
CHAMBERS UK 2023

The Leading Lawyers and Law Firms in the UK

Personal Injury

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.

Contents:

London Mainly Claimant p.1038
 UK-wide Mainly Claimant: Industrial Disease p.1042
 UK-wide Mainly Defendant p.1044
 South West Mainly Claimant p.1047
 The South Mainly Claimant p.1049
 Thames Valley Mainly Claimant p.1051
 East Anglia Mainly Claimant p.1052
 Midlands Mainly Claimant p.1053
 North West Mainly Claimant p.1055

Yorkshire Mainly Claimant p.1058
 North East Mainly Claimant p.1059
 Wales Mainly Claimant p.1060
 Wales Mainly Defendant p.1061
 Northern Ireland Mainly Claimant p.1062
 Northern Ireland Mainly Defendant p.1062
 Scotland Mainly Claimant p.1064
 Scotland Mainly Defendant p.1066
 Leaders' Profiles in Personal Injury p.1068

London Mainly Claimant

Personal Injury: Mainly Claimant	Personal Injury: Mainly Claimant
Leading Firms	Senior Statespeople and Eminent Practitioners
Band 1	Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Anthony Gold	Allen Patrick <i>Hodge Jones & Allen</i> *
Leigh Day	Day Martyn <i>Leigh Day</i> *
Stewarts	Paxton Paul <i>Stewarts</i> *
Band 2	Eminent Practitioners
Bolt Burdon Kemp	Eddy Alison <i>Irwin Mitchell</i> *
Fieldfisher	Marshall David <i>Anthony Gold</i> *
Irwin Mitchell	Wheeler Jonathan <i>Bolt Burdon Kemp</i>
Osbornes Law	
Band 3	Leading Individuals
Hodge Jones & Allen	Star individuals
Band 4	Clarke Stephanie <i>Stewarts</i> *
Bindmans LLP	Gardner Janice <i>Russell-Cooke</i>
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP	Geraghty Richard <i>Irwin Mitchell</i> *
Russell-Cooke	Godwin Nick <i>Slater and Gordon Lawyers (ORL)</i> ◇
Thompsons	Grealis Kevin <i>Hugh James (ORL)</i> ◇
* Indicates individual with profile.	Incles Grant <i>Russell-Cooke</i>
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	Mehta Dushal <i>Fieldfisher</i>
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	Murphy Alla <i>Bindmans LLP</i>
	Peters Ian <i>Anthony Gold</i> *
	Phillips Henrietta <i>Thompsons</i>
	Prior Stephanie <i>Osbornes Law</i>
	Rogers Ben <i>Stewarts</i> *
	Salmon Clare <i>Stewarts</i> *
	Sanders Bethany <i>Leigh Day</i> *
	Smith Elizabeth <i>Howard Kennedy LLP (ORL)</i> ◇
	Yaqub Riffat <i>Hodge Jones & Allen</i> *
	Up-and-coming individuals
	Al-Nahhas Ahmed <i>Bolt Burdon Kemp</i>
	Collard Sam <i>Osbornes Law</i>
	Dhaliwal Chani <i>Irwin Mitchell</i> *
	Usher Martin <i>Shakespeare Martineau (ORL)</i> ◇
	Associates to watch
	Daniel Rhiannon <i>Bolt Burdon Kemp</i>
	Hassan Eman <i>Fieldfisher</i>
	Taylor Louise <i>Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP</i>
	Wright Renee <i>Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP</i>

Band 1

Anthony Gold

What the team is known for Anthony Gold houses a respected team with experience handling big-ticket catastrophic injury claims and particular expertise in spinal cord, brain and amputation cases. The team also regularly takes on cases concerning significant psychological injury. Team members receive strong acclaim for excellent client service, and the team is also noted for skilled handling of cases involving international accidents.

Strengths

"The team at Anthony Gold is brave and sympathetic, and straight as a die regarding fees. The team also doesn't leave a stone unturned."

"The team is highly knowledgeable, efficient, responsive and extremely competent."

"Anthony Gold provide a niche, bespoke service which enables them to the get results and the experts needed."

"The team has been completely attentive to all our needs, and all our queries and emails have been responded to as soon as possible."

Notable practitioners

David Marshall (see p.1075) is the managing partner at Anthony Gold. He has a longstanding reputation for handling stress at work, brain and psychiatric injury cases. **Strengths:** "He is supremely calm under pressure and is on top of everything." "David Mar-

shall's experience and thoughtfulness is something that I will always appreciate. He was always focused on the job and carefully considered in everything he did." **Jenny Kennedy** (see p.1074) is highly regarded in the personal injury market for her work in complex brain, spinal and amputation cases. She is also recommended for cross-border matters. **Strengths:** "Jenny Kennedy is the doyenne of PI litigation. She is a fantastic lawyer, and her medical background gives an angle others don't have." "She has huge amounts of experience and an excellent nose for a case." "She is a formidable claimant lawyer." **Sana Bibi** (see p.1069) handles complex brain and amputation injuries, especially cases arising from RTAs and accidents at work. She is also well versed in complex orthopaedic injury and chronic pain syndrome matters. **Strengths:** "Sana Bibi is very efficient and quietly steely, and never

gives up." "She was very empathetic and considerate." "She made the whole process very easy to follow, each step of the way." **Jon Nicholson** (see p.195) leads the firm's personal injury department and clinical negligence team. He specialises in catastrophic brain and amputation injuries, including those caused by road traffic accidents. **Strengths:** "He's extremely competent in managing the most high-value and serious cases and always gets a good settlement." "Jon Nicholson provided impeccable service from beginning to end." **Jackie Spinks** (see p.1078) has extensive experience in handling brain injury claims. She is noted in particular for her expertise with regard to complex child brain injury cases. **Strengths:** "Jackie Spinks fights hard for her clients, and is realistic and commercially savvy too." "She is all over the details in her cases and I'm extremely impressed how she

strategises a claim." "She has always explained things clearly and carefully—even if not the answer we wanted to hear." "The support she gives her clients is second to none." **Ian Peters** (see p.1077) is an expert in personal injury claims on behalf of people who have sustained serious injuries overseas and for foreign nationals injured in the UK. **Strengths:** "Ian Peters is incredibly well organised and is brave and fearless in taking on difficult cases." "He is incredibly pragmatic and tenacious." "He shows tremendous commitment and really sticks with the client. He is tenacious and courageous in making sure he gets what is required."

Leigh Day

What the team is known for Leigh Day has an illustrious claimant team regularly instructed to act in catastrophic personal injury cases against a range of parties, including governments, public bodies and large corporations. Areas of expertise within the team include unlawful detention and torture, as well as high-level cycling injuries. It also offers particular expertise in cases concerning the mining industry, including claims relating to industrial disease, pollution and police violence. The team is highly experienced in taking cases to the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court and is regularly instructed on international mandates.

Strengths

"Leigh Day has an excellent and experienced team. The lawyers are very client-focused."

"The team foster excellent relationships with their clients."

Notable practitioners

Martyn Day (see p.556) is celebrated for his pioneering personal injury claims against corporations and the UK government, arising out of injuries sustained both at home and overseas. His areas of expertise include misconduct by the military, environmental pollution and historic rights violations. **Strengths:** "Martyn Day is a terrific lawyer." "He cuts through the detail to get to the key issues. His decades of experience mean he has honed his understanding of how to approach matters and is astute at identifying the strong and weak parts of cases." **Sally Moore** (see p.1076) leads the firm's personal injury department. She is among the country's standout practitioners for high-value personal injury accident claims, and is frequently sought out to handle brain, spinal, amputation and fatal accident cases. She is also noted in the market for her niche expertise in bringing cycling-related claims. **Strengths:** "She is fantastic – greatly experienced and good with clients." "Sally Moore is extremely knowledgeable in this area and has been very good to work with, in terms of both knowledge and support." "She is an absolutely first-class lawyer." "She is capable of translating a complex journey into simple steps." **Sapna Malik** (see p.162) dedicates her personal injury practice to civil liberties and human rights claims. She is known for assisting clients with personal injury claims against UK government departments, including the Ministry of Defence. **Strengths:** "Sapna Malik has great people skills and knows how to win cases." "She is very dedicated and stands up for commendable causes."

Bethany Sanders (see p.1077) is frequently called upon to act for claimants in serious injury claims. She is especially experienced in advising on cases involving brain and spinal injuries, often as a result of cycling accidents and other RTAs. **Strengths:** "She is always very responsive and helpful." "Bethany Sanders takes on the heaviest cases and is able to drive them forward." "She is hard-working, thorough

and hands-on."

Stewarts

What the team is known for Stewarts maintains an excellent reputation as a go-to for claimants in complex catastrophic injury claims, including brain, spinal, tetraplegic and fatal injury claims. Notable for its strength in depth as well as its ability to secure top settlements and innovative rehabilitation solutions for its clients, the team is also adept at managing high-profile cases that are the subject of intense media attention. It is also noted for its representation of minors in catastrophic injury cases.

Strengths

"Stewarts is pre-eminent in knowing which experts to get on board to get the best results for clients."

"Stewarts houses some of the best talent in this field. They are brave in running difficult cases and always determined in their litigation approach."

"From beginning to end, the team was completely professional and compassionate to our situation. The team explained each step of the process and answered every question."

Notable practitioners

Paul Paxton (see p.1077) maintains a stellar reputation in the market for his stewardship of high-value catastrophic injury cases, including those relating to brain and spinal cord injuries. He also has expertise in amputation claims. **Strengths:** "Paul is a veteran of personal injury litigation. He is a very skilful negotiator." **Andrew Dinsmore** (see p.1071) is well regarded for his serious injury practice, which takes in amputation, spinal and brain injury cases. He has extensive experience with regard to complex liability in relation to RTAs. **Strengths:** "Andrew Dinsmore has been superb throughout. He is able to deal with inevitable client frustrations in a calm and reassuring manner." "He always remains safe and calm under pressure." **Julian Chamberlayne** (see p.1452) focuses largely on international matters, regularly representing UK nationals in claims overseas. He is also frequently instructed to represent foreign nationals injured in this country. **Strengths:** "He is very clever and thinks of points others don't, and is collaborative in his approach." "Julian Chamberlayne is ferociously bright, on top of case law and statutes, and awe-inspiring in conference." **Peregrine Redgrave** handles brain and spinal cord injury and amputation claims for clients. His expertise includes accidents at work, RTAs and unsafe premises matters. **Strengths:** "He can get a settlement out of an insurer in seemingly hopeless cases." "Peregrine Redgrave is the full package – he is knowledgeable, experienced and has the brilliant gift of getting on well with the other side." "He demonstrates a thorough, detailed grasp on the clinical issues, with the client and their rehabilitation and needs held absolutely at the centre of everything that is delivered." "His client care is second to none and he is very passionate about his work – he goes the extra mile." **Charles Edwards** (see p.1072) is recommended for his marshalling of serious injury cases, including brain and spinal cord injury claims. He also negotiates with insurers on the development of litigation protocols to facilitate clients' access to rehabilitation treatment. **Strengths:** "Charles Edwards is very up to date with brain and spinal injuries and is more than able to hold his own in conversation with top consultants." "He has a mix of determination with a very amiable style and is able to talk about the nitty gritty aspects of the case. He is excellent." **Lucy Robinson** (see p.1077) acts for claimants in complex, high-value catastrophic spinal cord and brain injury claims. She has

a notable specialism in cases involving tetraplegia and paraplegia. **Strengths:** "Lucy Robinson shows fantastic understanding and compassion." "Clients love her and she cultivates good working relationships with defendants." **Stephanie Clarke** (see p.1070) has extensive experience bringing large-loss and catastrophic injury claims. She is seasoned at RTA and cycling accident-related cases. **Strengths:** "Stephanie Clarke builds very close relationships with her clients." "She is tremendous, runs very big cases and knows how to operate with the other side." **Ben Rogers** (see p.1077) 'catastrophic injury practice includes military claims, occupiers' liability and RTAs. He has niche expertise in assisting clients with claims for new technology as treatments, such as exoskeleton devices. **Strengths:** "Ben Rogers built up a strong relationship with me and my family, and helped to guide us through a stressful period of our lives." "He went above and beyond for us – he is amazing at what he does." "He manages to position himself in cases tactically to achieve better-than-expected results." **Clare Salmon** (see p.1077) represents claimants who have suffered brain and spinal cord injuries as a result of RTAs and accidents at work. She also handles fatal accident claims. **Strengths:** "Clare Salmon is very committed to her cases, hard-working and very competent." "She gets the best results possible."

Band 2

Bolt Burdon Kemp

What the team is known for Bolt Burdon Kemp is a boutique personal injury firm known for its advice to claimants on the full span of serious injury cases. The team is particularly noted for expertise in handling military claims as well as historic child sex abuse cases, while offering further experience in cases involving traumatic brain and spinal injuries in children.

Strengths

"The team members are diverse in outlook and manner, but the common trend is attention to detail. They are investors in cases and good client service."

"Bolt Burdon Kemp is a well-rounded firm with a number of experienced, committed and able practitioners."

"The whole team is approachable and friendly."

Notable practitioners

Managing partner **Jonathan Wheeler** is well versed in handling serious injury claims arising from accidents in the workplace, accidents in public places and RTAs. He is also known for his work on behalf of victims of child sexual abuse. **Strengths:** "Jonathan Wheeler is at the forefront of the law in sexual abuse matters." "He is a reliable performer with a view on what matters for the client." **Cheryl Abrahams** is a widely respected practitioner with extensive experience handling child brain injury claims. **Strengths:** "Cheryl Abrahams goes out of her way to explain things in detail – she is brilliant." "She is always available to offer her support and knowledge." **Ahmed Al-Nahhas** heads the firm's military claims team. He acts for military claimants in complex personal injury matters such as PTSD from training and serious accidents. **Strengths:** "Ahmed Al-Nahhas gets on well with clients and is a real fighter in terms of getting the best results." "He is very passionate, dedicated and incredibly hard-working." "His razor-sharp knowledge of the sector is second to none." **Rhiannon Daniel** specialises in spinal cord injury claims, whether they arise from RTAs, accidents in public liability spaces or at

work, or surgical procedures. She also has experience in claims on behalf of clients who have suffered from missed or delayed diagnosis of cauda equina syndrome. **Strengths:** “*Rhiannon Daniel is extremely diligent, hard-working and client-focused.*” “*She has a good eye for detail and really gets to grips with cases.*” “*She cares about the client and is committed and thorough in her approach.*”

Fieldfisher

What the team is known for Fieldfisher is a strong team of catastrophic injury and industrial disease specialists within a full-service firm. Significant expertise in high-value and highly complex cases, including those with an international element, is on offer from the team, which also fields extensive experience with regard to severe RTAs and injuries sustained in the workplace. The team is also regularly instructed to provide representation in high-profile cases and has been active in personal injury claims arising out of terror attacks.

Strengths

“*The whole departmental modus operandi is one of complete commitment to getting the very best for clients.*”

“*The Fieldfisher team is patient, attentive, hard-working and kind.*”

“*Fieldfisher is a strong team across the board, with really standout practitioners.*”

Notable practitioners

Jill Greenfield is renowned for her handling of high-value catastrophic injury cases for claimants, typically arising from RTAs. She has also built a substantial practice dealing with both sexual assault cases and injury claims resulting from terror attacks.

Strengths: “*She is a fierce, tireless champion who combines razor-sharp legal skill with wit and warmth.*”

“*Jill Greenfield is well versed in medical matters and understanding of the medical intricacies of her clients’ needs.*” “*She is a tenacious litigator who is totally committed to the holistic outcome for her clients.*” **Keith Barrett** handles high-value claims arising out of accidents at work, on the road and in public places, including noteworthy expertise in aviation and child injury matters.

Strengths: “*Keith Barrett has phenomenal work ethic and will always go the extra mile.*” “*He fights the unwinnable cases and wins.*” **Jennifer Buchanan** dedicates her personal injury practice to neurological and orthopaedic injuries. She has deep expertise in claims arising from serious cycling injuries.

Strengths: “*Jennifer Buchanan is utterly committed to her clients and to obtaining the very best settlement terms.*” “*She brings a real personal touch to her clients.*” **Dushal Mehta** has notable experience in a range of personal injury claims sustained in the workplace. His expertise extends to fatal accidents and catastrophic RTA matters.

Strengths: “*Dushal Mehta is brilliant with clients, he has a real human touch, and he is always clear in his advice.*” **Eman Hassan** has a reputable personal injury practice with particular strength in amputation, musculoskeletal and brain injury claims. She adeptly represents claimants in a range of fatal and catastrophic matters.

Strengths: “*Eman Hassan has both empathy and insight in equal measure.*” “*She is very passionate and very good with clients.*”

Irwin Mitchell

What the team is known for Irwin Mitchell houses a substantial team of specialist practitioners known for tackling the full range of personal injury claims. The firm maintains a standout reputation for its

handling of catastrophic injury claims, as well as cases involving injuries resulting from child abuse and industrial disease. The team also offers broad experience ranging from RTAs to injury arising out of international incidents, with the added capability of representing claimants in cross-border matters.

Strengths

“*All members of the team are able to explain complex issues in simple terms to all involved in the case in a manner that supports everyone’s active participation in the processes at hand.*”

“*It is a full-service firm, and clients receive good value due to the experience and expertise of the teams on offer.*”

Notable practitioners

Alison Eddy (see p.1072) is well versed in handling cases involving injuries arising from both clinical negligence and RTAs. She is often sought after to represent clients in catastrophic brain and spinal cord injury litigation, acting on behalf of both adults and children.

Tracey Storey (see p.1078) leads the serious injury team in London and has significant experience advising on brain, spinal cord and sexual abuse injuries, whether procuring early settlement or litigating cases in the courts.

Strengths: “*Tracey Storey is a skilled practitioner: extremely experienced, fantastic at negotiation and great at looking after clients.*”

Richard Geraghty (see p.1073) handles complex, high-value and often high-profile personal injury cases. He has particularly strong expertise in claims involving spinal cord, brain and amputation injuries, including those arising from RTAs and accidents at work. He frequently represents clients in the High Court.

Strengths: “*Richard Geraghty is really on top of case law, has good judgement and is practical. Clients can feel his commitment and gentleness.*”

Chani Dhaliwal (see p.1071) is noted for expert handling of serious injury claims including spinal cord, brain and amputation matters for claimants.

Strengths: “*Chani Dhaliwal is an impressive solicitor and very interested in the legal analysis.*”

Osbornes Law

What the team is known for Osbornes is a well-regarded personal injury practice well equipped to advise on high-value and high-profile claims, including fatalities and severe and spinal injuries. The team offers specialist expertise in cycling-related injury claims and regularly acts for foreign nationals, particularly those injured on construction sites.

Strengths

“*Osbornes is always client-focused and works tirelessly to obtain the best outcomes.*”

“*The firm has the ability to handle the most sophisticated and complex matters.*”

“*Osbornes always provides work of excellent quality and the advice is sound.*”

Notable practitioners

Ben Posford leads the catastrophic injury team and regularly represents claimants in neurological injury and fatal accident claims. He also has a niche specialism in claims involving cauda equina syndrome.

Strengths: “*Ben Posford has a great manner, clients really trust him and he gets the best out of them.*” “*He has an encyclopedic knowledge of catastrophic injury.*”

Stuart Kightley continues to head Osbornes’ personal injury department. He regularly handles cases involving brain injuries, fatal accidents, cycling collisions and workplace accidents.

Strengths: “*Stuart Kightley is incredibly commercially minded and knows what the other side will do.*” **Rob Aylott** is adept at

handling sensitive and complex catastrophic injury claims. He offers a particular specialism in amputation claims.

Strengths: “*Rob Aylott is a very intelligent litigator. He always has the right strategy for any case.*” “*He puts clients at the heart of what he does.*” “*His level of dedication to his clients is limitless.*” “*He is absolutely brilliant and very considered in his approach. He works solidly to get the very best outcome.*”

Stephanie Prior heads the child abuse claims department. She has represented victims in a number of high-profile cases.

Strengths: “*Her level of detail in dealing with cases is forensic.*” “*Stephanie Prior is very passionate about her clients.*”

Sam Collard is recognised for his talent in complex brain and amputation claims, developing strength particularly in quantum issues and sporting injuries and accidents.

Strengths: “*It never fails to amaze me how calm he is. He takes everything in his stride, even in the face of aggressive opponents.*”

“*Sam Collard is very relatable and puts clients at ease.*”

Band 3

Hodge Jones & Allen

What the team is known for Hodge Jones & Allen advises claimants on the full range of fast-track and multi-track personal injury claims, including abuse and brain injury in children. Regularly handles claims featuring multiple litigants, cross-border complexities and human rights implications. Considerable expertise in industrial disease claims relating to asbestos exposure. Also adept at handling multi-party claims.

Strengths

“*I cannot fault Hodge Jones & Allen’s client service: the team is highly consistent and attentive, and I was confident I had received well-thought-through advice I could trust.*”

“*Every question posed has been answered professionally and promptly.*”

Notable practitioners

Patrick Allen (see p.1068) offers clients his unmatched experience in a broad range of personal injury work, including complex catastrophic injury cases and multiparty personal injury claims. He has acted in numerous high-profile cases.

Riffat Yaqub (see p.1079) has experience acting for claimants who lack capacity as well as foreign nationals in a range of complex personal injury claims. She acts in complex and catastrophic injury claims, wrongful death and multiparty actions.

Strengths: “*Clear and concise in all communication and thorough in her advice and support, Riffat Yaqub is astonishingly detail-oriented, sensitive and intuitive to my concerns.*” “*She is extremely efficient and investigates claims comprehensively.*”

Band 4

Bindmans LLP

What the team is known for Bindmans shows deep expertise with regard to brain, orthopaedic and psychological injury claims. Regularly instructed for claims arising from accidents at work, particularly on behalf of construction workers, as well as cases involving human rights issues. The team also has the resources to frequently act for clients with Turkish and Polish backgrounds. Team members specialise in multi-track claims and wield additional experience in cases involving chronic pain and subtle brain injury.

Strengths

"Bindmans takes on complex clients that other firms do not. All of the team are knowledgeable, pragmatic and sensible."

"The client service is excellent – all lawyers are well prepared and provide clear and comprehensive advice."

Notable practitioners

Alla Murphy is recommended for her handling of catastrophic neurological and orthopaedic injury cases on behalf of individuals as well as groups in multiparty litigation. **Strengths:** *"Alla Murphy has been very helpful and supportive. I have also been impressed by her client-focused approach."* *"She is great with clients and understands complex litigation."*

Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP

What the team is known for Penningtons Manches Cooper handles a wide array of personal injury matters including catastrophic injury, psychiatric injury and historical sexual abuse claims. The firm has further expertise working with claimants based outside of the UK. The team also represents individuals from the police force who suffered physical and psychological injuries in the line of duty.

Strengths

"The team offers a high level of expertise and client-focused guidance. From the beginning, contact and engagement has been professional, caring and comprehensive."

"The team are prompt and clear with their knowledge, and explain things easily and in a way that demonstrates deep understanding of the processes involved." *"Those representing me showed a strong awareness of my injury and the effects on my life, which was reflected in the way they conducted my case."*

Notable practitioners

Warren Collins is noted for his representation of claimants in complex amputation, brain and spinal cord injury cases. He is also recommended for wrongful death matters. **Strengths:** *"Warren Collins has great ability. He is able to think about personal injury cases in an innovative way."* *"He has extremely sound judgement and is a steely negotiator. He is an ideal person to have in your corner."* **Tristan Hallam** is much sought after for catastrophic personal injury cases, with an emphasis on head and spinal injury and amputation cases for clients, including those arising out of RTAs. **Strengths:** *"Tristan Hallam is clearly extremely experienced and instils a high level of confidence in clients."* **Louise Taylor** is notable for her work handling psychiatric injury claims stemming from workplace conditions and RTAs. She also has significant experience in brain injury claims.

Strengths: *"Louise Taylor is engaging, caring and knowledgeable. Her ability to understand the minute detail is impressive."* *"She is very approachable and friendly, with genuine concern for client wellbeing."*

Renée Wright leads an impressive range of cata-

strophic injury matters. She also has an experience acting on chronic pain cases. **Strengths:** *"Renée Wright is a passionate and talented individual with a wealth of knowledge and impeccable client etiquette."*

Russell-Cooke

What the team is known for Russell-Cooke is notable for its representation of claimants in cases arising from novel and unusual circumstances. The team is also adept at acting on catastrophic injury, CICA and historical abuse issues. Russell-Cooke shows a particular specialism in secondary injury claims, including large multi-party matters.

Strengths

"The firm makes real efforts to cater to the bespoke needs of clients and has a clear understanding of specific needs and expectations."

"The team at Russell-Cooke is helpful, supportive and responsive."

"The team is very attentive, and all communications are responded to quickly."

Notable practitioners

Janice Gardner is well regarded for her handling of psychiatric injury claims as well as serious injury claims resulting from RTAs. She also represents clients in CICA and historic sexual abuse claims.

Strengths: *"Janice Gardner is an outstanding lawyer whose attentiveness and willingness to go above and beyond is fantastic."* **Grant Incles** is well known for specialising in high-value, life-changing and fatal cycling accident claims. **Strengths:** *"He shows real care in a personal and legal sense, and is really good at putting people at ease."* *"Grant Incles is supportive, objective and measured in guiding clients through the process."*

Thompsons

What the team is known for Thompsons offers a respected personal injury group with substantial experience representing trade unions in connection with workplace accident and occupational disease claims. The team also handles claims arising out of RTAs and regularly advises on serious cases of orthopaedic injury, respiratory problems and chronic pain syndrome.

Strengths

"The team at Thompsons are very passionate about the work."

"It is a firm of real principles – the clients come first."

Notable practitioners

Henrietta Phillips is recommended for the full span of personal injury claims, including those arising from cycling and other road traffic accidents, and accidents at work. She is also highly experienced with regard to catastrophic and fatal injury cases.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Tracey Benson of Slater and Gordon Lawyers is recommended for her extensive workplace accident expertise. Within this area, she is particularly knowledgeable on sports injuries, frequently representing footballers involved in sporting accidents. She also handles RTA and military cases involving serious neurological and amputation injuries.

Strengths:

"Tracey Benson is fantastic to work with. She never loses sight of the big picture and extremely supportive."

"She is very client-focused and goes the extra mile for her clients."

Nick Godwin is sought after by clients for representation in cases involving catastrophic brain and spinal cord trauma, and also life-changing injuries resulting in amputations or severe back and orthopaedic conditions. He frequently represents families in claims arising from fatal accidents.

Strengths:

"Nick is very approachable and has demonstrated a genuine interest in ensuring that we feel fully supported throughout the legal process."

"He is determined but sensible, and extremely hard-working – he never stops."

"His ability to draw together multiple threads to formulate clients' needs in a holistic fashion is impressive."

Kevin Grealis of Hugh James is often instructed on personal injury claims arising out of accidents and medical negligence, as well as cases with a cross-over between the two. He is experienced in brain and spinal cord injury claims arising from negligent medical treatment such as failure to diagnose.

Strengths:

"Kevin Grealis is incredibly detailed."

Elizabeth Smith heads Howard Kennedy's personal injury team. She is held in high regard for her personal injury expertise and has notable experience dealing with stress at work, manual handling injuries and upper limb disorder claims.

Strengths:

"Elizabeth Smith is open, engaged and very clear. She provides us with a tremendously high level of support and service."

"She is a fearsome but engaging negotiator, securing excellent results for clients."

Head of the quickly expanding Lime Solicitors personal injury team, **Martin Usher** is adept at handling catastrophic injury cases. He shows particular expertise in traumatic brain injury matters.

Strengths:

"Martin Usher is really thorough in his knowledge."

"He is incredibly conscientious."

UK-wide Mainly Claimant: Industrial Disease

Personal Injury Mainly Claimant: Industrial Disease
Leading Firms
Band 1
Fieldfisher
Irwin Mitchell
Leigh Day
Band 2
The Asbestos Law Partnership LLP
Digby Brown LLP
Hodge Jones & Allen
Hugh James
Larcomes
Slater and Gordon Lawyers
Thompsons
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Bailey Ian Irwin Mitchell
Bains Harminder Leigh Day*
Easton Daniel Leigh Day*
Glanville Paul The Asbestos Law Partnership LLP
Johnson Kevin Leigh Day*
Morgan Andrew G Fieldfisher
Williams Peter Fieldfisher
Band 2
Bell Jordan Slater and Gordon Lawyers
Chandler Pauline Slater and Gordon Lawyers
Childs Helen RWK Goodman (ORL) ◇
Darlaston Guy Irwin Mitchell*
Ganapathy Vijay Leigh Day*
Green Richard Hugh James
Holdsworth Madelene Slater and Gordon Lawyers
Hopgood Richard Larcomes
Hussain Fozia The Asbestos Law Partnership LLP
Lovett Isobel Hodge Jones & Allen*
Mehta Dushal Fieldfisher
Osborne Michael Larcomes
Simpson Fraser Digby Brown LLP
Walsh Patrick Leigh Day
Wilson Helen The Asbestos Law Partnership LLP
Yeates Lynn Hugh James
Band 3
Magson Laura Boyes Turner (ORL) ◇
Mosquera Shaheen Fieldfisher
Singh Kathryn Hugh James
Venn Andrew C Thompsons
Webster Lorna Hodge Jones & Allen*
Up-and-coming individuals
Strong Lucy Hugh James
Tant Ewan Leigh Day*
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Fieldfisher

What the team is known for Fieldfisher is a market-leading industrial disease practice with an outstanding reputation for undertaking mesothelioma and asbestos disease litigation. The team deftly handles a range of complex and often high-value claims, and offers a strong track record in recovering hospice fees for clients. Team members represent claimants from industrial and manufacturing backgrounds, as well as hospital workers, teachers and other employees exposed to asbestos in the workplace.

Strengths

"The whole team is very experienced and knowledgeable and takes on tricky cases."

"Fieldfisher's response times are always super quick."

Notable practitioners

Andrew Morgan is celebrated for his expertise in handling industrial disease work, particularly mesothelioma cases. He also acts for clients bringing serious injury claims arising from accidents at work.

Strengths: *"Andrew Morgan is highly intelligent."* **Peter Williams** represents clients in a variety of asbestos cases and has brought cases which resulted in landmark judgments. He is especially adept at work on behalf of mesothelioma patients. **Strengths:** *"Peter Williams has a really good bedside manner with clients and gets good results. He knows the law inside out and doesn't take any rubbish from defendants."* *"He kept us informed at all times and is extremely knowledgeable."* **Dushal Mehta** is highly experienced in representing claimants suffering from mesothelioma and other asbestos-related illnesses. **Strengths:** *"Dushal Mehta is willing to tackle difficult issues and his commitment is first class."* *"He is really good with clients and quite tenacious with defendants."* *"He is extremely hard-working."* **Shaheen Mosquera** is well versed in representing asbestos exposure victims in mesothelioma and other related disease claims. **Strengths:** *"Shaheen Mosquera is willing to go the extra mile for clients."* *"She was just brilliant – she kept us well informed, gave us good advice and explained the processes. We felt supported throughout."*

Irwin Mitchell

What the team is known for Irwin Mitchell houses an exceptional occupational disease team which handles all manner of disease claims, from asbestosis, silicosis and mesothelioma to noise-induced hearing loss caused by workplace activity. The team also has notable experience in hand-arm vibration syndrome cases. The firm is regularly appointed on high-profile group litigation, as well as advising on individual claims, and offers clients a dedicated in-house client liaison manager.

Strengths

"Irwin Mitchell do an excellent job of supporting clients in a holistic way."

"The team are very knowledgeable in the area of mesothelioma, up to date with the latest treatments and keen to explore all options for their clients."

"Irwin Mitchell has a national reach and a very efficient litigation team."

Notable practitioners

Ian Bailey is one of the country's leading specialists in injuries at work, with a particular focus on asbestos-related diseases. He has much experience assisting claimants with mesothelioma and other conditions with recovering costs for life-prolonging treatments, such as immunotherapy. **Strengths:** *"Ian Bailey is very knowledgeable, courteous and committed to his clients to achieve the best possible outcomes."* *"He has a deep understanding of industrial diseases and very sound judgement, and is very compassionate and caring."* **Guy Darlaston** (see p.1071) is managing partner of Irwin Mitchell's Southampton office. He is an experienced industrial disease specialist and holds strong ties to mesothelioma charities and research groups. **Strengths:** *"Guy Darlaston runs a fantastic team and has good client rapport."* *"He shows empathy, is very helpful and has deep knowl-*

edge."

Leigh Day

What the team is known for Leigh Day has a highly respected industrial disease practice offering first-rate representation to claimants suffering from asbestos-related diseases. The team features prominently in headline disease cases and retains strong links to support groups and non-profits catering for those with mesothelioma, and is also well versed in handling large international group claims, particularly those concerning claimants in developing countries. The firm boasts an extensive national platform, with offices in London, Manchester, Birmingham and Liverpool, and is highly experienced in taking cases to the Court of Appeal and in making judicial review challenges.

Strengths

"Leigh Day always go the extra mile for their clients and have some of the most impressive solicitors practising within industrial disease."

"The team handled our case with professionalism, empathy and expertise. The support and attention we received from the firm was excellent."

"The team is very knowledgeable in this field and makes the whole process seamless."

"They are very efficient and responsive and are very experienced in complex asbestos disease cases."

Notable practitioners

Harminder Bains (see p.1068) fields extensive experience in taking catastrophic injury and asbestos-related claims to trial, including up to the Supreme Court. **Strengths:** *"She is dynamic, enthusiastic, fearless and willing to take on very difficult cases."* *"Harminder Bains impresses in terms of her passion in pursuit of justice for asbestos victims and her prominent involvement in high-profile, cutting-edge cases."*

Daniel Easton (see p.1072) is best known for his handling of complex and high-value catastrophic injury and asbestos disease-related claims, offering proven expertise in cross-border cases. He frequently represents young asbestos victims. He is noted for his expertise in working on high-value and cross-border claims. **Strengths:** *"Daniel Easton is very experienced, empathetic and good with clients."* *"He was extremely considerate, empathetic and thorough throughout the whole journey of our claim."* **Kevin Johnson** (see p.1074) stands out for his experience in handling occupational disease claims, asbestos-related disease cases in particular. He has represented claimants exposed to asbestos in all manner of industry sectors, and also via work attire and equipment brought home by family members. **Strengths:** *"We always trust him as a safe pair of hands to offer advice. He also has excellent client relations approach and great technical skills."* *"Kevin Johnson quickly builds a rapport with clients and has good tactical awareness."* **Vijay Ganapathy** (see p.1072) is well known for his advice on asbestos-related matters, especially those concerning mesothelioma. He is also skilled in representing clients in multi-jurisdictional matters. **Strengths:** *"Vijay Ganapathy is calm and very personable; he knows the area inside out."* *"He is experienced and empathetic, good with clients and very thorough."* *"He takes a careful and detailed approach and is effective."* **Patrick Walsh** comes recommended for his extensive experience handling asbestos-related claims, including those involving mesothelioma, asbestos-related lung cancer, asbestosis and

pleural thickening. **Strengths:** "Patrick Walsh is very skilled. He worked tirelessly and was extremely committed towards pursuing the claim with the utmost urgency. He was very approachable at all times and is an extremely talented man." "He is hugely experienced in asbestos work." "He always knows the right thing to do in a case." **Ewan Tant** (see p.1078) specialises in asbestos-related disease claims, including those relating to secondary exposure and claims with multi-jurisdictional aspects. **Strengths:** "Ewan Tant is empathetic, knowledgeable and very easy to talk to. He was able to put us at ease and we feel fully supported by him and his team." "He is a very good negotiator and gets good outcomes." "He is really good with clients."

Band 2

The Asbestos Law Partnership LLP

What the team is known for The Asbestos Law Partnership is a specialist practice dedicated exclusively to the pursuit of claims on behalf of victims of asbestos-related disease, their families and dependants. All the lawyers are accredited asbestos specialists, experienced in litigating for and securing compensation and access to the best treatment for mesothelioma, lung cancer, asbestosis, pleural thickening and all clinical complications arising from asbestos exposure.

Strengths

"Everyone in the team has great knowledge and experience, and provides a very comprehensive service."

"The Asbestos Law Partnership impresses with the service it provides. The team is very friendly, professional and reassuring."

"It is an excellent boutique firm able to act on the full range of asbestos cases. There is a good depth of experience and great knowledge within the team."

"The team responds to queries very quickly and efficiently and is easy to reach to discuss issues."

Notable practitioners

Paul Glanville is an experienced practitioner with a strong track record in litigating complex and high-value asbestos-related disease claims. He is celebrated for his work in the UK and also on cases with cross-border dimensions. **Strengths:** "Paul Glanville is hugely experienced, determined, efficient and takes on difficult cases." "He is a very astute negotiator." **Fozia Hussain** is a highly regarded specialist practitioner. She has vast experience handling a range of asbestos-related claims for those affected. **Strengths:** "She has strong expertise and knowledge of industrial disease matters." "I cannot fault Fozia Hussain in how my case has been conducted and her intensive attention to detail." **Helen Wilson** is widely known for expertise in industrial disease litigation. She regularly acts for claimants in asbestos-related disease claims. **Strengths:** "Helen Wilson is exceptional. She works tirelessly and painstakingly uncovers the required evidence." "She has an excellent grasp of issues."

Digby Brown LLP

What the team is known for Digby Brown offers a leading industrial disease practice operating in Scotland. The team has extensive experience acting for clients with mesothelioma and other asbestos-related illnesses contracted as a result of working in heavy industry, particularly for those formerly employed in the Scottish shipbuilding industry.

Strengths

"Digby Brown has a wealth of knowledge throughout

the department. The team really believe in what they do, and campaign and support charities."

"From top to bottom, all of the team know what they are talking about. Everyone is on the ball."

