



## James Walmsley

Call: 2007

jwalmsley@wilberforce.co.uk

### Clerks' Details

Danny Smillie +44 (0)20 7306 0102  
Nancy Lee tcj@wilberforce.co.uk  
Jack Barker

### Qualifications and Appointments

- Maths & Philosophy MA (Oxon) 1995-1999 – top in year
- Graduate Diploma in Law 2005-2006 – distinction
- BVC 2006-2007 – outstanding
- Fellow of All Souls College Oxford 1999-2014

*“He’s extremely clever, easy to work with and makes himself available”*

Chambers & Partners, 2017

## Practice Overview

James has a broad commercial chancery practice including general commercial litigation and arbitration, trusts, pensions and professional liability.

He is consistently recommended in Chambers & Partners and in The Legal 500 for his pensions work.

In the latest editions he is described as *“extremely bright”* and *“very hardworking”*. He is *“a growing presence in the pensions field”*, and *“highly intelligent”*. He is considered *“one of those who can turn his hand to a lot of different things”*, as well as being *“good on the technical aspects of the law... extremely hard-working, responsive and very easy to work with”*. Recommended by Chambers & Partners, 2016 as *“a very solid junior who would be a serious contender for smaller cases that require a high-quality junior to appear without leading counsel”* and The Legal 500, 2015 note that he is *“able to understand the challenges that might be facing the client”*.

In the 2013 edition of Chambers & Partners he was featured as one of the ten stars at the Bar (five years call and under).

## Memberships

- Association of Pension Lawyers
- Chancery Bar Association
- Commercial Bar Association

## Publications

- [‘Exoneration clauses and self-dealing: Barnsley v Noble’](#) (2014) *Wilberforce Legal Digest* (Issue 1) March 2015
- The pensions chapter of Lightman & Moss



---

## Trusts, Tax, Probate and Estates

Many of James' recent cases have a significant trust law element.

**In addition to cases involving pension schemes, and commercial cases involving trust arguments, James' experience in this area includes:**

- Acting for an executor where an issue arose as to the proper interpretation of a self-dealing authorisation clause, as well as the proper interpretation and scope of an exoneration clause. The executor succeeded: *Barnsley v Noble*.
- Advising and acting as junior in a multi-faceted and multi-jurisdictional matrimonial dispute concerning inter alia the operation of family trust arrangements in Cyprus and the BVI.
- Advising on the proper interpretation of wills and trust documents.
- Acting for and against trustees in the context of alleged conflicts of interest.
- Acting on an application for court approval of an amendment to an employee benefit trust deed in the context of a £300m takeover of the employer, where the trustee was the major shareholder of the employer, and advising subsequently.