

OUR PEOPLE

Tom Asquith

CALL 2007

LEGAL 500

“Tom is an experienced and savvy construction lawyer with first-class drafting skills. He is an excellent oral advocate – smooth, yet direct and on top of the detail.”



✉ t.asquith@4newsquare.com

☎ [+442078222123](tel:+442078222123)

Tom specialises in commercial and construction disputes.

Chambers & Partners says that “Tom is measured in his thinking and does not let anything get past him.” and “Tom is always helpful; he gets involved in the detail and is very much part of the team.”

Legal 500 characterises Tom as “an experienced and savvy construction lawyer with first-class drafting skills. He is an excellent oral advocate – smooth, yet direct and on top of the detail.” “a persuasive advocate. He has an affable style which puts judges at ease.” “level-headed and calm, and excellent with clients. Extremely impressive advocacy.” and “He understands the commerciality of claims and tailors his advice accordingly.”

He is recommended as a leading junior in Banking & Finance, Construction, Financial Services, Professional Negligence and Professional Negligence: Technology & Construction.

Privacy Policy

Click here for a [Privacy Policy](#) for Tom Asquith.

Expertise

Arbitration

Tom has broad experience of International Arbitration as junior counsel, sole counsel and tribunal secretary (to the Court of Arbitration for Sport). He has acted as sole counsel at several final hearings, including against leading counsel. He is also experienced in challenging and seeking enforcement of arbitration awards. He is on the arbitral panel of Sport Resolutions.

Banking & Financial Services

“Tom is a persuasive advocate. He has an affable style which puts judges at ease.” – *Legal 500, 2023: Banking and Finance*

“Tom is level-headed and calm, and excellent with clients. Extremely impressive advocacy.” – *Legal 500, 2023: Financial Services Regulation*

“He has a good grasp of issues involved and provides accurate advice.” – *Legal 500, 2022: Banking and Finance*

“He has excellent attention to detail, and his advocacy is well measured and thoughtful.” – *Legal 500, 2022: Financial Services Regulation*

Tom’s financial services experience includes acting for regulators, regulated firms and customers of those firms in both civil and regulatory spheres. He has appeared for the regulated against the FCA before the RDC. He has been both seconded to and instructed by the FSA/FCA.

He has acted in claims involving FOREX traders, investment managers, mortgage brokers and pension advisers.

He also acts regularly in banking matters, including claims relating to loans, guarantees and mortgages.

Featured Banking & Financial Services cases

- *Taylor v Legal and General Partnership Services Limited* [2022] EWHC 2475 (Ch). Trial of claim against mortgage broker.
- *Dimopoulos v Giannikopoulos* [2018] EWHC 1280 (QB). Whether agreement to repay monies had been reached.
- *Two Right Feet Ltd v National Westminster Bank Plc, Royal Bank of Scotland Plc, KPMG LLP* [2017] EWHC 1745 (Ch). Indemnity basis costs order after discontinuance of a claim.

Commercial Litigation

Tom’s commercial practice encompasses disputes of all kinds involving domestic and international businesses and property, particularly claims for breach of contract and civil fraud claims.

Featured Commercial cases

- *Axis Football Investments Ltd v (1) Lee Power (2) Swinton Reds 20 Ltd (3) Seebeck 87 Ltd* [2020] EWHC 1171 (Ch). Application for injunction regarding potential sale of football club.
- *Michael Standing v Lee Power* [2020] EWHC 1173 (Ch). Application for fortification of injunction.
- *Beverley Goldman & ors v (1) Zurich Insurance Plc (2) East West Insurance Co Ltd* [2020] EWHC 192 (TCC). Application for strike out of fraud claim, led by Jeffrey Chapman QC.
- *Dimopoulos v Giannikopoulos* [2018] EWHC 1280 (QB). Whether agreement to repay monies had been reached.
- *Two Right Feet Ltd v National Westminster Bank Plc, Royal Bank of Scotland Plc, KPMG LLP* [2017] EWHC 1745 (Ch). Indemnity basis costs order after discontinuance of claim.
- *Pietro Gatto (T/A AG Avvocati Gatto) v Allianz SPA* [2017] EWHC 955 (Comm). Resisting application to add a claim of fraudulent misrepresentation against an insurer’s alleged agent.
- *Rahim v Arch Insurance Co (Europe) Ltd* [2016] EWHC 2967 (Comm). Defending allegations of dishonesty made against solicitor by insurer in Commercial Court trial, led by Graham Chapman QC.
- *Eyland & Sons Ltd v (1) TSL Turton (2014) Ltd (2) Steven Bond* [2015] EWHC 3942 (QB). Defending claim for conversion, causing loss by unlawful means and conspiracy as sole counsel.
- *D & G Cars Ltd v Essex Police Authority* [2015] EWHC 226 (QB). Resisting claims of conspiracy and corruption in a police force, as junior to Patrick Lawrence QC.
- *Re I Fit Global Ltd* [2014] 2 B.C.L.C. 116. Unfair prejudice petition involving purported removal of petitioner’s shareholding.
- *Makar v Russell Jones & Walker* [2012] EWHC 3681 (Comm). Application to strike out professional liability claim.