Notable practitioners

Fraser Simpson heads the firm's industrial disease practice, offering particular strength in asbestos and occupational disease claims. He also advises on matters concerning employers' liability. **Strengths:** "Fraser Simpson has a comprehensive grasp of his field." "He is knowledgeable and very experienced."

Hodge Jones & Allen

What the team is known for Hodge Jones & Allen is a distinguished team of personal injury practitioners with particular strength in industrial disease claims, representing those affected by asbestos more specifically. The team boasts extensive experience in a range of matters including low-exposure asbestos litigation and product liability claims in the UK against manufacturers of asbestos products.

Strengths

"Hodge Jones & Allen has assembled a good team of specialists, all of whom are very experienced."

"The team is helpful and reassuring."

"I found the team to be very helpful and able to explain things in plain English."

Notable practitioners

Isobel Lovett (see p.1075) is a well-known and experienced asbestos and occupational disease specialist who has brought claims up and down the country. She is especially skilled in handling mesothelioma cases. **Strengths:** "Isobel Lovett is very careful and thorough. She always has the best interests of her clients at heart and is not afraid to step on toes for their benefit." "She is very experienced and a tenacious litigator." "She is very kind and understanding under very difficult circumstances." "She is very dedicated to her clients." **Lorna Webster** (see p.1078) focuses her practice on mesothelioma claims stemming from historic workplace asbestos exposure. **Strengths:** "She is capable and knowledgeable." "Lorna Webster is friendly and supportive. She could not have made my claim any easier."

Hugh James

What the team is known for Hugh James is adept at handling the full range of occupational disease claims, including skin and lung cancers, noise-induced hearing loss, vibration white finger and dermatitis. Experienced in individual and group action claims, the team is regularly instructed on major cases concerning miners and industrial workers.

Strengths

"The team at Hugh James is very capable, knowledgeable and quick to respond to any queries."

"I was very impressed with the client service – the team is helpful, knowledgeable and easy to contact."

"The lawyers are very knowledgeable and very empathetic, and are supported by an exceptional and very supportive paralegal team."

Notable practitioners

Richard Green heads the asbestos claims team and is frequently instructed on high-value mesothelioma and complex lung cancer claims resulting from asbestos exposure. **Strengths:** "Richard Green displays extensive knowledge and empathy." "He is very supportive, knowledgeable and helpful when explaining the process of a claim." **Lynn Yeates** is based in Hugh James's Southampton office. She specialises in illnesses arising from asbestos exposure. **Strengths:** "Lynn Yeates has in-depth knowl-

edge of industrial disease matters." **Kathryn Singh** is highly regarded for her deft handling of group action claims. She is also known for representing claimants suffering hand-arm vibration syndrome. **Strengths:** "Kathryn Singh is experienced, knowledgeable and personable." "Her preparation is meticulous and she is a pleasure to work with." **Lucy Strong** impresses with her work on asbestos-related disease claims. She also sits on the advisory board of the Mesothelioma UK Research Centre. **Strengths:** "Lucy Strong is very knowledgeable and has very good communication skills." "She is extremely supportive, patient and caring when dealing with the emotional and upsetting information in the claim." "She offers a personable approach and is very efficient."

Larcomes

What the team is known for Larcomes houses an industrial disease practice based in Portsmouth. The team is best known for its expert knowledge and representation of claimants in mesothelioma and other asbestos-related disease claims, frequently for those who had been employed in local dockyards and shipbuilding industries. The team is also noted for its regular collaboration with the asbestos disease charity HASAG.

Strengths

"The solicitors in the team are specialists: they know what they are doing around mesothelioma and asbestos disease matters."

"Larcomes is an efficient and effective team with in-depth knowledge and understanding of the sensitivities."

Notable practitioners

Richard Hopgood heads Larcomes' industrial disease team. He is recognised for his expertise in industrial disease claims such as mesothelioma and asbestos-related cases, especially for those formerly employed in dockyards. **Strengths:** "Richard Hopgood is a guru. He has an amazing memory of previous claims." "He puts 100% into every case." **Michael Osborne** enjoys a strong reputation for his handling of industrial disease claims and asbestos litigation. **Strengths:** "Michael Osborne is kind and respectful, with deep knowledge and understanding of industrial disease."

Slater and Gordon Lawyers

What the team is known for Slater and Gordon has a prominent industrial disease team with leading expertise in mesothelioma and other asbestos-related illnesses, with further experience in claims concerning noise-induced hearing loss, exposure to poisonous gases and other occupational health issues. The team also offers in-house client liaison officers who dispense welfare benefits advice and other forms of practical support to clients.

Strengths

"Slater and Gordon is always prompt and attentive. The care and compassion shown by the team makes a very stressful and upsetting time a lot easier to cope with."

"The team is really efficient in all aspects – the lawyers always make me feel at ease, are excellent in keeping me informed and display strong expertise in this field."

Notable practitioners

Jordan Bell is commended for his experience in dealing with asbestos-related disease claims, including those involving asbestosis, pleural thickening, lung cancer and mesothelioma. **Strengths:** "Jordan Bell is very conscientious and he knows his industrial disease cases – he is a proper specialist." "He made everything bearable and nothing was ever

an issue. He explained everything fully and always answered my questions." **Pauline Chandler** is an experienced industrial disease specialist with particular strength in pursuing bladder and nasal cancer matters for claimants. **Strengths:** "Pauline Chandler is very determined and persistent." **Madelene Holdsworth** heads the firm's industrial disease team. She is well reputed in the market for her handling of complex industrial disease and military litigation. Her experience includes stress at work claims, chemical poisoning and asbestos-related disease matters. **Strengths:** "Madelene Holdsworth is extremely careful and thorough and is experienced and knowledgeable – a safe pair of hands." "She is very bright and tenacious." "She was excellent throughout, kept me fully updated and explained the steps as the case developed."

Thompsons

What the team is known for Thompsons is a nationwide practice with longstanding expertise in industrial disease matters. The firm primarily acts on

asbestos-related disease cases, with additional experience handling HAVS, non-freezing cold injuries and hearing issues. Thompsons are closely allied to trade unions and a range of asbestos support groups across the country.

Strengths

"Thompsons is very responsive to queries and go over and above."

"The team's support of the claimant is excellent."

Notable practitioners

Andrew Venn is the firm's national practice lead for asbestos cases. He is a highly experienced practitioner, having previously pursued cases up to High Court level. **Strengths:** "Andrew Venn is an astute and able practitioner."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Helen Childs leads RWK Goodman's industrial disease team and has superlative experience representing clients in asbestos-related disease claims

concerning mesothelioma, asbestosis, lung cancer and pleural thickening.

Strengths:

"Helen Childs runs cases others wouldn't go near: she can cut through the noise, see where there is a case to be had and win them."

"She has great client care and is very passionate about the work."

Laura Magson leads Boyes Turner's industrial disease team. She is recognised for her swift handling of asbestos-related disease claims, prioritising settlements within claimants' lifetimes.

Strengths:

"Laura Magson is an experienced litigator with encyclopedic knowledge."

"She is assertive, reliable, understanding and caring. She simplifies all the legal jargon and is always reassuring."

"She is always clear and concise with a personal touch and is a pleasure to work with."

UK-wide Mainly Defendant

Personal Injury: Mainly Defendant	Personal Injury: Mainly Defendant
Leading Firms	Eminent Practitioners
Band 1	Eminent Practitioners
Clyde & Co LLP	Jones Glyn DWF
DAC Beachcroft LLP	
DWF	Leading Individuals
Kennedys	Band 1
Keoghs LLP	Dickinson Graham DWF
Band 2	Henké Malcolm C HF
HF	Hibbert Andrew Clyde & Co LLP*
Weightmans	Holt David Weightmans
Band 3	McCabe Jamie C Keoghs LLP
Browne Jacobson LLP	Band 2
CMS	Adamson Derek DWF
Forbes	Bowler Claire DWF
Plexus Law	Burton Mark Kennedys
Trethowans LLP	D'Netto Philip Plexus Law
* Indicates individual with profile.	Evans Rod HF
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	Parker Andrew DAC Beachcroft LLP
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	Pugh David Keoghs LLP
	Band 3
Band 1	Murray Christopher Clyde & Co LLP*
	Singer Danielle DAC Beachcroft LLP
Clyde & Co LLP	Taverner Paul Bevan Brittan LLP (ORL) ◇
What the team is known for The defendant personal injury team at Clyde & Co is highly regarded in the market and focuses on complex high-value claims, including those with international elements. The team handles the full range of personal injury matters, including catastrophic accident and mesothelioma claims, and works with an enviable list of major insurers, defending both group actions and substantial individual claims.	West Richard Kennedys
Strengths	Young David DWF
"The breadth of knowledge, technical expertise, negotiation abilities and personal skills on offer from Clyde & Co set them apart from the pack."	
"The team is very conscious of clients' needs, and this awareness has been ingrained throughout. The firm also provides excellent training services and updates on relevant court decisions."	

"There is a broad range of technical expertise within the team – the lawyers know which cases to fight and regularly achieve excellent outcomes in court."

"It provides an excellent and collaborative service."

"Clients have access to good lawyers who are both personable and strategically-minded."

Notable practitioners

Andrew Hibbert (see p.1074) is well known for handling high-value individual road accident claims. He is experienced in high-value brain and spinal injury, limb loss and fatal accident claims, including those arising out of RTAs. **Strengths:** "Andrew Hibbert sees the bigger picture, and is proactive and constructive." "He is pure class with his collaborative working style." **Christopher Murray** (see p.1076) has a broad

defence-side practice, routinely representing both public and private sector clients in claims arising from severe RTA, accident at work and industrial disease-related injuries. **Strengths:** "Chris Murray is great on the technical detail but takes a more pragmatic approach when required." "He is an excellent individual who has a broad range of knowledge." "He is brilliant at client care." **Claire Collins** (see p.1070) has considerable experience handling complex catastrophic injury cases including, amputation, spinal and brain claims. She has particular expertise in subtle brain injury matters and acts for many leading insurers. **Strengths:** "Claire Collins is doing high-grade work and has real energy in leading her team." **Chris Eccles** (see p.1072) acts on complex large-loss

claims often resulting from road traffic collisions. He is experienced in defending insurers in cases involving minor traumatic brain injuries. **Strengths:** "He is very technical and extremely thorough." "Chris Eccles is a calm, highly knowledgeable and very astute solicitor. He is very good at judging the strategic issues."

Clare Garnett (see p.1072) is well regarded for her work on Animals Act claims and equine liability in particular. She attracts additional praise for advising on cases involving fraud and exaggeration. **Andrew Kerr** (see p.1075) defends insurers, policyholders and local authorities against catastrophic and large-loss claims. His broad experience includes brain and spinal injury claims stemming from employer, public and RTA liabilities. He has a noteworthy specialism in cases pertaining to serious infant brain injuries as a result of alleged abuse or negligence on the part of social services. **Strengths:** "Andrew Kerr is a trusted and reliable operator – a safe pair of hands." "He is very tactically able." **Michael Pether** (see p.1077) is known for his longstanding and active personal injury practice, which centres on high-profile historic child sexual abuse cases. He is adept in handling individual and group claims for an array of clients, including religious organisations, schools and local authorities.

DAC Beachcroft LLP

What the team is known for DAC Beachcroft is a national firm housing a substantial team of experts who can defend everything from serious injury and industrial disease claims to suspected cases of fraud. A leading adviser to major insurers, and very capable of handling international matters, it also wields particular expertise in motor claims, with additional knowledge of public and employers' liability. The team offers further expertise in sexual abuse and care sector abuse and neglect claims.

Strengths

"It is a well-oiled machine at the forefront of legislation it runs."

Notable practitioners

Andrew Parker is experienced in defending and advising insurers in strategic test cases, most notably with respect to personal injury matters. He is often instructed in landmark appeals, and offers a wealth of expertise representing both claimants and defendants in judicial reviews. **Strengths:** "Andrew Parker has encyclopedic knowledge of personal injury matters." **Danielle Singer** defends insurers against severe brain, spinal injury and amputation cases. **Strengths:** "Danielle Singer has a fantastic measured way about her and she is very commercial in her approach." **Sally Yuill** handles catastrophic injury claims as a result of motor and employers' liability. She is experienced in cases involving spinal injuries and amputation. She is head of the firm's large-loss team in Bristol and counts a number of leading insurers and corporations among her clients. **Duncan Rutter** has a broad personal injury practice encompassing all kinds of serious accident, clinical negligence and disease claims arising out of employer, public and RTA liability. He is particularly well versed in advising clients on catastrophic injury claims, with an emphasis on those involving brain and spinal injuries. He frequently represents clients in court in his capacity as a solicitor advocate. **Tania Sless** focuses on occupational stress and product liability claims, acting on behalf of an array of manufacturers and retailers. She is frequently sought out by employers for strategic advice to help avoid potential claims. **Strengths:** "Tania Sless is very customer-focused."

She keeps clients informed, ensures that they are happy and is very astute." "She is always available and an extremely safe pair of hands."

DWF

What the team is known for DWF is a pre-eminent large-loss practice which acts on complex, high-profile cases and defends insurers against claims arising from catastrophic accidents, negligence and abuse. The team also offers deep expertise in occupational illness matters, including noise-induced hearing loss, as well as proficiency in cases involving accidents in the UK and abroad. Specialist expertise within the team also includes handling fraudulent claims, such as substantial motor insurance fraud rings.

Strengths

"I'm super pleased with the work they do. The DWF team consists of clever individuals who are flexible to meet client needs. Great value for money."

"The expertise made available to handle our cases is second to none, as is their ability to cut to the chase."

Notable practitioners

Glyn Jones leads the catastrophic injury team and is also head of the Leeds insurance department. He defends insurers against complex catastrophic and fatal injury claims. He is also adept at advising on insurance policy matters. **Strengths:** "Glyn Jones is thought of highly by clients." **Graham Dickinson** heads the catastrophic injury team in London and is known for handling large-loss claims arising from accidents. He is also extremely adept at resolving disputes via mediation, and has extensive experience handling claims on behalf of UK and overseas insurers and reinsurers. **Derek Adamson** assists major insurers with insurance policy interpretation. He has deep expertise in disease-related claims, including mesothelioma and Legionnaires' disease. **Strengths:** "Derek Adamson impresses as he makes good points on behalf of his client." **Claire Bowler** heads the firm's international claims team, frequently handling big-ticket claims for insurers in both the UK and the EU. **David Young** is highly experienced in a range of catastrophic injury claims, frequently acting on behalf of the insurers of motorists, employers and public bodies. He has particular expertise in cases involving serious brain injuries, amputations and paralysis. **Strengths:** "David Young is a very strong practitioner." Leeds-based **Owen Rees** frequently acts for motor insurers in connection with coverage disputes. He is particularly well versed in handling cases involving catastrophic neurological injuries and limb losses, particularly those arising from RTAs. **Strengths:** "Owen Rees is very measured and is never hurried. He is also very clever and very tactical."

Kennedys

What the team is known for Kennedys is a market-leading defence practice skilled in representing major insurers and corporations in the full range of personal injury claims. The team advises on everything from workplace accident and motor cases to child abuse claims, and offers notable expertise in claims arising in the travel and holiday industry. Kennedys continues to grow its international presence, offering a strong network of 54 offices worldwide.

Strengths

"The team at Kennedys knows when to negotiate and when to take a case all the way, and is also excellent at communication."

"Kennedys recognises efficiency is delivered through correct advice rather than what the client wants to hear."

Notable practitioners

Mark Burton chairs the firm's UK catastrophic injury team and handles big-ticket claims for insurers, including severe brain injury claims such as those involving locked-in syndrome, vegetative states and altered consciousness. He has significant expertise in handling claims arising from RTAs. **Strengths:** "Mark Burton's strength is his strategic insight – he is able to see where litigation is going." **Richard West** regularly advises insurers in connection with catastrophic injury claims and motor insurance coverage disputes. He has handled many high-value claims in this area. **David Thompson** acts for insurers in catastrophic injury claims. He is also known for his multiparty work, as well as complex liability matters. **Strengths:** "David Thompson is very strong and a go-to solicitor in this space."

Keoghs LLP

What the team is known for Keoghs has a stellar reputation for defending insurers and self-insured clients in catastrophic injury and occupational disease claims. Clients also rely on the firm's outstanding counter-fraud team for advice in cases of suspected fraud and exaggeration. The team is particularly well established in the motor insurance industry with further notable experience in advising public sector bodies in abuse cases.

Strengths

"Keoghs has a wealth of knowledge and is incredibly organised. This puts the team in strong stead to handle some of the most complex issues within the market."

"Keoghs is always fully up to date with all legal developments and market changes. The team members are quick at responding while maintaining a high level of service."

Notable practitioners

Jamie McCabe is a leading catastrophic injury specialist, frequently defending insurers against complex brain, spinal and fatal injury claims. He also advises insurers on market and policy strategy. **Strengths:** "Jamie McCabe is an incredibly strong practitioner." **David Pugh** has much experience advising on strategic and sometimes test litigation, with an emphasis on legacy and industrial disease cases. He represents an impressive roster of clients, including governments, international insurers and multinationals. **Strengths:** "David Pugh is an excellent solicitor and is always looking for a new angle to the case." **Ken Young** comes recommended for his experience advising on cases of catastrophic injury arising from RTAs, including amputations, brain and spinal injuries. **Victoria Coleman** acts for defendants in serious personal injury claims, including for catastrophic brain, spine and brachial plexus injuries. She is experienced in handling claims on behalf of patients left in a persistent vegetative state or in states of minimal awareness.

Band 2

HF

What the team is known for HF is a considerable defendant-side personal injury offering with the ability to handle a significant range of employers', public and motor liability matters. Highly respected for its expertise in handling catastrophic injury claims, including those involving brain and spinal cord injuries, the team's experience also covers injury arising from RTAs as well as cases of suspected motor insurance fraud.

Strengths

"HF is always at the forefront of new techniques and innovations to get better results. I can't speak highly enough of the team's communication and ability to support us."

"HF has an excellent ability to proactively drive claims to early resolution and the ability to form a good rapport with the claimant lawyer."

"It is an incredibly experienced team which offers great technical guidance."

Notable practitioners

Malcolm Henké specialises in complex large-loss claims arising from RTAs and is highly skilled in representing clients in litigation across the UK, Europe and the USA. He is especially adept in cases concerning brain and spinal cord injuries. **Strengths:** *"Malcolm Henké is very experienced."* *"He is one of the top players in the field."* **Paul Chadder** has particularly acute expertise in employers' and also public liability claims, including those concerning industrial disease. He is also experienced in Health and Safety Executive prosecutions and professional indemnity matters relating to personal injury. **Strengths:** *"Paul Chadder is extremely thorough."*

Weightmans

What the team is known for Weightmans is a highly regarded personal injury team instructed by some of the country's largest insurers and local authorities to defend the full range of injury and disease cases. Other areas of activity within the team include the investigation and litigation of claims for fraud and exaggeration. Weightmans advises on the full span of catastrophic injury claims as well as injuries arising from alleged negligence and abuse. Clients benefit from the firm's international capabilities via its international law group.

Strengths

"Weightmans consistently provides sound advice and has the expertise to deal with larger and more complex matters. The team are very helpful and keep you informed."

"The team shows excellent knowledge, judgement, communication and negotiation. Weightmans offers excellent delivery of quality legal advice and services at a reasonable cost."

"Weightmans has a high level of customer care and is a safe pair of hands in complex and high-value claims."

Notable practitioners

David Holt regularly receives instruction in high-value catastrophic personal injury claims, including serious head trauma and paralysis cases. He is particularly well versed in injuries arising from RTAs, and also cases involving the Motor Insurers' Bureau. He continues to serve as head of the firm's large-loss and technical claims team, offering extensive experience in cross-border as well as UK matters. **David Cottam** is an experienced catastrophic injury lawyer with specialised knowledge in brain and spinal injury matters as well as amputation claims. He often acts for local authorities in a range of personal injury claims. **Strengths:** *"David Cottam has decades of experience handling claims of great complexity and is a shrewd tactician."*

Band 3

Browne Jacobson LLP

What the team is known for Browne Jacobson regularly defends public sector clients against employers' and public liability claims, with a particular focus on

the healthcare, charity and education sectors. Historic abuse and asbestos exposure claims form a significant part of the group's practice, as does its additional expertise in claims of injury and neglect concerning children.

Strengths

"The response times and accuracy of advice of the team is very good. Browne Jacobson has the depth of knowledge and experience required to provide high levels of quality support."

"The team is always available to provide support on urgent matters."

"Brown Jacobson offers excellent in-depth investigations and thorough advice."

Notable practitioners

James Arrowsmith and Bridget Tatham are key contacts.

CMS

What the team is known for CMS routinely acts for the defendant in a range of personal injury matters including vicarious liability claims and complex collective actions. The team has extensive expertise in representing the insurers and self-insured from a range of sectors in civil claims and fundamental dishonesty proceedings. The firm offers an experienced group of practitioners based in offices across the UK.

Strengths

"CMS is absolutely meticulous and defends its clients really well."

Notable practitioners

Gregor Woods and Timothy Riordan are key contacts.

Forbes

What the team is known for Forbes routinely advises defendants on a wide range of personal injury claims, including complex construction injury matters on a national scale, as well as regulatory support during sentencing hearings and proceedings. Known for strong capabilities in CSE group claims and complex inquests linked to civil matters, Forbes also provides extensive support on fast-track employers' liability and product liability. The team also has notable experience in fundamental dishonesty findings.

Strengths

"Forbes has achieved excellent results while representing good value for money. The team has established itself as a leader in notoriously tricky CSE claims."

"The team is led by partners who are experts in their fields, understands its clients' legal requirements and provides a high-quality service."

"The responses to ad hoc questions are always speedy and of the right level of detail."

"The team at Forbes is very good at explaining complex matters in simple terms and is excellent in dealing with a wide range of complex matters."

Notable practitioners

Chris Booth, Paul Geldard and Kella Bowers are key contacts.

Plexus Law

What the team is known for Plexus Law offers sound advice to defendants on the full range of industrial disease and personal injury claims, with an enviable roster of clients including leading insurers, public sector bodies and retailers. The team is able to advise on claims in the UK as well as those involving accidents abroad. It also offers strong expertise in cases which involve complex employers' and public liability. The firm provides a strong national reach, with offices in several locations across the UK.

Strengths

"There is nothing the team has not been able to handle – it has a consistently strong offering."

"The advice is always clear and provides a good balance between detail and concision."

"Plexus Law handles the full spectrum of high-value claims. It has a strong client base and the solicitors have a strong bond with insurers."

Notable practitioners

Philip D'Netto leads the firm's catastrophic loss team. He dedicates his practice to defending insurers in large-loss and catastrophic injury claims.

Strengths: *"Philip D'Netto is a very experienced performer with quite an insight into complex claims. He also maintains strong client relationships."* *"Tried and trusted – he is great. He can always solve the issue and find the answer."*

Trethowans LLP

What the team is known for Trethowans represents insurers, individuals and businesses in a range of issues including road traffic and catastrophic accident claims. The team regularly and adeptly handles international, public liability and employer's liability claims, alongside strong capabilities in equine and animal-related matters.

Strengths

"Trethowans is diligent and determined in its approach to handling our high-value claims. This is blended with a real sense of being approachable and willingness to build a rapport with the client."

"The team has the right people handling our matters to ensure a high level of customer experience. Whenever we require advice or an update we are confident of a timely response."

Notable practitioners

Bethany Blamire (see p.1069) acts for domestic and international insurers on the full range of personal injury claims. She is especially well versed in RTA and high-value liability cases. **Kelvin Farmaner** (see p.1072) leads the firm's personal injury department. He is skilled at defending catastrophic injury claims arising from RTAs, as well as personal injury as a result of animal-related incidents. He is also experienced with regard to cross-border matters.

Strengths: *"Kelvin Farmaner's handling of our high-level, complex injury claim stands out. You can expect a good outcome whenever he is instructed."* *"He provides a high level of expertise while maintaining a friendly, open approach. He understands our business requirements and delivers excellent results."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Claire Jones wins recognition for her work on public liability claims, with particular strength handling cases involving brain and spinal injuries. She has further experience advising on claims involving the Animals Act.

Strengths:

"Claire Jones is a confident, astute and very practical practitioner."

"She has great experience working on tricky claims."

Paul Taverner heads Bevan Brittan's insurance team and defends big-ticket personal injury claims, with a particular focus on serious spinal and head injury cases. His clients include major insurers as well as public and private sector companies.

Strengths:

"Paul Taverner has a great substantive knowledge of personal injury and comes up with really good

strategy.”

“He takes a very intellectual approach and is extremely thorough.”

Howard Watson of Herbert Smith Freehills handles a diverse range of big-ticket personal injury litigation on behalf of large corporations, including severe

head and spinal injury as well as terrorism, stress at work and asbestos-related claims. He frequently defends high-profile multiparty cases and also has much experience of claims involving foreign jurisdictions.

South West Mainly Claimant

Personal Injury: Mainly Claimant	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Clarke Willmott LLP	
Enable Law (part of the Foot Anstey Group)	
Irwin Mitchell	
RWK Goodman	
VWV	
Band 2	
Ince	
Thompsons	
Band 3	
Barcan+Kirby	
GA Solicitors	
Novum Law	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Clarke Juliette Enable Law (part of the Foot Anstey Group)	
Davies James P Irwin Mitchell	
Hart Lee Clarke Willmott LLP	
McCluskey Kay Ince	
Peacock Jonathan VWV	
Band 2	
Brazington Stuart RWK Goodman	
Cole Anna Novum Law	
Gunner Lisa Thompsons	
Sheather Matthew GA Solicitors *	
Band 3	
Bickham Nicola VWV	
Buckeridge Myfanwy Barcan+Kirby *	
Castle Samantha Barcan+Kirby *	
Hambleton Mark RWK Goodman	
Hart Louise RWK Goodman	
Heales Nicola Bevirs (ORL) ◇	
Ponting Huw Enable Law (part of the Foot Anstey Group)	
Rose Deborah Irwin Mitchell *	
Seymour Nick Thompsons	
Shiers Michael Nash & Co (ORL) ◇	
Associates to watch	
Thompson Dan VWV	
* Indicates individual with profile.	
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

Band 1

Clarke Willmott LLP

What the team is known for Clarke Willmott's practitioners work with adults and children on life-changing and serious injury cases. The team is noted for its experience acting on cases concerning severe brain injuries resulting from workplace incidents and RTAs. The firm also represents dependants and estates in claims following fatal accidents. Additional areas of expertise of the team include cases relating to complex spinal cord and amputation injuries, as well as those involving psychiatric disorders. The group also handles disputed liability claims.

Strengths

“The team offers excellent client service. They care about getting good results for their clients.”

Notable practitioners

Lee Hart excels at advising clients on brain and spinal injuries, including those resulting from RTAs and accidents at work. **Strengths:** “He is a consummate professional and I have no hesitation in recommending him.” “Lee reads cases with deftness and he is a pleasure to work with.” “He is fantastic.”

Enable Law (part of the Foot Anstey Group)

What the team is known for Foot Anstey is noted for its expertise in serious injury claims, including spinal injuries and amputations. The firm frequently acts on cases concerning sports injuries, in addition to injuries incurred in the workplace and RTAs. It is a strong practice that works on acquired brain injury cases and frequently represents clients who have suffered falls.

Strengths

“The group is technically very strong.”

“The main strength of the team is that they know the field well, they have experience of most issues that will arise.”

“They are professional, supportive and caring.”

Notable practitioners

Juliette Clarke's remit encompasses cases arising from accidents at work and RTAs resulting in amputations and spinal cord and head injuries. **Huw Ponting** is well practised in personal injury cases, with particular expertise in those relating to brain injuries. **Strengths:** “He's a very good practitioner.”

Irwin Mitchell

What the team is known for Irwin Mitchell is a substantial nationwide practice fielding deep expertise in workplace accident claims, RTAs, brain injuries and psychological damage, including PTSD. The group also acts on cases relating to traumatic amputations and offers specialist support in Court of Protection matters and rehabilitation.

Strengths

“The team is very responsive and accommodating. They are always very professional and everyone there is very knowledgeable in their field.”

“Their client service is high-quality.”

Notable practitioners

James Davies' work portfolio covers RTAs and accidents at work, often acting on high-stakes amputations and brain injuries. **Strengths:** “James is hugely experienced and he has a calm and measured approach to all of his cases.” **Deborah Rose** (see p.1077) regularly assists with significant RTA claims, including those arising from motorcycle collisions. **Strengths:** “Deborah leaves no stone unturned in order to investigate cases and she has a lot of experience.”

RWK Goodman

What the team is known for RWK Goodman boasts a skilful team with a track record in RTA claims involving spinal cord and brain injuries. The group also offers niche expertise in areas such as fatal accidents and animal cases. Additional expertise of RWK Goodman includes claims regarding chronic pain, complex regional pain syndrome and amputations.

Strengths

“They work as a strong team and communicate well. They are also knowledgeable.”

“We have received outstanding support. The practitioners all have great knowledge.”

“RWK Goodman are brilliant, they have real quality in strength and depth and they are client-focused.”

Notable practitioners

Stuart Brazington regularly assists with high-value catastrophic injury claims, including those involving head, back and neck injuries. **Strengths:** “He is a good communicator and he responds quickly and efficiently. He fosters a holistic approach to each client's needs.” “Stuart is amazing – he is not only experienced but also a pleasure to deal with, making a very difficult situation easier through genuine care and sensitivity.”

Mark Hambleton offers specialist expertise on cases arising from RTAs, particularly bicycle and motorcycle accidents. **Strengths:** “Mark is an excellent lawyer who always works in the best interest of his clients.” “He is calm, reassuring and incredibly dedicated. He works hard for every case and every client.” **Louise Hart's** caseload includes those involving accidents at work and RTAs. She is particularly well placed to handle claims arising from motorcycle collisions. **Strengths:** “Louise is excellent in every respect.”

VWV

What the team is known for VWV has a strong practice that is noted for its expertise in multi-track claims. The team offers impressive expertise in acting on employers' liability claims and cases involving catastrophic injuries, as well as childhood injuries. The group also handles cases relating to RTAs, in addition to representing dependants and estates in fatal accident claims. It demonstrates significant experience in brain injury claims.

Strengths

“They are extremely experienced and their cases are managed extremely well.”

“VWV's team provides amazing attention to detail and they are conscientious and tireless.”

“They are one of the best firms in the market.”

Notable practitioners

Jonathan Peacock assists with catastrophic injury claims, including those related to incidents occurring abroad. **Strengths:** “He is extremely switched-on and committed to providing excellent service levels to his client.” “He is a very talented lawyer who has a strong reputation and is meticulous and thorough in his work.”

"Jonathan is an absolutely brilliant lawyer. He is flawless." Head of the PI department, **Nicola Bickham** has extensive experience of handling cases arising from RTAs. She demonstrates notable strength in advising on matters related to catastrophic injuries.

Strengths: "Nicola is very committed to providing excellent service to her client." "She is highly organised and diligent with an excellent eye for detail." **Dan Thompson** acts for claimants on personal injury claims stretching from RTAs to workplace accidents. **Strengths:** "He is a very good senior associate."

Band 2

Ince

What the team is known for Ince has an esteemed personal injury offering with notable experience in RTA, accident-at-work and Animals Act cases. The team assists with an array of injury claims, including those involving brain damage, PTSD and amputations. Both fast and multi-track claims serve as sources of instruction for the firm. The group also advises on claims arising from incidents abroad and injuries sustained by children.

Strengths

"Ince has a brilliant team. They handle complex cases excellently and they are very responsive."

Notable practitioners

Kay McCluskey is adroit in undertaking workplace accident cases and RTAs, including acting for young adults. Her practice also covers brain and psychological injuries. **Strengths:** "Kay is absolutely brilliant." "Her vast experience and determination sees her go the extra mile to achieve the best results possible for her clients."

Thompsons

What the team is known for Thompsons has a dedicated claimant practice that acts on high-value and lower-value RTA and occupational injury claims across the South West. The firm's specialist expertise includes fatal accidents and serious injury cases, such as brain injuries and psychological injuries. The team is well regarded for its representation of trade unions, as well as acting for private individuals. It is

experienced in setting up rehabilitation packages for clients.

Strengths

"They show professionalism and dedication and provide an in-depth service."

"It is an outstanding team."

"The team demonstrate a high level of expertise."

Notable practitioners

Lisa Gunner maintains a varied practice spanning RTA and workplace accident cases. She is highly adept in assisting with significant psychiatric and brain injury claims. **Strengths:** "She combines attention to detail with a good understanding of clients' needs." "She is a superb lawyer, she's very thorough, measured and determined." **Nick Seymour** regularly provides advice on workplace accident and RTA claims, with resultant injuries including PTSD and chronic pain. **Strengths:** "Nick is professional, helpful and knowledgeable."

Band 3

Barcan+Kirby

What the team is known for Barcan+Kirby's practitioners handle a range of cases, including catastrophic injury claims involving brain damage, amputations and orthopaedic injuries. The team regularly represents clients on workplace accidents and RTAs, as well as representing claimants in disputes regarding quantum and liability.

Strengths

"It is a very efficient team and they are good communicators."

Notable practitioners

Myfanwy Buckeridge (see p.1069) regularly advises on significant cases arising from accidents at work and RTAs, often encompassing brain and orthopaedic injuries. **Strengths:** "Myfanwy is a very professional practitioner." "She is a calm and reassuring solicitor." **Samantha Castle** (see p.1070) advises on cases surrounding trips and slips, as well as RTAs.

GA Solicitors

What the team is known for GA Solicitors represents clients in a range of personal injury matters,

including workplace accidents, public and occupiers' liability claims and sport-related cases. The firm frequently acts on cases relating to chronic pain following occupational injuries. The practitioners additionally handle Animals Act claims.

Notable practitioners

Matthew Sheather (see p.1077)'s practice encompasses issues surrounding employers' liability claims and fatal accident cases. **Strengths:** "It is always a pleasure to work with Matthew. He is supportive of his clients and committed throughout the litigation process." "He offers guidance professionally and compassionately."

Novum Law

What the team is known for Novum Law boasts a considerable presence across the South West, offering notable activity in catastrophic injury claims arising from RTAs and clinical negligence cases. The team is particularly adroit in assisting with complex neurological injuries.

Strengths

"Novum Law really cares about clients and is always willing to go the extra mile to compile the best expert evidence needed."

"Everyone at Novum Law is professional and helpful."

"The team always makes itself available."

Notable practitioners

Anna Cole advises on workplace accidents resulting in catastrophic injuries. She frequently acts for vulnerable clients on complex injury claims. **Strengths:** "We have the utmost confidence in Anna Cole."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Nicola Heales of Bevirs represents claimants in a range of catastrophic injury cases, including brain and spinal injuries, as well as psychiatric injuries. She also has experience in Court of Protection matters.

Michael Shiers of Nash & Co advises on both RTA and workplace accident cases involving brain injuries and chronic pain.

The South **Mainly Claimant**

Personal Injury: Mainly Claimant	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Dean Wilson LLP	
Irwin Mitchell	
Moore Blatch Resolve LLP	
Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP	
Thomson Snell & Passmore	
Trethowans LLP	
Band 2	
Clarkson Wright & Jakes Ltd	
CL Medilaw	
DMH Stallard LLP	
Furley Page Solicitors	
George Ide LLP	
Senior Statespeople	
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	
Whiteley Chris Trethowans LLP*	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Clement Jonathan CL Medilaw	
Fretwell Paul George Ide LLP	
Goatley Helen Moore Barlow LLP	
Greenhalgh David Clarkson Wright & Jakes Ltd	
Horan Damian Moore Barlow LLP	
Howard Claire Irwin Mitchell*	
Luscombe Philippa Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP	
Pierce Frances Dean Wilson LLP	
Sterling Trevor Moore Barlow LLP	
Band 2	
Bell Graham Thomson Snell & Passmore*	
Blackwell Tim Novum Law (ORL) ◇	
Brown Alex Dean Wilson LLP	
Chapman Oliver Thomson Snell & Passmore*	
Claxson Matthew Moore Barlow LLP	
Clifford Helen Helen Clifford Law (ORL) ◇*	
Grayson Tessa DMH Stallard LLP*	
Lane Gavin Trethowans LLP*	
Ryan Neille Furley Page Solicitors	
Up-and-coming individuals	
Braund James Trethowans LLP*	
Star associates	
Davey Ben Dean Wilson LLP	
Associates to watch	
Glasper James Moore Barlow LLP	
Herbert Jonathan Thomson Snell & Passmore*	
Khasriya Amandeep Moore Barlow LLP	
King Charlene Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP	
Kirfield Tim Moore Barlow LLP	
* Indicates individual with profile.	
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

Band 1

Dean Wilson LLP

What the team is known for Dean Wilson boasts a highly regarded personal injury team that handles complex claims resulting from RTAs and accidents at work. They are experienced in all types of trauma including amputations and eye, brain, orthopaedic and spinal cord injuries. The team also handles abuse cases relating to care establishments and offers ancillary services to catastrophically injured clients through its Court of Protection department.

Strengths

"All the personnel involved in the matter have proved to be exceptional."

"The team are outstanding. They are very helpful and engaging."

"They are excellent."

Notable practitioners

Frances Pierce handles cases arising from RTAs and accidents at work, specialising in brain and spinal cord injury, with additional strength in PTSD matters.

Strengths: "Frances has a very good reputation."

Alex Brown has particular experience in brain and spinal injury cases stemming from RTAs and accidents at work. He also advises on claims involving psychiatric injury. **Ben Davey** acts on spinal and brain injury claims, with further experience in PTSD cases. He also assists with fatal injury cases involving RTAs.

Strengths: "Ben has been of tremendous help." "He provides an excellent service and he is very knowledgeable. He is a great person."

