



Joanne Wicks QC

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Clerks' Details

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Qualifications and Appointments

- First Class degree in Jurisprudence and Gibbs Prize in Law, Oxford University
- Bachelor of Civil Law degree, Oxford University
- Kennedy and Hardwicke Scholar of Lincoln's Inn

“Exceptionally talented and very user-friendly”

The Legal 500, 2016

Memberships

- Chancery Bar Association
- Property Bar Association
- Professional Negligence Bar Association
- Women in Property
- Bar Pro Bono Unit panel
- ARBRIX

Practice Overview

Joanne has a broad commercial chancery practice with an emphasis on property litigation and related professional liability. She is ranked in Band 1 of Leading Silks for Real Estate Litigation by Chambers & Partners and described in The Legal 500 as *“incredibly bright but has the gift of being able to convey difficult concepts clearly to lay clients”* and by Who's Who Legal - UK Bar 2016 as *“an 'outstanding talent' at the Bar whose broad practice enables her to offer clients 'creative solutions'”*.

Joanne's strength is the ability to combine intellectual rigour with a good understanding of her clients' commercial interests and a determination to find the best way to serve them: according to Chambers & Partners she is viewed as *“an engaging practitioner who relates well to both the client and the court”* and *“knowledgeable, pragmatic and pleasant to deal with”*. She is recognised for the quality of her courtroom skills and her ability to deliver advice on the most complex of problems in a clear and client-friendly manner.

As well as appearing in courts and tribunals at every level, Joanne has very considerable experience of arbitrations and expert determinations, having acted in a substantial number of cases resolved by these means in recent years. She accepts instructions to act as an arbitrator or an independent expert in her specialist practice areas and also advises non-lawyer arbitrators and independent experts, as well as routinely acting as an advocate in arbitration or expert determination proceedings. Joanne is also an accredited mediator.



Commercial

Almost all of Joanne's work is, in the broadest sense, commercial, involving business clients engaged in resolving disputes about commercial issues. The focus is always on achieving corporate goals, whether through litigation, alternative dispute resolution or transactional advice.

Joanne advises on and acts for clients in relation to litigation about commercial contracts, joint ventures and other business structures and issues arising out of the acquisition or disposal of corporate interests. Her chancery expertise and property specialism enable her to advise on banking and financial transactions and act in related disputes, particularly those concerning property finance, mortgages and guarantees.

Joanne's business and commercial practice includes:

- Asset tracing
- Banking and finance
- Civil fraud
- Commercial arbitration
- Joint venture and partnership disputes

Recent/notable cases include:

- A claim for breach of warranty in respect of a sale of mortgage assets as part of a securitisation (*Lehman Commercial Mortgage Conduit Ltd v Northern Rock (Asset Management) Plc*).
- Acting in a series of adjudications between a PFI contractor and its subcontractor in relation to disrepair claims totalling more than £10m in respect of a portfolio of 300+ properties occupied by government departments.
- Advising a company on its potential liability to a prospective joint venture partner once the relationship soured.
- Advising on the effect on creditors of conversions of limited companies to industrial and provident societies/co-operative and community benefit societies and transfers of engagements between those entities.