

## Siân Mirchandani QC

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**Clerk: Dennis Peck**

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*An excellent advocate – tenacious and extremely detailed, identifying potential problems and arguments even before they arise*

- Legal 500

**Siân Mirchandani QC has established a broad commercial practice encompassing construction/engineering, professional liability claims, insurance and disciplinary claims in court proceedings, arbitrations and adjudications.**

Siân has a particular interest in disputes involving construction, IT, technical and scientific elements and this has led to a strong construction/engineering practice and wide ranging experience in regulatory and experimental product testing claims.

Prior to her successful first application for silk in 2018, Siân was recognised as a Leading Junior by the directories for Construction, Professional Negligence and Disciplinary.

In Legal 500, 2019 Siân is described by her clients as *“an excellent advocate – tenacious and extremely detailed, identifying potential problems and arguments even before they arise”* and *“tremendously bright, has a tenacious eye for detail, and brings a new level of strategic thinking to the table”*.

In Chambers & Partners, 2019, Siân has been commended for her approach to her cases: *“She is very competent and thorough and hits the right points in the right places”*, *“extremely responsive wherever she is and whatever the time zone. She has a very reassuring demeanour that instils confidence all round”*, *“proactive, helpful”* and *“someone who prepares the case very well”*.

Who's Who Legal, 2019 says: *“Siân Mirchandani QC is recognised for her superb professional negligence practice.”*

Winner of Chambers & Partners 'Professional Negligence Junior of the Year' 2015. Previous directory comments from clients have included *“My default senior junior”* *“She can cut through the complex very quickly”* and *She’s very strong on complex matters.”* and *“She really gets into the detail and owns a case”*. Clients have described Siân as having *“a sharp mind and excellent attention to detail”*, and reported that *“she is excellent – very pleasant to deal with and extremely robust and effective for her clients.”* and *“a very effective, hard-working practitioner with an eye for detail and the ability to present a highly persuasive argument”* and *“The great thing about her is that on every occasion her advice is strong, firm and consistent, which allows us to get an excellent settlement.”* and *“Very bright, robust, dedicated and thorough”*.

Siân has wide and considerable experience of professional liability claims, including claims against accountants and auditors, architects, building inspectors, engineers, financial services professionals, insolvency practitioners, insurance brokers and agents, lawyers (solicitors and barristers), surveyors and valuers, receivers, land management agents, farm management agents, estate agents, clinicians and veterinary surgeons. Siân is a TECBAR accredited adjudicator.

Siân also has considerable experience of professional disciplinary tribunals (particularly architects and building inspectors),



arbitrations, adjudications and mediations. Having qualified from Cambridge University as a veterinary surgeon in 1992, Siân worked in academic and general practice as a veterinary surgeon before coming to the Bar and joining Chambers in 1998.

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## Areas of Expertise

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### Property Damage

Siân has considerable experience of commercial claims, particularly claims involving fires and destruction of commercial and residential property (and contents). Alongside her insurance and reinsurance practice, Siân is regularly instructed in insurers' subrogated claims following fires.

Current and recent cases are included below.

### Cases

- **Advising insurers**  
On routes for recovery for claim involving failure of cavity barriers in newly built and refurbished building leading to fire spread.
- **Advising supplier**  
Of electronic components used in emergency vehicles on claims arising from fire in a vehicle, including negotiating 'joint defence' agreement with US manufacturer.
- **Advising insurers**  
Advising insurers of a management company on investigations, routes of claim and pursuit of subrogation following a gas boiler explosion leading to severe damage to a block of flats in Knightsbridge.
- **Advising insurers**  
Advising insurers on a spread of fire claim.
- **Advising and defending insurers**  
Advising and defending insurers of a supplier of medical equipment implicated in a residential fire involving dependency claims under the Fatal Accidents Act 1976 and building and contents' claim, as well as international product liability and warranty claims against the manufacturer.
- **Advising and defending insurers**  
Advising and defending insurers under a Contractors' All Works policy following a fire during refurbishment of a leisure club.
- **Advising two separate arms of the same multi-national insurance company**  
Advising two separate arms of the same multi-national insurance company as to the meaning and operation of design and operator error exclusions following damage of a food waste digester due to process 'run away' leading to over pressurisation damage.
- **Advising a local authority's insurers**  
Advising a local authority's insurers on expert technical evidence obtained following a fire in a garage that implicated a converted minibus as the cause of the fire, involving claims 'up the line' against manufacturers, suppliers and installers of the wheelchair lift fitted to the vehicle.



- **Advising and defending household insurers**

Advising and defending household insurers of residential property adversely affected by run-off of water from adjoining re-profiled building site, resulting in severe inundation of the property.

## **Qualifications & Memberships**

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Siân is a member of the Professional Negligence Bar Association, the Society of Construction Law, COMBAR, TECBAR, the Chancery Bar Association and the London Common Law & Commercial Bar Association. She is a Committee Member of the Technology and Construction Court Bar Association (TECBAR).

### **Education**

M.A. Vet M.B. (Cantab.) Dip. Law (City)

## **Insights**

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### **Surveyors and Valuers chapter of Professional Negligence and Liability**

1 September 2018