Irwin Mitchell

What the team is known for Irwin Mitchell is a leading national firm with a standout local offering. The team regularly handles a wide variety of high-value personal injury matters, including complex spinal cord, orthopaedic and head injury claims, often arising from RTAs. The practitioners also work closely with the Court of Protection team to provide a holistic rehabilitation programme for injured claimants.

Strengths

"The Irwin Mitchell team is an outstanding team. I feel the knowledge and expertise within the firm gives clients and case managers a one-stop shop."

"The lawyers are very knowledgeable and great to talk to."

"It's an excellent team."

Notable practitioners

Claire Howard (see p.1074) possesses significant expertise in serious head injuries and spinal damage claims connected to RTAs. She has further strength handling amputation and orthopaedic injury cases.

Strengths: "She is relaxed and calm but a force to be reckoned with." "She is an amazing litigator. She is very committed, knowledgeable and tenacious."

Moore Blatch Resolve LLP

What the team is known for Moore Barlow has an impressive team frequently advising on accidents at work and RTAs. The firm houses a broad span of expertise, including brain damage, spinal injuries, chronic pain claims and amputation cases. The practitioners are able to effectively manage cases that intersect the areas of personal injury and clinical negligence. The firm collaborates with other firms in the region as part of the Major Trauma Group. The team offers strength across the region, with offices in Southampton, Guildford and Richmond.

Strengths

"There is significant depth and breadth to their team. They act very professionally and with expertise."

"They are extremely responsive."

"It is a very good firm with a number of quality lawyers."

Notable practitioners

Helen Goatley specialises in acquired brain injury cases, such as those arising from workplace injuries and road traffic accidents. **Damian Horan** acts on catastrophic injury cases stemming from RTAs, with particular strength in brain, spinal and orthopaedic injury claims. **Strengths:** "Damian is excellent."

He is very well organised, personable and thorough in pursuit of the best result for the client." "He is very experienced and knowledgeable." **Trevor Sterling** is particularly active in cases stemming from RTAs, especially those concerning severe brain injury and amputations. **Strengths:** "Trevor is charismatic and extremely approachable. He is always easy to contact and always has the time to help." "He is a fantastic lawyer and a pleasure to work with." "He is an outstanding lawyer. He is dedicated, diligent and compassionate." **Matthew Claxson** has experience acting for clients who have suffered brain injuries as a result of road traffic accidents and workplace incidents. He is noted for his expert knowledge of cases involving amputations, as well as significant brain and spinal cord injuries. **Strengths:** "Matthew does the absolute best for his clients." **James Glasper** is a senior associate in the serious trauma team at Moore Barlow. He primarily handles claims arising from road traffic accidents, including traumatic brain injury and spinal cord injury cases. **Amandeep Khasriya** is held in high regard within the space. She has notable experience of handling complex matters related to brain injury claims. She demonstrates strength in providing counsel on cases arising from RTAs. **Tim Kirfield** is an associate in the personal injury team at Moore Barlow. He regularly assists clients with claims arising out of road traffic accidents that have caused brain and orthopaedic injuries.

Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP

What the team is known for Penningtons Manches Cooper has a leading practice that is well known for its expertise in catastrophic injury cases, particularly matters arising from RTAs. The group handles a range of claims pertaining to fatal accidents, head and spinal injuries and amputations. Its practitioners are experienced in occupiers' liability cases. The team also houses product liability expertise and works closely with its clinical negligence team on cosmetic treatment claims. The group also works on domestic cases as well as claims brought abroad.

Strengths

"The team have a diverse skill set and therefore an excellent knowledge across the board."

"How the firm communicates with me is first-class."

"They are all very approachable, professional and knowledgeable."

"I received excellent legal support from the team. The team is thorough, highly knowledgeable and precise."

Notable practitioners

Philippa Luscombe has notable strength in the personal injury field, acting for clients on brain injury and amputation cases as well as advising on fatal accident claims. **Strengths:** "Philippa is just brilliant all round. She is extremely knowledgeable and exceptionally professional." "She is highly efficient, I would certainly recommend her." **Charlene King** is a personal injury lawyer who acts for claimants who have been injured as a result of road traffic accidents and workplace incidents. She has significant experience handling brain injury and amputation cases. **Strengths:** "She presents a very caring approach to clients and instils huge confidence in her capacity." "She is organised, diligent, approachable and professional." "Charlene is the ultimate professional. She is approachable and extremely helpful."

Thomson Snell & Passmore

What the team is known for Thompson Snell & Passmore is a superb firm that regularly represents clients in catastrophic brain injury claims and orthopaedic injury cases. The team undertakes an array of complex RTA and workplace accident cases. The group is also particularly noted for its expertise in industrial disease claims such as mesothelioma and asbestos-related litigation. It provides complementary services to clients through close collaboration with its private client and Court of Protection departments.

Strengths

"The team members are very knowledgeable."

"I am very pleased with the guidance and expertise of Thomson Snell & Passmore's practitioners."

Notable practitioners

Graham Bell (see p.191) has a significant practice in RTA and workplace accident cases involving amputations and spine and brain injury. **Oliver Chapman** (see p.1070) advises on claims concerning brain and spinal injury, with further experience handling psychiatric injury cases. He also acts on industrial disease claims. **Strengths:** *"He combines professionalism with a reassuring manner."* **Jonathan Herbert** (see p.1074) is a legal executive senior associate in the personal injury and clinical negligence teams at Thomson Snell & Passmore. He is routinely called upon to provide counsel on issues arising from workplace accidents. He has further experience of handling matters concerning psychiatric injuries.

Trethowans LLP

What the team is known for Trethowans has a leading personal injury practice specialising in high-value claims. The group acts for clients who have suffered traumatic and catastrophic injuries, most notably head and spinal injuries, as well as multiple orthopaedic injuries. Its practitioners act for claimants who have suffered life-changing injuries at work. Their services also include fatal accident, public liability and occupiers' liability claims.

Strengths

"They care about their clients, they work hard and get good results for them."

"I am always impressed with how well the team prepares cases and I am quite struck at how deep the solicitor and client relationship is."

Notable practitioners

Chris Whiteley (see p.1079) offers clients the benefit of his considerable expertise in catastrophic injury cases, including brain and spinal injury claims. **Strengths:** *"Chris is very charming and knowledgeable."* **Gavin Lane** (see p.1075) has extensive experience in personal injury mandates, with particular knowledge of orthopaedic injuries. **Strengths:** *"Gavin is very well known in the market. He has a strong and determined presence."* *"He has a wealth of experience and he is excellent with client care. He is driven by that sense of achieving a good outcome for the client."* **James Braund** (see p.1069) has particular strength in spinal cord injury claims, with further experience handling cases following accidents abroad. **Strengths:** *"James is an excellent catastrophic injury lawyer."* *"He's extremely intelligent and he fights hard on behalf of clients."*

Band 2

Clarkson Wright & Jakes Ltd

What the team is known for Clarkson Wright & Jakes has a standout local offering, with the team advising claimants on a broad range of matters including traffic accidents and occupiers' and public liability claims. Cases handled by the practitioners include multi-track head and spinal injury claims, as well as amputation cases. The firm is notable for its cooperation with the brain injury charity Headway.

Strengths

"The team spends considerable time liaising with clients and providing a thorough, hands-on service. They are also well versed in their field."

"It is a great firm."

"The group is always on top of matters and they are very professional."

Notable practitioners

David Greenhalgh has notable experience of road and workplace accident cases involving orthopaedic and neurological injury claims. **Strengths:** *"David has superb judgement. He is prepared to take on difficult cases. He fights very hard for his clients and gets very good results."* *"He is a lawyer of high calibre. He is a consummate professional and a pleasure to work with."*

CL Medilaw

What the team is known for CL Medilaw has a team that is held in high regard for its standout expertise in catastrophic brain injuries. The group is experienced in handling litigation arising from serious RTAs, including cases with international elements. The practitioners' additional areas of expertise include orthopaedic and spinal injuries. They are actively involved in local brain injury charities and run an annual brain injury conference. The team offers extensive rehabilitation assistance to clients and often works in conjunction with a range of case management and medical experts.

Strengths

"The team is very good."

Notable practitioners

Jonathan Clement receives plaudits for his expertise in brain injury mandates. He focuses on complex head and orthopaedic injuries connected to RTAs. **Strengths:** *"Jonathan is excellent."*

DMH Stallard LLP

What the team is known for DMH Stallard's team has particular strength in RTA cases as well as those involving employers' and occupiers' liability. The group often advises on spinal and orthopaedic claims. The practitioners have additional experience in handling cases with cross-border implications.

Strengths

"All of the members of the team are very attentive and focus diligently on the case. They offer time and dedication, so you feel fully supported throughout the process."

Notable practitioners

Tessa Grayson (see p.192) has particular strength advising on RTA cases in which clients sustained orthopaedic and psychological injury. She also acts on workplace accident and occupational disease claims. **Strengths:** *"Her personal approach is reassuring, as well as impressive."* *"She is always one step ahead during cases, she's brilliant."*

Furley Page Solicitors

What the team is known for Furley Page Solicitors regularly represents clients in complex public and employers' liability cases as well as RTAs. The team's work covers all types of claims including brain and spinal trauma and psychological injuries. The practitioners also advise clients on fatal accident cases.

Strengths

"All members of the team have demonstrated a thorough knowledge of the relevant law and have exercised sound judgement."

"I receive brilliant advice from all of the team members."

"The group's members are very caring and understanding."

Notable practitioners

Neille Ryan offers experience handling RTA cases involving brain injury, fatalities and amputations. He has further strength in workplace accident claims.

Strengths: *"Neille is highly experienced and well regarded. He is incredibly capable and unflappable under the most extreme pressure."* *"I am amazed at how professional, empathetic, understanding and patient he is."* *"He has a sound knowledge of the law and he is thorough."*

George Ide LLP

What the team is known for George Ide is a South Coast firm with an exceptional personal injury offering, mostly handling claims connected to RTAs. The team specialises in severe brain and spinal injury matters, as well as fatal accidents, amputation claims and orthopaedic injury cases. The practitioners particularly assist clients with rehabilitation procedures. The group also cooperates with the firm's Court of Protection department.

Strengths

"The team at George Ide has a range of experience available to assist clients and effectively manage the process of litigation."

"They offer fantastic advice and communication as well as prompt attention."

"The group is very responsive and professional."

Notable practitioners

Paul Fretwell is a highly respected practitioner with expertise in catastrophic brain and spinal injuries as well as amputation cases resulting from RTAs. **Strengths:** *"Paul is a highly experienced solicitor with considerable knowledge of brain injury."* *"He is technically excellent, he's very good."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Tim Blackwell of Novum Law has a broad practice covering traumatic brain and orthopaedic injuries as well as industrial disease cases.

Helen Clifford (see p.1070) of Helen Clifford Law handles a wide spectrum of cases arising from accidents at work, RTAs and construction accidents.

Strengths:

"Helen is meticulous about her preparation."

"She is very experienced."

"She has demonstrated true professionalism, the service we have received has been impeccable."

Thames Valley Mainly Claimant

Personal Injury: Mainly Claimant	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Boyes Turner	
IBB Law	
Band 2	
Geoffrey Leaver Solicitors	
RWK Goodman	
Shoosmiths LLP	
White Dalton Motorcycle Solicitors	
Band 3	
Blaser Mills Law	
Collins Solicitors	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Carrier Ian	RWK Goodman
Collins Des	Collins Solicitors
Dalton Andrew	White Dalton Motorcycle Solicitors
Gill Navdip	Geoffrey Leaver Solicitors *
Milan Kim	Boyes Turner
Norris-Evans Tracy	RWK Goodman
Roantree Claire	Boyes Turner
Underhill Malcolm	IBB Law
Band 2	
Ashurst Paul	Shoosmiths LLP
Bowler Sue	Shoosmiths LLP
Castle Andrew	Blaser Mills Law
Childs Helen	RWK Goodman
Holliday Danielle	Collins Solicitors
King Andrew	Lennons Solicitors (ORL) ♦
Matthews David	Blaser Mills Law
Pimlott Simon	IBB Law
Prendergast Andrew	White Dalton Motorcycle Solicitors
* Indicates individual with profile.	
♦ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

plexity or claim." **Claire Roantree** is adroit across the spectrum of claims, from brain and spinal injuries to PTSD and amputation cases. **Strengths:** "She is an amazing person, fantastic in what she does and a great communicator." "She is an outstanding personal injury solicitor. Approachable, proactive, very knowledgeable and always works in the best interests of the client."

IBB Law

What the team is known for IBB Law has a leading personal injury team that is adept at working on complex contested liability matters. The firm houses particular strength in brain injury litigation, with further experience acting for cyclists and passengers on RTA claims. The group is active across an enviable breadth of cases, with particular visibility on historic abuse cases. They have further experience of acting on group litigation.

Strengths

"The IBB Law team was very effective and helpful."

"The team is excellent overall. They pay good attention to detail, they are professional, responsive and client-focused."

"They are always prompt and knowledgeable."

Notable practitioners

Malcolm Underhill's practice covers brain injury and sexual abuse cases, in addition to accidents at work and RTAs. **Strengths:** "Malcolm delivers a highly professional, experienced and client-focused service." "He is always professional, knowledgeable and approachable." "He has lots of experience across many fields of PI including abuse cases. He is very hard-working and great with clients." "He is a solid solicitor." **Simon Pimlott** continues to advise on significant brain injury claims arising from RTAs, in addition to chronic pain cases. **Strengths:** "He's very good to work with."

claims encompassing brain and orthopaedic injuries, as well as psychological damage. **Helen Childs** is well practised in assisting with a range of claims, particularly those relating to asbestos. **Strengths:** "She can cut through the noise of a case and win them."

Shoosmiths LLP

What the team is known for Shoosmiths is a well-known firm with notable experience in brain and spinal injury cases arising from RTAs, as well as public and employers' liability cases.

Strengths

"The Shoosmiths team are extremely conscientious and professional."

"They all are very professional and knowledgeable."

Notable practitioners

Paul Ashurst is adept at advising clients on personal injury claims arising from RTAs. He has notable experience of providing counsel on matters related to brain injuries and amputations. **Strengths:** "Working with Paul is a pleasure, he always wants to have the best outcome for his clients." "He is very knowledgeable, professional and patient." **Sue Bowler** advises on catastrophic brain injury claims, with experience acting for vulnerable clients. She also offers complementary strength in Court of Protection matters.

White Dalton Motorcycle Solicitors

What the team is known for White Dalton Motorcycle Solicitors is a boutique firm exclusively advising on claims arising from motorcycle incidents. The group demonstrates strength in handling issues concerning fatal and catastrophic injuries, including amputations, paraplegia and cases with serious psychological repercussions. The team represents claimants in contested liability cases, complex quantum cases and cases under the MIB Uninsured Drivers Agreement.

Strengths

"The team is extremely knowledgeable."

"They are experienced in motorcycle-related matters which comes across in a straightforward and confidence-inspiring manner."

"They are absolutely superb."

Notable practitioners

Andrew Dalton advises on an array of claims arising from motorcycle collisions, including fatalities, paraplegia, amputations, chronic pain and psychological trauma. **Strengths:** "Andrew is absolutely one of the market leaders in motorcycle accidents." "He displays an immense level of knowledge and experience." "One of the most skilled and respected lawyers I have worked with." **Andrew Prendergast** advises on RTAs, including those resulting in spinal cord injuries, amputations and psychological injuries. **Strengths:** "He was extremely thorough and knowledgeable."

Band 1**Boyes Turner**

What the team is known for Boyes Turner is a highly experienced personal injury practice fielding leading capabilities in catastrophic and fatal injury claims. The team has particular strength in spinal and head injury cases, including those arising from accidents at work and RTAs, often acting for pedestrians and motorcyclists. The team regularly works with rehabilitation charities across the UK, and represents secondary victims in PTSD and other psychological injury claims. The team offers wider support with the firm's Court of Protection team in order to provide clients with a holistic service.

Strengths

"Each member of the team is highly efficient, quick to respond and they apply their expert knowledge and wealth of experience to solve issues."

"The team is very experienced and knowledgeable."

"The group is very responsive and proactive."

Notable practitioners

Kim Milan is recognised by market commentators for her experience in brain injury cases. She is particularly well placed to handle claims arising from a wide range of RTAs, including those involving motorbikes and bicycles. **Strengths:** "Kim is very experienced, a real quality performer." "She is very compassionate and precise with information." "She is very experienced in brain injury work. She is very thoughtful and she can be trusted with cases of any level of com-

Band 2**Geoffrey Leaver Solicitors**

What the team is known for Geoffrey Leaver Solicitors is a highly regarded personal injury practice offering expertise in a broad range of disputed liability cases. The team is equally adept at handling cases resulting from RTAs, acting for passengers, pedestrians and cyclists. Their expertise includes severe spinal cord and brain injuries, as well as PTSD.

Strengths

"Geoffrey Leaver's team is professional and approachable."

Notable practitioners

Navdip Gill's (see p.1073) practice spans claims involving catastrophic injuries sustained in RTAs and accidents at work. **Strengths:** "He has a wonderful way with clients."

RWK Goodman

What the team is known for RWK Goodman's team is adept at handling an impressive breadth of claims, including RTAs, occupational health matters and horse-riding injuries. The group is also active on personal injury cases involving travel and foreign jurisdictions. The practitioners also represent clients in a range of physical and psychological injury claims.

Notable practitioners

Ian Carrier frequently advises on catastrophic injury cases, with claims encompassing RTAs and accidents at work. **Tracy Norris-Evans** assists with

Band 3**Blaser Mills Law**

What the team is known for Blaser Mills Law's team acts for claimants across a broad range of claims, including RTAs and employers' liability cases. They have significant experience in complex head, spinal cord and brain injury matters, as well as fatal accidents.

Strengths

"The group is extremely responsive."

Notable practitioners

Andrew Castle is renowned for his ability to provide counsel on matters arising from RTAs. He has considerable experience of providing counsel on issues related to psychological trauma and spinal injuries. **David Matthews** is experienced in representing clients across a range of personal injury cases arising out of RTAs and public liability claims. He serves as head of the firm's personal injury team.

Collins Solicitors

What the team is known for Collins Solicitors has a broad practice with notable niche expertise in personal injury claims arising from contaminated land. The team frequently advises on complex multiparty cases of industrial diseases, clinical negligence and fatal accidents. The practitioners additionally repre-

sent clients injured in RTAs and cases involving children, as well as acting on psychiatric claims.

Strengths

"The level of attention to detail of the firm is excellent."
"They are very hard-working and enthusiastic about the cases they are handling."
"The team is very thorough and professional."

Notable practitioners

Des Collins advises on group litigation and acts for clients on RTA cases, with injuries encompassing chronic pain, spinal injury and psychological symptoms. **Strengths:** *"Des handles very difficult and challenging cases."* *"He is recognised for his experience in this field and his tenacity. He will always ensure that no matter what, he and his firm are there to support the clients."* **Danielle Holliday's** practice encompasses group litigation, childhood injuries and liability

issues. **Strengths:** *"Danielle combines detailed legal knowledge and understanding with a highly personal approach."* *"She's an excellent solicitor."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Head of Lennons Solicitors' personal injury and medical negligence group, **Andrew King** advises on a wide spectrum of personal injury claims arising from both workplace accidents and RTAs.

Strengths:

"Andrew is very observant and pays close attention to detail."
"He is very experienced and informative."
"He is professional and efficient."

East Anglia Mainly Claimant

Personal Injury: Mainly Claimant	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Ashtons Legal	
Irwin Mitchell	
Slater and Gordon Lawyers	
Band 2	
Barr Ellison	
CFG Law	
Hatch Brenner	
Hunt & Coombs Solicitors	
Moons Solicitors	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Beric Angela Slater and Gordon Lawyers	
Clarke Hannah CFG Law*	
Foyster Richard Ashtons Legal	
Moon Richard Moons Solicitors	
Tapner Paul Slater and Gordon Lawyers	
Truin Emma Barr Ellison	
Band 2	
Ameer Yasmin Nockolds Solicitors (ORL) ◇	
Booy Ruth Irwin Mitchell*	
Bransby Simon Hatch Brenner	
Gaffney Richard D T Slater and Gordon Lawyers	
Harrington Simon Irwin Mitchell*	
Ranson Tom Ashtons Legal	
Thacker Siobhan CFG Law*	
Tilney Naina Hunt & Coombs Solicitors	
Wangermann Michael Ashtons Legal	
Star associates	
Copley Mark Barr Ellison	
Associates to watch	
Robinson Daryl Moore Barlow 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

What the team is known for Ashtons Legal has impressive strength in handling catastrophic injury claims, including a focus on brain and spinal injuries. The firm has a notable expertise in claims resulting

from RTAs involving motorcycles, pedestrians and passengers. The Ashtons Legal team is active on claims arising from fatal accidents and amputations.

Strengths

"Ashtons Legal is a marvellous firm."
"Ashtons has a great reputation for a personalised touch, attention to detail and taking great care with all of their clients."
"The team is very professional, thorough and efficient."

Notable practitioners

Richard Foyster frequently acts on catastrophic injury claims arising from RTAs, particularly those involving contested liability issues. **Strengths:** *"Richard is a brave and conscientious litigator and he is very thorough."* *"He is one of the best lawyers I have ever worked with. He always develops great relationships with his team and his clients, and he obtains excellent outcomes."* **Tom Ranson** is well versed in physical and psychiatric injury claims arising from RTAs and accidents at work. **Strengths:** *"Tom is diligent and is a lawyer who definitely goes the extra mile for his clients."* *"He is an excellent medico-legal expert."* **Michael Wangermann's** broad personal injury caseload covers a range of injuries, with a focus on those stemming from RTAs. He has a particular specialism in cases which involve chronic pain and brain injuries. **Strengths:** *"Michael is an excellent lawyer who is very diligent and great with clients."* *"He's very client-centred, responsive and good to work with."*

Irwin Mitchell

What the team is known for Irwin Mitchell has an experienced team that is highlighted for its expertise in complex injury claims, including amputations and spinal and brain injuries. The team is also noted for its dedicated military injury and mesothelioma specialists. Further expertise of Irwin Mitchell covers catastrophic RTA injuries, with notable experience acting for pedestrians.

Strengths

"They provide outstanding care for their clients."
"Irwin Mitchell offers great client care and the team handles complicated work."

Notable practitioners

Ruth Booy (see p.1069) acts on high-value RTA

claims that have resulted in orthopaedic injuries and amputations. **Strengths:** *"She is brilliant, tough, and her cases are brilliantly prepared."* *"Ruth is very diligent and a pleasure to deal with."* **Simon Harrington** (see p.1073) is reputed for his work undertaking personal injury claims against the MoD. **Strengths:** *"Simon is a very good negotiator and an acknowledged expert in the military sector."* *"We have an excellent working relationship."*

Slater and Gordon Lawyers

What the team is known for Slater and Gordon's practitioners demonstrate expert strength in serious brain injury cases. The team frequently acts on multi-track claims, including complex spinal injury and fatal accident cases. It offers further expertise in injuries stemming from RTAs, with a particular focus on motorcycle collisions. The team is also active on claims stemming from sporting injuries, including concussions.

Strengths

"Slater and Gordon has a market leading team. From the paralegal right up to the most senior partners, they really care about their clients. They always make their clients feel valued."
"The lawyers are knowledgeable and supportive."

Notable practitioners

Angela Beric regularly acts on RTA claims for both passengers and pedestrians. **Strengths:** *"Angela will go above and beyond to support her clients, she is also very knowledgeable."* *"She works very effectively to achieve the best result for her clients."* **Paul Tapner** advises on a broad array of claims, from injuries sustained during rugby matches to motorcycle accidents. **Strengths:** *"Paul has to be one of the most knowledgeable and calmest solicitors I have had the opportunity to work with."* *"He is very experienced and has a very good oratorical approach."* **Richard Gaffney** regularly advises on catastrophic injury cases, as well as those involving amputations and brain injuries. **Strengths:** *"Richard is very experienced."* *"He is very knowledgeable and he gives me clear advice."*

Barr Ellison

What the team is known for Barr Ellison is a strong Cambridge firm that acts for clients on a variety of

catastrophic and fatal injury claims, including RTAs, brain injury, orthopaedic injuries and amputation cases. The team offers notable expertise advising on cases concerning children and young adults.

Strengths

"The team is excellent, they are swift and accommodating."

"The team is incredibly experienced."

Notable practitioners

Emma Truin is adept across the spectrum of claims, from amputations to brain and orthopaedic injuries.

Strengths: *"Emma is always professional and helpful."*

Mark Copley is able to assist with a wide range of complex personal injury claims including brain and spinal injuries arising from RTAs. **Strengths:** *"Mark is a strong solicitor and an excellent negotiator. He always goes the extra mile for the client."* *"He's a very knowledgeable solicitor."*

CFG Law

What the team is known for CFG Law's team are held in high regard for their ability to handle issues related to catastrophic injuries, including brain and spinal injuries and amputations. The group is renowned for their ability to advise clients on matters arising from a broad spectrum of incidents, ranging from RTAs to workplace accidents.

Strengths

"The CFG Law team is made up of a very skilled, highly knowledgeable and responsive set of lawyers."

"The team provides excellent client service."

Notable practitioners

Hannah Clarke (see p.1070) advises on cases relating to brain and spinal injuries resulting from RTAs, including those involving motorcycles. She is also active on amputation claims. **Siobhan Thacker** (see p.1078) offers a diverse caseload spanning brain and spinal cord injuries, in addition to amputation-related claims. She is well versed in matters arising from workplace and road traffic incidents. **Strengths:**

"Siobhan is not only a very professional lawyer, she is empathetic towards her clients' needs and very driven to achieve the best outcome for them." *"She is excellent, she is confident, intelligent and her fact-finding missions are always done with great precision."*

Hatch Brenner

What the team is known for Hatch Brenner has a solid team that handles a range of claims, with particular expertise in workplace injury cases. The team also advises on RTAs, as well as trips and slips.

Strengths

"They are always available and absolute specialists in head injury claims."

"All the team members at Hatch Brenner work hard and efficiently. They are highly knowledgeable in the area of brain injury."

Notable practitioners

Simon Bransby's extensive work portfolio includes cases involving workplace injuries and RTAs.

Hunt & Coombs Solicitors

What the team is known for Hunt & Coombs' group boasts a strong track record of handling personal injury claims covering an impressive breadth of cases. The team is well placed to advise on brain injury, chronic pain and amputation matters. They are also experienced in RTAs, including cycling and motorcycling accidents, in addition to CICA claims.

Notable practitioners

Naina Tilney is well versed in matters as diverse as orthopaedic and brain injuries, with cases resulting from RTAs and workplace incidents. She is experienced in issues arising from collisions involving an array of vehicles, including motorcycles, mopeds and taxis.

Moons Solicitors

What the team is known for Moons Solicitors is a boutique personal injury practice that is able to

handle a wide scope of claims, with particular expertise in chronic pain conditions and head injuries arising from RTAs. The team has further strength advising on work accident claims.

Strengths

"The team is always efficient and available."

"All team members are experienced and deliver a high level of expertise."

Notable practitioners

Richard Moon assists clients with a range of serious injuries resulting from RTAs. He has particular strength in claims involving psychiatric and serious orthopaedic injuries. **Strengths:** *"Richard is excellent, he's really meticulous. He is also a real fighter for his clients."* *"He holds a deep level of expertise and experience and he consistently delivers a high level of service."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Yasmin Ameer of Nockolds Solicitors advises on RTAs resulting in catastrophic injuries, acting for pedestrians, cyclists and passengers. She is also experienced in acting on medical negligence claims.

Strengths:

"Yasmin is an outstanding solicitor in every way. Her guidance over the years has been invaluable."

"She provides outstanding client service, she is committed, driven and passionate about her work and making a difference to the lives of those who she represents."

"Yasmin has an extraordinary work ethic."

Daryl Robinson of Moore Barlow is well placed to assist with cases arising from motorcycle collisions and other RTAs, with claims encompassing amputations and brain and orthopaedic injuries.

Midlands Mainly Claimant

Personal Injury: Mainly Claimant
Leading Firms
Band 1
Barratts Solicitors
Freeths LLP
Higgs LLP
Irwin Mitchell
Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors
Shoosmiths LLP
Band 2
Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP
Brethertons LLP
Nelsons Solicitors
Rotheras
Slater and Gordon Lawyers
Thompsons
Waldrons Solicitors

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Barratts Solicitors

What the team is known for Barratts Solicitors is a boutique firm highlighted for its high-level representation of claimants, particularly in RTA claims. The firm's expertise includes litigation arising from complex brain and head injuries, as well as spinal injury and fatal accident claims. The team demonstrate particular skill in cross-border litigation and representing non-native speakers. They are also active on CICA claims.

Strengths

"Barratts Solicitors is a very good firm with highly experienced and professional fee earners."

"They have a good reputation specialising in high-value work and have an impressive depth of knowledge."

"They are very efficient at doing what they do."

Notable practitioners

Ed Myers advises on brain injury cases, including those arising from RTAs. He also assists with CICA claims involving head injuries. **Strengths:** *"Ed Myers has an exceptional depth of knowledge and fantastic*

client care skills." *"He is helpful and responds promptly to correspondence."* **David Tomlinson** assists with significant claims arising from RTAs resulting in brain and orthopaedic injuries. He often advises victims of bus and motorcycle collisions. **Strengths:** *"David Tomlinson has an incredibly profound understanding regarding spinal cord injury claims. Every recommendation, whether for an expert witness, a case manager or psychologist, is spot-on."* *"I trust him entirely to handle all aspects of my case and negotiate the best possible outcome."*

Freeths LLP

What the team is known for Freeths has an expert catastrophic injury group that operates within a strong nationwide practice. The team is highlighted for its specialist knowledge in brain and spinal injury cases, including those impacting children, and for RTA and CICA claims. They also advise clients on liability and causation disputes.

Strengths *"Freeths have an excellent team approach. They have extremely good expertise and client-centred skill sets."*

Personal Injury: Mainly Claimant
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Batta Rankeshwar <i>Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP</i>
Edwards Philip <i>Clarke Willmott LLP (ORL)</i> ♦
Goulding Jane <i>Freeths LLP*</i>
McKinney Christopher <i>Shoosmiths LLP</i>
Nye Stephen <i>Irwin Mitchell*</i>
Rees Jonathan <i>Brethertons LLP</i>
Shaw Andy <i>Higgs LLP</i>
Wetherell Hilary <i>Irwin Mitchell</i>
Band 2
Almond Greg <i>Rotheras</i>
Burgess Sharine <i>Shoosmiths LLP</i>
Burnell Claire <i>Higgs LLP</i>
Coates Alida <i>Irwin Mitchell*</i>
Daniels Luke <i>Irwin Mitchell*</i>
de-Loyde Karl <i>Thompsons</i>
Humphries Dawn <i>Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors</i>
McDonnell John <i>Waldrons Solicitors</i>
Myers Ed <i>Barratts Solicitors</i>
O'Brien Gerry <i>Waldrons Solicitors</i>
Todhunter Susan <i>ABC Manby Bowdler LLP (ORL)</i> ♦
Tomlinson David <i>Barratts Solicitors</i>
Associates to watch
Campbell Jayne <i>Irwin Mitchell (ORL)</i> ♦
Fullilove Victoria <i>Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP</i>
Howard Louise <i>Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors</i>
* Indicates individual with profile.
♦ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Notable practitioners

Jane Goulding (see p.1073) frequently advises on cases arising from RTAs, often involving brain and orthopaedic injuries. **Strengths:** "Jane Goulding has huge expertise and is a strong advocate for her clients." "Her written work is excellent – clear and pertinent."

Higgs LLP

What the team is known for Higgs is a well-known Black Country firm that frequently acts on severe and fatal personal injury cases. The firm is noted for its expert handling of head injury claims, burns and spinal cases, including those arising from RTAs, accidents at work and trips. The team is also recognised for its expertise in clinical negligence.

Strengths

"They are really carving out a reputation as leading personal injury lawyers."

Notable practitioners

Andy Shaw advises on significant RTA claims, with notable strength in orthopaedic, brain and spinal injury cases. **Strengths:** "Andy Shaw is very innovative." **Claire Burnell** advises on an array of personal injury claims including those involving trips and slips and workplace accidents.

Irwin Mitchell

What the team is known for Irwin Mitchell is a nationwide firm noted for its handling of major domestic and international personal injury claims. The firm has an impressive breadth of expertise, fielding specialist capabilities in areas such as brain and spinal injuries, and child abuse claims. The team is also skilled in workplace illness cases relating to mesothelioma and lung cancer, as well as psychiatric injuries such as PTSD. They also represent families and victims in claims arising from aviation disasters and terror attacks.

Strengths

"They are highly organised and experienced, for-

Personal Injury: Mainly Claimant
Leading Firms
Band 1
Shoosmiths LLP

ward-looking and, as a result, strategic."

"Irwin Mitchell's teams are excellently staffed and well supervised."

Notable practitioners

Stephen Nye (see p.1076) is active on a wide array of high-value claims covering spinal and brain injuries, including those resulting from RTAs. **Strengths:** "Stephen Nye fights hard for clients." "Stephen is always on top of the issues and has excellent judgement." **Hilary Wetherell** advises on high-value RTAs, including those resulting in fatalities, in addition to employers' liability claims. **Strengths:** "Helen Wetherell is helpful, easy to work with and constructive in her approach." **Alida Coates** (see p.1070) is particularly active in handling occupational disease cases, with a track record in asbestos-related claims. **Luke Daniels** (see p.1071) regularly assists with complex abuse claims, often against local authorities.

Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors

What the team is known for Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors is a leading Shropshire firm advising on an extensive breadth of personal injury cases, including high-value RTA and accident-at-work claims. The firm is particularly experienced in acting for clients with spinal and cerebral injuries. The team is skilled in handling military cases and accidents abroad. They also work alongside clinical negligence and Court of Protection teams to fully support clients.

Strengths

"Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors are very knowledgeable in all areas of the claim and always have a ready answer." "Excellent knowledge and skill shown dealing with personal injury claims."

"They have given us exceptional support."

Notable practitioners

Dawn Humphries handles a wide range of orthopaedic and spinal injury claims. She is active on an array of personal injury cases, including those relating to workplace accidents and RTAs.

Strengths: "She has an excellent grasp of the complexities of brain injury and the impact it has on both her clients and their families." "Dawn Humphries has a great deal of empathy and she really tries to understand what we are going through." **Louise Howard** advises on spinal injuries arising from RTAs and accidents at work. She is also able to handle claims against the MoD in respect of psychiatric damage. **Strengths:** "Having someone like Louise in your corner to fight for your rights has, in the literal sense, been a lifesaver." "Louise Howard is dedicated, knowledgeable and caring."

Shoosmiths LLP

What the team is known for Shoosmiths is a nationwide firm with strong personal injury capabilities in the Midlands. The team handles the full spectrum of claims, including those relating to catastrophic brain injuries, severe psychological trauma and spinal cord injuries. They also advise clients on claims resulting from RTAs, fires, falls and workplace injuries, as well as handling amputation and chronic pain cases.

Strengths

"An experienced group of solicitors with a great team ethic and a proven track record."

"The whole process, which was during a period of high emotion and personal disruption was handled with

great sensitivity by the Shoosmiths team."

"The service levels are very high."

Notable practitioners

Christopher McKinney acts for claimants on catastrophic injury cases including spinal and brain injuries. He also handles claims arising from RTAs and workplace injuries. **Strengths:** "Chris McKinney is one of the best claimant PI solicitors out there. He never fails to get results for his clients, who universally adore him. He's very reassuring and technically able." "Chris has been invaluable in supporting me through my claim. His knowledge and experience are apparent and his approach is detailed, precise and clear." **Sharine Burgess** supports clients across the spectrum of personal injury claims, including occupational stress, abuse and industrial disease claims. She has additional expertise in military-related cases. **Strengths:** "Sharine Burgess is very efficient, thorough, dedicated and commercial. She's brilliant with clients and hugely knowledgeable." "I was impressed not only by her thorough and professional client care but also by her tactical nous."

Band 2

Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP

What the team is known for Anthony Collins Solicitors has a Birmingham-based team fielding notable experience in representing adult and child claimants. The firm acts on a broad range of catastrophic injury claims, including brain and spinal injuries, in addition to psychological damage. The team advises on RTAs, CICA claims and occupational health matters.

Strengths

"They were amazing – unbelievable knowledge and professionalism."

"Anthony Collins Solicitors always deliver comprehensive advice and act quickly with confidence and empathy."

"They possess the strength in depth and the expertise necessary to pursue complex and sophisticated litigation often against large multinational companies, public corporations or government bodies."

Notable practitioners

Rankeshwar Batta's expertise encompasses catastrophic and psychological injury claims arising from RTAs, including acting on cases involving children.

Strengths: "Rankeshwar Batta is very knowledgeable with regard to brain injury claims and provided us with a service above and beyond what we expected." "He is an amazing person who is spot-on in his suggestions for moving the case forward." **Victoria Fullilove** advises on a broad array of cases including catastrophic injuries, RTAs and workplace accidents. **Strengths:** "Victoria Fullilove is a well-respected litigator with many years of experience in her field. She is highly recommended by all her clients." "An excellent lawyer who is extremely well prepared."

Brethertons LLP

What the team is known for Brethertons' personal injury claimant practice is highly skilled in complex claims involving spinal cord and brain injuries, and offers wide-ranging experience in RTAs, falls and accident-at-work claims. The firm also handles public liability claims and claims from dependants. The team has additional experience in clinical negligence matters.

Strengths

"The Brethertons team pays good attention to detail and to client care."

Notable practitioners

Jonathan Rees regularly advises on high-value spinal cord injury claims. He is well versed in cases arising from RTAs and workplace accidents. **Strengths:** "Jonathan Rees is a spinal injuries specialist with a good track record."

