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Who we are

“Uniformly excellent
advocates”

Chambers UK Bar Guide

Maitland Chambers is one of the leading sets of barristers' chambers in the UK. We offer legal advice and representation of the highest quality within a range of business and private client specialisms. This often proves crucial, when matters span a number of different areas, and provides us with an important advantage in terms of the service we can offer.

We take immense pride in being able to offer cross-disciplinary experience and a broad legal perspective. Our approach to problems is both knowledgeable and imaginative, and permits us to be strategic, detailed, comprehensive and efficient. Our offering means that we bring the full benefit of this wide expertise to the most complex of matters.

“Maitland Chambers'
barristers are 'technically
brilliant, always
responsive, and easy to
use'.”

Legal 500

We are one of the largest Commercial Chancery sets in London, with over 65 members, including 28 Queen's Counsel. Our clerks' room will suggest Counsel whose experience is commensurate with the complexity or size of the case. Our barristers and staff are committed to providing service of the highest quality. Our mind-set and approach is regularly recognised in the international legal directories and at awards ceremonies.

“Stellar, client service-
orientated advocates”

Chambers UK Bar Guide

We regularly act in non-UK cases where our expertise in English law (and familiarity with overseas law and jurisdictions), our oral and written advocacy skills and our litigation and arbitration experience provide genuine added value. We advise, appear as advocates before non-UK courts and tribunals, otherwise assist in the conduct or resolution of disputes (including all forms of ADR), and provide expert evidence of English law.

We are recognised as leaders in our fields in the UK and international directories.

What we offer

“The service is good and the clerking is efficient, friendly and clear”

Chambers UK Bar Guide

Our expertise and long-standing experience in litigation, arbitration and advisory work encompasses the business, financial and property sectors, and covers issues which arise in both the corporate and the private client contexts. Areas covered include business and financial disputes; cross-border insolvencies; international turnaround and corporate restructuring; financial services and regulation; breach of duty and fraud claims, including the tracing and recovery of assets worldwide; corporate law and governance, including claims by shareholders and investors; all instruments used in lending, investment or financial structures, from the more traditional such as bonds, loan facilities, charges and security instruments to the more modern such as futures, swaps and other derivatives; personal insolvency; partnerships and joint ventures; financial mis-selling; hedge, private equity and other investment funds; real estate and property rights; trusts; and personal and family wealth, succession and taxation.

“One of the pre-eminent Chancery sets”

Legal 500 UK

Our barristers are available to travel (if necessary at short notice) for the purposes both of giving advice and to attend hearings. Junior barristers can also be made available for longer-term commitments outside the UK either for the purposes of dealing with a particular case or by way of a formal secondment. Where it is impractical or unnecessary to travel, we have two suites available for video-conferencing.

Our barristers are supported by an experienced and able clerking team. The senior clerks make regular professional visits to international jurisdictions to continue understanding the needs of our clients. They are very familiar with the practical and formal issues which arise in connection with an international instruction, and they have the experience to anticipate and address them. The clerking team has been described by *Chambers UK Bar Guide* as being “efficient, helpful and proactive” and headed by a Senior Clerk, John Wiggs, with an “excellent and highly responsive approach”.

Our International expertise

Our international and offshore work draws on our range of specialist skills. Examples of the types of issue, both contentious and non-contentious, in which we have experience include:

- Cross-border insolvencies and restructuring
- The operation and control of funds and other investment vehicles
- The inter-section between trust structures and corporate vehicles
- The variation and operation of offshore/non-UK trusts
- Fraud, asset-tracing and recovery actions, including worldwide freezing orders/injunctions, and search orders
- Advice and drafting in non-contentious matters, for example in structuring/restructuring offshore trusts, companies, partnerships and other structures, including related tax considerations
- Share valuation disputes, including in Cayman fair value proceedings under s. 238, acting both for the company and for the dissenters
- Breaches of duty by directors, officers and trustees
- Professional liability claims
- Shareholder and joint venture partner disputes
- Disputes relating to jurisdiction and service
- The enforcement of judgments/arbitration awards worldwide
- Family and succession disputes

“Excels in high-value, complex offshore work”

Chambers UK Bar Guide

“Their quality of advice and commitment to service are outstanding even by current practices and they engender absolute confidence in the client and those instructing.”

*Chambers UK Bar Guide
(Commercial Dispute Resolution)*

The range of services we offer includes:

- Advising and drafting documents
- Appearing as advocates in courts, tribunals and arbitrations outside the UK
- Being present at and assisting in the conduct of cases before non-UK courts where court advocacy rights are restricted to local lawyers
- Advising and representing clients in all aspects of Privy Council appeals from countries who make use of that court
- Giving expert evidence of law in proceedings outside the UK

International Insolvency work

“Maitland Chambers is an insolvency heavyweight”

Chambers UK Bar Guide

Much large-scale insolvency work has an international or cross-border element. We have considerable experience of issues arising under the EC Insolvency Regulation (which will be subject to the effect of Brexit), other EU regulations relating to banking and insurance, the Cross-Border Insolvency Regulations 2006, section 426 of the UK Insolvency Act 1986, the application of the UK Foreign Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) Act 1933 and other enforcement statutes, and the enforcement at common law in England of orders made in foreign insolvency proceedings.

