, acting for UK and international families and institutions and giving related tax and structuring advice. He deals with London and country property and helps clients manage property purchases in other jurisdictions. It is not uncommon for transactions to have clients, funders and properties in different jurisdictions and for client structures to be complex.
Professional Memberships: United Kingdom Environmental Law Association; Agricultural Law Association
Publications: 'Volumes 36 and 37'. Butterworths Encyclopaedia of Forms and Precedents, editor

SWIFT, Neil
Peters & Peters Solicitors LLP, London
+44 (0) 20 7822 7763
n.swift@petersandpeters.com
Featured in Financial Crime (UK)
Practice Areas: Neil has over 25 years of experience advising individual and corporate clients concerned with investigations by law enforcement and regulatory authorities, both domestic and overseas. Neil advises individual and corporate clients on investigation, prosecution and enforcement action taken by the Serious Fraud Office, Financial Conduct Authority and HM Revenue & Customs. He has considerable experience advising key participants in high-profile and international financial crime and corruption cases, often as part of multi-disciplinary and multi-jurisdictional teams. His advice is frequently sought at an early stage, and he has extensive experience counselling individuals during internal investigations being carried out by their employer. He also advises individuals who are or may be the subject of Interpol notices or extradition proceedings, arising from investigations overseas. He also advises professional firms about their regulatory obligations, both from a risk management perspective and in response to requests from law enforcement.
Career: Neil trained at Peters & Peters, qualifying in the Business Crime & Investigations department.
Professional Memberships: ·European Criminal Bar Association –treasurer ·European Fraud and Compliance Lawyers –board member

•IBA Anti-Corruption Committee •Fraud Lawyers Association
Publications: Neil was a contributing author to Blackstone's Guide to the Bribery Act 2010 and is also a frequent speaker, writer and commentator on fraud, corporate crime, corruption and money laundering.

TEE, Charlie
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Charlie focuses on UK and international tax and trust issues for both UK domiciled and non-domiciled individuals, as well as advising on wills and succession planning. He advises a number of family offices and international families as to their ongoing affairs and international trust structures, including private trust company structures. He also works closely with a number of business families advising on existing structures set up for the management and governance of the family business, its interaction with family trusts and associated estate planning measures.

THAKRAR, Rahul
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Featured in Family Offices & Funds Structuring (UK)
Practice Areas: Rahul advises ultra-high net worth individuals, family offices, entrepreneurs and businesses on a variety of corporate and banking matters including fund raisings throughout the capital stack (such as equity, senior debt and mezzanine debt transactions), joint ventures and mergers and acquisitions as well as assisting clients with day to day commercial agreements. He also has significant experience in advising on private funds in the real estate, private equity and venture capital sectors on structuring and regulatory matters. Uniquely for a lawyer, Rahul has undertaken all of his Chartered Financial Analyst examinations (a qualification typically achieved only by senior bankers) and therefore regularly assists clients with negotiating the key commercial terms of a transaction as well as then finding a structure which provides the necessary commercial outcomes.
Professional Memberships: Westminster & Holborn Law Society

TODD, Suzanne J
Withers LLP, London
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Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Suzanne leads the family and contentious trusts and succession teams in Europe and is one of the most highly accoladed family lawyers of her generation. Suzanne is an expert in conflict resolution. She has 20 years' experience dealing with international financial cases (frequently with a focus on Italy), private international child and family matters and negotiating multi-jurisdictional nuptial agreements. She regularly deals with family businesses, inherited wealth, tax and pensions issues. Her communication skills and ability to deal with empathy in highly charged and emotionally sensitive matters is renowned as is her ruthless efficiency and contagious energy which is universally recognised. She uses her extensive legal experience to assess the bigger picture of each client's situation and always provides comprehensive strategic guidance from the outset but always with an eye on the commercial reality of the situation. She works tirelessly to provide the highest level of client service with total discretion. She is a practising Mediator and collaborative lawyer. She lectures internationally on family law matters. Suzanne is fluent in Italian and well known in legal circles for her Anglo Italian practice.
Professional Memberships: IAFL, Fellow British Italian Law Association Liveryman – Worshipful Company of Solicitors International Women's Forum (UK) Resolution

