

Clare Dixon

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A formidable opponent because of her robust style in written and oral advocacy and in negotiations.

- Legal 500, 2020

Winner of the ‘Professional Negligence Junior of the Year‘ (2019) award by Chambers & Partners UK.

Clare Dixon practises in professional liability, insurance, disciplinary and commercial litigation. She believes in taking a tough but commercial approach to litigation and relishes advocacy in all its forms.

She is recommended as a Leading Junior in the legal directories for Professional Negligence and Insurance:

“A formidable opponent because of her robust style in written and oral advocacy and in negotiations.” (*Legal 500, 2020*)

"She is extremely good." (*Chambers & Partners, 2020*)

“She is firm, incisive and has the ear of the court.” (*Legal 500, 2020*)

"A formidable junior who is relentlessly good at what she does." "She comes up with an innovative approach to get a fantastic result, and is very user-friendly." "She is very good at making herself available, is very responsive and understands the pressures that solicitors might be under." (*Chambers & Partners, 2020*)

"She has good judgement and is technically excellent. A true team player." "The quality of her written work is very high and she is a delight to deal with." "Very bright and client-friendly." "She is very down-to-earth, a great communicator, and inspires confidence in the client." "She provides a first-class service - thoroughly recommended." (*Chambers & Partners, 2019*)

“She mixes great commercial acumen with an excellent grasp of black letter law.” “Responsive, bright and provides excellent advice.” (*Legal 500, 2019*)

"Technically outstanding", "very impressive on her feet" and "an excellent strategist" (*Who's Who Legal, 2019*)

“Reliable, thorough and good from the start of a claim through to trial. She is down to earth and straightforward, as well as clever and commercial. One of the best professional negligence juniors. Extremely trustworthy and superfast” (*Chambers & Partners, 2018*)

"A brilliant advocate" (*Who's Who Legal, 2018*)



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“Hardworking, timely in her responses and strong in her analysis” and “She provides robust and commercial advice, and is very tenacious” (*Legal 500, 2017*)

“She’s extremely intelligent, and gives her advice in a very understandable way” and “She is fantastic to work with and quickly grasps the detail in large cases” (*Chambers & Partners, 2017*)

She **“provides probably the best-drafted written advice of any junior at the Bar” and “is admired by sources who value her “high intellect””** (*Who’s Who Legal, 2017*)

“A no-nonsense terrier in court, who will tenaciously fight your corner” and “Calm and collected, hardworking, and a safe pair of hands” (*Legal 500, 2016*)

“An impressive junior with over a decade of experience in commercial litigation and professional negligence. She takes on work that involves a range of professionals including solicitors, surveyors and insurance brokers”. She is “A markedly insightful, meticulous and accomplished professional negligence advocate. She is approachable, driven and pragmatic – definitely someone to have on your team”. “She quickly grasps the important issues and provides advice which always considers the client’s commercial considerations”. (*Chambers & Partners, 2016*)

Privacy Policy

Click here for a **Privacy Policy** for Clare Dixon.

Other information

Clare supports FreeBar, a forum focused on LGBT+ people and their allies working at and for the Bar.

Areas of Expertise

Commercial Dispute Resolution

Clare’s practice includes a broad spread of commercial work. She has acted in a variety of contractual disputes as well as matters involving sale of goods litigation and mortgage related disputes. She also has experience of obtaining urgent injunctive relief.

Notable instructions include:

- Successfully obtaining an interim injunction for a medical reporting organisation to stop the downgrading of its status which change would have caused irreparable harm to the company. Having secured the position, Clare (led by Patrick Lawrence QC) was then instructed in the subsequent judicial review proceedings.
- Acting for a software company in a dispute over the construction and application of a sale purchase agreement involving the sale of a website and associated assets.
- Acting for a loss adjustor in a case involving interlocking commercial agreements arising out of the handling of claims under the RTA portal.
- Acting for a financial services compliance company in a contractual dispute with a bank to whom it had provided services.
- Acting in a referral to the Upper Tribunal and appeal to the Court of Appeal on behalf of a financial services company in a financial services enforcement case.
- Acting for a glazing specialist in a contractual claim arising out of the supply of sealant for a construction project.

