

## Paul Fisher

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*Paul was incredibly diligent and easy to work with – a keen sense of detail coupled with a firm technical and legal understanding*  
- Legal 500

Paul also has a thriving public law practice. His work is advocacy-heavy, complemented by the fact that he serves as Counsel on the Attorney General's Civil Panel (C Panel). In this capacity he frequently acts for and advises various government bodies, including the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, Home Office, Ministry of Justice, Environment Agency and the Department for Communities and Local Government. This includes judicial review and applications for interim relief in cases relating to alleged unlawful detention, human trafficking and unlawful deportation as well as the lawfulness of sanctions regimes.

Paul is no stranger to disputes with an international angle. Outside of the UK, he has particular expertise in projects within the Middle East and the CIS/Central Asia. He is a busy junior advocate with plenty of experience acting as sole counsel and with silks. Notable recent cases include:

1. A series of hearings before the High Court in which Paul successfully obtained freezing orders in respect of commercial debts arising from the largest private prosecution in British legal history (*Mirchandani -and- (1) Gheewala (2) Augusta Ventures Ltd* [2020] EWHC 1742 (QB));
2. A number of cladding cases in which Paul acts for claimants and defendants in actions arising out of investigations instigated following the tragic Grenfell Tower fire in June 2017. This includes a case arising out of the significant Media City UK development in Salford, in which Paul acts for one of the defendants (led by Sian Mirchandani QC);
3. Proceedings before the Qatar Civil and Commercial Court for enforcement of performance/advance payment bonds (*Obayashi Qatar LLC v Qatar First Bank LLC (Public)* [2020] QIC (F) 5) and in a trial concerned with a debt owed for the supply and installation of ATMs in Doha for a major Qatari bank (*Protech Solutions LLC v Qatar Islamic Bank QPSC* [2020] QIF (F) 14).

Paul frequently writes for publications throughout England and the Middle East on matters pertaining to his main areas of practice. He provides seminars and talks tailored to the needs of individual firms and has given lectures abroad on advocacy and the English legal system. Paul also has Russian language skills and has experience of legal issues surrounding significant infrastructure projects arising out of the CIS.

For more details about Paul's work in respect of each of his practice areas, please refer to the relevant headings below.

## Privacy Policy

Click here for a [Privacy Policy](#) for Paul Fisher.

## Areas of Expertise

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### Costs

Paul has extensive experience of costs disputes, including:

- Advising on the scope and operation of Conditional Fee Agreements;
- Advising and acting in cases engaging the 2013 Jackson Reforms, including the introduction of costs budgeting;
- Advising on the application of the principle of neutrality for interveners in judicial review proceedings.
- A costs hearing before a Circuit Judge arising out of facts from *MRH v The County Court sitting at Manchester [2015] EWHC 1795 (Admin)*;
- Advising and acting in detailed assessments before costs officers;
- Advising and acting in a case that concerned the recovery of professional fees by a firm acting as a litigant-in-person (application of the ‘*Chorley Principle*’);
- Advising and acting in a detailed assessment before the Registrar of the Qatar International Court;
- Advising on the scope and operation of ATE policies

Paul has written on costs issues such as the pre-Jackson principles surrounding ATE recovery (‘After the event: a premium on justice – *Hawksford Trustees Jersey Ltd v Stella Global UK Ltd [2012] EWCA Civ 987 C.J.Q. 2013, 32(1), 27-32* and the utilisation of the indemnity basis as a means to support pro bono legal advice and representation (No such thing as a free lunch? *N.L.J. 2012, 162(7527), 1068*)

## Qualifications & Memberships

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### Memberships

COMBAR, PNBA, TECBAR

### Education

Paul read law at St. Catherine’s College, Oxford where he obtained a first class degree and was awarded a David Blank Scholarship. At the same institution Paul achieved a distinction on the BCL studying with the benefit of a graduate scholarship. Throughout this time Paul received various university prizes including for his performance in Competition, Labour and EU Constitutional law. Having studied the BPTC at Cardiff University (graded Outstanding) Paul was called to the Bar at Middle Temple where he is an Astbury Scholar and a Lechmere Essay Prize winner. In 2012 he was awarded the Access to Justice Foundation Student Essay Prize. Paul has served as a part-time Lecturer at St. Catherine’s College, University of Oxford teaching the law of contract and constitutional law. Paul also has an MA in Russian studies from the School of Slavonic and East European Studies at University College London (Distinction).

## Insights

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### **Wheeldon Brothers Waste Limited v Millennium Insurance Company Limited [2018] EWHC 834 (TCC): the construction of a condition precedent relating to storage of combustible materials**

30 April 2018

When a fire caused damage at a waste processing plant owned by the Claimant, Wheeldon Brothers Waste Limited (“Wheeldon”), the Defendant insurer, Millennium Insurance Company Limited (“Millenium”), declined an indemnity on the grounds that, among



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other things, Wheeldon had been in breach of conditions precedent to liability. Judgment in favour of Wheeldon's claim for declaratory relief, and indemnity and/or damages (liability only) was given by Jonathan Acton Davis QC sitting as Deputy High Court Judge. The case serves as another reminder of the principles applicable to contractual construction and the operation of conditions precedent to liability in insurance contracts. The Court's decision is considered by Paul Fisher of 4 New Square.

### **Ambitions for Astana**

7 March 2018

Paul Fisher writes for Practical Law in the first of a series of articles on dispute resolution in the new Astana International Financial Centre and its Court. [Click to read the article.](#)

### **Soviet Union's Approach to Arbitration and its Enduring Influence Upon Arbitration, Russian Law Journal, 2017 5(4):129-150**

4 November 2017

### **Milton Furnitures Limited v Brit Insurance Limited [2015] EWCA Civ 671**

7 July 2017

### **Building Qatar: International Diplomacy and the Contractual Bargain**

7 July 2017

### **Liability insurance: governing law and jurisdiction**

1 September 2016

### **Atlasnavios – Navegacao, LDA v Navigators Insurance Company Ltd & Ors [2016] EWCA Civ 808**

1 August 2016