Construction & Engineering

“Tom is always helpful; he gets involved in the detail and is very much part of the team.” – *Chambers & Partners, 2023: Professional Negligence: Technology and Construction*

“Tom is an experienced and savvy construction lawyer with first-class drafting skills. He is an excellent oral advocate – smooth, yet direct and on top of the detail.” – *Legal 500, 2023: Construction*

Tom has significant experience of construction disputes, in adjudication, arbitration and litigation. He has acted in employer-contractor disputes and in cases involving a variety of construction professionals, particularly engineers and architects. He frequently handles alleged dishonesty cases in addition to alleged breach of contract and/or negligence cases.

Featured Construction & Engineering cases

- *Avantage (Cheshire) Limited and ors v GB Building Solutions Limited (in administration) and ors* [2022] EWHC 171 (TCC). Resisting application by fire engineer for summary judgment based on alleged lack of duty owed, led by Alison Padfield QC.
- *The Front Door (UK) Ltd v The Lower Mill Estate Ltd* [2021] EWHC 2324 (TCC). Application to join proposed defendants.
- *Curtiss & Ors v Zurich Insurance Plc & Anor* [2021] EWHC 1999 (TCC). Guidance on the disclosure pilot scheme, led by Fiona Sinclair QC.
- *Beverley Goldman & ors v (1) Zurich Insurance Plc (2) East West Insurance Co Ltd* [2020] EWHC 192 (TCC). Claim relating to inspections by building guarantee inspectors and subsequent cover notes, led by Jeffrey Chapman QC.
- *Zagora and ors v Zurich Insurance Plc and ors* [2019] EWHC 140 (TCC). Sole counsel in a four week trial against a Building Regulations approved inspector.
- *A v B*. Arbitration relating to a nuclear facilities project, led by Roger Stewart QC.

Professional Negligence

“Tom is measured in his thinking and does not let anything get past him.” – *Chambers & Partners, 2023: Professional Negligence*

“He understands the commerciality of claims and tailors his advice accordingly.” – *Legal 500, 2023: Professional Negligence*

“He produced a great argument and was very nimble on his feet.” **“Very nice, very clever and very able.”** – *Chambers & Partners 2022: Professional Negligence*

Tom is instructed by both claimants and defendants across a wide range of professions. He has particular experience in claims relating to accountants/financial advisers, construction professionals and lawyers.

Featured Professional Negligence cases

- *Taylor v Legal and General Partnership Services Limited* [2022] EWHC 2475 (Ch). Trial of claim against mortgage broker.
- *Avantage (Cheshire) Limited and ors v GB Building Solutions Limited (in administration) and ors* [2022] EWHC 171 (TCC). Resisting application by fire engineer for summary judgment based on alleged lack of duty owed, led by Alison Padfield QC.
- *Trainer v Cramer Pelmont (a firm)* [2019] EWHC 2501 (QB). Limitation appeal – s.14A.
- *Zagora and ors v Zurich Insurance Plc and ors* [2019] EWHC 140 (TCC). Sole counsel in a four week trial against a Building Regulations approved inspector.
- *Rumfitt v Burgess Hodgson (a firm)* [2018] EWHC 4000 (QB). Strike out of accountants' negligence claim – tax advice issues.
- *Godfrey Morgan Solicitors (a firm) v Mr Michael Armes* [2017] PNLR 30. Limitation appeal – CPR 19.
- *Pietro Gatto (T/A AG Avvocati Gatto) v Allianz SPA* [2017] EWHC 955 (Comm). Application to amend in Italian lawyer's coverage claim.
- *Seery v Leathes Prior* [2017] EWHC 80 (QB). Trial of claim against solicitor's firm – underlying unfair prejudice petition.
- *Rahim v Arch Insurance Co (Europe) Ltd* [2016] EWHC 2967 (Comm). Trial of solicitor's claim for insurance cover – dishonesty issues.
- *Makar v Russell Jones & Walker* [2012] EWHC 3681 (Comm). Strike out application.

Awards



Education

BA (Oxon.) (Classics); Lord Mansfield, Lord Brougham, Hardwicke and Hubert Greenland scholarships from Lincoln's Inn.