Nelsons Solicitors

What the team is known for Nelsons Solicitors demonstrates broad-ranging expertise encompassing industrial disease, public liability and RTA claims. The team is well versed in cases involving severe injuries and is experienced in employers' liability mandates.

Strengths

"They have sound knowledge and expertise in personal injury, particularly with regard to traumatic brain injury claims."

"All our queries to the Nelsons team were dealt with without delay."

"Exceptional understanding of process and law is always demonstrated."

Notable practitioners

Lisa Preece is a key contact.

Rotheras

What the team is known for Rotheras handles a wide range of personal injury claims, specialising in serious RTA cases, workplace accidents and public liability claims.

Strengths

"Rotheras are very client-focused and pay close attention to detail."

"Vulnerable clients and complex cases are handled with sensitivity and care."

Notable practitioners

Greg Almond is head of personal injury claims at Rotheras and has over 15 years of litigation experience. He frequently manages high-value, complex claims arising from RTAs and all manner of tortious

incidents. **Strengths:** "Greg Almond has thorough knowledge of a complex area of law." "Greg Almond is efficiency personified. He gets high-value settlements for injured clients in record time."

Slater and Gordon Lawyers

What the team is known for Slater and Gordon Lawyers are well regarded for their representation of the Police Federation in personal injury claims. The team is also noted for RTA cases, often arising from motorcycle collisions, and claims involving children.

Strengths

"Slater and Gordon Lawyers are always ready to help."

Notable practitioners

Steven Baylis is a key contact.

Thompsons

What the team is known for Thompsons' experienced Birmingham team handles the full range of personal injury claims. The firm's areas of focus include RTAs, claims arising from accidents at work and complex brain injuries. The team supports clients through rehabilitation by way of interim payments and is noted for its work with trade unions.

Strengths

"An outstanding team."

"Thompsons' talented personal injury team achieves excellent results in challenging cases."

Notable practitioners

Karl de-Loyde acts for claimants who suffered injuries from road traffic collisions and accidents at home and in the workplace. **Strengths:** "A very proactive and thorough lawyer who always makes the right calls." "Karl de-Loyde is incredibly tenacious and you will never see him give up on anything. He will really fight your corner."

Waldrons Solicitors

What the team is known for Waldrons Solicitors is a Birmingham boutique with significant experience in

workplace accident and employers' liability claims. The firm also acts on complex claims arising from RTAs. They have a significant track record in serious brain and orthopaedic injury cases, as well as psychiatric injury matters. The lawyers act for a number of professional associations, such as the Police Federation of England & Wales.

Notable practitioners

John McDonnell is well versed in catastrophic injury cases involving orthopaedic and brain injuries. His work portfolio encompasses RTAs, workplace incidents and falls. He is also experienced in psychiatric damage claims. **Strengths:** "John McDonnell has a good way of running cases." **Gerry O'Brien's** caseload spans RTAs, employer liability claims and Police Federation cases. He is experienced in chronic pain claims, and in orthopaedic and psychiatric injury matters. **Strengths:** "Gerry O'Brien gets good results for his clients."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Jayne Campbell advises on a wide range of catastrophic brain and spinal injury claims.

Philip Edwards of Clarke Willmott handles cases arising from RTAs and workplace accidents, and is noted for his experience with regard to amputation and catastrophic personal injury claims. **Strengths:** "A highly experienced and client-centred lawyer with huge expertise in his field." "Philip Edwards is a very skilled solicitor."

Susan Todhunter is a partner at FBC Manby Bowdler. With 30 years of experience, she is recommended for the most complex catastrophic injury claims.

Strengths: "Susan Todhunter is massively experienced, incredibly thorough and knows this area of the law inside-out."

North West Mainly Claimant

Personal Injury: Mainly Claimant
Leading Firms
Band 1
Fletchers Solicitors
Irwin Mitchell
Potter Rees Dolan, Serious Injury Solicitors
Band 2
Burnetts
JMW Solicitors LLP
KLS Law
Simpson Millar LLP
Slater and Gordon Lawyers
Band 3
CFG Law
Farleys Solicitors LLP
Leigh Day
Thompsons

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1**Fletchers Solicitors**

What the team is known for Fletchers Solicitors is a specialised practice that is best known for representing claimants who have suffered serious injuries in motorcycle incidents. The team assists clients with high-value catastrophic claims, including brain, spinal cord, amputation and orthopaedic injury claims. They continue to provide Court of Protection services to clients.

Strengths

"Nothing short of amazing, consistent and very knowledgeable."

"They were always there to help when they needed to be, and I always felt comfortable discussing any issues I was having or explaining personal details of the claim."

Notable practitioners

Julia Eyton heads Fletchers' catastrophic personal injury team. She has a wealth of experience acting for claimants suffering from life-changing injuries, including spinal, brain and orthopaedic injuries.

Strengths: "Julia fights her client's corner very hard, she won't take no for an answer." "Julia Eyton was absolutely brilliant, she has her client's best interests at heart at all time." **Louise Riley** is noted for her expertise handling personal injury claims, with a particular focus on litigation relating to catastrophic brain injuries arising from RTAs. **Strengths:** "Louise Riley made the start of the process very easy for me and I felt she really cared about what was going on, which made it easy for me to discuss the more personal details of my injury claim." "Louise is fantastic and tries her best to keep everyone informed at every step of the way."

Gerard Horton is a well-regarded claimant solicitor in the serious injury team at Fletchers Solicitors. He regularly represents clients who have been injured as a result of RTAs, particularly those involving motorcycles. **Strengths:** "Gerard Horton is good with clients. He has an attractive, empathetic manner, and is very reliable."

Irwin Mitchell

What the team is known for Irwin Mitchell is a standout national firm with a market-leading Man-

Personal Injury: Mainly Claimant
Senior Statespeople & Eminent Practitioners
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
McCool Geraldine <i>Irwin Mitchell</i> *
Eminent Practitioners
Betts Jonathan <i>Irwin Mitchell</i>
Leading Individuals
Star individuals
Leech Catherine <i>Irwin Mitchell</i> *
Band 1
Brown Matthew <i>Irwin Mitchell</i> *
Canter Jan <i>KLS Law</i>
Eyton Julia <i>Fletchers Solicitors</i>
Healy Deirdre <i>Irwin Mitchell</i> *
Hopwood Carol <i>Carpenters Limited (ORL)</i> ◇
Johnson Kevin <i>Leigh Day</i> *
Knaggs Spencer <i>Burnetts</i>
Potter Hugh <i>Potter Rees Dolan, Serious Injury Solicitors</i>
Scorer Richard <i>Slater and Gordon Lawyers</i>
Tomlinson Matthew <i>Slater and Gordon Lawyers</i>
Band 2
Breen Paul <i>JMW Solicitors LLP</i>
Bridge Jonathan <i>Farleys Solicitors LLP</i>
Cartwright Gordon <i>JMW Solicitors LLP</i>
Clayton Matthew <i>Simpson Millar LLP</i>
Gibson Rose <i>Simpson Millar LLP</i>
Gwyther Martyn <i>Thompsons</i>
Hardacre Michael <i>Slater and Gordon Lawyers</i>
Harrison Kim <i>Slater and Gordon Lawyers</i>
Herbert Gary <i>Potter Rees Dolan, Serious Injury Solicitors</i>
Lilley Andrew <i>JMW Solicitors LLP</i>
Lowery Richard <i>Express Solicitors (ORL)</i> ◇
Meredith Hilary <i>Hilary Meredith Solicitors (ORL)</i> ◇
Molloy Mike <i>Horwich Cohen Coghlan Solicitors (ORL)</i> ◇
Patel Soyab <i>KLS Law</i>
Riley Louise <i>Fletchers Solicitors</i>
Simmons Nicola <i>Thompsons</i>
Zajac Andrew <i>Leigh Day</i> *
Up-and-coming individuals
Horton Gerard <i>Fletchers Solicitors</i>
Associates to watch
Biggs Richard <i>Irwin Mitchell</i> *
Botterill Rachel <i>Leigh Day</i> *
Garson Matthew <i>Irwin Mitchell</i> *
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

chester office that assists clients with high-value, complex personal injury claims. The team is known for its expertise in litigation against the Ministry of Defence and other employers. They are experienced in handling cases involving industrial disease as well as catastrophic injuries. They provide a wealth of expertise relating to serious brain, amputation and spinal injuries, with a strong focus on client rehabilitation. The personal injury practice works closely with the family law and Court of Protection teams to provide a full-service package for claimants.

Strengths

"The team consistently work to a high standard and can manage the complexities caused by family dynamics, and the changing wants and needs of the client."

Notable practitioners

Geraldine McCool (see p.1076) has impressive expertise handling personal injury claims, with a particular focus on cases related to the military and aviation. **Jonathan Betts** is a vastly experienced practitioner, frequently handling high-value personal injury claims relating to brain injury, spinal cord injury and amputation. **Catherine Leech** (see

p.1075) is a highly acclaimed personal injury lawyer with a wealth of expertise acting for claimants. She is best known as a go-to lawyer for claims relating to spinal cord injuries arising out of RTAs and workplace accidents. **Strengths:** *"Catherine Leech is truly outstanding in spinal injury cases. She combines her vast experience and knowledge with a down-to-earth approach, which always sets clients at ease."* **Matthew Brown** (see p.1069) is highly rated for his experience handling complex personal injury cases, with notable expertise in catastrophic brain and spinal injuries. **Strengths:** *"Matthew Brown is extremely approachable and he operates with clients in 'their world', quickly understanding what matters most to them and working flexibly and creatively to achieve the best outcome."* **Deirdre Healy** (see p.1073) is highly sought after by clients and their families in a range of personal injury matters. She specialises in claims involving complex brain and spinal injuries, as well as amputations. **Strengths:** *"Deirdre Healy is hugely experienced in catastrophic injury cases and has a good manner with clients."* **Richard Biggs** (see p.1069) acts in a range of personal injury cases, with notable expertise in high-value claims relating to brain and spinal injury as well as amputation. **Strengths:** *"Richard Biggs has a nice clear manner with the families, coupled with great empathy. He is thorough and is always thinking ahead."* **Matthew Garson** (see p.1073) acts on behalf of clients in a range of personal injury cases, including those relating to orthopaedic, brain and spinal injuries. **Strengths:** *"Matthew Garson managed the client and case management team well. He was exceptional in his preparation of the case."*

Potter Rees Dolan, Serious Injury Solicitors

What the team is known for Potter Rees Dolan, Serious Injury Solicitors is a standout boutique firm acting for claimants on serious personal injury claims, such as amputation and spinal injuries. It has particular expertise dealing with complex brain injuries, including post-concussion syndrome and post-traumatic stress disorder. It is known for strong knowledge of claims arising from work-based accidents and RTAs. The firm also handles a variety of complex cases including CICA and MIB claims.

Strengths

"Potter Rees Dolan is a market leader with a well-deserved reputation for tirelessly pursuing the interests of badly injured claimants."

"Their understanding of the subject matter is extensive and the team has lots of experience."

Notable practitioners

Hugh Potter is lauded as a leading practitioner for personal injury matters, with a particular focus on complex claims connected with severe brain and spinal cord injuries. **Strengths:** *"Hugh Potter undertakes complex work."* **Gary Herbert** is a prominent claimant solicitor in the personal injury team at Potter Rees Dolan. He has significant experience advising clients on brain injury cases arising out of RTAs. **Strengths:** *"Gary Herbert provides high-quality work and is well respected."*

Band 2

Burnetts

What the team is known for Burnetts is a top-rated practice that assists claimants with a wide range of high-value claims. It regularly represents clients who have suffered severe brain and spinal injuries, as well

as orthopaedic injuries arising from RTAs and accidents at work. It closely cooperates with the brain injury charity Headway, while also offering assistance with mesothelioma cases.

Strengths

"They are by far one of the most responsive firms I work with, their level of service has been excellent in my experience."

"They have given my client a very professional and comprehensive service, all the while remaining personable and approachable."

Notable practitioners

Spencer Knaggs is the head of the medical negligence and serious injury team at Burnetts. He regularly acts for individuals who have suffered serious injuries as a result of RTAs and incidents at work, and has a noted focus on spinal cord injury cases. **Strengths:** *"Spencer Knaggs is the perfect blend of professional. His experience and knowledge in the complex medical negligence cases is second to none."*

JMW Solicitors LLP

What the team is known for JMW Solicitors are known for their expertise in acquired traumatic brain injuries and other catastrophic injuries. They have expertise in relation to chronic pain, amputation and spinal injury cases. They act predominantly on claims arising from traffic accidents, including incidents involving cyclists, and also advise on accidents abroad.

Strengths

"They have leaders in niche areas of personal injury law, including cycling claims, accidents abroad and criminal injuries."

"Members of the team were responsive and professional."

Notable practitioners

Paul Breen leads the firm's catastrophic injury department. He is well known in the market for his expertise in brain and spinal injuries, as well as his particular specialism handling injuries arising from motorcycle collisions. **Gordon Cartwright** is well known for acting on personal injury matters related to catastrophic injuries, often following RTAs. He has notable expertise advising on paediatric brain injuries. Head of JMW Solicitors' industrial disease team, **Andrew Lilley** is sought after to advise on mesothelioma and asbestos-related cases. He also has experience handling catastrophic brain, spinal and orthopaedic claims. **Strengths:** *"Andrew Lilley simply excels in the area of client service for brain injury cases. He found just the right balance in keeping me informed at every stage whilst being supportive of my focus on recovery. I would not hesitate to recommend him."*

KLS Law

What the team is known for KLS Law is a Warrington-based firm with a noteworthy reputation for representing clients who have suffered catastrophic injuries. They primarily assist claimants in employment liability claims and cases arising from RTAs. They have expertise that spans the full range of personal injury matters, including amputation, brain and spinal cord injuries.

Strengths

"The wider team were knowledgeable in personal injury work and responsive to any contact I had with them."

Notable practitioners

Jan Canter is a personal injury claimant lawyer with a strong reputation for representing individuals who

have suffered injuries as a result of RTAs. His expertise spans cases concerning spinal cord, brain and psychological injuries. **Strengths:** "Jan Canter was very knowledgeable and thorough in his dealings with the case. I always got the impression that he worked hard for his clients to provide the best outcome for them." **Soyab Patel** is a lead partner involved in personal injury cases spanning from cycling and transportation-related incidents. **Strengths:** "He managed to get a settlement better than the one I expected. He has good judgement in pursuing winnable, but not easy, cases that others might let go."

Simpson Millar LLP

What the team is known for Simpson Millar has a growing personal injury department that acts for claimants involved in RTAs, as well as employers' liability cases. It is regularly instructed on brain, spinal cord and chronic pain injury cases. Firm assists clients with the attainment of early rehabilitation in relation to their injuries. It also offers considerable expertise in abuse claims.

Strengths

"The whole team have been fantastic, offering great communication, support and encouragement."

"They are able to build a trusting relationship with clients. They are firm and understanding at the same time."

Notable practitioners

Matthew Clayton is noted for his expertise in relation to catastrophic personal injury claims, including severe brain injury, amputations and spinal cord injury. **Strengths:** "Matthew Clayton is one of the toughest and most brilliant litigators I have worked with." **Rose Gibson** specialises in complex serious injury claims. This includes high-value brain injuries, amputations, orthopaedic injuries, loss of sight, scarring and fatal accidents. She has a particular expertise in motorcycle accident claims. **Strengths:** "Rose Gibson left a good impression, she is very empathetic."

Slater and Gordon Lawyers

What the team is known for Slater and Gordon Lawyers maintains an excellent coverage of the North West and has a particularly strong presence in Manchester. The team is particularly well known for its expertise in high-value traumatic brain and spinal claims, often due to injuries sustained in RTAs. They also offer notable capability in high-value industrial injury cases, as well as child abuse claims. The team focuses on providing rehabilitation services to clients.

Strengths

"They keep me informed and answer my e-mails promptly. When I need to ask something I get a full answer in language I can understand."

"I have found them really supportive, extremely professional and very easy to communicate with."

"I had approached a number of firms with my case but in the early stages, it was the quality of Slater and Gordon Lawyers' client service that gave me confidence in their approach."

Notable practitioners

Richard Scorer has substantial experience in high-profile cases relating to child sexual exploitation and abuse. **Strengths:** "Richard is truly fantastic at what he does. He can see the bigger picture and communicates well with a wide range of people." "Richard Scorer is committed to his clients. His expertise is second to none and his way of communicating with clients is outstanding." **Matthew Tomlinson** regularly handles complex, multi-track personal injury

claims regarding workplace and military accidents. These include spinal and brain injuries, amputations and fatalities. **Strengths:** "Matthew Tomlinson could not have been more approachable, professional and skilled in communication." **Michael Hardacre** is hugely experienced at representing clients in complex, multi-track personal injury claims. **Strengths:** "Michael Hardacre has provided faultless and unwavering support throughout an extremely long case – he is a credit to both his firm and his profession as a whole." **Kim Harrison** specialises in acting for victims and survivors of abuse in claims against organisations such as schools, social services and hospitals. She is also experienced in associated human rights issues. **Strengths:** "Kim Harrison is extremely knowledgeable on the civil claims side of things and I know we could not be in better hands."

Band 3

CFG Law

What the team is known for CFG Law's respected personal injury team has significant expertise handling cases arising out of RTAs and workplace incidents. The team frequently represents claimants who have suffered traumatic orthopaedic, brain and spinal cord injuries. The firm provides holistic support to clients through noteworthy Court of Protection and private client departments.

Strengths

"They understand the financial issues well and clearly have an extraordinary depth of experience working with insurers."

"A very efficient team, nothing is too much trouble for any one of them."

Notable practitioners

Vicky Whitney, Emily Kalwak and Matthew Evans are the heads of the department.

Farleys Solicitors LLP

What the team is known for Farleys Solicitors has an efficient personal injury practice best known for representing claimants in cases against local authorities involving allegations of child abuse. The firm is additionally strong in a wider range of human rights and inquest-related cases. It also assists clients with a variety of litigation covering fatal accidents and serious injuries, with expertise in catastrophic brain and spinal injuries. The claims often involve RTAs and accidents in the workplace.

Strengths

"It is difficult to find any fault when the level of service was so professional. All communication was swift and any gaps managed with courtesy."

"The Farleys team appropriately prioritise their clients' needs and work consistently to meet these and provide the best legal service possible."

Notable practitioners

Jonathan Bridge has a strong personal injury practice which focuses on abuse cases, including historical claims. **Strengths:** "Jonathan Bridge has built the trust and confidence of hundreds of survivors and is the reason so many survivors have been able to have some peace at last. He never gives up and that's why they are all so grateful to him."

Leigh Day

What the team is known for Leigh Day is instructed on behalf of claimants in a range of personal injury claims. It has notable expertise acting for asbestos sufferers in actions against employers. The team

frequently handles matters for injured cyclists and individuals who have been involved in accidents at work or overseas.

Strengths

"Leigh Day has provided detailed help and supported the family throughout the claim."

Notable practitioners

Kevin Johnson (see p.1074) specialises in advising clients in relation to personal injury claims arising from exposure to asbestos. **Strengths:** "Kevin Johnson is brilliant, realistic and very hard-working."

Andrew Zajac (see p.1079) specialises in advising on serious injury claims, including brain injury and orthopaedic injury stemming from RTAs. **Strengths:** "Andrew Zajac is always approachable and well liked by clients and their families. He is always transparent on the prospects of the claim, which the clients appreciate." **Rachel Botterill** (see p.1069) is an associate solicitor in the personal injury team at Leigh Day. She has a strong reputation for representing cyclists who have suffered a wide range of injuries as a result of RTAs. **Strengths:** "Rachel Botterill has a really good manner with clients, technically she is really wonderful and her instructions are incredibly detailed. I have only ever seen very good things from her."

Thompsons

What the team is known for Thompsons provides high-quality advice to clients across the North West on personal injury matters, exclusively representing claimants. The team is particularly noted for its work with trade unions, representing many of the nation's leading bodies. They are proficient at handling claims involving RTAs, as well as accidents at work. Areas of experience include serious head and brain injuries as well as amputation and fatal cases. They offer extensive expertise in claims for accidents occurring overseas.

Strengths

"Thompsons consistently achieve great results in difficult cases, often involving complicated disputes of fact and law."

Notable practitioners

Martyn Gwyther heads the cross-border personal injury claims practice. He is well regarded for advising those who have been involved in accidents or contracted illness overseas on personal injury claims in the UK. **Strengths:** "Martyn Gwyther is very proactive and cares about clients. He gets the job done." **Nicola Simmons** is a senior solicitor in the serious injury team at Thompsons. She regularly represents claimants in cases concerning brain and orthopaedic injuries sustained as a result of RTAs and incidents at work. **Strengths:** "Nicola Simmons is hugely impressive. She makes a huge difference to a difficult claim."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Head of serious and catastrophic injury at Carpenters, **Carol Hopwood** is highly sought after for her expertise on personal injury matters, including brain and spinal injuries, amputation injuries and fatal accidents.

Richard Lowery of Express Solicitors specialises in personal injury, undertaking a wide range of cases involving injuries caused by traffic and employment.

Hilary Meredith of Hilary Meredith Solicitors is highly regarded for representing members of the armed forces community in relation to personal injury claims.

Mike Molloy of Horwich Cohen Coghlan Solicitors is a noted personal injury solicitor with strong experience representing claimants in cases both domestically and abroad. He primarily acts for clients who have suffered brain injuries and severe illnesses.

Yorkshire Mainly Claimant

Personal Injury: Mainly Claimant
Leading Firms
Band 1
Irwin Mitchell
Stewarts
Band 2
Atherton Godfrey LLP
Thompsons
Eminent Practitioners
Eminent Practitioners
Wilson Simon G Thompsons
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Aram Rachael Irwin Mitchell *
Heaton Carolyn Irwin Mitchell *
Herman Daniel Stewarts *
Jenkins Louise Irwin Mitchell *
Townsend Ben Stewarts *
Band 2
Kingston Sion Irwin Mitchell *
Maxwell Warren Stewarts *
McQuater John Atherton Godfrey LLP
Shakespeare Helen Thompsons
Up-and-coming individuals
Smith Chris Stewarts *
Withers David Irwin Mitchell *
* Indicates individual with profile.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Irwin Mitchell

What the team is known for Irwin Mitchell has a market-leading practice that acts on a comprehensive range of complex claims. The team's expertise includes a focus on high-value, serious claims arising from RTAs, chronic pain, and brain and spinal injuries. It has an additional strength in Court of Protection issues, criminal injuries and asset management. The firm also employs a dedicated client liaison manager in Leeds to maximise client service. It is particularly adept at acting on industrial disease matters, including asbestos-related disease claims. It has offices in Leeds and Sheffield.

Strengths

"They offer first-class service. They are very understanding of people's needs."

"They have excellent expertise and knowledge."

"Irwin Mitchell's client service was very good; they always had patience and put me at ease."

Notable practitioners

Rachael Aram (see p.1068) advises on high-value

cases surrounding RTAs resulting in cerebral injuries, with notable experience representing cyclists. Aram is based in Irwin Mitchell's Sheffield office.

Strengths: *"Rachael is an excellent lawyer. She's hugely knowledgeable, and can identify clients issues and how to solve them. She's fearsome with defendants."* **Carolyn Heaton** (see p.1073) heads the Neurotrauma team in Leeds and frequently undertakes high-value catastrophic injury cases, usually arising from RTAs. **Strengths:** *"Apart from being truly delightful, she's just an amazingly good lawyer."*

Louise Jenkins (see p.1074) is based in Irwin Mitchell's Sheffield office. She is well versed in RTA cases involving brain injury. She is also experienced in personal injury cases featuring complicated liability and quantum issues. **Sion Kingston** (see p.1075) is based in Leeds and is well equipped to assist with catastrophic injury matters arising from RTAs, in addition to CICA cases. **David Withers** (see p.1079) is well versed in complex personal injury cases, particularly those involving spinal and brain injuries arising from RTAs. **Strengths:** *"David is bright, hard-working and innovative in how he deals with cases."*

Stewarts

What the team is known for Stewarts has an experienced Leeds-based catastrophic injury team, with a track record in complex brain and spinal cord claims. The team has particular experience includes serious injuries as a result of RTAs involving motorcycles. It is well versed in high-value cases involving issues such as amputations, severe burns and fatal accidents. The firm is also familiar with severe orthopaedic and neurological injury cases.

Strengths

"They provide excellent communication and are very attentive when replying to requests."

"Stewarts are simply exceptional. They are great lawyers and are well resourced and well managed."

"They have very strong technical skills and advocate for the client."

Notable practitioners

Daniel Herman (see p.1074) is experienced in representing clients in catastrophic injury cases, including matters concerning brain and spinal injuries. **Ben Townsend** (see p.1078) is well placed to advise on catastrophic injury cases, including life-changing orthopaedic and traumatic brain injuries. **Strengths:** *"Ben is highly technical yet able to work with even challenging clients with ease."* **Warren Maxwell** (see p.1076) is well versed in cases involving serious injuries arising from workplace incidents and RTAs.

Strengths: *"He has excellent communication."* *"He's*

straightforward with clients and he's a great fighter."

Chris Smith (see p.1078) assists with cases stemming from RTAs, including those involving brain injuries and amputations. **Strengths:** *"His knowledge of brain injury is excellent."* *"Chris is terrific with clients."*

Band 2

Atherton Godfrey LLP

What the team is known for Atherton Godfrey has an experienced team in Sheffield that undertakes a wide array of work, including cases involving serious brain and spinal injuries, PTSD and severe burns. The firm is particularly well versed in RTA claims and also active on employers' liability claims. The team offers additional expertise in matters arising from severe injuries following falls.

Notable practitioners

John McQuater advises on psychiatric and catastrophic injuries arising from RTAs and accidents at work. **Strengths:** *"John gives clear and precise instructions and is approachable should I require clarification."*

Thompsons

What the team is known for Thompsons has experienced serious injury specialists who frequently act on high-value claims, including brain and neck injuries. The team maintains an impressive client base of national trade unions and often advises on occupational injuries. It also represents private individuals in personal injury claims resulting from RTAs, as well as acting on industrial disease cases. The firm has offices in Leeds and Sheffield.

Strengths

"It's an outstanding team – they have huge exposure to trade union work and are one of the leading personal injury firms in the country."

Notable practitioners

Simon Wilson is well versed in complex RTA and workplace injury cases. He is based in Leeds and serves as the firm's national lead lawyer for serious injury claims. **Helen Shakespeare** handles claims arising from workplace accidents and RTAs, with a focus on spinal and orthopaedic injury cases. **Strengths:** *"Helen fights very hard. She's very experienced and really does step up on cases against unpleasant opponents."* *"She is outstanding; she's calm under pressure and has real empathy for her clients."*

North East Mainly Claimant

Personal Injury: Mainly Claimant	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Irwin Mitchell	
Band 2	
Sintons	
Slater and Gordon Lawyers	
Thompsons	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Davis John Slater and Gordon Lawyers	
Mayes Fran Irwin Mitchell *	
Band 2	
Brown Paul Burnetts (ORL) ♦	
Davison Philip Sintons	
Hall Trevor Thompsons	
O'Donnell Roger Ward Hadaway LLP (ORL) ♦	
Oliver Kate Sintons	
Up-and-coming individuals	
Pyrah Jane Irwin Mitchell	
Star associates	
Nicklin Kate Slater and Gordon Lawyers	
Associates to watch	
Maddock Rebecca Irwin Mitchell *	
McIlduff Laura Irwin Mitchell	
* Indicates individual with profile.	
♦ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

Band 1

Irwin Mitchell

What the team is known for Irwin Mitchell's outstanding personal injury practice has a specialism in asbestos-related disease claims, as well as brain, spinal and other serious injuries. The team has expertise in cases arising from RTAs and workplace injuries, while also dealing with sexual abuse-related claims. The team also provides ancillary services to clients in conjunction with other departments of the firm, such as the Court of Protection, asset management and family teams.

Strengths

"They have an excellent team with a variety of skills to suit a wealth of client presentations."

"Always very good and each lawyer is very passionate and hard-working in their role, always wanting to get the best for the client."

"They have a highly knowledgeable team who put in the time and effort to ensure the best outcome for all individuals they work with."

Notable practitioners

Fran Mayes (see p.1076) is the regional managing partner for personal injury and also leads the firm's serious injury team. She specialises in catastrophic brain and spinal injury claims as well as fatalities, often connected to RTAs. **Strengths:** "Fran Mayes is a fantastic solicitor with great experience who always wants the best for her clients. Communication, approachability and general service offered is outstanding." **Jane Pyrah** has a great deal of experience

handling complex personal injury cases. She frequently assists with high-value brain and spinal injury claims arising from RTAs and workplace incidents.

Strengths: "Jane Pyrah is knowledgeable and highly experienced. She takes on complex cases and puts in the work to ensure optimal outcomes are achieved for the clients." **Rebecca Maddock** (see p.1075) is a senior associate in the serious injury team at Irwin Mitchell. She has significant experience acting for claimants who have been injured as a result of RTAs and workplace accidents. **Strengths:** "Rebecca Maddock is dedicated, thorough and her hard work secured a great result." **Laura McIlduff** is a senior associate with experience advising on a range of high-value and complex personal injury claims, most often with regard to life-changing injuries sustained in RTAs. She is adept at handling cases concerning both adults and children. **Strengths:** "Laura McIlduff deals with complex and challenging situations with ease and this inspires confidence in the client and the team around her. Laura is an incredibly approachable and understanding solicitor and always strives for the best outcome for her clients."

Band 2

Sintons

What the team is known for Sintons is an excellent choice for claimant personal injury mandates, often handling high-value and catastrophic injury claims. The team's broad offering spans occupational and industrial diseases, workplace injuries and road accidents, including expertise in brain and spinal cord injuries. It offers an all-round service through its Court of Protection department.

Strengths

"All members of the team were exceptional in the way they carried out their work."

"The solicitors were fantastic, they offered a wealth of knowledge and advised us every step of the way."

Notable practitioners

Philip Davison leads the department and regularly represents clients who have suffered serious orthopaedic injuries, often sustained in the workplace or in RTAs. He also handles fatal accident claims.

Strengths: "Philip Davison has a vast well of knowledge in his field." **Kate Oliver** acts for claimants who have sustained complex and serious injuries including brain, amputation and other life-changing injuries. **Strengths:** "Kate Oliver was always going that extra mile for us."

Slater and Gordon Lawyers

What the team is known for National firm offering with significant expertise in complex personal injury cases. Particularly adept at representing claimants who have suffered brain and spinal cord injuries as a result of road traffic and workplace accidents.

Strengths

"Very experienced in the field of complex brain injury – the knowledge and experience of the solicitors and

their teams ensures the correct outcome for the clients."

Notable practitioners

John Davis is a consultant within the team and has great depth of experience in complex personal injury work. He frequently handles brain and spinal injury claims connected with catastrophic RTAs and workplace incidents. **Strengths:** "John Davis is an extremely experienced and knowledgeable personal injury solicitor who always has his clients' best interests at the core of everything he does." **Kate Nicklin** is a senior associate with considerable experience handling high-value personal injury mandates. She regularly acts on cases involving brain and spinal injuries following road traffic and workplace accidents. **Strengths:** "Kate Nicklin leaves no stone unturned when it comes to ensuring that the client is suitably compensated. She is supportive and responsive in her work."

Thompsons

What the team is known for Thompsons has a broad personal injury practice representing claimants who have suffered traumatic or catastrophic injuries in a variety of accidents. It offers notable experience in employers' liability claims, including those concerning the armed forces. The team is well known for working on behalf of trade union clients in industrial disease claims and workplace accidents, with particular strength in relation to asbestos cases.

Strengths

"An outstanding team, they have huge exposure to trade union work and are one of the leading personal injury firms in the country."

Notable practitioners

Trevor Hall handles a broad range of high-value claims relating to serious and catastrophic injuries such as brain trauma and amputation. He often advises on cases concerning injury sustained in the workplace, with niche expertise in matters concerning military service. **Strengths:** "Trevor Hall is very good on military cases."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Paul Brown of Burnetts often represents clients in personal injury claims connected with RTAs as well as those sustained at work. He is particularly knowledgeable with regard to severe brain injuries. **Strengths:** "Paul Brown is a force of nature. He does a lot of heavyweight, serious claims and he lives and breathes the client's experience. A player of very considerable ability."

Roger O'Donnell of Ward Hadaway is head of the personal injury team at Ward Hadaway. He has notable experience representing claimants who have been involved in RTAs and workplace accidents. **Strengths:** "Roger O'Donnell is great – he is very experienced, very firm in dealing with the other side and holding out for his clients' best interests."

Wales Mainly Claimant

Personal Injury: Mainly Claimant	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Hugh James	
JCP Solicitors	
NewLaw Solicitors	
Band 2	
Thompsons	
Watkins & Gunn	
Senior Statespeople & Eminent Practitioners	
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	
Thomas Keith	JCP Solicitors
Eminent Practitioners	
Thomas Clive	Watkins & Gunn
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Clement-Evans Cenric	NewLaw Solicitors
Sowden-Taylor Cari	Hugh James
Band 2	
Gower Phillip	Novum Law (ORL) ◇
Guscott Lisa	Watkins & Gunn
Imperato Michael	Watkins & Gunn
Jones Amanda	Thompsons
McCabe Ciaran	Hugh James
Obery Hilton	NewLaw Solicitors
Smithyman Victoria	Harding Evans (ORL) ◇
Welsh Anthony	Thompsons
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

Band 1

Hugh James

What the team is known for Hugh James's exceptional claimant practice has a large team specialising in high-profile catastrophic personal injury claims, with notable strength in brain and spinal injuries, often connected with RTAs. Further areas of focus include product liability and abuse cases.

Strengths

"I truly believe that nobody could have done a better job than Hugh James."

Notable practitioners

Cari Sowden-Taylor is praised for her client-oriented approach and technical knowledge. She focuses on brain and spinal injury claims connected with RTAs. **Strengths:** "Cari Sowden-Taylor is excellent – she is determined and courageous." **Ciaran McCabe** represents claimants involved in RTAs resulting in catastrophic injuries, including brain and spinal damage.

JCP Solicitors

What the team is known for JCP Solicitors is a leading personal injury practice in South West and East Wales. The team focuses on catastrophic injury claims, with particular experience in brain injury

mandates, alongside high-value RTA, abuse and employers' liability cases.

Strengths

"A first-class service from a first-class firm."

"I always feel every member of the JCP team is up to date on issues and needs."

Notable practitioners

Keith Thomas's practice predominantly covers severe brain injuries caused by RTAs. He also offers expertise in spinal cord injury claims. **Strengths:** "Keith Thomas was meticulous, hard-working, approachable and clearly had an outstanding wealth of knowledge on catastrophic brain injury claims. He kept us updated and explained every step involved."

NewLaw Solicitors

What the team is known for NewLaw Solicitors has a leading personal injury team known for its activity on high-value claims. It represents clients involved in RTAs, with a particular focus on motorcycle claims. The team advises on cases of amputations and fractures, as well as spinal, orthopaedic and brain injuries. It also assists with occupational disease cases and workplace injuries.

Notable practitioners

Cenric Clement-Evans specialises in industrial disease cases, with notable expertise in respiratory illness-related claims. He also has experience in employers' liability mandates. **Strengths:** "Cenric is always on top of developments in case law." **Hilton Obery** is head of the spinal injuries team at NewLaw Solicitors. He regularly assists claimants who have sustained serious injuries as a result of RTAs and workplace incidents, alongside handling fatality cases. **Strengths:** "Hilton Obery is always available to answer any queries and explains things clearly."

Band 2

Thompsons

What the team is known for Thompsons is a dedicated claimant firm with a broad UK-wide personal injury presence. It has deep expertise and experience representing claimants exposed to dangerous levels of asbestos, and handles numerous claims on behalf of individuals who have sustained physical injuries in the workplace and post-traumatic stress disorder victims.

Strengths

"We have observed Thompsons dealing with complex cases and having success where other firms have stated that there was no case."

Notable practitioners

Amanda Jones is a specialist asbestos lawyer who has a strong reputation for handling industrial disease claims on behalf of clients who have devel-

oped mesothelioma during their career. **Strengths:** "Amanda Jones builds a personalised rapport with her clients. Her local and professional knowledge is second to none. We have observed a true passion and concern for clients." "If she hasn't come across it, it probably doesn't exist." **Anthony Welsh** is recommended for his representation of claimants who have suffered workplace accidents, RTAs and catastrophic injuries in tortious circumstances. He is also experienced in public liability claims.

Watkins & Gunn

What the team is known for Watkins & Gunn is particularly well regarded for experience in employers' liability claims and its longstanding tradition of union representation. The team also pursues personal injury claims arising from RTAs, including serious brain injury and fatal accident cases.

Strengths

"Watkins & Gunn's service levels and responsiveness are second to none."

Notable practitioners

Clive Thomas has particular experience acting on serious and fatal RTA claims. He has handled matters with complex witness situations, including cases which have none or those who reside outside the UK. **Strengths:** "Clive Thomas is very personal and extremely good at client care." **Lisa Guscott** is noted for her skill with regard to matters concerning employers' liability. She is also recommended for all manner of complex personal injury claims. **Michael Imperato** concentrates largely on trade union-related and industrial disease cases. He also has extensive experience acting for claimants who have been involved in RTAs. **Strengths:** "Michael Imperato gets good results in big cases. He is a formidable opponent."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Phillip Gower of Novum Law comes particularly recommended for claims concerning respiratory illness contracted in industrial settings. He mostly handles cases in which the patient has died or has sustained lifelong injuries.

Strengths:

"Phillip Gower was an absolute delight to work with. He was knowledgeable, empathetic, patient and very helpful. I recommend him wholeheartedly and I think he is an asset to Novum Law."