TORR, Antonia
Howard Kennedy LLP, London
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Featured in Immigration (UK)
Practice Areas: Antonia has extensive experience in UK immigration law and specialises in dealing with high net worth clients. She has an excellent track record, both in the UK and abroad, of helping clients obtain their investor, entrepreneur or sole representative visas. Her ability to properly assess her client's needs alongside the requirements of the Immigration Rules results in achieving the best possible outcome. Antonia has developed an impressive client base within the Chinese Market. She has represented young entrepreneurs who have inherited wealth, and often fills the role of a 'trusted family adviser'.
Professional Memberships: Immigration Law Practitioners Association

TRAVERS, Harry
BCL Solicitors LLP, London
0044 (0)20 7430 2277
htravers@bcl.com
Featured in Financial Crime (UK)
Practice Areas: Harry Travers, a partner at BCL, specialises in business crime and regulation. He is one of only two business crime lawyers listed in the Chambers 100, the top 100 business lawyers in the UK. He was also inducted into the Legal 500 "Hall of Fame" in 2019, which recognises partners who are "at the pinnacle of the profession". Harry receives numerous accolades for his work in representing high net worth individuals caught up in financial crime and international corruption and tax investigations. He has substantial experience representing individuals who have been the subject of high profile fraud and corruption investigations conducted by the SFO, FCA, HMRC, CMA and their foreign counterparts, such as those concerning ENRC, British American Tobacco, Serco, Standard Bank, GPT/Airbus, Balli Steel, Libor, and Innospec. "Harry is at the very top of the tree for business crime and he's exceptionally able academically, which is a rare skillset," a client said, "He never leaves his case, he's always thinking about the best way to present his client's case strategically." He is "phenomenally enthusiastic and is very highly respected with very good connections. He's very good at using the law and thrives on complexity." Chambers HNW have previously described him as "probably the best solicitor in the country who does this work" Clients say: "He is capable of explaining the complex in a clear and articulate way – he is very commercial and able to see through the maze."
Career: He is a graduate of St Edmund Hall, Oxford (open scholar, BA 1985, BCL 1987). He was called to the Bar 1986; qualified as a solicitor 1990 at Berwin Leighton tax department. He joined BCL 1991 and became a partner in 1995.
Professional Memberships: As a founding member of The International Academy of Financial Crime Litigators, a collaboration between public-and private-sector litigation professionals and the renowned Basel Institute on Governance, Harry's adds his extensive experience of financial crime litigation to help promote international cooperation, access to justice and due process. He is also the sole solicitor committee member of the Tax Investigators Practitioners Group, a cross-disciplinary organisation comprising several hundred tax investigation specialists; Member of the International Bar Association.
Publications: He was consulting editor of the SFO's publication 'Serious Economic Crime: A Boardroom Guide to Prevention and Compliance'

TUNNICLIFFE, Rachel
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (York, Hull and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Rachel Tunnicliffe if the Head of Trusts, Wills and Estates at Raworths. Rachel has been highly regarded as a private client expert for many years by clients and other professionals. She has excellent working relationships with accountants, investment brokers, financial advisers and other lawyers. Rachel often works with business people seeking advice on how to re-structure their personal and family affairs in the face of a major change of circumstances such as a business sale or advises families on structures to pass on wealth and businesses in tax efficient and family appropriate ways. She also advises individuals following divorce or inheritance, and is frequently asked to assist younger members of wealthy families in developing their understanding of the assets and structures they are likely to inherit. Rachel has worked with a number of her clients for many years, including several generations of the same family. Rachel often acts as a professional trustee for family and charitable trusts, which includes liaising with accountants, investment managers and employees as well as coordinating work across other specialist teams within Raworths. Rachel is a member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP).