Large-scale international insolvencies regularly throw up complex issues including the full use of schemes (available of course for solvent restructuring too), creditor protection, fraud, trusts and proprietary rights and possible interim applications, such as for anti-suit injunctions, to enforce arbitral awards, for permission to serve out of the jurisdiction, for injunctions to restrain commencement of insolvency proceedings, for freezing and proprietary injunctions, and for the appointment of provisional liquidators or receivers. We are particularly well-placed to provide this advice and representation in a multi-specialist context.

Our barristers are instructed to provide insolvency and restructuring advice and assistance in a range of jurisdictions, including the Caribbean, the Channel Islands, Gibraltar, Dubai and the Gulf, Hong Kong and Singapore. A number of our members are called to the Bar of some of these jurisdictions.

“Fast turnaround and availability”

Legal 500 UK

We act for creditors, secured and unsecured, insolvency practitioners and office holders and corporate or individual debtors. Several barristers are on the UK Attorney-General’s panels of Counsel, and act in high-profile UK insolvency related cases (e.g. Carillion).

We have been instructed in key litigation arising out of the 2008 economic crisis, including Fairfield Sentry and other Madoff litigation, Lehman Brothers, Farepak, the Icelandic banking crisis litigation (such as Kaupthing, Icesave, Landsbanki, Glitnir), MF Global, and other significant cases such as those involving Enron, Northern Rock, MG Rover, BCCI, Barlow Clowes, British & Commonwealth, Atlantic Computers, Maxwell and Polly Peck.

Commercial disputes, Fraud, Asset-tracing and Recovery

“The members of this commercial chancery set are outstanding in their field.”

*Chambers UK Bar Guide
(Commercial Dispute Resolution)*

“Their quality of advice and commitment to service are outstanding even by current practices and they engender absolute confidence in the client and those instructing.”

*Chambers UK Bar Guide
(Commercial Dispute Resolution)*

Our expertise spans all types of commercial and business disputes arising out of international transactions. This includes areas as diverse as banking and finance, construction and engineering, energy and natural resources, regulatory, compliance and investigations, international trade and joint ventures.

We also have the highest expertise in all aspects of fraud and dishonesty claims, including those based on misrepresentation, bribery or other corrupt payments, in conspiracy and accessory liability. Our experience includes cases where assets, or entities holding assets, are located in many jurisdictions; where there are trust and corporate structures operating at the same time; where freezing and search order relief is required in multiple jurisdictions; where issues arise as to the best jurisdiction for bringing or defending claims; where there are parallel civil proceedings and criminal proceedings in different jurisdictions; and where recovery of assets after trial needs to be pursued internationally. Most of the authors of *Civil Fraud: Law, Practice & Procedure*, published by Sweet & Maxwell, are members of Maitland.

Company, Partnership, Financial services

We are expert in both contentious and non-contentious company law, including breaches of directors' duties, corporate governance, shareholder disputes, takeovers, mergers and acquisitions, solvent corporate restructuring, loan capital and banking securities, schemes of arrangement, reductions of capital and insurance schemes.

"I would not hesitate to instruct them again"

Chambers UK Bar Guide

We advise on and litigate disputes about partnerships (including UK limited partnerships and UK limited liability partnerships) and joint venture structures. We regularly act for banks, hedge funds and other financial institutions, as well as for their clients, customers, investors, shareholders and for those who advise them. Our experience includes all forms of debt structures, letters of credit and bills of exchange, guarantees, litigation in the context of distressed investment funds, derivative actions, mis-selling claims and all forms of complex securities and investments. We also practise in the field of banking and financial services regulation, advising and acting in disputes concerning the powers and liabilities of regulatory bodies, investor compensation, and disciplinary proceedings.

International Arbitration

Our barristers have wide experience of acting as counsel and advocates in arbitrations conducted under all of the major institutional rules, including the ICC, LCIA, ICDR, SCC, SIAC, DIAC, HKIAC, CIETAC, and ICSID rules, as well as other major arbitral rules such as UNCITRAL. Our barristers also appear in court litigation ancillary to arbitration, such as disputes about the validity and scope of arbitration agreements, claims for pre- and post-arbitration injunctive relief, and challenges to and the enforcement of arbitral awards. We have experience of arbitrations involving parties from a wide range of industry sectors, including energy, mining, oil & gas, banking & financial services, food & beverage, pharmaceutical, commodities, international investment, and projects & construction. A number of our members also take appointments as arbitrator.


"A set where you know that the work is good"

Chambers UK Bar Guide

Contact us

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GABRIELLA McNICHOLAS
EDWARD GRANGER
EDWARD MEULI
AMANDA HADKISS
TED LOVEDAY
RYAN TURNER
ANDREW McLEOD

Chancery Set of the Year
Chambers Bar Awards 2013

“Clients consistently find the
'strength and depth' at
Maitland Chambers 'very
impressive”

Legal 500 UK

“Responsive, thoughtful, and
commercially astute”

Legal 500