



Edward Sawyer

Call: 2001

esawyer@wilberforce.co.uk

Clerks' Details

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

Qualifications and Appointments

- First class degree in Modern History from Lincoln College, Oxford
- CPE Law Conversion Course, College of Law
- Bar Vocational Course, College of Law

*“An extremely gifted practitioner,
with a Rolls-Royce mind”*

The Legal 500

Memberships

- Chancery Bar Association
- Association of Pension Lawyers
- Civil Fraud Lawyers Association
- Commercial Bar Association
- Property Bar Association

Practice Overview

Edward has a commercial and chancery practice, with particular experience in the fields of pensions, trusts, commercial disputes, professional negligence, international work, financial services and civil fraud. His practice encompasses litigation and advisory work across the broad range of commercial chancery cases.

Edward is regularly involved in large-scale litigation involving pension schemes, regulatory work, trust disputes, business disputes and professional liability, often with an international or offshore element. He has considerable experience of document-heavy long-running cases and working as part of multi-jurisdictional legal teams.

Edward is recommended in *Chambers & Partners* and *The Legal 500* for pensions, commercial: chancery, professional negligence and civil fraud. Recent comments from these directories include:

“He has a fantastic eye for detail and a Trojan work ethic.” “He is an exceedingly good draftsman who is very thoughtful and has a keen eye for detail. He’s brilliant at memorising facts which he can then pull out of a hat when he needs them.” “He’s one of the cleverest members of the junior Bar”, “tremendous”, “exceptionally intelligent, very hard-working and a pleasure to work with”, “very clever and a very good advocate”, “he can cross-examine effectively and cuts through things.” “extremely hard-working and knowledgeable”, “his attention to detail is hugely impressive”, “unimpeachable work ethic”, “an excellent draftsman with a good eye for detail”, “he has the ability to grasp the complex detail of the case”, “A good strategist who comes up with good ideas to drive things forward. He is very bright, accessible and user-friendly”, “So courteous, great judgement and an excellent advocate.”

Edward was a scholar of Lincoln College, Oxford, where he obtained one of the best first class degrees in his year in Modern History. He achieved the highest mark in his year on both the CPE law conversion course and the Bar Vocational Course. He is a Queen Mother Scholar of the Middle Temple and was awarded the Eldon Law Scholarship by Oxford University.

Publications

- [Re Merchant Navy Ratings Pension Fund](#) – some things to think about. *Lexis Nexis*, 2015



Trusts, Tax, Probate and Estates

Edward has been involved in many contentious and non-contentious cases involving trusts, probate and succession, many of which have had an international element. He has been instructed on behalf of trustees, beneficiaries and professional advisers acting for the trust.

Cases include:

- The long-running *Re Jahre* litigation in the Cayman Islands about beneficial ownership of a substantial trust fund.
- Advising the executors of a multi-million pound estate as to the application of the marshalling principle in the administration of assets and the appointment of replacement executors.
- Being involved in the drafting of the Charter for a Foundation under the Bahamian Foundations Act 2004 for a multi-billion dollar fund.
- Advising the trustees of a Gibraltar trust about potential claims against a former trustee.
- Advising the trustees of a discretionary trust about the scope of their powers to appoint new trusts.
- Advising pension trustees on their powers.