VAMOS, Nick
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Featured in Financial Crime (UK)
Practice Areas: Nick is the Head of Business Crime and Investigations at Peters & Peters. As a former senior Crown Prosecution Service leader, Nick applies his unique insight and expertise on behalf of clients across the full range of international, financial crime including extradition, INTERPOL, mutual legal assistance, fraud, regulatory investigations, money laundering and export controls. Nick represents individuals accused of financial wrongdoing in multiple jurisdictions, including the former CEO of a major Dubai construction company under investigation for a £300m fraud, Venezuelan banker accused of bribery and money laundering worth £250m, two Middle Eastern politicians accused of embezzling £40ma former CEO of a private bank accused by the FCA of serious regulatory breaches and two Russian billionaire bankers charged with embezzlement. Given his CPS experience, Nick is regularly asked to advise on private prosecutions.
Career: Nick has over 20 years' experience in international, high-profile and sensitive matters. Before joining Peters & Peters, Nick was Head of Special Crime at the CPS, overseeing the most complex casework including corporate manslaughter, election fraud, police corruption and deaths in police custody. Before that, Nick held the three most senior international prosecution posts: Head of Extradition; Head of the UK Central Authority for Mutual Legal Assistance; and liaison prosecutor in Washington DC working with the US Department of Justice.
Professional Memberships: •Member of the General Committee of the Private Prosecutors Association
Publications: Nick is a frequent writer and commentator in the general and specialist press. He is the co-author of the Peters & Peters Extradition blog (https://extraditionuk.petersandpeters.com/).

VAUGHAN, Nicholas
Withers LLP, London
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Featured in Real Estate (London)
Practice Areas: Nicholas is a partner in the Withers' private property team and specialises in acting for High and Ultra-High Net Worth domestic and international families who acquire prime central London property. Nicholas' practice focuses on high value, complex transactions often with construction, tax or succession issues running alongside the acquisition. He also has

extensive experience advising on lease extensions, freehold enfranchisement and financing transactions, particularly for properties that are located in London's Great Estates such as the Grosvenor Estate and the Cadogan Estate. Nicholas also advises clients on non-transactional issues such as alterations and refurbishment of residential property. Fluent in Italian, Nicholas leads the Withers' Italian team in London and assists many Italian clients to purchase residential property.
Career: Nicholas trained at Withers LLP and has been at the firm since 2006
Professional Memberships: British Italian Law Association; London Young Lawyers Group

VERGUNST, Andrew
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (South Africa), Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Andrew Vergunst draws on his extensive experience to help high-net-worth individuals, multinational families and their businesses, executives and entrepreneurs with matters related to international and cross-border trust, tax, estate and strategic planning. He advises clients on integrated international tax planning and structuring, including income tax, capital gains tax, inheritance/estate tax, employment benefit and migration planning, with a particular focus on the UK, the United States and South Africa. View more at: https://www.mwe.com/en/team/v/vergunst-andrew
Career: Admitted to The Law Society of England and Wales 2001. Admitted as an attorney in South Africa in 1996.
Professional Memberships: International Academy of Estate and Trust Law; Trustee of the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund (UK).

VOS, Robin
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Career: Robin provides tax, trust and estate planning advice to UK and overseas individuals, trustees and financial institutions. Much of Robin's work has an international element. He specialises in the creation of cross-border international asset-holding vehicles, often working with overseas professionals, to design structures which will meet the desired objectives in a number of jurisdictions. In the UK, Robin frequently advises entrepreneurs and senior executives. Robin's work also involves giving advice to trustees (both in the UK and elsewhere) in relation to their duties and responsibilities and assisting financial institutions in assessing and developing financial products. In addition, Robin has experience of setting up and reorganising family office structures and drafting family constitutions. Robin has lectured in the UK, continental Europe, Asia and North America.
Professional Memberships: Professional memberships – STEP (Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners) – Robin is also the chair of the UK Technical Committee of STEP

VOYCE, Alison
Taylor Walton LLP, Harpenden
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Watford, Uxbridge and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Alison advises on Wills and Estate Planning, Powers of Attorney, Probate and Trusts. Her particular strength lies in advising high net worth clients on tax planning and succession issues. She regularly acts as a Trustee as well as an Executor and an Attorney. She works with the firm's Litigation Department on contentious trust and probate matters when appropriate. Alison has an extensive client base locally, in London and further afield.
Career: Alison has over 30 years' experience in her field, having trained with a respected London firm before qualifying as a solicitor in 1989. She joined Taylor Walton in late 2000 and became a partner in 2003. She is based in Taylor Walton's Harpenden office.
Professional Memberships: Alison is a member of the Hertfordshire Law Society and STEP.
Publications: Alison produces articles for regional publications as well as content for the Taylor Walton website.
Personal: Alison grew up in Yorkshire. She studied Law at St Edmund Hall, Oxford and went to the College of Law in Chester before moving to London and subsequently Hertfordshire. She is very keen on travelling and other hobbies include dog-walking, skiing and tennis. She also enjoys concert and theatre trips and spending time with family and friends.

