



## Martin Hutchings QC

Call: 1986

QC: 2011

### Clerks' Details

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

### Qualifications and Appointments

- MA (Oxon) Modern History

mhutchings@wilberforce.co.uk

## “Technically excellent and very commercial”

Chambers & Partners, 2017

### Memberships

- Property Bar Association
- Chancery Bar Association
- Professional Negligence Bar Association
- Pro Bono Unit panel

### Publications

- Building Schemes Law Clarified – *Birdlip v Hunter* [2016] *Wilberforce News Alert*
- S.18 (1) Landlord and tenant act 1927- short cuts: recent lessons from the court of appeal (2008) *Hot Topics in Property Law: A Surveyor's Guide*

### Practice Overview

Martin has a broad property practice covering both contentious and non-contentious matters and professional liability in related areas. He has acted in many recent high-profile cases covering all aspects of property litigation.

Martin is known for his ability to understand clients' commercial objectives and for providing rapid and practical advice.

He has particular experience in commercial landlord and tenant matters including business tenancies, dilapidations; insolvency-related lease issues, and consent for alienation. Martin also regularly appears in and advises on real property cases.

He has a wealth of recent reported cases. They concern such diverse areas as restrictive covenants; development agreements; easements; commercial lease interpretation and land registration.

Martin was awarded **Real Estate 'Silk of the Year'** at the Chambers Bar Awards 2014.

In 2013 he was successful in four separate property cases in the Court of Appeal concerning: easements; construction of a property sale confidentiality agreement; issue estoppel and dilapidations.

Martin is involved in many aspects of alternative dispute resolution including acting in mediations and as an adviser to arbitrators and experts.

Martin is consistently recommended in The Legal 500 and Chambers & Partners for property litigation and is listed in the **Who's Who Legal: UK Bar 2016** for Real Estate.

#### Recent editions of the directories have described him as:

- *"having excellent client care skills" and "noted for his clear and understandable opinions".*
- *"A very safe bet, excellent value for money and a dream to work with"*
- He is consistently praised for his advocacy. Chambers & Partners (2014) noted that he is: *"an understated and brilliant cross-examiner, he's gracious and unbelievably determined, and has phenomenal client skills. He delivers the blow and when the knife goes in you won't even feel it".*
- *"He is a challenging advocate to be against." "He is very able and user-friendly."*



---

## Professional Liability

Martin acts in professional liability matters relating to property professionals including valuers, solicitors and barristers. Martin is involved in numerous claims both for and against property professionals including valuers, managing agents, solicitors and barristers.

He acted for the successful claimant in *Larksworth v H.B Surveyors Ltd* [2010] in which the claimant recovered substantial damages arising from a surveyor's negligent failure to advise on time limits for the issuing of a compulsory purchase compensation claim.

He acted in multiple claims for West Bromwich Building Society in negligence actions against commercial valuers.

### **Martin is involved in a number of substantial property-related professional negligence claims including:**

- Acting for a high street bank in several lenders' claims against a variety of valuers.
- Defending a national firm of solicitors in relation to allegations concerning the wrongful appointment of a property receiver.
- Acting for the claimant in claims against a solicitor for negligence involving title issues regarding a high-profile residential development.
- Acting for the claimant in a claim against managing agents for negligence in the management of several blocks of flats.
- Defending solicitors in a claim relating to leasehold enfranchisement proceedings (*Katchukian v Kosky Seal* [2010]).
- Defending lawyers in a claim arising from advice given as to the enforceability of development agreements (*Ridgewood v Kilpatrick Stockton LLP and Otters* [2014]).