Victoria Smithyman is head of the personal injury department at Harding Evans, and is recommended for her work in cases concerning serious or complex injuries stemming from RTAs.

Strengths:

"Victoria Smithyman is thoroughly knowledgeable and works incredibly hard for her clients."

Wales Mainly Defendant

Personal Injury: Mainly Defendant	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Clyde & Co LLP	
Dolmans	
Band 2	
Geldards LLP	
Hugh James	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Cradick Simon	Clyde & Co LLP*
Harrington Matthew	Clyde & Co LLP*
Band 2	
Bennett Peter	Dolmans
Dale Kerris	Clyde & Co LLP*
Evans Simon M	Dolmans
Harris Justin	Dolmans
Makin Donna	Geldards LLP
Associates to watch	
Lloyd Leon	Hugh James
* Indicates individual with profile.	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

Band 1

Clyde & Co LLP

What the team is known for Clyde & Co's outstanding defence team acts for large companies and insurers on employers' liability claims. It also represents an array of regional public authorities in public liability claims. It is noted for industrial disease mandates such as mesothelioma and asbestos-related cases, as well as for catastrophic brain and spinal injury claims.

Strengths

"Market leaders in complex matters."

Notable practitioners

Simon Cradick (see p.1071) is noted for his experience in public and employers' liability mandates. His practice covers a wide range of instructions, from industrial disease cases to workplace accident claims involving spinal injuries. **Strengths:** "Simon Cradick is very experienced in defendant litigation." **Matthew Harrington** (see p.1073) is particularly adept at industrial disease and workplace accident claims. He has experience defending steelyards against personal injury claims, including class actions pursued by hundreds of claimants. **Strengths:** "Matthew Harrington is great at client care and is also a very good technical lawyer." **Kerris Dale** (see p.1071) comes recommended for her experience defending claims involving amputations, paraplegia and psychiatric damage. She is particularly noted for her expertise in defending motor claims on behalf of leading insurers.

Dolmans

What the team is known for Dolmans' personal injury defence group is best known for representing public authorities, most notably local councils. The team also acts for insurers on public and employers' liability claims. It offers expertise in occupational and industrial disease cases, as well as workplace accident and RTA catastrophic injury claims. The team also assists with claims of sexual abuse and mistreatment of children in education and care, as well as assault on employees.

Strengths

"We consider Dolmans to be a first-class firm, especially where difficult and complex cases are concerned. Their ability and professionalism is, in our view, second to none."

"A committed professional service, often going above and beyond to ensure satisfaction."

"They are a highly skilled team who can always be relied upon to provide sound advice and representation."

Notable practitioners

Peter Bennett acts for insurance companies on high-value personal injury claims, with particular expertise in industrial disease and workplace accident claims. His experience covers fatal accident claims, post-traumatic stress disorder damages and cases involving hundreds of claimants. **Strengths:** "Peter's knowledge, expertise and the fact that he is approachable and engages well with our customers reassure us that our customers are provided with the best service and are cared for. Peter goes above and beyond for our customers." "Peter Bennett has our complete faith and trust in his professionalism and integrity." **Simon Evans** is best known for his handling of complex claims arising from RTAs concerning motorcycles and multi-vehicle motorway collisions. He frequently defends claims relating to brain, spinal and orthopaedic injuries. **Strengths:** "Simon Evans brings a deft touch to the handling of major-value claims." "Simon is highly experienced, efficient and thorough." **Justin Harris** assists insurance companies and local authorities with high-value, complex personal injury claims connected with the mistreatment of children. He also has experience in cases involving RTAs. **Strengths:** "Justin Harris is at the top of his game, trusted by insurers to manage a claim with calmness and skill."

Band 2

Geldards LLP

What the team is known for Geldards' personal injury defence team is best known for its work on employers' liability cases, covering a range of issues such as serious and fatal accidents, industrial diseases and noise-induced hearing loss. It also represents local authorities and public bodies in public liability claims. Its wider clientele includes insurers and charities, as well as manufacturing, retail and construction companies. The team offers consultation services including investigations, audits and advice on risk management.

Strengths

"Geldards have the best customer service we have as yet encountered – they make us feel valued as a client."

Notable practitioners

Donna Makin is regularly sought out by insurers and large companies for her expert handling of personal injury claims. She assists with public and employers' liability cases, often connected with industrial disease and serious injury claims. **Strengths:** "Donna Makin has the ability to grasp a large amount of complex information and be able to understand it, apply it and talk to you about it in a comprehensible way."

Hugh James

What the team is known for Hugh James's personal injury defence team acts mainly for public sector clients and insurers. The team advises on a range of public and employers' liability claims, as well as industrial disease cases and claims arising out of workplace accidents.

Strengths

"Hugh James has a well-functioning team that can handle a varied caseload."

Notable practitioners

Leon Lloyd is a senior associate in the personal injury team at Hugh James who primarily acts for policyholders and insurers. He regularly defends clients in cases involving amputation and paralysis, as well as industrial disease claims. **Strengths:** "Leon Lloyd is an excellent solicitor at the top of his game."

Northern Ireland Mainly Claimant

Personal Injury: Mainly Claimant
Leading Firms
Band 1
McCartan Turkington Breen
Thompsons NI
Band 2
Edwards & Co
Millar McCall Wylie
Reid, Black & Co.
Leading Individuals
Band 1
McClure Oonagh Thompsons NI
Band 2
Clarke Stephen McCartan Turkington Breen
Harty Viv McCartan Turkington Breen
McSorley William Millar McCall Wylie
Prunty Caroline Millar McCall Wylie
Reid Seamus Reid, Black & Co.

Band 1

McCartan Turkington Breen

What the team is known for McCartan Turkington Breen's leading personal injury team impresses with its breadth of coverage, including employers' liability claims involving physical and psychological injury, as well as RTAs. It frequently acts for private claimants on catastrophic claims, as well as handling low-value cases.

Strengths

"They go out of their way to be commercially astute."

"McCartan's lawyers worked hard and knew exactly what they were doing."

Notable practitioners

Stephen Clarke assists with claims arising from RTAs, often on behalf of cyclists and pedestrians. He often acts on cases involving orthopaedic and psychiatric injuries. **Viv Harty** is well regarded for personal injury claims spanning RTAs and workplace accidents.

Thompsons NI

What the team is known for Thompsons is recommended for workplace injury claims, with experience in asbestos-related cases and other occupational health claims. The team demonstrates additional experience advising on claims arising from RTAs, as well as trips and slips. It predominantly represents private individuals from the healthcare sector and members of trade unions.

Strengths

"I would recommend Thompsons without hesitation."

Notable practitioners

Oonagh McClure offers broad experience representing healthcare sector clients in personal injury cases. She regularly advises on RTAs and falls at work. She is acknowledged by market commentators for her track record in industrial disease claims, including asbestos-linked cases.

Band 2

Edwards & Co

What the team is known for Edwards & Co has a solid offering in industrial injuries and illness, such as hearing loss claims. It also maintains a broad personal injury caseload that includes high-profile RTAs, employers' liability and post-traumatic stress syndrome claims. The team is well regarded for its work on behalf of the Police Federation, and also advises both trade unions and private individuals.

Strengths

"I was kept up to date with proceedings and felt very comfortable with the team and how they were handling my case."

"The entire Edwards & Co team, including secretaries and receptionists, have been very helpful and supportive with all issues."

Notable practitioners

Philip Gordon is a key contact.

Millar McCall Wylie

What the team is known for Millar McCall Wylie handles an array of claims spanning RTAs, accidents at work and equine injuries. Falls, trips and slips also serve as a source of instruction for the firm. The team assists with claims arising from a very wide range of injuries, including orthopaedic and psychiatric damage.

Strengths

"A firm with a very strong commercial aptitude."

Notable practitioners

William McSorley comes recommended for his work in hearing loss and occupational disease litigation. He also offers experience in all manner of personal injury and RTA claims. **Caroline Prunty** wins praise for her skill in personal injury cases involving complex and serious injuries stemming from RTAs. She also has expertise in industrial disease and medical negligence claims. **Strengths:** *"Caroline Prunty was very caring and friendly. A pleasure to work with."*

Reid, Black & Co.

What the team is known for Reid, Black & Co. is noted for expertise in hearing loss claims, as well as demonstrating experience in areas such as cycling, motorcycle and employers' liability cases. Additional areas of focus include repetitive strain injuries and industrial disease claims.

Notable practitioners

Seamus Reid is recommended above all for hearing loss and other occupational disease claims on behalf of officers in the military, police force and prison service.

Northern Ireland Mainly Defendant

Personal Injury: Mainly Defendant
Leading Firms
Band 1
DAC Beachcroft LLP
Johnsons Solicitors
Tughans
Band 2
Carson McDowell
Clyde & Co LLP
DWF
Kennedys
Murphy & O'Rawe

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

DAC Beachcroft LLP

What the team is known for DAC Beachcroft's leading personal injury group acts for prominent insurance and retail clients, and is also noted for its representation of public authorities. The team's

expertise extends to a wide range of cases, including industrial disease, product liability and employers' liability claims. It frequently advises on motor claims and also offers counter-fraud capabilities.

Strengths

"DAC Beachcroft in Belfast provides a team of legal professional lawyers who are extremely qualified, knowledgeable and experienced in complex litigation."

"A good range of partners and associates who have many years of experience in their field. They inspire confidence."

Notable practitioners

Sean McGahan leads the team in Belfast and is highly experienced in handling complex personal injury claims. He advises on employers' and public liability along with motor and catastrophic injury cases, including instances where there is the possibility of fraud. **Strengths:** *"Sean McGahan is a very effective and efficient lawyer who has excellent case and client management."* **Louise Butler** handles complex injury claims arising from RTAs and workplace

accidents. She also offers notable strength in public liability claims. **Strengths:** *"Louise Butler provides our organisation with exceptional knowledge, experience and accurate advice and recommendations. She is extremely highly regarded within the market."*

Peter Campbell acts for insurers on a wide array of catastrophic injury cases including spinal injuries, brain injuries and fatal accidents. **Aisling Mellon's** practice encompasses a wide range of personal injury matters, including those relating to public, employers' and occupiers' liability. She also has particular strength in handling motor claims. **Strengths:** *"Aisling Mellon offers in-depth knowledge and experience of insurance litigation, providing our organisation with strategies to ensure that cases are driven to the best possible conclusion."* **Kevin O'Hagan** has notable experience in personal injury cases and is frequently instructed by insurers as well as large companies in the retail and utilities sectors. He offers particular expertise in public liability claims. **Strengths:** *"Kevin O'Hagan has an excellent grasp of current criminal law*

Personal Injury: Mainly Defendant
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Chambers Kenny <i>Johnsons Solicitors</i>
Craig David <i>Johnsons Solicitors</i>
McGahan Sean <i>DAC Beachcroft LLP</i>
McGillie Kathy <i>Tughans</i>
Band 2
Burke Andrew <i>Murphy & O'Rawe</i>
Butler Louise <i>DAC Beachcroft LLP</i>
Campbell Peter <i>DAC Beachcroft LLP</i>
Fitzpatrick Cormac <i>Clyde & Co LLP*</i>
Mellon Aisling <i>DAC Beachcroft LLP</i>
O'Hagan Kevin <i>DAC Beachcroft LLP</i>
Ritchie Chris <i>Arthur Cox (ORL) ♦</i>
Shevlin Kevin <i>Murphy & O'Rawe</i>
Smyth Neil <i>Tughans</i>
Wylie Amanda <i>Kennedys</i>
Wylie Claire <i>DWF</i>
Associates to watch
O'Neill Cathal <i>Carson McDowell*</i>
* Indicates individual with profile.
♦ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

and litigation issues. He provides detailed, comprehensive and pragmatic advice."

Johnsons Solicitors

What the team is known for Johnsons Solicitors' outstanding team frequently advises major insurers on large-loss personal injury claims. It is experienced across a range of areas, including workplace injuries, claims arising from RTAs and childhood injuries. It is also known for advising on product liability litigation. The firm's offices in both Belfast and Dublin facilitate cross-border matters.

Strengths

"Having worked with Johnsons over the past 25 years, we have never found a solicitors' firm that has achieved such a success rate. They have literally saved our company millions."

"Johnsons Solicitors are an organisation that we have the highest possible regard for due to their ability to handle complex matters at an exceptional level providing diligence and innovation."

Notable practitioners

Kenny Chambers is Johnsons' managing partner and also heads its defence insurance litigation group. He has a wide-ranging practice encompassing personal injury claims concerning workplace injuries, RTAs and product liability. **Strengths:** "Kenny Chambers is extremely highly regarded in the market. He is pragmatic, realistic and an accessible point of reference combining superb response times and value for money." **David Craig** is an experienced personal injury solicitor who heads the firm's large-loss team. His practice spans a range of substantial claims including injuries resulting from workplace accidents, RTAs and faulty products.

Tughans

What the team is known for Tughans' impressively versatile group defends insurers against occupational disease and catastrophic injury claims. Its lawyers frequently advise on concomitant fraud and policy coverage issues. The team has a specialist

focus on claims arising from credit hire and repair issues involving motor insurance companies. It is also active in claims related to travel and accidents abroad.

Strengths

"One of the leading commercial firms in Northern Ireland."

"Tughans' legal team provides a high level of advice and service."

Notable practitioners

Kathy McGillie leads Tughans' personal injury defendant team and represents a number of leading insurers on complex cases. She has considerable experience in catastrophic injury claims arising from RTAs and workplace accidents, as well as handling industrial disease matters. **Strengths:** "Kate McGillie is excellent at client management." **Neil Smyth** has a wide-ranging personal injury practice that includes a significant focus on cross-border cases. He handles complex catastrophic injury claims as well as those brought in relation to employers', public and occupiers' liability. **Strengths:** "Neil Smyth always provides a very high level of service."

Band 2

Carson McDowell

What the team is known for Carson McDowell acts for a range of insurers and self-insured clients. The personal injury team defends claims relating to employers', occupiers' and public liability, as well as RTAs. It also assists clients with industrial disease claims, in addition to cross-border cases involving the Republic of Ireland.

Strengths

"This firm has a wide range of expert lawyers capable of handling even the most complex matters."

Notable practitioners

Cathal O'Neill (see p.1076) has notable experience handling a range of public and employers' liability cases, with a particular proficiency in hearing loss cases.

Clyde & Co LLP

What the team is known for Clyde & Co's personal injury practice has broad expertise spanning RTA, historic abuse and catastrophic injury claims and also large loss and fatal accident claims. It is also renowned for experience in professional indemnity and employers' liability claims. **Strengths** "Exceeds all expectations in supporting clients."

Notable practitioners

Cormac Fitzpatrick (see p.1072) acts for insurance companies with high-value, complex personal injury claims. He also has experience in cases involving RTAs. **Strengths:** "Cormac Fitzpatrick is a brilliant lawyer with an exemplary work ethic and both a strategic and tactical understanding of the process of litigation. He combines experience and strong judgement together with an open mind to legal development and innovation."

DWF

What the team is known for DWF's well-regarded personal injury practice fields expertise across a broad range of claims. The team regularly defends

against industrial disease cases, as well as handling areas such as product liability, RTAs and employers' liability claims.

Strengths

"The DWF team displays good commercial awareness, particularly in relation to local knowledge of Northern Ireland, where we rely on their expertise and guidance significantly."

Notable practitioners

Claire Wylie is best known for her industrial disease defence work on behalf of insurers. She also regularly handles RTA and public and employers' liability cases. **Strengths:** "Claire Wylie is an excellent lawyer with great client care skills and a keen awareness of what we need."

Kennedys

What the team is known for Kennedys fields extensive experience in defending a wide range of claims, including public liability, employers' liability and motor claims. The firm's client roster includes major insurers and multinationals. The team is also recommended for industrial disease claims, such as asbestos exposure and hearing loss, as well as product liability litigation.

Strengths

"Kennedys are very reliable and we have the utmost confidence in their team, both in Northern Ireland and in the Republic."

Notable practitioners

Amanda Wylie acts for clients including insurers, retailers and manufacturers in the defence of a wide range of personal injury cases. She offers significant experience in claims including catastrophic injuries and fatalities arising from RTAs and workplace incidents.

Murphy & O'Rawe

What the team is known for Prominent firm acting on an impressive breadth of claims, including product liability, industrial disease and RTA cases. Also noted for its significant experience advising on accidents sustained abroad. Acts for a number of insurers and offers additional expertise in public liability claims.

Strengths

"Murphy & O'Rawe has a good, solid insurers' practice."

Notable practitioners

Andrew Burke handles employers' and public liability claims, as well as cases concerning injuries sustained in RTAs. **Strengths:** "Andrew Burke is a very collegiate lawyer and is good on industrial disease." **Kevin Shevlin** offers deep experience advising insurers on personal injury cases. He is particularly experienced in acting on occupational disease claims.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Chris Ritchie of Arthur Cox regularly advises prominent insurers on product and employers' liability claims, with notable experience in relation to cross-border group litigation.

Scotland Mainly Claimant

Personal Injury: Mainly Claimant
Leading Firms
Band 1
Digby Brown LLP
Thorntons Law LLP
Band 2
Balfour+Manson LLP
Lindsays
Thompsons Solicitors Scotland
Band 3
Anderson Strathern
Harper Macleod LLP
Irwin Mitchell
Jackson Boyd LLP
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Carr Robert Anderson Strathern
Short David Balfour+Manson LLP*
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Armstrong David Lindsays*
Dalyell Gordon Digby Brown LLP
Davidson Neil Digby Brown LLP
McBean Gordon Thorntons Law LLP
McIntosh David S Balfour+Manson LLP*
Band 2
Bell David Irwin Mitchell*
Blane Laura Thompsons Solicitors Scotland
Clark-Spence Julie Balfour+Manson LLP*
Cornwell Jonathan Lindsays*
Gregory Lisa Grant Smith Law (ORL) ◇
Kernaghan Robert Digby Brown LLP
Macpherson Clare Thorntons Law LLP
Band 3
Adam Michelle Thorntons Law LLP
Berry Dave Jackson Boyd LLP
Calderwood Heather Harper Macleod LLP*
Cochran Stuart Slater and Gordon Lawyers (ORL) ◇
Kelly Caroline Thorntons Law LLP
Macdonald Alan Jackson Boyd LLP
Milne Debbie Jackson Boyd LLP
Nicol Iain Thorntons Law LLP
Pasi Lauren Lindsays*
Stewart Chris Digby Brown LLP
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Digby Brown LLP

What the team is known for Digby Brown's vast practice is split into a series of specialist areas, ensuring it is able to provide clients with deep expertise across the full gamut of personal injury matters, including employers' liability, RTAs, industrial disease and offshore accidents. The firm has a team of specialists in offices across Scotland. With its own bespoke 'Compensate' litigation funding product, the firm provides clients with flexibility in managing the risks and costs of litigation. It also handles cases concerning accidents at work and asbestos-related injury, with further strength acting on historic sex abuse claims.

Strengths

"I am always struck by how on the ball they are. They know what they are about and it's very impressive to see it in action."

Notable practitioners

Gordon Dalyell covers a range of personal injury cases in his practice, including RTAs, accidents at work and fatal accident claims. **Strengths:** "Gordon Dalyell is a highly eminent PI lawyer with a wealth and depth of knowledge." **Neil Davidson** is highly regarded for his Aberdeen-based practice, advising clients on offshore and marine workplace accidents including fatal and serious injury claims. He also acts on RTA claims. **Strengths:** "Neil Davidson knows his stuff and he is pleasant to deal with." **Robert Kernaghan** has notable strength handling serious and fatal injury claims arising from workplace accidents and RTAs. He also has experience in cases involving historic abuse claims. **Strengths:** "Robert Kernaghan's manner is well suited to clients who have been through a traumatic experience." **Chris Stewart** heads the serious injury department at the firm. He has a particular focus on spinal and brain injuries, including those stemming from RTAs.

Thorntons Law LLP

What the team is known for A full-service firm with experience across the gamut of personal injury cases, including employers' and public liability, industrial disease and RTA claims. Thorntons Law is the clear market leader outside of the Central Belt, with several offices located across Scotland as well as an office in Edinburgh. Clients are offered an integrated service including family, financial and private client support on matters involving brain injuries. The team is increasingly active in cases involving noise-induced hearing loss.

Strengths

"An extremely experienced team with the technical knowledge needed to progress cases to a successful conclusion."

"Thorntons Law have always managed to achieve the best possible outcome throughout each step of the case." "A lot of their people previously worked for defender firms, which gives them an advantage."

Notable practitioners

Gordon McBean heads Thorntons Law's personal injury practice and frequently handles claims relating to workplace accidents and brain injuries. **Strengths:** "Gordon McBean is an absolute pleasure to work with – he is polite, driven and an absolute professional. He continually strives to look for ways in which his firm can diversify to offer not only access to justice but also the best possible claimant journey." "Gordon has a wealth of market knowledge and has been very good to work with over the past few years. He is a very strong communicator who is determined to achieve the right results."

Clare Macpherson advises on employers' liability and occupational disease claims, including noise-induced hearing loss. She also offers experience in brain injury cases stemming from RTAs. **Strengths:** "Clare Macpherson is an exceptionally good lawyer. She has amazing attention to detail." Solicitor advocate **Michelle Adam** frequently represents clients in cases arising from workplace accidents and RTAs. She has notable strength in fatal accident and brain injury claims, with further experience of psychological impacts. **Strengths:** "Michelle Adam is a good solicitor advocate. She is sensible, pragmatic and personable." **Caroline Kelly** has expertise in workplace accident claims involving severe brain injury. She also advises on RTA claims. **Strengths:** "Caroline Kelly is approachable, knowledgeable and empathetic. Caroline gives her all to

every single case she works on and strives to achieve the best possible outcomes. She leads her team by example, and her hard work achieves fantastic results." **Iain Nicol** acts in high-value catastrophic injury and fatal accident claims, such as those arising from RTAs and workplace accidents. **Strengths:** "Iain Nicol is a very experienced PI practitioner."

Band 2

Balfour+Manson LLP

What the team is known for Balfour+Manson has an impressive record of representing claimants in a broad range of personal injury cases, including catastrophic injury claims and fatal accidents. The team has a particular specialism in RTAs and industrial disease matters, and is also adept at handling complex cases involving brain and psychological injury. The team is skilled at advising on major aviation accident cases brought under the Employers' Liability Act.

Strengths

"Balfour+Manson is excellent in the area of personal injury and clinical negligence."

"Their lawyers are excellent at handling complex matters and they are very responsive."

"The team has a good ethos, is client-centred and has high integrity."

Notable practitioners

David Short (see p.1078) demonstrates particular expertise in aviation-related claims, with a focus on employers' liability and fatal accidents. He is also well versed in workplace injury claims. **Strengths:** "David Short has gravitas that comes with being a solicitor for a long time. He has good relationships with clients and is a standout solicitor at Balfour+Manson. He is never stressed and he doesn't drop the ball." **David McIntosh** (see p.1076) handles high-value cases, advising on claims relating to brain and psychological injuries as a result of road traffic accidents. He also advises on workplace accidents. **Strengths:** "One of most diligent solicitors I have ever come across in my long career, he never ceases to amaze me with his organisation. He is totally dedicated, great with clients – one of the top solicitors." "David McIntosh is technically and legally astute, good with clients, prepares cases to nth degree and gets good results because of this." **Julie Clark-Spence** (see p.1070) focuses on serious injury and fatal claims involving offshore, farming and fishing accidents. She also advises on RTA claims.

Lindsays

What the team is known for Lindsays has an extensive offering split into specialist teams that handle claims relating to industrial disease, travel and accidents abroad. It has a standalone personal injury website and an integrated case management system to provide clients with more streamlined guidance throughout the life-cycle of a claim.

Strengths

"The Lindsays team across the board are highly capable. The solicitors are knowledgeable and highly professional. Equally, the secretarial staff are highly competent and efficient."

"The personnel are well qualified to deal with complex matters."

Notable practitioners

David Armstrong (see p.1068) handles high-value and complex personal injury claims involving RTAs, acci-

dents abroad and workplace accidents. **Strengths:** *"I have time a lot of time for David Armstrong, as a lawyer and a business person."* **Jonathan Cornwell** (see p.1071) handles catastrophic and psychological injury claims, including those stemming from RTAs and workplace environments. **Strengths:** *"Jonathan Cornwell is a highly qualified and experienced lawyer. He is a pleasure to work with and provides an excellent service for clients."* **Lauren Pasi** (see p.1077) wins praise for her skill in high-value personal injury cases, including RTAs, accidents at work, fatal accident and public liability claims. **Strengths:** *"I have worked with Lauren Pasi on a number of occasions and found her to be organised and highly proficient. Her instructions are second to none, and her grasp of complicated legal issues is highly impressive."* *"Very efficient, practical and well organised."*

Thompsons Solicitors Scotland

What the team is known for Thompsons Solicitors Scotland are well known for personal injury work, most notably on industrial disease claims including asbestos-related matters. The firm houses in-depth knowledge of employment law, making the team a go-to choice in this category of claims. It is also adept at handling serious injury and fatal accident claims.

Notable practitioners

Laura Blane is noted for her expertise in asbestos-related disease claims, including advice on policy and legislative changes. **Strengths:** *"Laura Blane is one of the best asbestos and disease lawyers in Scotland."*

Band 3

Anderson Strathern

What the team is known for Anderson Strathern regularly deals with high-value personal injury cases, ranging from RTAs to employers' liability claims. Its team is adept at handling post-traumatic stress disorder cases and criminal injury compensation claims. It is able to leverage the support of a highly regarded employment practice and possesses a longstanding relationship with the Royal College of Nursing.

Notable practitioners

Robert Carr has notable strength in matters concerning workplace accidents and employers' liability actions.

Harper Macleod LLP

What the team is known for Harper Macleod's well-regarded team has considerable experience in employers' and public liability and industrial disease actions. It is also noted for handling cases with cross-border elements. It has an office presence in the Central Belt and on the islands of Scotland, ensuring clients across the country can receive a full service to meet their needs. The lawyers are experienced in dealing with fatal accident claims including RTAs and marine and workplace accidents.

Strengths

"Communication was frequent and well handled, with good notice given for appointments with experts."

Notable practitioners

Heather Calderwood (see p.1069) handles catastrophic injury and fatal claims following RTAs and workplace accidents. She also advises on employers' liability and occupational disease matters.

Irwin Mitchell

What the team is known for Irwin Mitchell specialises in high-value, complex personal injury claims. Frequently handles RTA, employers' and public liability, and industrial disease actions such as asbestos and Legionnaires' disease-related claims. The team is also experienced in cases involving military law and regularly handles matters involving serious injuries and fatalities. Clients benefit from great depth of resources provided by the wider firm's network throughout the UK.

Strengths

"Irwin Mitchell has an impressive operation which provides in-depth advice and support to clients."

"I have nothing but praise for the level of service and professionalism shown to me and my family during a very protracted and difficult time."

Notable practitioners

David Bell (see p.1068) handles complex personal injury matters including workplace accidents, RTAs and fatal injury claims. **Strengths:** *"David Bell is an excellent lawyer whose skill set combines an in-depth knowledge of personal injury work and the soft skills required to provide all the support and guidance needed by clients who are involved in challenging circumstances."*

Jackson Boyd LLP

What the team is known for Jackson Boyd has extensive expertise in matters arising as a result of RTAs and workplace accidents, including fatal and catastrophic injury claims. The team has further experience in psychological injury claims, and has a growing practice in historic sexual abuse cases.

Strengths

"Jackson Boyd's lawyers have an excellent grasp of the issues, engage with the case and promptly obtain the appropriate evidence."

Notable practitioners

Dave Berry is the head of Jackson Boyd's employers' liability, public liability department and clinical negligence department. He has experience handling claims concerning assault in the workplace and serious injuries from RTAs. **Strengths:** *"A very sound practitioner, very knowledgeable and excellent with his clients."* *"Dave Berry is an approachable, able and proactive practitioner."* **Alan Macdonald** heads Jackson Boyd's litigation department. He is particularly active in serious injury and fatal claims stemming from RTAs. **Strengths:** *"Alan Macdonald is very attentive, good at communication and provides a dedicated service."* **Debbie Milne** acts for clients suffering brain and spinal injuries as a result of workplace accidents and RTAs. She has further strength in fatal claims and cases involving industrial disease. **Strengths:** *"Debbie Milne is an excellent, client-focused lawyer who is technically sound and knowledgeable."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Stuart Cochran of Slater and Gordon Lawyers is head of the firm's Edinburgh office. He handles complex personal injury matters, including workplace accidents, RTAs and abuse cases.

Strengths:

"Stuart Cochran is an outstanding solicitor who was very understanding throughout my case. He worked tirelessly to achieve a good result, and that's exactly what I got."

Lisa Gregory of Grant Smith Law wins praise for her skill in high-value personal injury cases, including those stemming from workplace accidents in the oil and gas, farming and fishing industries.

Strengths:

"Lisa Gregory is very experienced and she genuinely cares about getting the best outcome for her clients."

Scotland Mainly Defendant

Personal Injury: Mainly Defendant	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Clyde & Co LLP	
Band 2	
Brodies LLP	
BTO Solicitors LLP	
DAC Beachcroft Scotland	
Band 3	
Anderson Strathern	
Burness Paull	
DWF	
Harper Macleod LLP	
Kennedys	
Keoghs LLP	
Ledingham Chalmers LLP	
Mackinnons	
Morton Fraser	
Weightmans	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Donaldson Mark Clyde & Co LLP*	
Edward Graeme Ledingham Chalmers LLP	
Melville Vikki Clyde & Co LLP*	
Band 2	
Currie Catherine A BTO Solicitors LLP*	
Dickson Jenny Morton Fraser	
Graham Gilles Clyde & Co LLP*	
Leslie Victoria Ledingham Chalmers LLP	
Smith Neil Burness Paull	
Tait David Clyde & Co LLP*	
Band 3	
Boyle Harry Clyde & Co LLP*	
Constable Andrew Clyde & Co LLP*	
Dance Karen Clyde & Co LLP*	
Ferguson Garry BTO Solicitors LLP*	
Forrest Carly Brodies LLP*	
Hughes Frank Clyde & Co LLP*	
Jackson Rory Kennedys	
Lothian Andrew DWF	
Maillie John DAC Beachcroft Scotland	
Rushbury Gillian DAC Beachcroft Scotland	
Sinclair Martin Mackinnons	
Band 4	
Ashby Toni Clyde & Co LLP*	
Busby Seonaid Weightmans	
Calderwood Heather Harper Macleod LLP*	
Demick Peter Kennedys	
Forsyth Andrew Burness Paull	
Gallagher Louise DAC Beachcroft Scotland	
Gilmour Andrew Clyde & Co LLP*	
Gordon Tanya Clyde & Co LLP*	
Henry Rachel Clyde & Co LLP*	
Leach Ian Limbo (ORL) ♦	
McGarrigle Suzanne Harper Macleod LLP*	
Phillips Sarah Anderson Strathern	
Rough Rachel DAC Beachcroft Scotland	
Stevenson Pamela Weightmans	
Up-and-coming individuals	
Morris Sarah Ledingham Chalmers LLP	
Associates to watch	
McLeod Kim Clyde & Co LLP*	

* Indicates individual with profile.

♦ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Clyde & Co LLP

What the team is known for Clyde & Co has a market-leading personal injury practice with a formidable reputation for defence work. It is highly regarded for its expertise in catastrophic injury and disease claims, as well as RTAs and employment liability. Noted for its strong track record on abuse claims. A favoured firm for a number of well-known insurers, especially in cases of high complexity. Long appointed to a large number of Scottish insurance panels, the firm remains a go-to for exceptional service on high-volume claims.

Strengths

"Clyde & Co are robust practitioners and master strategists."

"A breadth and depth of experience that is second to none."

"They are able to provide a quality service and have all of the necessary technical capabilities and experience to handle complex matters."

Notable practitioners

Mark Donaldson (see p.1071) is often instructed by insurers on employers' and public liability claims, with further strength in RTA cases. **Strengths:** "Mark Donaldson is my main go-to lawyer. His response times are excellent, he instantly puts the client at ease, and his knowledge of the inspectors and fiscals is very helpful." **Vikki Melville** (see p.1076) is the managing partner at Clyde & Co, Scotland. She is adept at handling complex fatal accident and catastrophic injury matters following RTAs. She also acts on employers' and public liability claims. **Strengths:** "Vikki Melville is very personable, a great communicator and combines strong technical skill with commercial awareness." **Gilles Graham** (see p.1073) acts on RTAs and employers' and public liability mandates. He offers particular strength in industrial disease cases, including asbestos-related and HAVS claims.

Strengths: "Gilles Graham is one of the best lawyers I've ever encountered and a nice guy to boot." **David Tait** (see p.1078) focuses on occupational disease matters, with particular expertise in asbestos-related litigation. **Strengths:** "David Tait is renowned for disease claims and is well respected." **Harry Boyle** (see p.1069) co-leads Clyde & Co's casualty team within the Aberdeen office. He demonstrates notable expertise handling offshore oil and gas indemnity disputes. He offers further experience in employers' liability and public liability actions. **Strengths:** "Harry Boyle is one of the go-to lawyers for offshore accidents. He is very knowledgeable, experienced and highly regarded." "An exceptionally good lawyer."

"Harry is vastly experienced, and he communicates quickly and acts quickly." **Andrew Constable** (see p.1070) is particularly active on catastrophic injury and fatal claims arising from RTAs. He also advises on employers' and public liability matters. **Strengths:** "Andrew Constable is a top-class individual. His intelligence and linguistic sophistication is second to none." **Karen Dance** (see p.1071) acts on employers' and public liability claims and offers particular strength in defended reparation cases. **Frank Hughes** (see p.1074) has expertise in employers' and public liability matters, with claims stemming from workplace accidents and working conditions. He also advises on catastrophic injury claims arising from RTAs and historic abuse claims. **Toni Ashby** (see p.1068) acts

for insurers and their clients on occupational disease matters, with a particular focus on claims arising from exposure to asbestos. **Andrew Gilmour** (see p.1073) represents clients in occupational disease matters, such as claims involving asbestos and hand-arm vibration syndrome. **Strengths:** "Andrew Gilmour is one of the best in Scotland when it comes to industrial disease exposure. He is good on tactics, which helps us manage our bottom line." **Tanya Gordon** (see p.1073) acts for clients on a variety of matters, including claims for employers' and public liability. She has notable strength in RTA cases, with further experience handling claims of historic abuse. **Rachel Henry** (see p.1073) is instructed by insurance companies to represent their clients in employers' liability and motor claims. She has notable experience in cases involving fatalities and brain injuries. **Strengths:** "Nothing is ever too much for Rachel Henry. She is the best lawyer I've tried in Scotland." **Kim McLeod** (see p.1076) is particularly active in employers' liability claims, with a focus on those arising from the oil and gas and offshore industries. She also assists with RTA claims. **Strengths:** "Kim McLeod knows her stuff and is meticulously organised."

Band 2

Brodies LLP

What the team is known for Brodies provides a full service with particular expertise in RTAs, employers' liability and industrial disease actions. Its clients include major multinational insurers, self-insured companies and public bodies. The team is adept at dealing with marine and offshore matters and cases that relate to environmental and other forms of contamination. It is also noted for its in-house advocacy team and ability to draw upon expertise in areas such as housing, employment and tax for more complex claims.

Strengths

"I have the utmost confidence in the advice given by the team at Brodies."

"I have always received excellent service and advice."

Notable practitioners

Carly Forrest (see p.794) handles claims concerning employers' and public liability and RTAs. She concentrates her practice on catastrophic injury matters, such as brain and spinal injuries, as well as psychological impact. She also handles fatal claims. **Strengths:** "Carly Forrest has worked very hard for us. Her perseverance, dedication and unfailing care for the client is very impressive."

BTO Solicitors LLP

What the team is known for BTO Solicitors' personal injury arm regularly handles a variety of RTA and employers' liability claims, alongside a range of other personal injury cases. Specialist teams have wide-ranging expertise in areas such as fraud and catastrophic injuries. The firm advises prominent insurance clients, including investigators and brokers. The team is experienced in handling all stages of litigation including pre-litigation and settlement advice, and is supported by a strong team of solicitor advocates.

Strengths

"A very experienced team of senior partners who are well versed in personal injury litigation."

"BTO has a very strong ability to handle complex and sophisticated litigation."

Notable practitioners

Catherine Currie (see p.794) acts for major insurance companies and their clients on the full gamut of personal injury matters. She offers particular strength in catastrophic injury claims arising from RTAs, with further experience of food contamination issues. **Strengths:** *"Catherine Currie is highly experienced and strives to achieve excellence and the best outcome for her clients."* **Garry Ferguson** (see p.1072) is particularly active on serious injury and fatal RTA claims, with additional strength in employers' liability matters. **Strengths:** *"I have always found Garry Ferguson to have a good grasp of the often very complex issues in the cases in which I have been instructed by him."*

DAC Beachcroft Scotland

What the team is known for DAC Beachcroft Scotland's highly esteemed personal injury practice is admired in particular for its work on catastrophic injury, disease and fraudulent claims. It acts for a number of prominent insurers, particularly within the motor industry, on large-loss claims. It coordinates with teams across the UK to provide a seamless service to national clients. The firm has invested in digital and technological platforms to tackle problem areas in insurance.

Notable practitioners

John Maillie acts for insurers on claims for catastrophic injuries arising as a result of RTAs and workplace injuries. **Gillian Rushbury** advises on RTA and employers' and public liability matters in claims for catastrophic injury. **Louise Gallagher** frequently handles public liability claims against social care organisations for fatalities, psychiatric harm and infection control. **Rachel Rough** advises insurers on serious and catastrophic injury claims, with a focus on brain and spinal injury. She offers particular strength in cases involving children. **Strengths:** *"Rachel Rough is very impressive and diligent."*

Band 3

Anderson Strathern

What the team is known for Anderson Strathern handles a wide variety of cases on behalf of defenders, including catastrophic injury and employers' and public liability claims, as well as both high and low-value RTA cases. Known for its work with the Scottish government and prison services, the firm has a client roster that also includes insurers and liability adjusters. The team draws on expertise from other departments to offer clients a full-service approach. Experienced appearing before every level of court in Scotland, as well as the UK Supreme Court. It provides post-compensation advice including personal injury trusts and guardianships.