WALKER, Alison
Raworths LLP Solicitors, Harrogate
Featured in Private Wealth Law (York, Hull and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Alison Walker is a Partner in the Trusts, Wills and Estates team. She advises on all aspects of wills, trusts and wider succession issues for individuals and families. Alison also deals with the administration of complex estates, particularly those involving business property and overseas property. Prior to joining Raworths, Alison qualified into the corporate tax department at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer before becoming a Chartered Tax Advisor and working as a solicitor in corporate tax advising on corporate, fund and property taxation, and VAT. This previous experience gives her an understanding of different business and acquisition structures, corporate documents, and is invaluable in advising our owner-managed business clients on capital and business tax planning. Alison also advises on stamp duty, stamp duty land tax, partnerships and offshore structures. Alison is a member of the Chartered Institute of Taxation and Stamp Taxes Practitioners Group, the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) and currently serves on the Yorkshire STEP committee.

WALLACE, Camilla
Wedlake Bell LLP, London
02074061678
cwallace@wedlakebell.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Camilla advises high-net-worth individuals, both UK and non-UK domiciliaries, on estate planning to mitigate the incidence of inheritance tax and control the devolution of estates using lifetime gifts, trusts and tax-efficient wills. She also provides advice to clients on capital gains tax and income tax mitigation strategies as regards lifetime tax planning. She has spent many years acting for the trustees of various family trusts, including those of significant value. This has involved dealing with the legal and tax problems which trustees commonly face, be they the needs and requirements of beneficiaries (and occasionally disputes with them) or the management of trust assets. Her expertise covers areas such as landed and agricultural estates, heritage houses and chattels, investment management including residential and commercial property, and global tax-efficient structures. Camilla has experience of both offshore and onshore trust structuring and advising trustees and beneficiaries in relation to the day-to-day management and administration of trusts and estates, including landed estates across England and Wales. Camilla is a member of the firm's Offshore, Family Office and India Groups.

WARD, Helen
Stewarts, London
020 7822 8000
hward@stewartslaw.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Helen approaches each case with meticulous attention, exercising commercial astuteness and formidable judgement, developed over years of experience of dealing with challenging matters. Her impressive talent for achieving successful settlements has earned her the respect of not just her clients but also of her peers. Her reputation for protecting her clients' interests and supporting her clients through the process of being divorced is second to none, and she does so with sensitivity and utmost discretion. Helen also possesses experience derived from the judicial role she held for many years as a deputy district Judge sitting in what is now known as the Central Family Court. Helen recently represented the husband in a high-profile case regarding a conflict of forum, resulting in the husband successfully resisting a divorce taking place in England and Wales and instead securing its process through the Swiss Court.
Career: Helen joined Stewarts in October 2012 before which she was a partner in the family department at Manches LLP. She was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by Spear's for her work in family law.
Professional Memberships: ·Fellow of the International Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers ·Former Deputy District Judge at the Central Family Court

WARFORD, Philip
Renaissance Legal, Brighton
01273 610 611
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Brighton and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Specialises in working with families and carers of disabled and vulnerable individuals, helping them plan effectively for the future with Wills, Trusts, Powers of Attorney, Court of Protection applications and Inheritance Tax Planning. Philip oversees the Mencap Wills and Trusts telephone helpline service which has provided circa 800 families with specialist advice since 2013. He also provides training to Mencap Legacy Team Wills and Trust Team. He also co-ordinates the National Autistic Helpline, which launched in 2019.
Career: Philip, a Chartered Legal Executive, specialises in advising parents and carers of disabled and vulnerable individuals with planning for the future. He has been practising law for over 25 years in Norfolk, then East Sussex where he founded Renaissance Legal in He holds the STEP Advanced Certificate in Advising Vulnerable Clients and the Solicitors for the Elderly (SFE) Older Client Care in Practice Award.
Professional Memberships: STEP
Personal: As well as his work with various national charities, Philip works with organisations in the firm's headquartered location of Sussex. Getting to know each and every family he works with, Philip regularly speaks at and holds legal clinics and seminars on behalf of many local and national charities including Mencap, RETT, Age UK and The Carers Centre.