- *A substantial dispute between a local authority and its services outsourcing provider. The case involved the interpretation of multiple interrelated contracts and contractual documents, and their application to a variety of local authority procurement needs (eg highways and residential care homes). Clare was instructed by Pinsent Masons LLP and led by David Turner QC.*
- *A claim in fraud by a professional indemnity insurer and a leading firm of solicitors against their former employee: **Travelers Insurance Co Ltd & Denton Wilde Sapte v Advani** [2012] EWHC 623. The case was concerned with whether the former employee had acted fraudulently and/or outside the scope of her employment so as to entitle the claimants to recover costs which they had expended in defending both the former employee and her then employer in a previous action. Clare was led by Justin Fenwick QC for the trial of the action but then acted alone on the subsequent freezing injunction applications.*
- *Clare was instructed by Holman, Fenwick & Willan in a 12 week trial in the Commercial Court: **Abu Dhabi Investment Company v Clarkson** [2007] EWHC 1267 (Comm). The Claimants had invested in a joint venture container shipping line which was to be operated from Abu Dhabi: Abu Dhabi Container Lines (“ADCL”). ADCL purchased 10 container vessels to run on its line at a cost of about USD\$400million. ADCL failed within months of its inception. Proceedings were brought against the ship brokers who had advised the Claimants, the joint venture partner who it was found had fraudulently misrepresented the earning capacity and viability of the vessels, and the bank who had provided funding for the venture.*
- *Acting for a flooring supplier which succeeded at trial in a claim relating to the payment for, and supply of, goods.*

Cases

- Travelers Insurance Co Ltd and Denton Wilde Sapte v Advani
- Abu Dhabi Investment Company v Clarkson

Qualifications & Memberships

Prior to being called to the Bar, Clare read law at St Anne’s College, Oxford University, where she was President of the Oxford Union.

Clare is on the executive committee of the Professional Negligence Bar Association.

Publications

The new SRA Standards and Regulations: Greater freedom for solicitors?

21 October 2019

In this article, Helen Evans and Clare Dixon of 4 New Square review whether the new principles, codes of conduct and disciplinary procedure rules wholeheartedly reflect a relaxation of the SRA’s grip, or whether competing forces are apparent. They also consider whether one of the unintended consequence of some of the liberalisation is to introduce a two-tier regulatory system for solicitors practising within regulated entities (such as firms) and those outside that structure.

Loss of a chance and the Claimant’s misconduct

1 April 2019

When a defendant to a lost litigation claim relies upon allegations of fraud made by a third party, does that defendant have to state whether it asserts the truth of those allegations? A recent decision of the High Court on a strike out application has clarified that it does not. Clare Dixon summarises the case concerned in which Helen Evans appeared for the successful defendant.

GDPR and Insurance: who picks up the tab when things go wrong?

8 May 2018



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Notwithstanding assurances from the Information Commissioner that they “prefer the carrot to the stick” the fact remains that the ICO will have the power under Article 83(4) the General Data Protection Regulation (“GDPR”) to levy fines of up to €10million or 2% of annual global turnover on data controllers. Alison Padfield QC, Clare Dixon and Peter Morcos consider which aspects of GDPR compliance are likely to be insurable and/or insured, focussing in particular upon: (a) the insurability (or otherwise) of fines; (b) new potential liabilities under the GDPR; and (c) the potential pitfalls of assuming that cyber insurance will cover all civil liabilities under GDPR.

Nesbit Law Group LLP v Acasta European Insurance Company Limited [2018] EWCA Civ 268

1 March 2018

In Nesbit Law Group LLP the Court of Appeal had to determine the proper construction of an exclusion clause in a series of Fidelity Guarantee Indemnity policies and whether the insurer should be permitted to amend its defence (the application having been made weeks before the hearing of the appeal) to allege various breaches of a loan agreement by insured which breaches were necessary for the insured to be caught by the exclusion clause.

Jackson & Powell on Professional Liability

1 December 2016

Editor

Journal of Professional Negligence: commentary on Berney v Saul [2013] EWCA Civ 640

6 March 2014

Insurance Law Monthly: Standard Life Assurance Ltd v ACE European Group [2012] EWCA Civ 1713

29 March 2013

Insurance Law Monthly: Global Process Systems (Court of Appeal)

25 May 2010