Notable practitioners

Sarah Phillips offers particular strength in workplace-related claims, including psychiatric injury and occupational disease. She also advises on cases involving serious injury and fatalities arising from RTAs. **Strengths:** *"Sarah Phillips is very supportive and very responsive. She's a very impressive solicitor."*

Burness Paull

What the team is known for Burness Paull acts for corporate, public sector and insurance clients on high-value personal injury claims. The personal injury

team is noted for its expertise in industrial disease and workplace accident claims within the construction, aviation and maritime sectors. It is experienced in employers', occupiers' and public liability matters, with further strength handling fatal accident claims.

Strengths

"Burness Paull know what is needed to deliver results."
"Burness Paull has a highly experienced and reliable team which is very responsive and offers high levels of service."

Notable practitioners

Neil Smith is known for his expertise in marine and offshore personal injury work, advising on employers' liability claims involving offshore accidents and industrial disease. **Andrew Forsyth** leads Burness Paull's personal injury defence practice. He has particular expertise in marine personal injury matters. **Strengths:** *"In any of my dealings with Andrew Forsyth, a concise, technically accurate and helpful response has always been given."* *"Andrew Forsyth and his team provide superb, clear and concise advice to us, and their ability to handle complex and sophisticated matters is extremely strong."*

DWF

What the team is known for DWF draws on expertise from offices around the UK to offer clients a full-service approach. The Scottish personal injury defence team acts for a number of prominent insurers on fatal accident inquiries. It specialises in a wide variety of areas including catastrophic injury, motor and accident abroad claims. The firm also has a counter-fraud team to deal with dubious claims.

Strengths

"DWF have a good team of all-rounders – a very safe and capable pair of hands."
"We pay a fair price for excellent work."

Notable practitioners

Andrew Lothian handles high-value fatal accidents and catastrophic injury claims, often involving issues of employers' liability. He also offers experience in accident abroad claims. **Strengths:** *"Andrew Lothian is intelligent and approachable."*

Harper Macleod LLP

What the team is known for Harper Macleod's team of dedicated personal injury specialists is experienced in dealing with a number of different cases, including disease, employers' and public liability claims. RTAs are a notable area of focus. The team handles matters across the spectrum of claim values, and provides pre- and post-litigation advice for major insurers, brokers, transportation companies and private individuals.

Strengths

"Harper Macleod's partners and assistants deal with complex and high-value claims and are very experienced in doing so."
"Harper Macleod did excellent work for us at a high level of service."

Notable practitioners

Heather Calderwood (see p.1069) is particularly active on claims stemming from RTAs involving head, spinal and psychological injuries. She also advises on cases following accidents at work and abroad. **Suzanne McGarrigle** (see p.1076) is particularly active on claims stemming from workplace accidents and industrial disease. **Strengths:** *"Suzanne McGarrigle focuses on each client's commercial objectives and is good at building a rapport with them."*

Kennedys

What the team is known for Kennedys undertakes an array of personal injury matters, with significant expertise in catastrophic injury and fatal accident claims, particularly in relation to RTAs. The team has extensive experience handling claims in the marine and agriculture sectors, as well as cross-border cases. It also acts on claims alleging historic abuse.

Strengths *"Kennedys has an established team of high-quality and experienced lawyers who are always innovating and looking at new trends and strategy."*

"We have great faith in their depth of knowledge."

Notable practitioners

Rory Jackson handles a wide range of personal injury matters including catastrophic injuries and secondary victim claims. He also advises on occupational disease matters, as well as claims in the offshore and agriculture sectors. **Strengths:** *"Rory Jackson provides concise advice to ensure matters are dealt with as quickly and effectively as possible."*

Peter Demick advises on public and employers' liability claims, with strength in catastrophic and fatal injury matters. He has further experience of psychiatric injury claims. **Strengths:** *"Peter Demick quickly grasps the important issues in any case, is commercially aware, and gives straightforward and on-point advice. Alongside that, he is approachable, articulate and provides excellent service to his clients."*

Keoghs LLP

What the team is known for Keoghs is recommended for handling claims stemming from RTAs and catastrophic injuries, including fatalities, with further strength in historic abuse cases. The team also advises on employers' liability claims. It acts for insurers as well as local authority and corporate clients.

Strengths

"Communication is always clear and regular on all cases." *"Good specialist knowledge in medical care fraud and claims layering."*

"I find Keoghs to be very pragmatic in exploring early settlements, which can reduce overall costs and therefore deliver excellent value."

Notable practitioners

Douglas Cowan is a key contact.

Ledingham Chalmers LLP

What the team is known for Ledingham Chalmers has a leading personal injury team in Aberdeen and in its other offices located throughout Scotland. It handles a wide variety of matters, including disease, employers' and public liability, property damage and RTA claims. It is also noted for extensive expertise in stress at work cases, and is experienced in catastrophic and fraudulent cases, frequently representing high-profile insurers. The Edinburgh office offers a specialist service, capable of dealing with liability and subrogation claims.

Strengths

"Ledingham Chalmers have a strong specialism in local authority work and provide a personalised service."

"Their ability to respond swiftly and in detail is impressive."

Notable practitioners

Graeme Edward handles big-ticket catastrophic and fatal accident claims, particularly those relating to RTAs, as well as having experience advising on historic abuse matters. **Strengths:** *"Graeme Edward is an exceptionally good lawyer."* **Victoria Leslie** represents clients in public and employers' liability matters involving industrial disease, psychological injury

and sexual assault. **Sarah Morris** acts for insurers and local authorities on fatal accident, historic abuse and contamination claims. **Strengths:** *"Really go-getting and good at identifying the crucial issues of a case. I can't praise Sarah Morris enough. She knows the players, and has an incredible ability to keep people on side and to navigate her way through potential conflicts."* *"I have worked with Sarah for many years and she is a pleasure to deal with. She is very calm, very patient, and nothing is too much trouble."* *"Sarah very quickly became my go-to at Ledingham Chalmers. She responds swiftly with detailed and on-point pragmatic advice."*

Mackinnons

What the team is known for Mackinnons is noted among other things for its expertise in the maritime sector. The team handles a range of personal injury matters covering serious injury and fatalities stemming from workplace accidents, RTAs and exposure to asbestos. It acts on claims with international dimensions.

Notable practitioners

Martin Sinclair has notable expertise handling cases in the marine sector. He handles employers' liability claims stemming from serious workplace injury and industrial disease. He offers further experience of RTA matters.

Morton Fraser

What the team is known for Morton Fraser defends large public and private sector clients in complex personal injury cases. The team is regularly instructed by public sector bodies such as the Ministry of Defence and Glasgow City Council. It is highly regarded for its work on disease actions, with significant experience handling RTA and employers' and public liability claims.

Notable practitioners

Jenny Dickson acts on brain, spinal and psychiatric injury claims, often involving RTAs. She also advises on workplace accidents and industrial disease claims. **Strengths:** *"Jenny Dickson is great on industrial disease cases."*

Weightmans

What the team is known for Weightman's personal injury defence practice covers the full range of employers' and public liability cases, regularly handling catastrophic and fatal claims, and often acting on behalf of many of the UK's top insurers and adjusters. The team is active on RTAs, with increasing experience in motor fraud claims and a solid track record in disease claims, including asbestos-related cases. A strong presence south of the border facilitates UK-wide assistance for clients. The Scottish team is skilled at handling marine disputes and

cross-border matters.

Strengths

"Weightmans maintains a good awareness of case law and constant shifts in insurance regulation and procedure."

Notable practitioners

Seonaid Busby handles high-value catastrophic injury and fatal claims arising from RTAs, occupational disease, and employers' and public liability. **Strengths:** *"Brilliant, diligent and very knowledgeable."* *"Seonaid Busby is excellent – she works very hard, has a very pragmatic approach to cases and wants to get things resolved efficiently."* **Pamela Stevenson** is particularly active on industrial disease claims, including those concerning fatalities. She offers further experience handling RTAs and abuse claims. **Strengths:** *"Pamela Stevenson continues to deliver the most reliable service. Not only is her knowledge on the law extraordinary, her level of customer service has no bounds. She never fails to deliver."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Ian Leach acts on public liability claims for local authorities involving psychiatric and fatal injuries.

Leaders' Profiles in Personal Injury

ALLEN, Patrick

Hodge Jones & Allen, London
0808 239 5497
pallen@hja.net

Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: Patrick qualified as a solicitor in 1977 when he founded Hodge Jones & Allen in Camden Town with Henry Hodge and Peter Jones. He has been managing the firm for 45 years, becoming senior partner following Henry's retirement in 1998. Patrick has specialised in complex personal injury and multi-party cases. He led the Gulf War illness claims for UK veterans and the New Cross Fire inquest. He also managed the MMR and Sheep Dip multi-party actions and played a lead role in the King's Cross Fire and Marchioness Litigation on behalf of claimants. He assisted a number of women sent to Magdalene Laundries to claim compensation. He acted for Leigh Day in the initial stages of the claims brought against them by the SRA. He is a member of the HJA team working on Hillsborough and Grenfell claims, and worked on the enquiry into the death of a construction worker in Qatar and the leading case of Al Najjar v Cumberland Hotel. Patrick acts as a deputy and trustee for brain injured clients. Patrick received the 2017 Solicitors Journal Lifetime Achievement Award for his services to the legal profession and access to justice over forty years.

Career: Articles-Offenbach & Co 1974-76. Qualified 1977 when he founded Hodge Jones & Allen, Senior Partner. Founder and Chair of the Progressive Economy Forum.

Professional Memberships: President of APIL 2002-03; Senior Fellow, APIL; Law Society Council 2002-06, Law Society Civil Justice Committee 2002-2017; Forum of Claimant Injury Solicitors (FoCIS); Deputy District Judge 1997-2014.

ARAM, Rachael

Irwin Mitchell, Sheffield
0870 1500 100
rachael.aram@irwinmitchell.com

Featured in Personal Injury (Yorkshire)

Practice Areas: I head up one of three serious injury teams in the Sheffield office and am head of spinal injuries for the Sheffield office. I run a team of solicitors specialising in brain and spinal cord injury work for all work types, such as road traffic collisions, work place accidents and occupiers and public liability cases.

Career: Trained Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors, Shropshire; qualified 2001; serious injury team specialising in brain and spinal cord injury Irwin Mitchell LLP 2002 to date; associate solicitor 2007; partner 2013.

Professional Memberships: Law Society; accredited senior litigator APIL, special accreditation by APIL as a brain injury specialist and a spinal cord injury specialist – the only lawyer in South Yorkshire to do so; a trustee and company secretary of Headway Rotherham from 2003-13.

ARMSTRONG, David

Lindsays, Glasgow
0141 204 0507
davidarmstrong@lindsays.co.uk

Featured in Clinical Negligence (Scotland), Personal Injury (Scotland)

Practice Areas: A solicitor advocate and head of Lindsays' personal injury

team, David has a wealth of experience in litigation. He specialises in commercial disputes, libel law, reparation and health & safety legislation. He deals with high-value and difficult cases in both the Sheriff Court and Court of Session in Scotland, and is widely praised by clients for his rationality and experience.

Career: Although he trained and has long practiced in Scotland, David has also worked in London. He joined Lindsays as partner in 2017.

Professional Memberships: Association of Personal Injury Lawyers; Motor Accident Solicitors Society; Changing the Chemistry

ASHBY, Toni

Clyde & Co LLP, Edinburgh
0131 557 1545
toni.ashby@clydeco.com

Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Career: Toni is a specialist in defending latent disease claims and acts primarily for major insurers. She is qualified in both English and Scots' law. Toni has focused on disease claims resolution for over 15 years and has an in-depth knowledge of the law and practicalities of claims handling in this area. She works for the majority of the major legacy insurers in the UK.

BAINS, Harminder

Leigh Day, London
020 7650 1200
hbains@leighday.co.uk

Featured in Personal Injury (UK-wide)

Practice Areas: She has a formidable reputation as one of the country's leading litigators having taken several cases successfully to the Supreme Court. The most

recent being Cape Intermediate Holdings Limited v Dring [2019] UKSC38 regarding disclosure to a non-party; Dryden & Ors v Johnson Matthey Plc [2018] UKSC18 a landmark case which redefined what constitutes an injury when her clients obtained compensation for a symptomless condition; Coventry v Lawrence [2015] UKSC 50; Judicial Review where she successfully challenged enhanced court fees [CO/2097/2015]; Judicial Review preventing mesothelioma sufferers paying 25% of compensation for legal costs [2014] EWHC 3044. Her cases set precedents: Zambarda v Shipbreaking [2013] EWHC 2263; Beesley v New Century Group [2008] EWHC3033; Andreou v S. Booth Horricks & Sons Limited [2017] EWHC 174/QB. She was instructed by Dr. Robin Rudd the leading medical consultant in his claim to obtain information from an asbestos lobbyist [2019] EWHC 893 (QB). This case was listed in Inform's blog as one of the top 10 cases. Due to Harminder's reputation she was presented with an award as recognition for her legal work in Washington DC, USA.

Career: Qualified as a Legal Executive 1993; partner at Field Fisher Waterhouse 2010; partner at Leigh Day 2012.

BELL, David

Irwin Mitchell, Glasgow
0370 1500 100
david.bell@irwinmitchellscotland.com

Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Practice Areas: Our associated firm, Irwin Mitchell Scotland LLP was established on 26 April 2011. At Irwin Mitchell Scotland LLP, I am involved in a variety of personal injury claims including employ-

ment related accidents, industrial diseases such as vibration white finger, industrial deafness and asbestos related conditions and a wide range of cases ranging from straightforward falls to cases with complex legal issues and significant injuries. I assess the cases coming into the Personal Injury department in Glasgow and advise clients on their prospects. I have extensive experience of instructing and preparing cases in the Court of Session, the senior civil court in Scotland, and also of conducting personal injury cases in sheriff courts throughout Scotland.

BELL, Graham

Thomson Snell & Passmore, Tunbridge Wells
01892 701358
graham.bell@ts-p.co.uk

Featured in Clinical Negligence (The South), Personal Injury (The South)

See under Clinical Negligence for profile.

BIBI, Sana

Anthony Gold, London
2079404082
sbx@anthonygold.co.uk

Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: Sana Bibi is a partner in the personal injury team of Anthony Gold. She has a particular interest in representing those who have suffered an accident at work. Sana specialises in traumatic brain injury and complex orthopaedic injuries including amputations. Having practised personal injury law for many years, she is an expert on managing the needs of clients and their families who are psychologically impacted by major trauma.

Career: Trained with Jockelson and Kibbler (later Jockelson, McNulty Solicitors) before joining Anthony Gold in 2003. Made a partner in 2010.

Professional Memberships: Sana is a member of APIL; The Law Society Personal Injury Panel and the Society of Asian Lawyers. She is an accredited mediator of the Alternate Dispute Resolutions Group.

Publications: Sana is also a contributor to the APIL Personal Injury Law, Practice and Precedents produced by LexisNexis.

Personal: When she is not walking on hot coal or glass, Sana likes spending quality time with family and friends. She has interest in current affairs, keeping fit, cooking, baking, gardening, decorating and sewing.

BIGGS, Richard

Irwin Mitchell, Manchester
0161 838 3092
Richard.biggs@irwinmitchell.com

Featured in Personal Injury (North West)

Practice Areas: I am a senior associate in the Manchester Irwin Mitchell office. My expertise lies in the following: Brain Injury Spinal and complex orthopaedic injuries Spinal Injury Spinal Injuries Enquiries CICA Claims (Criminal Injuries) Road traffic accidents MIB and CICA claims Employer liability claims

BLAMIRE, Bethany

Trethowans LLP, Salisbury
0238 082 0549
bethany.blamire@trethowans.com

Featured in Personal Injury (UK-wide)

Practice Areas: Bethany is a Partner in the Insurance and Regulatory Team. She deals with all aspects of personal injury law, acting for UK and European insurers,

businesses and individuals, including high value and complex cases. Bethany's work predominantly involves defending motor claims' liability and public liability claims for domestic insurers. She is appointed to the Law Society's Personal Injury Panel.

Professional Memberships: Law Society's Personal Injury Panel

BOOY, Ruth

Irwin Mitchell, Cambridge
0370 150 0100
Ruth.booy@irwinmitchell.com

Featured in Personal Injury (East Anglia)

Practice Areas: I am a partner in the Serious Injury department, based in Irwin Mitchell's Cambridge Office. I have over 20 years' post qualification experience and specialise in cases concerning complex high value catastrophic injury. I have written and presented training programmes for hospital consultants, case managers, police liaison officers, victim support and bereavement volunteers and the Citizens Advice Bureau.

BOTTERILL, Rachel

Leigh Day, Manchester
0161 3933607
RBotterill@leighday.co.uk

Featured in Personal Injury (North West)

Practice Areas: Rachel works predominantly on personal injury cases involving cyclists and pedestrians who have been involved in serious road traffic collisions. She works on a range of complex life changing injury claims including brain and spinal injury, serious orthopaedic injury and also acts for bereaved families in fatal accident claims. She only acts for claimants and has represented many individuals who have sustained life-changing injuries or lost loved ones. She has extensive experience of claims involving complex liability issues and contributory negligence allegations, particularly in relation to cyclists and heavy goods vehicles. Rachel is a passionate advocate for the rights of vulnerable road users and has been involved in various road safety campaigns over the years.

Career: Rachel trained at Leigh Day, qualifying into the Personal Injury Department in 2013. She became an Associate in 2017.

Professional Memberships: Rachel is a member of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) and is an APIL Accredited Litigator.

BOYLE, Harry

Clyde & Co LLP, Edinburgh
01224 628 644
harry.boyle@clydeco.com

Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Career: Harry qualified as a solicitor in 1992. Having joined the Dundee office of Simpson & Marwick in 2001, Harry was assumed partner in 2003 and then managed the Dundee office. He now leads the Casualty team within the Aberdeen office. He has a vast experience of personal injury claims, including high value road traffic and employer's liability and public liability actions in the Court of Session, ASPIC and Sheriff Court. He provides advice on policy coverage and indemnity issues that arise frequently in the oil & gas sector. His case load also involves health and safety prosecution, road traffic prosecutions and fatal accident inquiries. He has extensive

experience of professional regulation, particularly in connection with social service workers. He has additional interest and experience of commercial dispute resolution including building contract arbitration and commercial property disputes. Harry also has an interest in human rights issues, particularly in the commercial sphere. Human rights are a live issue in social work regulation in Scotland. Harry has, in the past, taken an Article 1, Protocol 1 case to the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg in the context of commercial losses.

BRAUND, James

Trethowans LLP, Southampton
1202339014
james.braund@trethowans.com

Featured in Personal Injury (The South)

Practice Areas: James is a Partner in Trethowans' Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence team, leading the team in the Poole and Bournemouth offices. He specialises in complex and catastrophic cases. James often acts for clients who have suffered life changing injuries, including brain injuries and severe spinal injuries. He uses his knowledge and experience to ensure that clients get the best possible outcome from their claim. James has obtained successful outcomes in a wide variety of cases involving accidents at work, road traffic accidents, product liability and public liability, often on a "no-win-no-fee" basis. James also specialises in clinical negligence claims and has considerable experience dealing with claims relating to birth injuries, delays in diagnosis, incorrect / sub-standard treatment and consent. In addition, James has experience in pursuing personal injury claims involving cross border and jurisdictional issues.

Career: James joined Trethowans in 2007, having read Law at Cambridge University and completing his Legal Practice Course in Bournemouth.

Professional Memberships: James is accredited as a Senior Litigator by the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers. James is also the current Vice-President of the Dorset Law Society.

Publications: James regularly contributes to publications and has previously been published in Personal Injury Brief Update Law Journal and Expert Witness Journal.

BROWN, Matthew

Irwin Mitchell, Manchester
0161 838 2387
matthew.brown@irwinmitchell.com

Featured in Personal Injury (North West)

Practice Areas: I have practiced exclusively in the field of catastrophic injury litigation since qualification, and head a team of dedicated lawyers who act for clients with serious injuries caused as a result of accidents, in particular head and spinal cord injuries resulting in permanent disability. I have a proven track record of taking on and winning complex, difficult and unusual cases.

Career: Trained Irwin Mitchell 1997, qualified 1999; associate 2004; moved to Manchester 2008; partner 2010.

Professional Memberships: APIL; Law Society Personal Injury Panel member.

BUCKERIDGE, Myfanwy

Barcan+Kirby, Bristol
01179102258
m.buckeridge@barcankirby.co.uk

Featured in Personal Injury (South West)

Practice Areas: Myfanwy's practice covers a wide range of accident claims including road traffic accidents and accidents at work involving complex or serious injury; often life-changing brain or spinal injuries, fatalities or amputations. Where economic for the client she represents victims of criminal injury in applications to the Criminal Injuries Authority. Myfanwy has a particular interest in post traumatic stress disorder. She often takes over cases from other solicitors which require swift assessment, investigation and conclusion.

Career: After training, qualifying (1988) and practicing for a year at Lawrence Tucketts (now TLT) Myfanwy joined Russell Jones and Walker to specialise in Claimant personal injury claims where she was made a partner and conducted claims predominantly for trade union members and police officers. Reluctant to leave Bristol on the closure of the Bristol office she joined Barcan+Kirby (then Barcan Woodward) in 2004 and is currently a Senior Associate. Myfanwy also sits as an Assistant Coroner in the Avon Coroner's Court.

Professional Memberships: Myfanwy is a Certified member of the Law Society Personal Injury Accreditation Scheme, a member of APIL (Association of Personal Injury Lawyers), a member of the Coroner's Society

Personal: Achieving early access to rehabilitation for her clients to accelerate early recovery is a priority. She is experienced in establishing the provision of complex care packages to promote the best possible recovery and to alleviate pressure on family members. She believes that having a good understanding of her clients, their needs and their goals is the key to securing the best results for them. She is sensitive to the life-changing impact of injuries on individuals and their families and feels privileged to be their champion. Myfanwy is a keen walker with friends and family when time allows and runs on a "fair weather" basis. She is a film addict and regularly haunts Bristol's Watershed. She loves good cooking – especially when prepared for her by others!

CALDERWOOD, Heather

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Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Practice Areas: Heather has experience in a variety of civil litigation including road traffic, medical negligence, credit hire, employer liability, public liability and beauty claims. Heather specialises in complex personal injury reparation involving catastrophic injuries, fatalities, fraudulent claims, indemnity disputes, liability disputes and medical negligence. In this role, Heather acts for a variety of insurance companies, private individuals and private companies in connection with litigated and non-litigated claims and regularly appears in Sheriff Courts throughout Scotland and handles a wide range of cases in the Court of Session. Heather regularly provides training for clients' on a

variety of issues including developments in case law and aspects of Scottish court procedure. Heather is accredited by the Law Society of Scotland as a specialist in Personal Injury.

Professional Memberships: Heather is a member of the Chartered Insurance Institute, the world's largest professional body dedicated to insurance and financial services. Within this role, Heather is also a member of her local Institute, the Insurance and Actuarial Society of Glasgow.

CASTLE, Samantha
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Featured in Personal Injury (South West)

Practice Areas: Samantha maintains a varied practice dealing with a range of cases from cycling accidents to workplace incidents to public liability claims. She heads up the Personal Injury team providing advice and support to colleagues from the beginning of the claim to the very end. She is the "go-to" for triaging new claims and responsible for allocation of cases within the department. She undertakes regular file reviews with members of the team to guide and direct on challenging issues regarding liability, quantum and causation.

Career: Samantha qualified in August 2008 after training with Barcan+Kirby (formerly Kirby Simcox) from 2006. She has progressed through the ranks and was made Salary Partner in 2018 whilst on maternity leave.

Professional Memberships: Samantha is a member of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) and is, as part of the Firm, a member of the Bristol Law Society.

Publications: Various blogs, articles and case reports on our Barcan+Kirby website.

Personal: Samantha is a loyal and dedicated person who began her career at Barcan+Kirby (formerly Kirby Simcox) in 2006. Samantha enjoys at-home workouts, eating out and wine tasting (hence the need for the workouts!). Samantha also set up a book group which has been going strong for 10 years and they regularly meet to discuss each other's chosen books for that month.

CHAMBERLAYNE, Julian
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Featured in Personal Injury (London), Travel (UK-wide)

See under Travel for profile.

CHAPMAN, Oliver
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Featured in Personal Injury (The South)

Practice Areas: Oliver has specialised in personal injury and clinical negligence litigation since 2009. His personal injury work includes all aspects of occupiers' and employers' liability, road traffic accidents, highway, sports injury and Animals Act cases and harassment in the workplace. The majority of his clients have suffered brain and/or vestibular and/or serious orthopaedic and/or psychiatric injuries. Oliver is part of the firm's asbestos team and specialises in mesothelioma claims. His clinical negligence experience

involves a wide range of areas including A&E, care of the elderly, general practice, general surgery, gynaecology, obstetrics, ophthalmology, orthopaedic and spinal surgery, nephrology, nursing and urology.

Career: Oliver joined Thomson Snell & Passmore in 2007 and qualified as a solicitor in 2009. He was made a partner in 2019. Before joining Thomson Snell & Passmore, Oliver spent several years working as a carer for both children and adults with special needs. Having spent a year as a live-in carer for a young man with cerebral palsy, he gained valuable insight into the care, equipment and accommodation elements of high-value cases.

Professional Memberships: Oliver is a member of the Law Society's prestigious personal injury accreditation scheme and acknowledged by the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) as a "senior litigator".

CLARK-SPENCE, Julie
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Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Practice Areas: Partner with over 15 years' experience of personal injury and clinical negligence litigation, specialising in pursuing personal injury and clinical negligence claims on behalf of individuals. She has resolved many cases for claimants in areas including road traffic accidents, accidents offshore, agricultural accidents and also surgical, GP and dental cases, as well as related health professions. Extensive experience in high value, catastrophic injury claims.

Career: Qualified 2004; joined Balfour+Manson in 2007

Professional Memberships: Accredited Senior Litigator and by Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL).

CLARKE, Hannah
CFG Law, Cheadle
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Featured in Personal Injury (East Anglia)

Practice Areas: Hannah is a Partner and Head of our Farnham Office. She has many years' experience in supporting injured people and their families after life-changing incidents. Hannah has helped children and adults after traumatic brain injuries, amputation and spinal cord injuries and those who have sustained psychiatric injuries as a result of an incident. Hannah's focus is on making a positive difference and helping people affected by trauma in any way she can. Hannah has also supported many families who have sadly been bereaved, helping them to access the emotional and financial support they need, including supporting families at inquests and criminal hearings, and bringing claims for secondary victims. Through her experience of supporting people after serious and fatal incidents, Hannah has also developed relationships with police family liaison officers nationwide and regularly provides training for officers on personal injury work and how we support families. She has also presented to other professionals who help people after serious injury, including medical professionals, charities, Citizens Advice Bureau and Victim Support Officers.

Career: 2021–Present, Partner and Head of Eastern England, CFG Law 2018–2021 Partner and Head of Injury Services, Ashtons Legal 2007–2018 Partner, Kester Cunningham John/ Ashtons Legal 2003–2007 Associate Solicitor, Kester Cunningham John 2000–2003 Solicitor, Kester Cunningham John 1997–2000 Paralegal/ Trainee Solicitor, Cunningham John

Professional Memberships: Accredited Fellow of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) APIL's East Anglia Regional Co-ordinator Law Society's Personal Injury Panel Law Society Personal Injury Panel accreditation Member of the Forum of Complex Injury Solicitors (FOCIS)

CLARKE, Stephanie
Stewarts, London
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Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: Stephanie has extensive knowledge and a wide breadth of experience in all areas of catastrophic personal injury claims, but with a particular focus on rehabilitation as a priority. She takes a pragmatic, effective and proactive approach to the early resolution of claims and enjoys good working relationships with her opponents.

Career: Stephanie joined Stewarts in 2012. She previously spent time at Irwin Mitchell and Shoosmiths.

Professional Memberships: Membership APIL: Fellow Law Society Member Headway Spinal Injuries Association

Personal: Stephanie enjoys all forms of socialising, keeping her teenage children in check, skiing and when time permits, binge box set watching.

CLIFFORD, Helen
Helen Clifford Law, Cranleigh
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Featured in Personal Injury (The South)

Practice Areas: Personal injury, accidents at work, construction industry, brain and spinal injuries, catastrophic injuries, fatal accidents, inquests, amputation, rehabilitation, complex quantum and liability, medical negligence, employment law.

Career: Clifford & Co trained and qualified, partner and then sole principal Leigh Day set up and head of construction injury team McMillan Williams (now Taylor Rose MW) head of personal injury Helen Clifford Law sole principal

Professional Memberships: APIL Health & Safety Lawyers Association

Personal: Helen has first hand experience of the impact that a serious accident can have. Her grandfather lost a leg in an accident at work.

COATES, Alida
Irwin Mitchell, Birmingham
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Featured in Personal Injury (Midlands)

Practice Areas: I head up the Midlands workplace illness team, which is the largest and most experienced specialist team in the area. I have only ever worked for injured claimants and have over 20 years' experience recovering compensation in the asbestos disease arena, having worked as part of the team that won the first environmental asbestos exposure case (Hancock) in 1995. Since that time,

my team and I have worked tirelessly to obtain justice for victims exposed to asbestos who have developed asbestos illnesses (mesothelioma, lung cancer, pleural thickening and asbestosis) both through their employment and through environmental exposure. Obtained one of the highest awards during lifetime for a mesothelioma sufferer (£1.5m) and engaged the services of experts to assist families to engage carers to help with practical care needs caused by these illnesses. The emphasis of the team is to make a difference to the quality of life of their clients as quickly as possible. Our team also has a proven track record in securing compensation for those affected by other workplace illnesses, including (but not limited to) asthma, VWF, NIHL, carpal tunnel and IM.

Career: Trainee with IM, Qualified 1996, partner 2005.

Professional Memberships: Trustee of Mesothelioma UK.

COLLINS, Claire
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Featured in Personal Injury (UK-wide)

Career: Claire is a Partner at Clyde and Co in the Legal 500 Tier 1 London catastrophic injury team. She has been named as a "Leading Individual" in Legal 500 every year since 2018. She is described as a "tough and determined litigator who brooks no nonsense en-route to getting a just outcome for her client" and that "she has mastered the balancing act of supervising her team whilst retaining an in-depth knowledge of her files. She provides excellent balanced advice". Claire is also a named Partner in Chambers and Partners 2022 where she is praised for engaging "on a collaborative level and is clearly very good at what she does". She deals with a wide range of defendant personal injury claims and has over 25 years' experience dealing with large and complex claims, to include spinal, brain injury and amputation cases. Claire has a strong technical background with many years' experience dealing with high value, high profile personal injury claims for many leading insurers who advocate her appointment with their policyholders. Claire has a good reputation in the insurance market as being technically very able and due to her recognition in the Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners insurers trust her to work on their largest files. Claire currently mentors individual claims controllers at various insurers in their personal, technical and professional development.

CONSTABLE, Andrew
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Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Career: A specialist defender litigator, Andrew Constable is a key member of the Clyde & Co Casualty unit and is recognised as a leading individual in both Chambers and Legal 500 for personal injury. Andrew is an impressive insurance practitioner with a notable range of UK insurers relying on his advice. His expertise extends to employers' liability, public liability and road traffic claims. He also

has significant experience in commercial and property liability claims.

CORNWELL, Jonathan

Lindsays, Glasgow
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Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Practice Areas: A solicitor advocate and Accredited Specialist in personal injury, Jonathan has considerable experience of pursuing and defending claims in the Sheriff Courts, the All Scotland Personal Injury Court and the Court of Session. Jonathan specialises in complex and high-value cases (including fatal claims) and excels at representing clients who have suffered catastrophic, life-changing injuries. He regularly advises clients suffering industrial disease, and has a particular interest in medical negligence, brain injury and spinal injury claims.

Career: Jonathan joined Lindsays in 2017 from Brodies LLP, where he was also a partner.

Professional Memberships: Society of Solicitor Advocates; Association of Personal Injury Lawyers; Motor Accident Solicitors Society

CRADICK, Simon

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Featured in Personal Injury (Wales)

Career: Simon has a national reputation in the field of occupational disease, and in particular asbestos claims. In addition to insurer instructions, he regularly receives referrals for companies large and small who are the subject of uninsured claims. In 2020, together with David Platt KC, Simon ran the landmark case of Bannister v Freemans Plc, which involved the principle of a de minimis defence in mesothelioma claims. The claim was won at first instance and permission to appeal was refused by the CoA. In addition to occupational disease expertise, Simon has over 35 years' experience of handling large loss and catastrophic injury claims primarily for insurers. He also regularly advises on policy indemnity issues. Current claims include: • A paraplegia claim (estimated value over £5m) where the insurer has refused indemnity because of a breach of the duty of fair presentation of risk by the policyholder. This could well be a test case under the Insurance Act 2015 and the applicability of averaging in an EL claim • A claim by a 19 year old who has a below knee amputation of the left leg and loss of half his right foot • A catastrophic head injury claim where the Claimant remains in hospital with no immediate sign of discharge following an accident on 05.03.21, which may well exceed the policy limit of £10m • A head injury claim where the Claimant allegedly remains incapable of work 2.5 years post accident • A PL claim by a 19 year old who fell through edge protection, which has been settled with a Co-Defendant at £5m against a claim for £9m. We are now exploring a contribution claim against the NHS in clinical negligence involving complex issues of breach and causation. Simon was for many years the Secretary of the Welsh Personal Injury Lawyers Assoc., and he is a past President of the Cardiff & District Law Society.

CURRIE, Catherine A

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Featured in Insurance (Scotland), Personal Injury (Scotland)

See under Insurance for profile.

DALE, Kerris

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Featured in Personal Injury (Wales)

Career: Kerris Dale is a Partner at Clyde & Co who acts as the Head of the Cardiff region and Head of the Motor Practice Group. She also is a member of the Automated Driving Insurance Group, which is a specialist sub group within the ABI. This group has supported the ABI in providing information and challenges to the Government on the Automated and Electric Vehicles Act, which was passed in July 2018. Kerris was part of the team that supported the MOVE-UK consortium in terms of providing a response to the Law Commission Consultation on automated vehicles lodged in early 2019. Kerris Dale also co-ordinated the BLM response to the Call for Evidence in respect of the safe use of Automated Lane Keeping System (ALKS) and responses to the Law Commissions' Consultation Papers on Automated Vehicles. Kerris Dale was also the Principal Editor for Bingham's & Berryman's Supplement (15th Edition) published in October 2020.

DANCE, Karen

Clyde & Co LLP, Glasgow
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Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Practice Areas: Karen Dance is a partner based at our Glasgow office. With more than 30 years of experience, Karen is highly skilled in all aspects of casualty litigation. She specialises in acting for the defender, ordinarily on the instruction of insurers, in the Scottish courts and in dealing with claims pre-litigation. In addition to acting on behalf of insurers, Karen acts for self-insured entities, commercial companies and professionals. Karen is particularly experienced in dealing with catastrophic injury and large loss claims, spanning the entire range of bases for liability including employers' liability, public liability and motor liability. Karen also has niche expertise in handling claims arising from fatalities. Aside from casualty work, Karen is noted for her expertise in dealing with professional negligence claims, especially those involving alleged veterinary negligence. Karen regularly presents to clients and market contacts on legal issues within her areas of specialism and has had articles published in the Scotsman newspaper and insurance industry publications.

DANIELS, Luke

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Featured in Clinical Negligence (Midlands), Personal Injury (Midlands)

Practice Areas: I am a Partner in the Medical Negligence team in Birmingham. I specialise in a range of medical law work including cases against hospitals, GPs and other health professionals. I have dealt

with numerous cases involving children and mothers injured at birth and have also handled many fatal cases in which I represent family members at coroner's inquests. My team also specialise in representing the families of mental health patients where there are questions regarding the quality of care provided. Throughout the past 12 months I have recovered in excess of £8 million in damages for clients injured through medical accidents. In addition I lead a team in the Birmingham office which specialises in child abuse cases. I represent individuals who have experienced sexual and physical abuse and neglect. I have acted for clients in cases against local authorities, schools, religious organisations and children's homes. I was the first lawyer in the country to recover in excess of £1m in damages for a family in a claim against their local authority for failing to remove them in to care and I was named the Birmingham Law Society Solicitor of the Year for my work in the field of child abuse.

DARLASTON, Guy

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Featured in Personal Injury (UK-wide)

Practice Areas: I am the Managing Partner of the Southampton office at Irwin Mitchell, which acts exclusively for victims of both personal injury and asbestos related diseases throughout the South East. I have particular expertise in representing mesothelioma patients and their families in obtaining welfare benefits, access to other support services and financial compensation.

DAY, Martyn

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Featured in Environment (UK-wide), Personal Injury (London), Civil Liberties & Human Rights (UK-wide)

See under Environment for profile.

DHALIWAL, Chani

Irwin Mitchell, London
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Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: I lead and manage a Serious Injury team in the London office. I specialise in complex serious injury cases representing clients with brain injury, spinal cord injury, amputation, and complex orthopaedic injuries. I also deal with high profile fatal claims and have a specialist interest in insurance indemnity and MIB issues. I have built a reputation of handling difficult cases and getting results. I am passionate about helping our clients get the best rehabilitation after suffering life changing injuries. I have expertise in securing substantial interim payments for the purpose of providing rehabilitation, private care packages and accommodation. I trained at Irwin Mitchell and qualified into the Serious Injury team. I am responsible for a team of solicitors specialising in a wide range of complex serious injury cases.