WARLOW, Anoushka
BCL Solicitors LLP, London
44 20 7430 2277
awarlow@bcl.com
Featured in Financial Crime (UK)
Practice Areas: Anoushka is a highly experienced and well-regarded solicitor who specialises in acting for individuals in complex, multi-jurisdictional, allegations of serious fraud, bribery and corruption. She has been involved in numerous high profile investigations and prosecutions brought by the all the major domestic and international enforcement agencies. Her recent SFO experience includes acting for individuals in the ENRC, British American Tobacco, Libor and Standard Bank investigations, and she is currently representing several high net worth individuals who are the subject of complex, international fraud and corruption investigations conducted by the SFO, HMRC and the US DOJ/SEC. Anoushka also has expertise defending individuals in private prosecutions and in complex civil fraud proceedings. She is also frequently asked to advise on the propriety of investigative steps taken by enforcement authorities, including

asset freezing orders, and has experience challenging search warrants, production orders and the unlawful retention of evidence including through judicial review proceedings.
Career: Graduate of the London School of Economics and Political Science, 2009 (LLB) and Queen Mary University of London, 2010 (LLM). Qualified as a solicitor at JMW Solicitors LLP and thereafter joined BCL in 2014.
Professional Memberships: Fraud Lawyers Association (FLA), International Association of Young Lawyers (AIJA), European Criminal Bar Association (ECBA).

WARR, Penelope
Withers LLP, London
0207 597 6093
penelope.warr@withersworldwide.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)
Practice Areas: Penny focuses on estate planning for private clients in both the UK domestic and international arena. She works with 'non-doms' living in, or looking to relocate to, the UK; families living in the UK or US with US/UK who want to resolve estate planning issues; and international families looking for effective governance structures through which to organise the effective transition of their wealth.She understands the issues that internationally mobile families face and strives to provide flexible solutions which best meet their goals.
Career: Joined Withers in May 1994; became a partner in 1998.
Professional Memberships: STEP
Publications: Co-author: Guide to US/UK Private Wealth Tax Planning

WILKINSON, Rupert
Wilsons, Salisbury
01722 427 602
rupert.wilkinson@wilsonsllp.com
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Southampton and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Rupert's practice includes high net worth UK and international clients. The client themselves are a mix of entrepreneurial and traditional clients. Referrals from existing clients and intermediaries have continued, his practice is increasingly focussed on clients with substantial complexity in their affairs and the repeat work and referrals which come from such clients.

WILLAN, Andrew
Payne Hicks Beach LLP, London
020 7465 4354
awillan@phb.co.uk
Featured in Defamation/Reputation Management (UK)
Practice Areas: Andrew specialises in reputation management. His work covers all aspects of media law, including defamation, confidence, privacy, harassment, data protection and intellectual property rights. His background as a commercial litigator means that he also has considerable expertise in high value disputes and cases involving civil fraud and cybersecurity. The nature of Andrew's work is often confidential, however recent reported cases include Max Mosley v Google Inc and Hourani v Thomson & others. Andrew also has significant experience in third party disclosure requests, including claims under the Norwich Pharmacal jurisdiction. The Legal 500 UK has listed Andrew for many years as a "Recommended Lawyer" and is ranked in the current The Legal 500 UK 2021 law directory in the field of Reputation Management as a 'rising star' and is noted as having "far more experience than most lawyers of his age. He has great judgement and an unflappable temperament and will surely become a top partner before long.' Andrew writes numerous articles and contributions in the national and legal press, and gives conferences on a wide range of legal issues relating to media and privacy law.
Career: Qualified 2013, joined Payne Hicks Beach 2011, promoted to senior associate 2018, partner 2020.

WILLIAMS, Bradley
Family Law in Partnership LTD, London
0207 420 5000
bw@flip.co.uk
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Bradley is a director at Family Law in Partnership. He specialises in complex financial remedy applications, applications concerning the property of non-married couples, and private children law issues. Bradley's clients include business owners and executives, City professionals and custodians of inherited wealth and their spouses or partners. Many of Bradley's clients are international and most have substantial assets. Bradley has a reputation as a highly skilled negotiator and litigator, with finely tuned judgment and wide ranging technical expertise. He is adept at evaluating cases at an early stage helping clients to make informed choices to achieve effective long term solutions. Bradley is a qualified mediator and a collaborative lawyer, and he is a Resolution collaborative specialist. He was one of the first group of lawyers to train as a family arbitrator and is able to adjudicate financial disputes. Bradley has dual Swiss British nationality and is fluent in German.
Professional Memberships: Resolution. Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. Institute of Family Law Arbitrators.
Personal: Dual British/Swiss nationality. Fluent in German.

