



Brian Green QC

Call: 1980

QC: 1997

bgreen@wilberforce.co.uk

Clerks' Details

+44 (0)20 7306 0102
tcsqc@wilberforce.co.uk

Qualifications and Appointments

- BA (Oxon) Jurisprudence (1977) 1st Class
- BCL (Oxon) (1978) 1st Class
- English Bar examinations (Michaelmas 1980) top in year
- Lecturer in Law LSE 1978-1985 (LLB (Property) and LLM (Restitution))

“A powerhouse with a formidable reputation.”

Chambers & Partners, 2018

Memberships

- Association of Pension Lawyers
- STEP
- ACTAPS
- Commercial Bar Association
- International Tax Planning Association
- RBA

Practice Overview

- One of the leading QCs at the Chancery Bar
- Chambers & Partners Chancery QC of the Year
- Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners Barrister of the Year
- Consistently star and top rated in Chambers & Partners and Legal 500 directories
- Equally recognised and recommended for contentious and non-contentious work, and UK and offshore work
- Featured as Lawyer of the Week in The Times and listed as one of the "Top 50 lawyers" in the UK by The Sunday Times

Highlighted in the directories and by clients generally for his:

- Approachability, and inter-personal and client skills
- Incisiveness, practicality, commercial judgment and business sense
- Ability to handle the largest and most complex matters
- Ability to grasp and make key points quickly and effectively
- As Chambers & Partners put it: *"the Rolls-Royce of chancery barristers," "fantastically impressive" on difficult questions. "Highly approachable" he is "a brilliant advocate, measured in his delivery", "whom top-flight solicitors turn to time and again." "He has complete mastery of his subject." "Masterful, definitely at the top of his form!"*

Wide-ranging experience in Chancery matters Brian specialises in all aspects of:

- Commercial trusts and other property holding structures
- Pension schemes – occupational and public sector
- Private trusts and estates



Pensions

Brian is consistently Star Rated in this practice area in the Chambers & Partners and Top Rated in The Legal 500.

As Chambers & Partners put in under the Pensions heading in 2018: "**He is extremely creative, energetic and excellent on his feet.**" "**He is one of the leading pension silks out there, a go-to when you have a formidable technical issue as he has a great intellect, and is able to distil information into very practical, helpful advice.**"

And as Chambers & Partners put in under the Pensions heading in 2017: "**One of the leading lights in the pensions industry, he is frequently seen on some of the most high-profile and significant pieces of litigation.**" "**He has an incredible brain and makes sense of complex issues in an authoritative and sensible way.**" "**When he's working on a case he gives absolutely everything. He's incredibly committed, hard-working and really experienced.**"

Brian advises and appears in cases in all the major areas in this practice area. Recent leading cases in which Brian has appeared are:

- *Safeway v Newton* (CA) – secured a reference to the European Court (pending) on the question of whether *Smith v Audel* prevented retrospective equalisation otherwise valid in domestic law (challenge to correctness of *Harland Wolff v Aon*).
- *Barnardo's v Buckinghamshire* (UKSC) – whether conditions for replacement of RPI were satisfied.
- *BT v BT Pension Trustee* (CA) – whether conditions for replacement of RPI were satisfied.
- *Thales v Thales Pension Trustee* – whether RPI could be replaced by CPI on the facts of that case.

Examples of other leading cases in which Brian has appeared are:

- *AMP v Barker* – rectification.
- *Aon v KPMG* (CA) – definition of money purchase schemes.
- *British Vita* – relationship of express contributions' covenants and scheme specific funding.
- *Equitable Life v Hyman* (HL) – with profits funds.
- *Foster Wheeler v Hanley* (CA) – equalisation.
- *Lansing Linde v Alber* – rectification.
- *MNRPF Trustees v Stena & Ors* – scope of amendment powers and propriety of their exercise in industry-wide scheme, definition of employer for S75 and scheme specific funding purposes.
- *PNPF v Taylor* – definition of employer for S75 and scheme specific funding purposes.
- *Stena v P&O* (CA) – scope of amendment powers.
- *Steria v Hutchinson* (CA) – limits of estoppel in pension schemes.
- *Stevens v Bell* (CA) – seminal case on construction of pension schemes.
- *Sea Containers, Telent, Nortel* (Determinations Panel of the Regulator) – financial support directions.

Examples of prominent decided cases where Brian has been fully engaged as an adviser behind the scenes, or been briefed to appear where for settlement or other reasons he has not done so are:

- *Entrust v Prospect Hospice* (brief for CA).
- *IBM* – both rectification and good faith.
- *IMG v German*.
- *Procter & Gamble v Svenska* (brief for CA).
- *Nortel* – adviser to EMEA.

Brian has extensive experience of Determinations Panel matters and is currently representing the Targets in several moral hazard cases.