Career: I have worked for the firm since I left law school. I am surrounded by pioneering lawyers who are not afraid to push the boundaries of the law.

Personal: I am a family man with two young children. I try to spend as much free time I have with them. I enjoy watching football and cricket. I like to travel and meet new people.

DINSMORE, Andrew

Stewarts, London
020 7822 8031
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Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: For over 20 years, Andrew has specialised in acting for individuals who have suffered life-changing injuries. Andrew has particular expertise in acting for individuals who have sustained spinal cord and brain injuries and is dedicated to achieving excellent outcomes for his clients. Andrew specialises in complex and high-value personal injury claims. Over his 20-year career he has recovered damages for clients well in excess of £100m. Andrew has a range of experience in relation to liability scenarios, from public liability to road traffic accidents and employer liability claims. Andrew also has experience of litigating sporting accidents. He adopts a pragmatic and consensual approach to his cases.

Career: Andrew was educated at St Columba's College, St Albans and Woodhouse Sixth Form College, Finchley. Andrew obtained a law degree at the University of Nottingham and completed the Legal Practice Course at Store Street, London. Andrew qualified in 1996, specialising in claimant personal injury with a regional firm. Andrew joined Stewarts in 1997.

Professional Memberships: APIL Member

Publications: Andrew has given presentations to peers and medical clinicians on a wide range of subjects including mental capacity and the Motor Insurers Bureau. Andrew has also co-published several articles in medical journals on the Stewarts Legal Service.

DONALDSON, Mark

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Featured in Health & Safety (Scotland), Personal Injury (Scotland)

Career: Mark leads the health & safety/regulatory team in Scotland with nearly 30 years' experience advising clients charged with the most serious offences including culpable homicide and corporate homicide. His work brands all industry sectors. He is regularly on site in the immediate aftermath of incidents where clients have recognised his open and approachable manner and unerring ability to instil calm in sensitive, stressful situations. He navigates clients through the stormy waters of major incidents, regularly achieving outcomes which seemed unlikely, if not impossible, at the outset and has been recognised by all of the major directories for his expertise for more than a decade. He also assists in the management of the casualty team in Aberdeen and is particularly recognised for his expertise in dealing with high value claims arising from the oil and gas industry involving contractual indemnities. Again he has been recognised by all of the major directories for many years with clients describing him as calm and effective and a dynamic and well prepared litigator who

knows how to manage sensitive and difficult situations and makes collaborative working enjoyable due to his friendliness and very pleasant personality.

EASTON, Daniel
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Featured in Personal Injury (UK-wide)

Practice Areas: Dan jointly heads the industrial disease and asbestos team. His work includes the following: –S v Circaprint –highest (then) award for mesothelioma PSLA and established award for loss of husband's affection –Frith v DECC –successful limitation trial for British Coal 'post-cut off claim'; –Chandler v Cape PLC –successful (on appeal) against parent company for asbestos exposure at a subsidiary factory –£900,000 mesothelioma claim: gave rise to an Metropolitan Police investigation. Catastrophic personal injury claims, include: –£4.235million for RTA including novel quantum issue on the increased cost of living between South Africa and UK –£2million + settlement for lower limb amputation including 6 different prosthesis. –Fatal accidents include claim for young man killed by a falling shop sign (£600,000) and claim against NHS trust for young man asphyxiated by nitrogen oxide. –£2.5 million for man crushed under JCB –£2.7million settlement plus PPO for paraplegic victim.

Career: Trained with Lawfords, qualified in 2003. Made partner at Leigh Day in 2008.

Professional Memberships: APIL fellow and accredited Asbestos Disease and Occupational Disease Specialist. Secretary of APIL's Occupational Health Group 2010-14 and co-ordinator 2014-22.

ECCLES, Chris
Clyde & Co LLP, Manchester
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Featured in Personal Injury (UK-wide)

Career: Chris is a partner in the Casualty Team and is based in our Manchester office. Chris's practice includes defence of large loss and catastrophic personal injury claims for insurers. In particular, Chris specialises in personal injury claims in excess of GBP 1 million including road traffic accidents, employers' liability and public liability claims. Chris has developed expertise in advising on a variety of injury types such as brain injuries (including mTBI), spinal cord injuries, amputations and chronic pain. Chris is the firm's FOIL representative and is chair of the FOIL Rehabilitation Sector Focus Team. Chris is recommended in the Legal 500 as a Next Generation Partner. He is described as "a standout individual. His friendly and approachable manner conceals a fantastic forensic approach to cases. He gets fantastic results every time and has a client centred approach to his work".

EDDY, Alison
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Featured in Clinical Negligence (London), Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: I am managing partner of the London office. I specialise in claimant clinical negligence and serious personal injury claims. I have particular ex-

perience and interest in claims for adults and children who have suffered lasting brain or neurological damage. My clinical negligence team has extensive experience in clinical negligence claims arising from obstetric, neonatal, anaesthetic, neurosurgical, cardiac and psychiatric care. Recent cases include claims arising from spinal surgery in private hospitals and failings in obstetric care resulting in significant periodical payments. I have also recovered substantial damages and put in place early rehabilitation for claimants with severe brain damage arising from road traffic collisions.

Career: Partner Thompsons; partner Irwin Mitchell (opened London office) 1995.

Professional Memberships: Law Society Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence Panels; Association of Personal Injury Lawyers; AvMA referral solicitors panel.

EDWARDS, Charles
Stewarts, London
020 7822 8000
cedwards@stewartslaw.com

Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: Charles is an experienced, collaborative practitioner specialising in the highest value and most complex value personal injury claims, particularly brain or spinal cord injury. He has experience in dealing with a variety of types of claims, covering road traffic accidents, accidents at work and accidents in public places. Over the past 18 years of his career at Stewarts, Charles has settled claims for clients totalling in excess of £200 million. These include high-level spinal cord injury cases, brain injury cases involving minimally aware clients, high-earning City workers, and claims with an international element.

Career: After obtaining a law degree, Charles obtained a masters in International Business Litigation from King's College London. His training took place at a regional firm where he gained experience to specialise in civil litigation, before moving to a large national firm to focus on personal injury. He joined Stewarts in 2003 and now specialises in only the most severe and complex claims.

Professional Memberships: Membership of APIL Senior Litigator (APIL)

Publications: Charles is a strong believer in collaboration between parties in order to achieve the best outcome for his client. He has given presentations to both insurers and defendant solicitors about the benefits to all parties of a transparent and proactive approach to claims.

FARMANER, Kelvin
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Featured in Personal Injury (UK-wide)

Practice Areas: Kelvin is an experienced litigation lawyer, an Advocate (Higher Courts Civil Proceedings) and he has a niche expertise and understanding of the insurance sector. Kelvin acts for Domestic and European insurance companies as well as self-insuring businesses. He deals with defending mainly high value personal injury cases. As well as motor claims cases Kelvin has also established a niche practice in relation to claims involving animals, having acted for the successful party in the leading case of Mirvahedy v

Henley, which was decided in the House of Lords (the case in which the court defined the responsibilities of keepers of animals under Section 2 of the Animals Act 1971).

Professional Memberships: Member of the Law Society Specialist Personal Injury Panel Member of FOIL (Forum of Insurance Lawyers) Past President of the Southampton Insurance Institute Council Vice Chair of the Hampshire Chamber of Commerce Professional Services Business Strategy Group

FERGUSON, Garry
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Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Practice Areas: Extensive experience across the full spectrum of defender personal injury claims. His practice includes cases involving injuries such as head/brain injury, amputations, neurological conditions, chronic pain, psychiatric and psychological disorders and fatalities. He is regularly instructed in complex cases which have an international element to them involving arguments regarding jurisdiction and applicable law. Garry is also an accredited civil and commercial mediator.

Career: Trained Boyds solicitors; qualified (1994); partner BTO Solicitors LLP (2013). Boyds (1992-95); McGrigor Donald (1995-97); Dundas & Wilson (1997-2007); career break (2007-10); BTO Solicitors LLP (2010 to date).

Professional Memberships: Garry is member of the Law Society of Scotland. He is also an active member of the Forum of Insurance Lawyers (FOIL) and is a former Chair of FOIL in Scotland and Scottish representative on the FOIL UK National Committee. He is currently a member of the Scottish Major Loss SFT, and the (only) Scottish member on the FOIL UK Rehabilitation SFT. He is a member of the Insurance Fraud Investigators Group. He is also a member of the Scottish Mediation Clinic.

Personal: Running, particularly Scottish Parkruns; Member of the Nuffield Gym; spending time with family; reading –principally thrillers; holidaying in the Kingdom of Fife.

FITZPATRICK, Cormac
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Featured in Personal Injury (Northern Ireland)

Career: Cormac heads the catastrophic injury and large loss services on offer within Northern Ireland. A partner at our Belfast and Derry branch, Cormac has specialised in insurance referred litigation and associated work since 1990. His expertise has led him to act on many cases covering a broad range of areas. These include road traffic accidents, employers' liability and public liability, professional negligence, fire damage recovery, fraud, subsidence, assault, trespass to the person, litigation involving complex clinical issues, catastrophic injury litigation and substantial damages recovery actions. Cormac advises insurance clients on complex policy indemnity issues, first-party fraud (property and motor) as well as third party fraud. He also advises on health and safety legislation/investigations. Cormac is a member of the Law Society Northern

Ireland Contentious Business Committee (LSNICBC) and is an appointee to both the Queens' Bench Liaison Committee (QBLC) in 1998 and the Queen's Bench Masters' Liaison Committee (CBMLC) in 2001. He also regularly lectures for the Belfast Solicitors' Association (BSA) and the NI Law Society (NILS) at CPD events.

FORREST, Carly
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Featured in Insurance (Scotland), Personal Injury (Scotland)

See under Insurance for profile.

GANAPATHY, Vijay
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Featured in Personal Injury (UK-wide)

Practice Areas: Vijay is a partner with over 15 years experience of industrial disease (mainly asbestos and mesothelioma) and complex injury cases. He has achieved success in difficult cases here and overseas having negotiating settlements for various Australian residents. His most notable success was in Chandler v Cape plc [2012] EWCA 525 CA, a landmark case that set a new precedent in tort and company law for holding parent company liable. He also specialises in child brain injury cases and has obtained successful outcomes in other varied injury cases.

Career: Vijay read law at King's College London and trained as both a barrister and solicitor. He undertook his training contract at Hodge Jones & Allen before joining Leigh Day in 2007.

Professional Memberships: Vijay is accredited as a Senior Litigator and holds specialist accreditation for Occupational and Asbestos Disease claims with the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers ('APIL'). He is also an APIL assessor for other solicitors seeking specialist accreditation. He sits on the Asbestos Sub-Committee in Parliament.

Publications: Vijay regularly gives talks at universities, specialist hospital teams and charity support group meetings. He has also written quarterly updates for the Solicitors Journal for over 10 years and now writes for the New Law Journal.

GARNETT, Clare
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clare.garnett@clydeco.com

Featured in Personal Injury (UK-wide)

Career: Clare is a leading catastrophic injury lawyer and a member of the Clyde & Co national catastrophic group, taking responsibility for the development and alignment of strategy within the group. She is described by insurers as being "extremely proactive" and is well-known for achieving "excellent results". Her "knowledge is fantastic and her service levels are very, very good" Clare has many years' experience dealing with large and complex claims arising from industrial accidents, accidents at work and claims involving animals which result in a variety of values including catastrophic injury, chronic pain and highly complex issues. Clare has developed a niche area of specialism within the equestrian and farming market and is well-regarded and revered for her knowledge and expertise within

this area. She has a particular interest in the racing industry and acts for a number of well-known owners and trainers. In addition to equestrian, bovine and canine cases, Clare has developed a practice in industrial accidents, rail accidents and farming incidents. She has successfully fought to trial a large number of cases and is highly sought after by insurers. She regularly advises on the cases with fraud and exaggeration achieving favourable results and in particular achieving discontinuance despite liability being admitted.

GARSON, Matthew

Irwin Mitchell, Manchester
0370 1500 100

matthew.garson@irwinmitchell.com

Featured in Personal Injury (North West)

Practice Areas: I am a senior associate solicitor and have acted for clients in the field of serious injury for over 13 years. I handle a wide range of serious injury cases. These include brain and spinal injuries, amputation and fatal accident claims. I also act for clients who have suffered complex orthopaedic injuries, including children and the elderly. I've also worked on professional negligence cases against other solicitors. These arise from badly handled personal injury claims. I am part of the leading personal injury team in Manchester which has secured excellent results for many clients over the years.

GERAGHTY, Richard

Irwin Mitchell, London
0207 400 8711

richard.geraghty@irwinmitchell.com

Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: I have over 20 years of experience in serious injury litigation. I specialise in complex and high value personal injury claims, having an established practice in spinal cord, brain and amputation injuries.

Professional Memberships: On the editorial board of the Journal of Personal Injury Litigation and a member of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers.

GILL, Navdip

Geoffrey Leaver Solicitors, Central Milton Keynes
01908 689338

ngill@geoffreyleaver.com

Featured in Personal Injury (Thames Valley)

Practice Areas: Navdip is a top ranked lawyer specialising in complex and subtle brain injury cases. He is recognised for his expertise and works with an extensive list of eminent experts from Neurosurgery, Neuropsychiatry, Neuropsychology, Neurology, Audiology and Audiovestibular, and Ophthalmology. He has built a formidable reputation for taking on challenging cases including pedestrians walking out into the road, cyclists not wearing helmets, high speed road traffic accidents involving intoxicated drivers and passengers failing to wear seatbelts. Furthermore, he has acted for claimants in the high court securing significant sums of money for clients injured at work.

Career: He has spent over 20 years as a Personal Injury solicitor and has been head of the Personal Injury department since 2017.

Professional Memberships: Member of Headway & Brain Injury Group.

Personal: England and Wales Cricket Board Level 2 qualified coach and plays

for Chenies & Latimer Cricket Club. A keen cyclist and marathon runner.

GILMOUR, Andrew

Clyde & Co LLP, Glasgow
0141 353 2121

andrew.gilmour@clydeco.com

Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Career: Andrew is an insurance Partner based in Clyde & Co's Glasgow G1 office. He is instructed by insurers, legacy insurers, self-insured businesses, public organisations and loss adjusters directly and is experienced in dealing with employers' liability and public liability claims for the firm's clients. His experience of casualty claims spans more than 25 years.

GORDON, Tanya

Clyde & Co LLP, Edinburgh
0131 557 1545

Tanya.Gordon@clydeco.com

Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Career: Tanya is an experienced litigator instructed in a wide range of personal injury and catastrophic claims arising from road traffic, public liability and employers liability accidents. She is also regularly instructed in relation to historical child abuse claims. Tanya qualified in 1994, becoming a partner in 2003. Throughout that time she has specialised in defender personal injury work. She is accredited as a Specialist in Personal Injury by the Law Society of Scotland. Her clients include insurers, self-insuring businesses, public bodies and other agents. She has particular knowledge and expertise of the retail sector.

GOULDING, Jane

Freeths LLP, Nottingham
0115 936 9369

jane.goulding@freeths.co.uk

Featured in Personal Injury (Midlands)

Career: Jane is Head of Personal Injury in the firm nationwide. Specialising in catastrophic injury cases particularly brain injury and spinal cord injury cases for adults and children. Jane focuses particularly on providing a professional and dedicated support service to all clients and their families to enable the best possible settlement to be reached. Jane regards it as vital to be able to work well as part of a team with the client, family, rehabilitation team, experts and Counsel to provide as much help as possible to clients to enable them to achieve their full potential. Jane prides herself on her reputation as providing a dedicated and personal service to clients and achieving excellent results for clients.

Professional Memberships: Association of Personal Injury Lawyers/ CBIT Children's Brain Injury Trust/ Headway / Spinal Injuries Association / Nottinghamshire Law Society

GRAHAM, Gilles

Clyde & Co LLP, Edinburgh
0141 353 8680

gilles.graham@clydeco.com

Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Career: Gilles is an accredited expert in personal injury, with long experience of litigating in the courts including two cases which reached the House of Lords. Recognised in the current editions of Legal 500 and Chambers in Personal Injury and Health and Safety, he acts for clients across the full spectrum of liability claims. His caseload includes employers'

and public liability cases, occupational disease, health and safety prosecutions and fatal accident inquiries. He is a solicitor advocate with extended rights of audience before the Court of Session, UK Supreme Court and Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

GRAYSON, Tessa

DMH Stallard LLP, Crawley
01293 585630

tessa.grayson@dmhstallard.com

Featured in Clinical Negligence (The South),

Personal Injury (The South)

See under Clinical Negligence for profile.

HARRINGTON, Matthew

Clyde & Co LLP, Cardiff
0207 865 3390

matthew.harrington@clydeco.com

Featured in Personal Injury (Wales)

Career: Before its merger with Clyde & Co, Matthew was BLM's senior partner between March 2018 and June 2022. He has a broad practice specialising in a range of areas principal amongst which is his defence and advisory work on behalf of organisations and individuals including crisis response, accident investigation and the defence of regulatory and manslaughter prosecutions. He is a regular speaker on health and safety issues and compliance at client and industry events. Matthew enjoys a truly national practice which also includes group litigation, sort and long tail disease and cases of the utmost severity including brain, spinal injury and amputation.

HARRINGTON, Simon

Irwin Mitchell, Cambridge
01223 791802

simon.harrington@irwinmitchell.com

Featured in Personal Injury (East Anglia)

Practice Areas: I am a Partner in the Ministry of Defence team in Cambridge acting exclusively for service personnel for more than ten years. I was one of the first lawyers to settle a claim arising out of Gulf War 2 (Op Tellic) and was one of a select group of lawyers invited to make representations to the Secretary of State in relation to the inception of the AFCS. I have a particular interest in non-freezing cold weather injury claims, assisting several hundred clients and recovering over £10m in compensation. Through my cold injury work I have gained considerable experience in assisting Commonwealth soldiers in claims for compensation and, specifically, recovering losses which stem from their deprivation of British residency following medical discharge. In addition to my personal injury work, I also regularly assist with claims being brought under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme.

Career: Trained Lorimer Longhurst and Lees; qualified 2004; MPH 2005-2011; partner MPH 2011-2013; partner Irwin Mitchell (after its acquisition of MPH) 2013 to date.

Professional Memberships: APIL Military SIG member; RBL Solicitor Referral Group Panel.

HEALY, Deirdre

Irwin Mitchell, Manchester
0161 838 3190

deirdre.healy@irwinmitchell.com

Featured in Personal Injury (North West)

Practice Areas: I am a brain injury specialist in the Serious Injury team at Irwin Mitchell's Manchester Office. My role

is to ensure that clients have access to the best possible treatment and rehabilitation following their injuries, and to obtain damages to secure their future. I have specialised in complex injury cases for 17 years and recovered more than £100 million on behalf of my clients.

HEATON, Carolyn

Irwin Mitchell, Sheffield
3701500100

carolyn.heaton@irwinmitchell.com

Featured in Personal Injury (Yorkshire)

Practice Areas: I am a partner in the Leeds serious injury team specialising in high-value and complex adult and paediatric brain, spinal and amputee claims. I frequently recover multimillion-pound settlements for clients and have extensive experience of PPOs. Despite the large sums of money involved, my emphasis is always on rehabilitation and restoring quality of life to clients and their families with interim payments for accommodation, care and therapies being obtained wherever possible in order to maximise the potential for successful rehabilitation. Some cases have contributed towards the firm's success in achieving rehabilitation awards. I am increasingly asked to take over cases from other solicitors who fail to recognise the complexity of brain injury and who have struggled to get interim payments for clients. I represented the claimant in Rhodes v Ford which dealt with interim payments and statutory services funding.

Career: Trained DAC Beachcroft; Irwin Mitchell LLP 1994; partner Irwin Mitchell 2010.

Professional Memberships: Former committee member of YABIF (Yorkshire Acquired Brain Injury Forum); Headway Bradford and Headway Sheffield; fellow APIL.

HENRY, Rachel

Clyde & Co LLP, Glasgow
(0) 141 307 6723

Rachel.henry@clydeco.com

Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Career: Rachel has extensive experience with a variety of claims. These include high impact motor claims public liability and employers' liability. She deals with motor claims involving complex issues including indemnity and also uninsured drivers. Rachel's caseload involves handling a variety of injuries such as serious spinal injuries, brain injuries, and amputations. She has also dealt with a number of cases involving accidents abroad. As part of her work, Rachel is often instructed pre-litigation to work alongside insurers and assist with their initial investigations. This includes providing advice on indemnity, liability, and quantum. She has built up a strong reputation with clients as an expert in high value cases. Rachel recently secured an excellent result for an insurer claim worth over £10m. She negotiated a contribution from a public authority resulting in a significant saving for the client. Rachel is a member of the Forum of Insurance Lawyers (FOIL) as well as the Law Society of Scotland (LSS). She was recently involved in drafting the FOIL response to the SLC Consultation Paper on Personal Injury Damages. Rachel is currently co-authoring the Lexis online text on the All Personal Injury Court in Edinburgh.

HERBERT, Jonathan

Thomson Snell & Passmore, Tunbridge Wells
01892 701226

jonathan.herbert@ts-p.co.uk

Featured in Personal Injury (The South)

Practice Areas: Jonathan is a specialist in the fields of clinical negligence, personal injury and asbestos-related industrial diseases, and has a wealth of knowledge, in these areas acting for claimants. He has practised in all areas of personal injury since 1987 eventually working exclusively in this area of law since 2004. Jonathan's caseload is wide ranging and has included injuries of the utmost severity caused both in traumatic and medical accidents. Many of Jonathan's cases also involve psychiatric injuries. Jonathan's personal injury cases have included road traffic accidents, employer's liability claims, product liability claims and occupier's liability claims. Jonathan assists our Dispute Resolution department where we act for clients suing solicitors who have failed to handle injury claims satisfactorily.

Career: Jonathan joined Thomson Snell & Passmore in 2004 and qualified as a chartered legal executive in 2007. Before joining Thomson Snell & Passmore, Jonathan spent seventeen years working as a civil litigator for solicitors based in Kent and Central London, gaining wide ranging practical experience.

Professional Memberships: Jonathan is a member of the Law Society's personal injury accreditation scheme and acknowledged by the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) as a "senior litigator". He is also the coordinator of APIL's south east region group.

HERMAN, Daniel

Stewarts, Leeds

0113 222 0022

dherman@stewartslaw.com

Featured in Personal Injury (Yorkshire)

Practice Areas: Dan acts for clients who have sustained serious life-changing injuries, and has done since 1999. Most of his clients have sustained a spinal cord injury or a brain injury. He has particular expertise in cross-border cases: acting on behalf of British clients injured overseas or foreign nationals injured in the UK. Daniel has been involved in more than 60 cases in which the claimant has received compensation in excess of £1 million.

Career: Daniel joined Stewarts in 2000. He has been a partner and head of the Leeds office since 2003. In 2022, he took over as Head of Personal Injury.

Professional Memberships: - Fellow of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) - APIL accredited specialist spinal cord injury solicitor - Spinal Injuries Association (SIA) panel solicitor - Headway panel solicitor

Publications: Dan has spoken at many conferences relating to spinal cord injury and brain injury. He has appeared on television and radio, both to talk about cases in which he has acted, and also to discuss personal injury law in more general terms.

Personal: Dan is a football fan: as well as being a Manchester United season ticket holder, he also coaches a junior football team. When given the chance, he relaxes in Cornwall and Croatia.

HIBBERT, Andrew

Clyde & Co LLP, Southampton
023 8038 2613

andrew.hibbert@clydeco.com

Featured in Personal Injury (UK-wide)

Career: Andrew is a senior member of the Clyde & Co catastrophic injury and large loss team which contains more than 200 lawyers. He has been ranked as a leading/star individual by Chambers for many years. He is a member of the serious injury guide working group as well as the FOIL group that focuses on CILL. He leads a number of the firm's key client accounts in terms of the large loss and catastrophic injury work as well as having overall responsibility for two key accounts. He specialises in defending personal injury claims of the utmost severity, with experience of all major injury types, including brain and spinal injury, amputations and fatal accidents and has the ability to form collaborative relationships with claimants and their solicitors, insurer's customers, experts and counsel. His extensive case portfolio includes serious brain injury cases (including PVS and minimal awareness), tetra and paraplegic cases, multiple limb loss cases and fatal accidents. Andrew is a leading name in the catastrophic injury world and known for innovative approaches to resolving claims. He clearly demonstrates his capability and value to his clients, who describe him as 'extremely approachable' with 'terrific judgment' and 'technically gifted'. He has been at the forefront of identifying and agreeing best practice with some of the leading claimant firms to support swifter resolution of catastrophic injury claims. This year he has been successful in three High Court trials as well as the Court of Appeal in *Barrow v Merrett* [2021] EWHC 792 (QB). He has chaired and co-presented a number of well-attended events on topics such as the discount rate and claims inflation in the large loss and catastrophic injury world. He has written published articles on the impact of COVID-19 as well as client briefings on emerging risks. He is regularly sought out by the press for commentary on important issues.

HOWARD, Claire

Irwin Mitchell, Southampton

0238 093 0704

claire.howard@irwinmitchell.com

Featured in Personal Injury (The South)

Practice Areas: I am head of the Serious Injury team in Southampton and specialise in claims for adults and children who have suffered life-changing injuries, which may include brain or spinal injury. These injuries can result from road accidents, accidents at work, falls from height, defective products or chemical exposure. I have over 20 years of experience and have acted on behalf of accident victims throughout that time. I am client-focused from the outset. I always ensure that clients receive the rehabilitation they need via co-operation with the defendant insurer, issuing proceedings early and securing court ordered payments or, if liability is disputed, ensuring the NHS provide all available support.

HUGHES, Frank

Clyde & Co LLP, Glasgow
0141 353 2121

frank.hughes@clydeco.com

Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Career: Frank Hughes is a partner in our Glasgow office. He has extensive experience in insurer-related litigation stretching over 30 years. Frank specialises in complex, large loss cases, emerging risks, and cross border disputes. He has litigated in the Supreme Court. In recent years Frank has prioritised developing a Scottish based Abuse litigation practice following the 2017 Scottish Limitation reforms. He has conduct of litigation at the cutting edge in this subject, with one of the earliest decisions on the subject to reach the Scottish Appeal Court (Inner House) and he is awaiting a judicial decision that will update the untested Scots law on vicarious liability, as well as conducting litigation on challenging untested aspects of the subject in Scotland, such as failure to remove, as well as engaging for clients with the Scottish Government regarding Redress and with the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry. He convenes the Scottish FOIL SFT on Abuse claims. He continues too to be involved in engaging with emerging risks, having been instructed in one of the earliest of the few Scottish Group proceedings, whilst still maintaining a strategic role in CAT/Large Loss litigations. Frank is an author of an online resource on Scottish court procedure and has acted as an expert witness in solicitors' negligence cases. An accomplished speaker, Frank has presented nationally and internationally on insurance-related subjects on many occasions. For many years, he tutored at Glasgow University on judicial review and on the liability of public authorities at Glasgow University. He has mentored disadvantaged law students.

Professional Memberships: Frank has held several prestigious memberships, including: - Solicitor member of the regulatory committee of the Law Society of Scotland (LSS) for seven years - UK Forum Of Insurance Lawyers (FOIL)'s national executive committee Scottish Representative, and - Former Chair of FOIL Scotland.

JENKINS, Louise

Irwin Mitchell, Leeds

0114 274 4591

Louise.Jenkins@irwinmitchell.com

Featured in Personal Injury (Yorkshire)

Practice Areas: I have more than 20 years of experience in acting for clients who have sustained serious brain and spinal cord injury and other complex injuries. I lead the Serious Injury team in the Sheffield Irwin Mitchell office comprising of over 50 team members. My cases have won the Post Magazine's Rehabilitation First Award on a number of occasions (claimant's solicitor category).

Career: Trained Irwin Mitchell; qualified 1999; partner since 2011.

Professional Memberships: APIL senior litigator; regional secretary for Headway; co-secretary for South Yorkshire Acquired Brain Injury Forum (SYABIF) and steering group member.

JOHNSON, Kevin

Leigh Day, Manchester

0161 393 3600

kjohnson@leighday.co.uk

Featured in Personal Injury (UK-wide), Personal Injury (North West)

Practice Areas: Partner in the asbestos department and manages the Liverpool office. Has specialised in asbestos disease claims for over 20 years. Acts

for claimants in the UK with a specialist international practice acting for ex-pats in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Malta, etc. Reported cases include *Dowdall v William Kenyon & Sons Limited* [2014]. Involved in several high profile and leading asbestos test cases including *Rice and Thompson v Secretary of State for Trade & Industry* (2007) which created a precedent that enabled dockworkers to sue the government for asbestos disease. Has recovered substantial damages for several mesothelioma sufferers who incurred private medical costs for immunotherapy and other treatments. Recently settled a group claim for several Maltese mesothelioma victims against the MOD.

Career: Joined Leigh Day in December 2016. Previously at John Pickering and Partners (now Slater & Gordon) since 1999.

Professional Memberships: Accredited member of the Law Society's PI Panel. Fellow of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers and APIL Accredited Asbestos/Occupational Disease Specialist. APIL Assessor for PI accreditation.

Publications: Lectures and has chaired conferences on asbestos litigation. Spoke on mesothelioma damages reform at the Asbestos Sub-Committee of the All-Party Parliamentary Group.

KENNEDY, Jenny

Anthony Gold, London

0207 940 4046

jkkx@anthonygold.co.uk

Featured in Clinical Negligence (London),

Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: Jenny Kennedy is a Partner on Anthony Gold's Injury and Medical Claims team. A complex brain, spinal and amputation expert, Jenny is well known for representing foreign national clients injured in the UK as well as British nationals injured abroad. She settled the first reported case involving indexation of periodical payments to a foreign jurisdiction and secured a verdict of unlawful killing before a UK Coroner for the family of a mother killed whilst on holiday in South America. Described as "one of the most respected PI claimant lawyers in the country" her expertise includes dealing with all the associated elements of catastrophic injury litigation and managing the needs of clients with issues associated with significant head injury. Jenny is recognised as a Star Individual in the Chambers Directory and a Hall of Fame Lawyer in The Legal 500. Jenny has a medical background, having qualified as a psychiatric nurse, and her clinical negligence expertise includes a wide range of claims of complexities with a special interest in psychiatric and orthopaedic injury cases.

Professional Memberships: Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) member Law Society Personal Injury panel member Law Society Clinical Negligence panel member

Publications: On the Editorial Board of *Kemp & Kemp: Personal Injury Law, Practice and Procedure* Co-author of *Personal Injury Practice* (Bloomsbury Professional) Co-author of *Litigating Psychiatric Injury Claims* (Bloomsbury Professional)

KERR, Andrew

Clyde & Co LLP, Salford
01612362002
andrew.kerr@clydeco.com

Featured in Personal Injury (UK-wide)

Career: Andrew is a partner in the catastrophic injury team specialising in catastrophic and large loss claims. Within Clyde & Co he leads the Brain Injury Subject Matter Group together with a number of our specialists which focuses on trends, developments and best practice in handling these claims. He is a named individual for a number of insurers on their select panels to handle their highest value cases and claims of the utmost severity. Andrew has many years' experience acting exclusively for insurers, corporate policy holders and local authorities. His caseload comprises public liability, employers' liability and motor claims, especially brain injuries, severe spinal injuries, CRPS and amputations with an expertise in handling infant brain injury claims, in particular severe brain injuries to infants caused by abuse or assault leading to claims against Social Services Departments. He also has experience with insolvency (corporate and recovery) and professional negligence as well as disease claims. Andrew has written a number of articles commenting on legal issues and developments and regularly provides seminars, webinars and training for insurers, policyholders and clients. Aside from supervising and mentoring team members he manages a team of junior lawyers who assist on cases.

KINGSTON, Sion

Irwin Mitchell, Sheffield
01132206210

sion.kingston@irwinmitchell.com

Featured in Personal Injury (Yorkshire)

Practice Areas: I am a Partner in the Leeds Personal Injury Department. I head a team dealing with road traffic, work accident and public liability claims involving a wide variety of injuries and values. I also head the Personal Injury Professional Negligence team responsible for advising client in respect to claims against solicitors and barristers arising out of poorly/negligently handled personal injury and clinical negligence cases. I am National Head of Road Traffic Crash claims and National Head of General Accident claims with national responsibility within the firm for the coordination of these areas of the Department with responsibility of training, business development and process and report to the PI National Executive. I am also National Head of Personal Injury Professional Negligence. I sit on the PI Department's Best Practice Group. I am also Counsel Liaison for the Personal Injury Department responsible for managing the Department's relationship with counsel's chambers.

Career: Trained Irwin Mitchell; qualified 1994; partner 2000; headed firm's MOD team specialising in acting on behalf of injured military personnel 2000-2005.

Professional Memberships: APIL, CPIL.

LANE, Gavin

Trethowans LLP, Salisbury
023 8082 0535
gavin.lane@trethowans.com

Featured in Clinical Negligence (The South), Personal Injury (The South)

Practice Areas: Since qualifying as a Solicitor in 1991, Gavin has specialised in personal injury and clinical negligence cases and brings experience, knowledge and enthusiasm to his work. Having first joined Trethowans in 1997 and rejoined (after a brief spell away) in 2003, he became a Partner in 2007. Gavin specialises in a wide variety of complex employers' liability cases and clinical negligence claims, but particularly catastrophic injury cases including brain injury, spinal injury, amputee cases and Claimants suffering multiple fractures. He has a reputation as somebody who will go the extra mile and fight the hard fight on behalf of his clients. A large proportion of Gavin's cases are referred to him by solicitors from other firms, which is testament to his knowledge and expertise. Gavin is committed to ensuring maximum compensation and the best rehabilitation possible for his clients, to ensure a good quality of life. Gavin has been appointed by the Court of Protection to act as a Professional Deputy to manage the property and financial affairs of vulnerable adults.

Professional Memberships: Law Society's Personal Injury Panel Accreditation Scheme Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) APIL accredited Senior Litigator

LEECH, Catherine

Irwin Mitchell, Manchester
0161 838 3191

Cathy.Leech@IrwinMitchell.com

Featured in Personal Injury (North West)

Practice Areas: I am a solicitor specialising in claims for people who have had all manner of serious injuries, especially brain and spinal cord injuries.

LOVETT, Isobel

Hodge Jones & Allen, London
0207 874 8300
ilovett@hja.net

Featured in Personal Injury (UK-wide)

Practice Areas: Isobel, a Partner and Head of the Asbestos Disease Team has, for over 20 years, specialised in asbestos disease cases for Claimants. Consequently, she has vast experience in this specialist litigation. Isobel's work includes securing high value settlements for mesothelioma sufferers, enabling her clients to access novel, non-NHS funded treatments paid for by Defendants' insurers. Her clients' lives have thereby been extended and they have the security of having approved treatment paid for by the Defendants' insurers for the rest of their lives. Isobel's recent successes include persuading the Government Legal Department representing the Ministry of Defence, to agree to mediation in a long-running, disputed, fatal mesothelioma claim for the family of a man who had been exposed to asbestos dust while employed in the late 1960s to work on board UK naval vessels in the MoD dockyard in Singapore. The case involved complex issues of conflict of laws and of Crown Immunity. At mediation, a six-figure settlement for the family was agreed. This was a case which had previously been vigorously defended and was destined for a lengthy and costly trial. In another case against the Ministry of Defence, this year, Isobel was able to secure a six-figure sum and the costs of private medical treatment, for a woman developed mesothelioma in unusual circumstances: she had worked as a Buildings Manager and was exposed to asbestos dust while managing the fall-out from contamination of an MoD building as a result of work done by external contractors. She had to manage the eventual evacuation of the building of all staff and property, including high level security items. The claim was initially denied on the basis the exposure was "too low" to have caused mesothelioma. However, an admission of liability followed quickly issue of proceedings and the case was settled soon afterwards. Isobel has also successfully handled asbestos product liability claims and advises and assists clients in bringing claims in the US for mesothelioma caused by asbestos contaminated talc in powder and make-up. Isobel does not shy away from difficult cases. She achieved success early in her career in asbestos litigation in the case of Cox v Industrial Power (India) Ltd CA 2007, the first in a series of defining so-called "low exposure" cases in which Defendants have sought to test causation in mesothelioma cases by reference to exposure levels. The Claimant had worked seasonally in power stations and for the Defendant for a matter of weeks. Despite the Defendant arguing that any exposure he had would have been de minimis and therefore, not actionable, the Court held that the exposure was not minimal and found for the Claimant's widow, the Claimant, having sadly succumbed to his illness. by the time of the trial. The judgment was upheld by the Court of Appeal on appeal by the Defendant. The case is still referred to in other similar cases today. Isobel takes a holistic approach to client care: not only does he help her clients to obtain compensation and treatment, but she also ensures they obtain their full state benefit entitlement and has helped put care regimes in place, where needed. She works closely with medical professionals, local support groups and related charities to ensure the support needs of victims of mesothelioma and other asbestos diseases are met. She is known for being tremendously calm, reassuring, helpful and supportive of her clients and their families, as well as a tenacious and skilled litigator and negotiator. Isobel's commitment to supporting asbestos victims means she has been involved with many support groups over the years, her involvement culminating in her working to establish the London Asbestos Support Awareness Group, a charity covering London and the South East. She has also fundraised for research into treatment for mesothelioma over the years. Isobel's expertise is recognised by those she works with and through independent accreditation by The Association of Personal Injury Lawyers of which she is a Fellow and Asbestos and Occupational Disease specialist. She also assesses others seeking this accreditation. Whilst specialising in asbestos disease work, Isobel has past experience of other industrial diseases, particularly other occupational respiratory conditions and work-related cancers.