WILLIAMS, Craig
B P Collins LLP, Gerrards Cross
01753 279037
craig.williams@bpcollins.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Thames Valley)
Practice Areas: In addition to commercial disputes, Craig also specialises in private sector work, handling a range of litigation involving wills, trusts and probate. He has a particular focus on contentious inheritance disputes, including the validity of testamentary documents, claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act 1975 and disputes regarding the administration of trusts and estates. Craig is also a member of the Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS). He is ranked in both Chambers UK and Chambers HNW. Craig's experience as a top litigator was also recognised when he and his team were listed in The Times Best Law Firms 2022. Additionally, Craig is an experienced mediation advocate and is an accredited mediator of the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution CEDR. He has used these skills to resolve many disputes for both commercial and private clients.
Professional Memberships: Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists (ACTAPS) Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution CEDR

WILSON, Ben
JMW Solicitors LLP, Manchester
1615071075
Ben.Wilson@jmw.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (North West)
Practice Areas: Ben is a Partner in the Will and Trust Disputes team, having joined in December 2020 from heading up the Will and Trust Disputes team at another regional firm. Ben has been a strong addition to the team and has assisted in its growth. Ben operates in all aspects of contentious trusts and probate work. Since joining the team Ben has dealt with a number of high value and complex matters, often involving assets in multiple jurisdictions. Ben has a particular expertise in claims under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975, where he assists clients who are in need and often vulnerable in order to secure provision from a loved one's estate. He is tenacious in his pursuit of the right outcome for a client as quickly as possible to ensure they can move on with their lives with the provision they are entitled to. He is also acutely aware and understanding of the emotional element to disputes in this field and is able to guide clients through the process in a manner that is suitable for any given client.

WILSON, Mariko
Family Law in Partnership LTD, London
0207 420 5000
mw@flip.co.uk
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Mariko is a director at Family Law in Partnership. Mariko handles all aspects of private family law and has a broad range of experience, frequently acting for high net worth individuals in financial relief and divorce proceedings as well as acting in children matters. Mariko has particular expertise in cases involving complex pensions issues, and in cases in which mental health issues are a feature. Mariko has acted on a number of complex cross border financial matters, often advising non tax resident and non tax domiciled individuals, entrepreneurs and individuals from the financial sector. She also has experience in dealing with property claims brought by third parties and unmarried cohabitants under the Trusts of Land and Appointment of Trustees Act 1996. Mariko is experienced in dealing with cross border private children law matters particularly proceedings where one parent seeks to remove a child from the jurisdiction contrary to the wishes of the other. She also advises on financial claims on behalf of the children of unmarried parents under Schedule 1 of the Children Act, including in a cross border context. Mariko is a qualified mediator.
Professional Memberships: Resolution. Family Mediators Association.

WOOD, Lucy
B P Collins LLP, Gerrards Cross
01753 278650
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (Watford, Uxbridge and surrounds)
Practice Areas: Lucy specialises in advising high net worth clients on all aspects of their estates. She advises on drafting wills, estate and inheritance tax planning, lasting powers of attorney, the creation and administration of trusts, Court of Protection work and the administration estates. Lucy is highly experienced in working with clients at all stages of their life. She is able to identify likely issues that could be on their agenda (or should be) and works proactively with them to ensure they have well rounded advice. She provides support and advice in a clear, straightforward manner and builds lasting relationships with her clients. Lucy has been awarded Lawyer of the Year by the Bucks, Berks and Oxon Law Society. She is ranked as a leading lawyer by Chambers HNW. Lucy's expertise has been sought by broadcast media and national newspapers and she frequently gives talks to help people plan for their future.
Professional Memberships: Law Society's Wills and Inheritance Quality Scheme (WIQS) Full member of Society of Trusts and Estates Practitioners (STEP).

