



Joanne Wicks QC

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QC: 2010

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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

“Extremely knowledgeable, very bright, client-friendly and responsive”

Chambers & Partners 2018

Memberships

- Property Bar Association
- Chancery 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 negligence. She is ranked in Band 1 of Leading Silks for Real Estate Litigation by Chambers & Partners 2018, which says she has a **“fine reputation as a top real estate QC”** and is **“a joy to work with, really approachable and excellent at problem solving”**. She is also rated as one of the most highly regarded silks for Real Estate in Who's Who Legal UK Bar 2018, which says **“she's absolutely excellent”**. Other advocates describe her as **“a court opponent I would treat with the utmost caution and respect”**. Legal 500 2017 also says of Joanne that **“her calm and authoritative demeanour are a winning combination, and she is exceptionally knowledgeable”**. Joanne was named The Times' "Lawyer of the Week" in March 2019 for her work on the case of *Canary Wharf (BP4) T1 Ltd v European Medicines Agency*.

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. 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.



Domestic Arbitration and ADR

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 is familiar with all aspects of the procedures involved.

Joanne accepts instructions to act as an arbitrator or independent expert in fields in her specialist practice areas. She also advises non-lawyer arbitrators and independent experts, such as chartered surveyors, on legal issues and routinely acts as an advocate in arbitration or expert determination proceedings, whether conducted on paper alone or through an oral hearing. She is a member of ARBRIX and has spoken at the annual INDEX conference.

Joanne is also an accredited mediator and particularly familiar with mediation of property and professional liability disputes. She brings to this role her specialist legal knowledge, her understanding of commercial realities and a deep appreciation of the extent of the risks undertaken by those engaging in litigation.

Joanne is willing to offer early neutral evaluations, to assist parties in resolving their disputes without litigation.

Recent/notable cases include:

- Acting as legal assessor to a surveyor expert on an overage dispute
- Representing a client in a multi-million pound damages claim decided through expert determination, following the client's termination of a development agreement
- Appearing in court to challenge an arbitration award on the price payable under a pre-emption clause
- Successfully mediating a commercial landlord and tenant dispute in which the relationship had completely broken down
- Acting as advocate in an expert determination as to whether the client had reasonably refused its consent to an agreement under s.278 of the Highways Act 1980
- Drafting written submissions to an independent expert in relation to an issue of contractual interpretation affecting the date by which building works on a retail park were to be started and completed
- Appearing in court to resist a tenant's claim to set aside a rent review arbitration award on the grounds of serious procedural irregularity and on a point of law.