

ANDREW WALKER KC

CALL: 1991 KC: 2011



OVERVIEW

Andrew is a senior and highly-experienced silk specialising in real estate and related disputes; company/joint venture disputes; commercial and investment disputes; and claims involving professionals and service providers.

He appears in courts and tribunals at all levels, and acts as an arbitrator, legal expert and legal assessor, including in statutory arbitrations under the Pubs Code. He has engaged with public inquiries and Parliamentary committees, and has acted as an expert witness on English law and as an examiner under letters of request to the English courts.

Andrew is also a past Chair of the Bar Council of England and Wales.

He is known for his strong focus on clients' commercial aims and concerns, and for his understanding of the different needs and demands of the alternatives to litigation. His approach is flexible, but will often involve early in-depth analysis; strategy formulation; navigating a range of dispute resolution options; and providing timely and incisive advice on key issues arising in a dispute or potential transaction.

His caseload covers a wide range of business sectors, particularly investment and development, finance, hotel and leisure, retail, transport, infrastructure, utilities, auctioneers, agency, the retirement/care sector, housing, education, trade and distribution, telecoms and IT.

EXPERTISE

REAL ESTATE

Andrew is instructed in substantial or complex property disputes of every type in relation to all types of real estate and in all sectors, and provides advisory support in relation to transactions relating to property.

He also acts in property-related disputes concerning corporate, partnership and other joint venture arrangements; finance; development; valuation; insolvency; fraud; asset recovery; and disposals and acquisitions.

Recent work has included:

- Development and planning promotion disputes relating to greenfield, brownfield and urban sites/proposals
- Enforcement of options
- Company shareholder / joint venture / LLP disputes in the property sector
- Utility rights over development land
- Rights of way
- Variations to land rights
- Present and future leasehold issues affecting the retirement living sector
- The impact of planning and highways infrastructure proposals
- Land valuation
- Complex and unusual commercial dilapidations claims
- Commercial and residential leasehold disputes
- Applications for landlord's consent
- Ownership and adverse possession
- Leasehold enfranchisement in prime central London
- Arbitrations under the Pubs Code (as both arbitrator and legal assessor)
- Restrictive covenant disputes, investigations, and related planning issues
- Misrepresentation
- Land registration
- Tower block cladding
- Riverside rights
- Rating
- Compulsory purchase

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION & ARBITRATION

Andrew deals with general commercial and investment disputes in a wide range of business sectors, including property investment and development, loan and equity finance, hotel and leisure, retail, transport, infrastructure, utilities, auctioneers, agency, care homes, housing, education, UK and international trade and distribution, telecoms and IT.

He also has specific expertise in disputes focusing on asset values: e.g. property assets, financial assets, investment portfolios, companies, shareholdings, businesses, pension funds, and art works.

PROFESSIONAL NEGLIGENCE

Andrew acts in claims of all types (including negligence, fraud and breaches of fiduciary duty) against professionals (non-medical) and commercial service providers.

His wide-ranging expertise includes claims for and against solicitors, barristers, surveyors, property valuers, actuaries, auctioneers/art valuers, pension consultants, personal and corporate tax advisors, and financial advisors/intermediaries.

COMPANY & PARTNERSHIP

Andrew's recent work has included claims relating to property joint ventures, contentious directorship appointments, receiverships and asset recovery, and duties arising on own-share acquisitions.

CIVIL FRAUD

Andrew is instructed to act in cases involving civil fraud linked to his other areas of expertise, particularly where property/financial assets or professionals are involved.

INSOLVENCY & ASSET RECOVERY

Andrew is instructed to act in cases involving contentious insolvency and asset recovery linked to his other areas of expertise, particularly in the property and property finance sector.

BANKING & FINANCIAL SERVICES

Andrew is instructed to act in cases involving financial professionals and financial services, particularly in the area of real estate finance.

ADR

Andrew has a wide range of experience as an advocate and advisor in mediations, arbitrations and expert determinations, and understands the different needs and demands of these ADR processes.

MEMBERSHIPS

- UK legal profession representative, CCBE Deontology Committee (the committee of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe dealing with lawyers' ethics and professional rules), 2022-
- King's/Queen's Counsel Selection Panel, 2020-2022
- UCL Independent Review of Legal Services Regulation, advisory panel, 2019-2020
- Chair of the Bar Council of England & Wales, 2018 (Vice-Chair, 2017)
- Bar Council (elected Member), 2005 to 2016. Past Chair, Ethics Committee; Past Vice-Chair, Law Reform and Access to the Bar Committees
- Lincoln's Inn (Bencher)
- Trinity Law Association (Chair)
- Professional Negligence Bar Association
- Property Bar Association
- Chancery Bar Association
- Commercial Bar Association
- Financial Services Lawyers Association
- Slyn Foundation delivery group (a charity focusing on judiciaries and the rule of law overseas; appointed for expertise on legal profession codes of conduct)
- Trustee of The Conservation Volunteers (a charity which works across the UK connecting people and green spaces), 2019-
- Trustee of The Industry and Parliament Trust (a charity which seeks to develop mutual understanding between the UK Parliament and the worlds of business and commerce), 2012-2022

QUALIFICATIONS

- Trinity College, Cambridge (MA)

APPOINTMENTS

- Recorder (Crime)