WORWOOD, Anna
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP, London
020 7872 8582
anna.worwood@penningtonslaw.com
Featured in Family/Matrimonial (UK)
Practice Areas: Anna has a thriving high-value financial practice comprising many complex international financial cases, including current cases with assets exceeding £100m, and has extensive experience in dealing with complex trust and related structures. She is the trusted advisor to a number of UHNW clients being instructed by them to deal with a range of family law matters. Anna has become known for being one of a small number of 'go to' lawyers in private children cases, particularly those involving international relocation. In many of these cases, she acts for members of international and HNW families.
Professional Memberships: Anna is featured in the inaugural Tatler HNW Address Book alongside 20 leading UK lawyers. She is listed in the Spear's 500 2021 as a 'Top Recommended' family lawyer and described as a 'Distinguished Individual'. Anna is a past President of the Private Client

Commission (which includes family law) of the International Association of Young Lawyers (AIJA) from 2013 to 2016. She is a fellow of the IAFL. She chairs the International Relocation Committee of the IAFL. She is a member of Resolution's International Committee. She chairs a Group of leading family lawyers and other leading City professionals, called 'Creative Divorce', organising regular group meetings and inviting guest speakers (other leaders in their field) to speak on topical issues. She is recognised for her considerable knowledge of the implications of Brexit on family law.

WRIGLESWORTH, Andrew
Wrigleys Solicitors LLP, Leeds
0113 204 5719
andrew.wriglesworth@wrigleys.co.uk
Featured in Private Wealth Law (Leeds, Bradford and surrounds)

Practice Areas: As the joint head of the trusts and tax team Andrew is known within the firm and the industry field as being an expert with many important and high profile clients. He is head of the landed estates section of the Private Client department which covers ultra-high net worth clients and advises on estate and succession planning generally. Andrew has extensive experience of advising on trust matters and structures, and associated inheritance tax and capital gains tax issues. The main areas of his work include tax planning for landed estates, farmers; and wealthy individuals with a business, entrepreneurial or professional background.

Career: Andrew studied History at York University gaining a BA Hons and thereafter attended York Law college to complete the Law conversion course and the Law Society Finals. Andrew joined Wrigleys, along with the rest of the Leeds Eversheds private client team, in 1999. Andrew qualified as a solicitor in 1995 and was promoted to partner in 2005/6 .

Professional Memberships: Andrew is a member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners and recently received a STEP Founders award. He is a trustee of the George Martin Charitable Trust and has been a Trustee of Leeds Community Foundation.

YU, Jessica
Macfarlanes LLP, London
+44 20 7849 2760
Jessica.Yu@macfarlanes.com
Featured in Immigration (UK)

Career: Jessica provides specialist UK immigration and nationality advice to a range of clients including high-net-worth individuals and corporates. For private clients, Jessica regularly advises on the Investor, Entrepreneur, Start-up/Innovator, Representative of an Overseas Business and Global Talent categories. She also advises on complex family and personal matters involving relocation to the UK, Indefinite Leave to Remain (also known as Permanent Residence or Settlement) and British citizenship. For EEA nationals, this involves advising on the EU Settlement Scheme and their UK immigration permission post-Brexit. For corporates, Jessica supports them through the sponsor licence process and subsequent sponsorship of skilled workers. She also advises UK businesses to ensure that they are compliant with their sponsor licence duties and responsibilities and the law in relation to the prevention of illegal working. Jessica was appointed to the immigration seat of The Law Society Council in October 2021.

Professional Memberships: Immigration Law Practitioners Association

ZAVOS, Andrea
Boodle Hatfield LLP, London
020 7629 7411
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Featured in Private Wealth Law (London)

Practice Areas: Andrea is head of Private Client & Tax at Boodle Hatfield and a member of the contentious trusts and estates team. She specialises in advising individuals, trustees and trust companies in complex, high value disputes both domestically and internationally. Andrea is acutely aware that family relationships are often at stake and she takes that responsibility seriously. She is highly regarded for her ability to engage with clients and other professionals in a sympathetic and constructive manner. If she needs to fight, she will do so but otherwise her focus is always on achieving a mediated settlement. She also works closely with wealthy families on succession planning including wills, trusts and long term tax planning and succession structures.

Professional Memberships: Registered Contentious Trust and Probate Specialist (Association of Contentious Trust and Probate Specialists); Legal Week Trust and Estate Litigation Forum Advisory Board; Cambridge Forum on International Wealth Disputes, Steering Committee; Founder Member of the Barcelona Fresh Perspectives Conference.