Career: Isobel trained and worked in a number of firms in Sheffield before being appointed Associate at Irwin Mitchell's Newcastle office between 2009-15. She

has been a Partner at Hodge Jones & Allen since June 2015.

Professional Memberships: • APIL (Association of Personal Injury Lawyers) • Fellow and Accredited Asbestos and Occupational Disease Specialist and Assessor

MADDOCK, Rebecca

Irwin Mitchell, Newcastle upon Tyne

0191 279 0106

rebecca.maddock@irwinmitchell.com

Featured in Personal Injury (North East)

Practice Areas: I work as part of a team in Newcastle and Middlesbrough who act for people who have sustained brain injuries or spinal cord injuries. I have been working with adults and children with brain and spinal injuries for 13 years, helping them to obtain financial compensation for their injuries. I qualified as a solicitor in 2012.

Career: I'm passionate about helping clients secure early interim payments, so they can access rehabilitation that will help improve their quality of life. Rehabilitation includes things such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy, psychological therapy, assistance from support workers and vocational training to help people to return to work.

Professional Memberships: I am a Council member of the Tees Valley Law Society. I'm also an accredited Senior Litigator and Brain Injury Specialist with the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers ('APIL'), and the North East Regional Coordinator of APIL.

Personal: I love spending time with my friends and family. I also like travelling, reading and walking my dog. I also enjoy working with various different charities in the community and helping to fundraise for a range of different charities whenever I can.

MALIK, Sapna

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Featured in Personal Injury (London), Civil Liberties & Human Rights (UK-wide)

See under Civil Liberties & Human Rights for profile.

MARSHALL, David

Anthony Gold, London
020 7940 4000

dtm@anthonygold.co.uk

Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: The firm's Managing Partner since 1997, David is a very experienced solicitor and an expert at handling high value complex brain and psychiatric injury cases. He is highly respected across the sector by his peers and clients alike. He is recognised as an Eminent Practitioner in Chambers and as a Hall of Fame Lawyer in the Legal 500. He also represents clients in commercial matters as well as employment law cases involving stress at work. In 2021 David successfully settled a long standing and high profile matter, where he represented claimant Jem Stansfield in his widely reported claim against the BBC.

Career: Qualified as a solicitor 1987 Partner Anthony Gold in 1989 Managing Partner Anthony Gold from 1997 to present day

Professional Memberships: Member of the Civil Procedure Rules Commit-

tee Member and past chair of the Law Society's Civil Justice Committee Past President of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) Solicitor member of the Civil Procedure Rule Committee (CPRC) Member of Civil Justice Council's Cost Committee Chair of the Law Society's Civil Justice Committee Trustee Headway South East London North West Kent.

Publications: Author of Compensation for Stress at Work Author of APIL Guide to Costs and Funding Co-author of Litigating Psychiatric Injury Claims Contributor to APIL Clinical Negligence 2nd Edition Edits Jordan's Law Practice and Precedents

MAXWELL, Warren

Stewarts, Leeds
0113 394 9484
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Featured in Personal Injury (Yorkshire)

Practice Areas: Warren represents claimants in high-value and complex personal injury claims arising from road traffic collisions, accidents at work, equality and sporting accidents. Before training as a solicitor, Warren served in the HM Forces and has a particular understanding of claims brought by HM Forces personnel.

Career: Warren first served in the Coldstream Guards, then started his legal career in the legal department of the GMB Trade Union in 1993. He joined Stewarts in 2007 and made partner in 2014.

Professional Memberships: APIL accredited Senior Litigator. Member of the APIL Military Claims Special Interest Group. Trustee of Headway County Durham. Secretary Headway Forces Support Group.

MAYES, Fran

Irwin Mitchell, Newcastle upon Tyne
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franceca.mayes@irwinmitchell.com

Featured in Personal Injury (North East)

Practice Areas: A partner in the Newcastle office, I specialise in helping people who have sustained serious and life changing injuries, particularly assisting individuals who have suffered brain and spinal cord injuries and multiple orthopaedic injuries in claiming compensation following injury. I have a particular interest in complex liability issues arising out of accidents in the workplace, and road traffic collisions particularly involving pedestrians, and have dealt with a number of claims which other solicitors have considered too difficult to pursue. I have obtained many substantial interim payments to fund rehabilitation packages, the purchase of accommodation and care to improve my clients' quality of life and to maximise their recovery.

Career: Trained Irwin Mitchell; qualified 1997; partner 2007 to date.

Professional Memberships: Fellow of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers –member of Spinal Injury and Brain Injury Special Interest Groups.

MCCOOL, Geraldine

Irwin Mitchell, Manchester
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Featured in Personal Injury (North West)

Practice Areas: National head of military claims. Since qualifying in 1985, I've spent my career working for victims of personal injury specialising in product liability, aviation and military claims.

I've been involved in many high-profile cases, including Piper Alpha, Lockerbie, Chinook Mull of Kintyre Crash and the British Midland Crash at Kegworth. I'm Vice Chair of the Royal British Legion Solicitors Group, a former Mediator in the Court of Appeal (pro-bono) and former Chairman of the National Young Solicitors Group. In Manchester, I'm a former Chair of the Trainee Solicitors Group, Young Solicitors Group and was President of the Manchester Law Society in 2002 –the Commonwealth Games Year. I regularly appear at inquests, including those of Corporal of the Horse Matty Hull, who was killed by A10 friendly fire and Sergeant Steve Roberts, who was the first soldier fatality of the Iraq war.

Career: Trained James Chapman & Co; qualified 1985; Leigh Day & Co (Manchester) 1994-2004; MPH Solicitors 2004-2013; Irwin Mitchell 2013 to date.

Publications: 'Multi-Party Actions' (1995 Legal Action Group); Personal Injury/ Know How Serious (1993 and 1997); 'Civil Litigation' (2001 The Law Society); author of Litigation column for the Law Society Gazette (1992-1995).

MCGARRIGLE, Suzanne

Harper Macleod LLP, Glasgow
0131 247 3334
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Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Practice Areas: Suzanne specialises in defender personal injury work, covering the full range from employer liability to public liability claims, RTA work as well as some product liability cases. A particular area of her practice is related to industrial disease claims and the particular challenges associated with these types of claims. These include a large amount of claims arising from alleged asbestos exposure resulting in a whole range of medical conditions from pleural plaques through to mesothelioma and also an increasing number of noise induced hearing loss claims. Suzanne's clients range from self-insured companies to loss adjusters, insurers and public sector bodies. She has experience of dealing with claims in both the Sheriff Court and the Court of Session. Her focus is on being proactive and developing a strategy as soon as possible, being aware of each client's needs and communicating effectively so the legal process is clear and her clients feel comfortable making decisions. Suzanne particularly enjoys developing an her understanding of a defender's operation and what they do. Suzanne is also a Solicitor Advocate, which permits her to represent clients in the civil courts at all levels.

MCINTOSH, David S

Balfour+Manson LLP, Edinburgh
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Featured in Clinical Negligence (Scotland), Personal Injury (Scotland)

Practice Areas: A partner in the litigation department, specialising in pursuing personal injury and medical negligence claims, David is also one of the firm's Risk Assessment Partners for speculative actions. He has successfully resolved a significant number of claims acting for injured claimants with damages recovered ranging from several thousand pounds to 7 figure settlements. Current cases

include pursuing a claim for a paraplegic client valued at £7.8 million and another for a client who suffered catastrophic brain injury in a car accident with a likely value in excess of £10 million. He acts for the largest teachers union in Scotland, the EIS, and regularly advises their members who have been involved in workplace accidents or have suffered from stress as a result of working conditions. He has raised a number of actions for stress claims and clients have recovered damages after lengthy court proceedings.

Career: Trained Gilruth Pollock and Smith and qualified 1985; Bennett and Robertson, then MacBeth Currie before being assumed as a partner at Balfour+Manson in 1999.

Professional Memberships: In House Risk Assessment Panel for PI Speculative Scheme; Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL); accredited by Law Society of Scotland as a specialist in personal injury law.

Personal: Enjoys motorsport, football and sailing.

MCLEOD, Kim

Clyde & Co LLP, Aberdeen
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Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Career: Kim is a senior associate in the Aberdeen office. She is instructed by a number of insurer clients in high value employers' liability, public liability and catastrophic road traffic claims. She has a particular focus on claims arising from the oil and gas industry. Kim also advises on indemnity issues.

MELVILLE, Vikki

Clyde & Co LLP, Edinburgh
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Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Career: Vikki is the Clyde & Co (Scotland) Managing Partner. She is a highly ranked litigator with particular experience in high value road traffic claims, employers' liability and public liability actions. As well as being on panels for a variety of well-known UK insurance companies, she regularly represents a number of insurer clients including national self-insured companies. Vikki also sits on the National FOIL SFT for Motor and local SFT for Fraud. She also sits on the UK Casualty Region's leadership board.

MOORE, Sally

Leigh Day, London
020 3780 0427
smoore@leighday.co.uk

Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: Sally is head of Leigh Day's personal injury department, dealing with high value personal injury and fatal accident claims. She specialises in brain, spinal, amputation and fatal accident claims. Cases have included an award equivalent to £9million for an injured pedestrian and £7.8million for a brain injured cyclist, both with complex lifelong care and therapy needs; £5.8million for a pedestrian who sustained brain and psychological injuries; £3million lump sum and annual payments for life of £200,000 for a cyclist who suffered a spinal cord injury; £3.1million for a brain injured passenger in a car who developed post-traumatic epilepsy 3 years post-accident; £2.5million

for another cyclist who spent 3 years in private rehabilitation after sustaining a severe brain injury, with annual payments of £160,000 for life; £1.1 million plus annual payments for life for a client who suffered a high level arm amputation, and several multi-million pound fatal accident settlements. She has represented several families in high profile inquests including cyclists killed and injured by left turning HGV's.

Professional Memberships: Fellow of Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) (and specialist in brain injury), Chair of Headway West London –the Brain Injury Association.

MURRAY, Christopher

Clyde & Co LLP, Manchester
0161 240 2659
christopher.murray@clydeco.com

Featured in Personal Injury (UK-wide)

Career: Chris specialises in complex personal injury litigation in relation to road traffic accidents, employers' and public liability matters including disease-related claims. Chris is a Chambers listed lawyer and has been recognised by The Legal 500 for his work within Clyde & Co's top ranking Personal Injury Defendant team.

NICHOLSON, Jon

Anthony Gold, London
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Featured in Clinical Negligence (London), Personal Injury (London)

See under Clinical Negligence for profile.

NYE, Stephen

Irwin Mitchell, Birmingham
0121 214 5430
stephen.nye@irwinmitchell.com

Featured in Personal Injury (Midlands)

Practice Areas: I am the lead partner of the Birmingham serious injury team and represent clients who have sustained brain and spinal cord injuries, polytrauma and amputations. I deal with all aspects of claimant catastrophic injury work arising from road traffic accidents, accidents at work, public and occupier liability claims, sport injuries and product liability claims. My recent cases include a settlement on behalf of a young man rendered tetraplegic in a car accident claim in the sum of £9.5m; a settlement of £1m for a woman with severe lower limb fractures after a motorbike accident; a settlement of £1.75m plus annual payments for care costs for life on behalf of a young woman who sustained a below knee amputation in a collision with a police vehicle; and a settlement of £2.75m for a man who sustained a brain injury in an accident at work.

Career: Trainee solicitor 1996-98, general high street practice; assistant solicitor Rich and Can, Leicester 1998-2000; Irwin Mitchell, Birmingham, assistant solicitor 2000-04, associate 2004-10, partner 2010.

Professional Memberships: APIL; APIL accredited senior litigator; APIL accreditation for spinal cord injury; APIL accreditation for brain injury; Law Society PI Panel.

O'NEILL, Cathal

Carson McDowell, Belfast
Featured in Personal Injury (Northern Ireland)

Practice Areas: Defence Insurance Litigation

Career: Cathal graduated from Queen's University, Belfast with a degree in Law (LLB honours) in 2002 and a masters degree in Law (LLM) in 2004. He completed the Legal Practice Course at Nottingham Law School in 2008 and subsequently commenced employment with a specialist personal injury firm in England. Upon qualification as a solicitor, Cathal joined Weightmans LLP in their defence insurance litigation department. He returned to Belfast in 2014 and practiced in the litigation team of another leading Belfast firm before joining Carson McDowell in September 2017 as an associate. Cathal was appointed Partner in 2022 and continues to work in the area of defence insurance litigation.

PASI, Lauren
Lindsays, Glasgow
0141 302 8468
lauren pasi@lindsays.co.uk

*Featured in Clinical Negligence (Scotland),
Personal Injury (Scotland)*

Practice Areas: Lauren is a Partner in Lindsays' Personal Injury team. She is experienced in litigating on behalf of pursuers on a wide range of cases, including road traffic accidents, accidents in the workplace, public and occupier liability cases and medical negligence. Lauren deals with actions raised in the Sheriff Court and Court of Session and regularly appears in the Sheriff Court.

Career: Lauren joined Lindsays in 2017 as an associate, and became partner in 2020

PAXTON, Paul
Stewarts, London
020782228033
ppaxton@stewartslaw.com

Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: Paul specialises in complex and catastrophic brain and spinal cord injury claims.

Career: Paul began his legal career at Evill & Coleman, specialising in trade union employers' liability claims. He then practised trade union employment law, commercial litigation and personal injury litigation at Rowley Ashworth before becoming head of the personal injury department at Shoosmiths. He joined Stewarts in December 1997.

Professional Memberships: Middle Temple Law Society; Fellow of APIL; CEDR accredited mediator

Publications: Articles written by Paul include: 'Banged Up' (published by the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) and PI Focus in July 2017) – All the Fun of the Fair? (published by APIL and PI Focus in March 2017) – Suicide – the ultimate ethical dilemma? (published by MASCIIP in November 2016)

PETERS, Ian
Anthony Gold, London
020 7940 4060
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Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: Partner Ian Peters is an international law specialist who acts for British nationals injured abroad as well as foreign nationals injured whilst visiting the UK. He handles a complex caseload of high value, multi-track cases (mostly over £1 million), acting for those who have suffered multiple trauma injuries. Ian is well known in the sector for his extensive legal knowledge and expertise and regularly

has excellent referee and peer feedback. He has had a prominent role in several leading matters consistently throughout his career. He is regularly instructed on some of the largest and most complex matters in the UK where damages will likely run into the millions.

Career: Qualified in March 2008 Assistant solicitor Hodge Jones and Allen – March 2008 to October 2009 Assistant solicitor Anthony Gold – November 2009 to April 2016 Partner Anthony Gold – May 2016

Professional Memberships: Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) member Law Society Personal Injury panel member

PETHER, Michael
Clyde & Co LLP, London
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Featured in Personal Injury (UK-wide)

Career: Michael has been a specialist abuse claims lawyer for most of his career assisting and advising many insurer and non-insurer clients through the development of abuse law and practice of the last few decades. Michael is a consultant in Clyde & Co's national abuse team and over his years of practice, he has recruited, mentored and nurtured one of the leading defendant abuse legal teams in the UK. He is nominated by many religious organisations, local authorities and insurers to deal with their most sensitive claims and has experience of managing abuse claims across all sectors including sport, charity and education including several group litigation abuse claims. More recently, Michael has gained experience of managing abuse issues in the inquiry context, representing core participants and interested parties at the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) as well as involvement in other abuse related inquiries. Michael regularly speaks at internal and external events as well as contributing to publications and radio broadcasts commenting on abuse and IICSA issues. The 2022 edition of The Legal 500 named Michael as a "Hall of Fame" lawyer for personal injury defence in London while the 2022 edition of Chambers & Partners names him as a leading lawyer in Clyde & Co's Band 1 personal injury practice across the UK.

ROBINSON, Lucy
Stewarts, London
020 7822 8027
lrobinson@stewartslaw.com

Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: Over the past 14 years, Lucy has specialised in cases involving tetraplegia, paraplegia, brain injury and amputations.

Career: Lucy trained at Bolt Burdon in Islington, qualifying into the personal injury department in 2000. She continued to work at Bolt Burdon until she joined Stewarts in 2003. Lucy was made a partner in 2008.

Professional Memberships: Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) – Senior Litigator Status; APIL Special Interest Groups – brain injury and spinal cord injury

Personal: Lucy enjoys spending time with her family and outdoor pursuits.

ROGERS, Ben
Stewarts, London
07825747622
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Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: Ben specialises in acting for claimants in catastrophic personal injury claims, and has particular expertise in spinal cord, brain, complex orthopaedic, amputee and burns injuries. He has a particular interest in technology and was the first lawyer to secure landmark awards of damages for the purchase and replacement of REX and Ekso GT exoskeletons. Ben has a proven record of successfully litigating complex liability and quantum claims arising from road traffic accidents, employers' liability, occupiers' liability and military claims and is recognised for maximising damages recovery for technological advances.

Career: Ben qualified in 1999, specialising in claimant personal injury with a well-respected east London firm before moving to Stewarts at the beginning of 2006. He became a partner in May 2010. Ben was educated at St Joseph's College, Ipswich and Colchester Royal Grammar School. He obtained a Law degree from the University of Bristol before completing the Legal Practice Course (with commendation) from Nottingham Trent University.

Professional Memberships: Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) APIL Special Interest Groups – brain injury, spinal cord injury, damages, costs & funding and military APIL Senior Litigator

Publications: Ben gives regular presentations on exoskeleton technology, including at Thrope Expo at the NEC.

ROSE, Deborah
Irwin Mitchell, Bristol
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Featured in Personal Injury (South West)

Practice Areas: I specialise in personal injury law and work in the Serious Injury team, representing people who have sustained life changing injuries in accidents. I act for people who have suffered serious orthopaedic injuries as well as brain and spinal injuries. I work to get them the support and rehabilitation they need to return, as far as possible, to the life they had before the accident. I also act for clients who suffer from chronic pain and CRPS usually developed as a result of other injuries received in accidents. I specialise in understanding the treatment and management of this condition and in ensuring that each client receives the necessary rehabilitation and input they need to help with this.

SALMON, Clare
Stewarts, London
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Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: Clare specialises in catastrophic personal injury claims for claimants involving injuries to the brain, spinal cord and brachial plexus, as well as dealing with fatal accident claims. These injuries have often arisen from road traffic collisions, accidents at work or in public spaces. Since joining Stewarts Clare has secured over £100 million in compensation for her clients.

Career: Clare trained at Thrings in Swindon qualifying in 2002 before continuing

her injury claims work at Boyes Turner in Reading from 2003 until 2005. Clare joined Stewarts in 2005 before being made Partner in 2010, supervising a team of lawyers in the department.

Professional Memberships: Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) – Senior Litigator Status APIL Special Interest Groups – brain injury and spinal cord injury

Publications: Clare has provided radio and television interviews locally and nationally in relation to some of her work as well as being a regular speaker at industry and in house conferences, including hosting our Inhouse annual Case Managers Training Seminar.

Personal: In her spare time Clare enjoys spending time with her young family, music and trying out new cookery dishes. She especially loves to explore new cuisines and restaurants during holidays abroad.

SANDERS, Bethany
Leigh Day, London
020 7650 1200
bsanders@leighday.co.uk

Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: Bethany specialises in high value serious injury claims, including brain and spinal injury, amputee claims and fatal accidents. She only acts for claimants and has represented many individuals who have sustained life-changing injuries, working with them to ensure rehabilitation is in place as soon as possible. Bethany has extensive experience of representing clients whose injuries arise from road traffic collisions, such as pedestrians and cyclists, as well as accidents at work and public/occupiers liability claims. She has worked on numerous cases where there are complex liability issues or contributory negligence allegations. She also has significant experience of representing clients who lack mental capacity or where capacity is in issue and works closely with deputies and professional trustees where appointed.

Career: Upon qualification in July 2008 Bethany worked at Irwin Mitchell before joining Leigh Day in November 2013. She became an Associate in 2016 and a Partner in 2020.

Professional Memberships: Bethany is an accredited Senior Litigator with the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers and is also an APIL accredited Brain Injury Specialist.

SHEATHER, Matthew
GA Solicitors, Plymouth
(01752) 513584
matthew.sheather@gasolicitors.com

Featured in Personal Injury (South West)

Practice Areas: Matthew is a partner specialising in handling high value, complex and catastrophic injury claims with extensive experience in motorcycle and fatal accident claims, as well as accidents at work, occupiers and public liability and chronic pain disorder cases.

Career: Matthew qualified as a solicitor in 2001 and joined GA Solicitors as a partner in 2006 from Clarke Willmott. Matthew is a partner and head of GA's personal injury team. He has been involved in many noteworthy cases securing millions of pounds of compensation for clients.

Professional Memberships: Matthew is a member of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers.

Personal: Matthew is a governor of a Plymouth primary school.

SHORT, David

Balfour+Manson LLP, Edinburgh
0131 200 1285
david.short@balfour-manson.co.uk

Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Practice Areas: Partner and head of litigation. Extensive practice acting on behalf of individuals, trade unions and professional associations. Main areas of practice include aviation accidents, work related accidents, disease cases and complex injury cases. Has represented the Pilots Union, BALPA for over 30 years. Past Steering Committee member of Piper Alpha and Brent Spar disasters. Has represented clients throughout the world in twenty-three air crash cases. Currently working with the Steering Committee of Malaysian Airlines MH17. He has recently represented clients in the Shoreham air crash, the Sumburgh helicopter crash and was lead negotiator in the Norwegian helicopter accident at Tuoy in which settled this year. David is currently representing Kenyan tea pickers who have been injured on tea plantations in Kenya owned by a Scottish company. Appointed as Chairman to the War Pensions Appeals Tribunal, Scotland in 2019.

Career: Dundee and Strathclyde Universities, partner at Lawford Kidd until 2012. Currently partner at Balfour+Manson LLP. Qualified 1984.

Professional Memberships: Law Society of Scotland; Writer to the Signet; Past Executive Councillor – Association of Personal Injury Lawyers, Scottish Secretary for APIL; Member of PEOPI (Pan European Association of Personal Injury Lawyers); Notary Public.

Personal: One son. Enjoys hill walking, cycling and travel.

SMITH, Chris

Stewarts, Leeds
0113 394 9484
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Featured in Personal Injury (Yorkshire)

Practice Areas: Chris deals with cases involving a wide range of catastrophic injuries including spinal injury, brain injury and amputation arising from complex road traffic accidents, accidents at work and public liability claims.

Career: Chris joined Stewarts in 2014 and acts in complex and high-value personal injury cases for adults, children and protected parties. Prior to qualifying as a solicitor, Chris was called to the Bar in 2008. He was made partner in 2022. Since joining Stewarts, Chris has recovered damages in excess of £70m for his clients.

Professional Memberships: Chris is Chair of the Yorkshire Acquired Brain Injury Forum, and a member of APIL and the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn.

Personal: Chris is currently learning to fly a microlight aeroplane. He plays the drums and takes part in a mix of sports, and also likes to cook and experiment with fusion foods.

SPINKS, Jackie

Anthony Gold, London
020 7940 4000
jpv@anthonygold.co.uk

Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: Partner Jackie Spinks is an expert in dealing with catastrophic

injury matters, with extensive experience in the most complex of claims, particularly traumatic brain injury. Renowned for her expertise in child brain injury, she is regularly recommended by barristers and medical experts in this field. Jackie also holds the positions of training principal and personnel partner for the firm. She is a former contributing author to 'Jordans Personal Injury and Practice' and co-editor of 'Jordans' Personal Injury Bulletin. Jackie also delivers personal injury lectures and webinars to an expert witness audience for Bond Solon and is booked to speak at their annual "Expert Witness Conference".

Career: Qualified 1996 at John Cunningham Joined Anthony Gold 1998 Partner May 2001

Professional Memberships: APIL Member Accredited Headway Brain Injury solicitor Law Society Accreditation in Personal Injury

STOREY, Tracey

Irwin Mitchell, London
0207 4213868
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Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: I lead the Serious Injury national team and specialise in a range of personal injury cases including brain injury and spinal cord injury cases. I also have undertaken fatal, polytrauma and amputation cases. I have extensive experience in cases involving deliberate assault and child abuse. I represent children, vulnerable adults and adult survivors of historical child abuse.

Career: Trained Cozens Hardy & Jewson, qualified 1994, associate 1994-99; senior solicitor Russell Jones & Walker, London 1999-2003; associate Irwin Mitchell, London 2003, partner 2006. APIL-accredited fellow.

Professional Memberships: Personal injury panel of the Law Society; executive committee of the Association of Child Abuse; co-ordinator of APIL's child abuse special interest group; accredited brain injury specialist with APIL.

TAIT, David

Clyde & Co LLP, Edinburgh
0131 525 8563
david.tait@clydeco.com

Featured in Personal Injury (Scotland)

Career: David focuses entirely on occupational disease cases. With long experience in this field, he has particular expertise in asbestos litigation, and a significant case load involving all disease types. David successfully defends his insurance and commercial clients in both the Court of Session and sheriff courts. He is regularly involved in lobbying the Scottish Parliament on behalf of clients in respect of the legislation applicable to occupational disease claims. David is a member of FOIL and has advised the ABI and major composite legacy insurers in relation to issues around disease matters.

TANT, Ewan

Leigh Day, London
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Featured in Personal Injury (UK-wide)

Practice Areas: Ewan Tant is a Partner specialising in asbestos-related claims. Ewan works on a large caseload and regularly deals with cross-jurisdictional cases, including in New Zealand, Australia,

Ireland and Spain. Ewan has had many successes in claims involving tricky and novel points of law, including a recent success in settling a case involving secondary exposure from the Claimant's mother's overalls, which had previously been turned down by two leading firms. He has had success in silicosis cases, including recently representing a man who worked as a sandblaster for many years, including on blockbuster film sets, who later developed a rare form of silicosis. Ewan's strengths lie in his dedication to client care, his technical knowledge, his drafting skills and his tenacity in dealing with Defendants, particularly in settlement negotiations. Ewan conducts his own advocacy in hearings and applications. Ewan regularly instructs leading counsel in complex cases and has lectured at medical and legal seminars. He has provided training to medical professionals, including giving talks at the Royal Brompton Hospital and at Derriford Hospital in Plymouth. Ewan has strong links to asbestos support groups and regularly attends support group meetings.

Professional Memberships: Ewan is an accredited Senior Litigator and Asbestos/Occupational Disease Specialist for APIL.

THACKER, Siobhan

CFG Law, Cheadle
07729119767
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Featured in Personal Injury (East Anglia)

Practice Areas: Siobhan is a Partner at CFG Law, after joining the team in 2021. She has vast experience supporting clients and their families after a catastrophic injury, including spinal injuries, brain injuries, amputations and complex multiple fractures. As well as supporting people after serious injury, Siobhan also helps people who have sadly been bereaved in a fatal incident. She has particular expertise in helping families with children to bring a dependency claim. Although Siobhan understands she can't change what has happened, she works hard to make a difference in what happens next and provides real support and assistance to help clients to get their lives back on track.

Career: 2021 – Present, Partner, CFG Law 2019 – 2021, Senior Associate Solicitor, Ashtons Legal 2018 – 2019, Associate Solicitor, Kester Cunningham John/Ashtons Legal 2011 – 2018, Solicitor, Kester Cunningham John/Ashtons Legal 2009 – 2011 Trainee Solicitor, Kester Cunningham John 2007 – 2009 Paralegal, Kester Cunningham John

Professional Memberships: Member of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL)

TOWNSEND, Ben

Stewarts, Leeds
0113 2220024
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Featured in Personal Injury (Yorkshire)

Practice Areas: Ben specialises in brain and spinal cord injury claims, including accidents abroad. He advises on high-value personal injury claims, particularly brain and spinal cord injuries, including claims with an international element. He has experience of equestrian cases, as well as burn and amputation injuries. His highlights include achieving multimillion pound settlements resulting from a range

of types of accidents, including road traffic accidents and accidents at work.

Career: Ben previously worked for Armstrong Foulkes in Middlesbrough before joining Stewarts in 2004. He was made an associate in 2005 and a partner in 2006.

Professional Memberships: Ben is a Fellow of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers. He is a founding assessor for their brain and spinal cord injury panels.

Publications: Ben has given many talks about personal injury and related topics to organisations such as Headway UK, the Office of the Official Solicitor, BIRT and Barchester Homes. He has been published in the Solicitors Journal.

Personal: Ben enjoys playing guitar in his band, Legacy. He also enjoys reading (including Greg Bear and Clive Barker) and spending time with his triplets.

WEBSTER, Lorna

Hodge Jones & Allen, London
0800 239 9152
lwebster@hja.net

Featured in Personal Injury (UK-wide)

Practice Areas: Lorna, a Partner within the Asbestos Team has, for over 20 years, specialised in asbestos disease claims for claimants. As such, she is a recognised and proven expert in this specialist area.

Lorna regularly obtains six figure settlements for her clients, particularly those who are suffering from mesothelioma. Her settlements include claims for clients who not only have received their main damages but who have also been able to access medical treatment not available on the NHS as part of the settlement agreement. In one recent success, Lorna's client received a six figure sum in settlement of his mesothelioma claim and in addition he went on to receive private medical treatment costing in excess of £200,000, which helped to prolong his life and give him a good quality of life. Lorna enjoys a challenging case and was successful in securing a six figure settlement in a case in which she was instructed post death and the deceased's family knew very little about the asbestos exposure suffered by the deceased. Lorna was able to identify witnesses and go on to obtain a number of supportive witness statements, leading to an admission of breach of duty from the defendant. In another of Lorna's recent cases, she secured a settlement for her client of £390,000 in a multi-defendant claim, together with the option to activate a private medical treatment agreement. In a recent asbestosis case, Lorna secured a settlement in a complex multi-defendant matter in which the expert evidence was not particularly robust. Despite the evidential difficulties, Lorna was able to obtain a good settlement for her client. Lorna was also successful in a recent case in which the deceased mesothelioma victim worked on a self-employed basis for the defendant company. It was argued by Lorna that his work was akin to an employee and although that assertion was vehemently defended, Lorna's arguments led to her securing a six figure settlement for her client. Lorna's wealth of experience covers cases for both living clients and in fatal matters, across all asbestos diseases. She also assists clients in bringing claims in America for mesothelioma caused by contaminated talcum powder. Lorna works closely with local asbestos support char-

ities, most notably the London Asbestos Support Awareness Group which she was involved in establishing and continues to support and provide legal assistance to. Lorna is a campaigner and will fight for those who are unfairly treated by the law, including the setting up of a petition which attracted television coverage. Lorna has appeared on national live television, in national newspapers and on live radio to talk about asbestos disease matters. Lorna is known to be a calm and proactive case handler and has an enviable skill of being able to find a practical solution in a difficult or unusual situation. Her clients comment that she is down to earth, friendly and explains legal matters in a clear and reassuring way. Lorna's expertise is recognised by those she works with and through independent accreditation by The Association of Personal Injury Lawyers, of which she is an Asbestos and Occupational Disease specialist.

Career: Lorna trained and worked at Thompsons LLP in London and Dagenham. She has been a Partner at Hodge Jones & Allen LLP in London since January 2020.

Professional Memberships: APIL (Association of Personal Injury Lawyers); Accredited Asbestos and Occupational Disease Specialist.

WHITELEY, Chris

Trethowans LLP, Salisbury
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Featured in Personal Injury (The South)

Practice Areas: Chris is a Senior Partner in the Accidents & Injuries team at Trethowans. Chris undertakes work specialising in catastrophic head and spinal injury cases, as well as birth related injuries of maximum severity. He has been accredited by the Law Society as a member of their specialist personal injury and clinical negligence panels. Chris has also been appointed by the Court of Protection to act as a professional deputy to manage the property and financial affairs of vulnerable adults, and also sits as a Deputy District Judge in London. Chris was Managing Partner of Trethowans from April 2015 to March 2021.

WITHERS, David

Irwin Mitchell, Sheffield
Featured in Personal Injury (Yorkshire)

Practice Areas: I'm a Partner and lead a large team specialising in catastrophic injury cases, mostly involving; Traumatic brain injury Spinal cord injury Amputation Very significant orthopaedic injuries.

Career: I became a partner in 2019.

Professional Memberships: I am the Secretary for the Association of Personal Injury Lawyer's (APIL) Brain Injury Group. I am accredited by APIL as a Fellow and Brain Injury specialist. I assess aspiring lawyers who wish to become brain injury accredited on behalf of APIL

Publications: I have been published in the Journal of Personal Injury Lawyers, PI Focus, and NR Times. I provide technical guidance to the National Serious Injury Team as part a national role.

YAQUB, Riffat

Hodge Jones & Allen, London
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Featured in Personal Injury (London)

Practice Areas: Riffat Yaqub is a Partner in the Personal Injury team, specialising in high-value claims involving spinal cord injury, brain damage and serious orthopaedic injuries resulting in amputations and fatalities. She is a hugely talented claimant personal injury solicitor with a calm, empathetic and measured approach who gets results. Riffat is known for adopting a client-focussed, holistic approach whilst being committed and a fierce litigator. She is not afraid to take cases to trial when necessary. She acts for vulnerable clients and is a strong advocate for securing early rehabilitation, ensuring her clients can get their lives back on track as quickly as possible. Throughout her career of 26 years, Riffat has developed a formidable reputation for consistently achieving strong results for her clients who have suffered serious life changing injuries arising from road traffic accidents, workplace accidents, accidents in public places and medical accidents. She is dedicated to her clients' wellbeing to meet their every care, treatment need and secure their future financially. Riffat works effectively with case managers, medics and professionals to achieve the right outcome. Riffat has pursued a number of high-profile cases involving foreign nationals who have been injured in the UK, including a Ukrainian national injured in a workplace accident, three UAE nationals who were viciously attacked whilst staying at a London hotel and a French national who suffered devastating life-changing injuries after being thrown from a viewing gallery. Riffat has set up what is perhaps the first community based neuro rehabilitation package for her brain injured client in Ukraine where there is a complete dearth of brain injury services. When war broke out, Riffat was determined to help her client, to return to the UK and worked tirelessly to get UK

authorities to grant visas to her client, his family, and his Ukrainian based community rehabilitation team. Whilst running her complex catastrophic caseload, Riffat also leads and co-ordinates support work with CBIT. Attending meetings with caseworkers, events and fundraising. Riffat is a confident public speaker and regularly presents on HJA's London Legal Podcast and Facebook Live sessions with CBIT and other groups. Riffat works closely with junior HJA colleagues to provide mentoring and coaching. Riffat works closely with charities including CBIT, Brake, Headway and others. **PROFESSIONAL TESTIMONIALS** Dr Jackson, Clinical Neuropsychologist "Without reservation You-Riffat have been outstanding in such unusual and challenging circumstances, with unselfishness, resilience and humanitarianism. It has been a pleasure to work with you, being creative in providing an effective rehabilitation programme partly remotely in the Ukraine. After the onset of war, you were unnerving in finding the best way to arrange the evacuation of your severely brain injured client and his family to the UK. In my 30 years of medico-legal work I have rarely seen a solicitor with such concern for their clients and the capacity to work so insightfully with the Neuro-rehabilitation services." Dr Mark Holloway, Senior Brain Injury Case Manager "Throughout the whole process Riffat has sought to understand the complexities faced, she has been a committed advocate for her client and his family, and, whilst rightly holding us all to account, has recognised just how difficult this has been. She has liaised collegially and robustly with her defendant counterpart and has ensured we have a shared vision of what we aim to achieve". William Latimer-Sayer KC, Cloisters "Riffat cleverly negotiated with the Defendant's representatives to make further payments under the Rehab Code, which therefore are not subject to the contributory negligence discount. Her dedication and commitment to the client has been truly inspirational, and we are now working to secure the necessary expert evidence to quantify and resolve the claim." Beth Bartlett, Clinical Manager, Harrison Associates "I worked with Riffat on the case of a young woman who sustained life changing injury to her upper limb. Whilst her tenacity and resilience helped maximise her rehabilitation and recovery potential, having an equally tenacious and resilient solicitor fighting her corner was just as important: Riffat really supported both her client and me as the case manager enabling the young lady

to access rehabilitation tailored to her needs, as expediently as possible. Riffat has a terrific manner, is very innovative, calm, empathic, caring and an extremely bright capable lawyer who is very client focussed. Working so collaboratively with Riffat made the whole rehabilitation process so much easier, not to mention such a pleasure!" Graham Lynch, Defendant Solicitor Riffat adopted a pragmatic and collaborative approach throughout the process including early notification of the claim, dialogue in relation to liability resolution, rehabilitation, quantum evidence and overall settlement. Throughout I found Riffat to be a pragmatic, skilled negotiator. She was a formidable opponent, very determined, who clearly cared for her client. Riffat was very approachable, highly experienced litigator".

Professional Memberships: • Law Society Personal Injury Accreditation Scheme • Accredited Senior Litigator of Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL)

ZAJAC, Andrew

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Featured in Personal Injury (North West)

Practice Areas: Andrew is a Partner within the serious injury team in our Manchester office. He specialises in cases involving catastrophic injuries such as brain injury, spinal cord injury, amputation, chronic pain and polytrauma, and acts on behalf of adults and children. Andrew is known for delivering clear legal advice in a way that clients understand. He goes above and beyond expectations to provide exceptional client care and demonstrates outstanding attention to detail. Clients and others in the industry describe Andrew as "an excellent lawyer" who is "skilled at working with complex challenging clients".

Career: Andrew completed his training with Taylor Vinters and qualified as a solicitor into the personal injury team there in 2006. In 2013 he moved with the team to Slater and Gordon, first in Cambridge and then to Manchester. He joined Leigh Day as a Partner in the Manchester personal injury team in May 2021.

Professional Memberships: Andrew is a member of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers (APIL) and until his move to Manchester in early 2019 was company secretary of Headway Hertfordshire. He regularly presents to case managers and others in relation to the legal and rehabilitation pathways.