

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](mailto:t.asquith@4newsquare.com)

☎ +442078222123

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

Comments from the directories include:

"Tom Asquith is very considered, thoughtful and responsive. He is very engaged and works incredibly hard." (Chambers & Partners 2024).

"Tom is an excellent barrister. He has in-depth technical knowledge and an understanding of the construction profession. Tom is a strong advocate who is able to present a case in a clear and persuasive manner. He is friendly, polite, approachable, positive but robust and able to elicit key information from clients even on more sensitive aspects of a case." (Legal 500 2024).

He is on the Executive Committee of the Professional Negligence Bar Association, an advocacy trainer for Lincoln's Inn and a mentor on the Lincoln's Inn Pupillage Foundation Scheme.

## Privacy Policy

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

## Expertise

## Banking & Financial Services

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

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

Tom has acted in a wide variety of financial claims including those involving loans, guarantees, mortgages and pensions.

### Featured Banking & Financial Services cases

- *Hope Capital Limited v Alexander Reece Thomson LLP* [2023] EWHC 2389 (KB). Trial of claim by bridging finance provider against valuer.
- *Taylor v Legal and General Partnership Services Limited* [2022] EWHC 2475 (Ch). Trial of claim against mortgage broker.

## Commercial Litigation

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### Featured Commercial cases

- *Manolete v Ian White* [2023] EWHC 567 (Ch). Application by judgment creditor raising issues under s.91 of the Pensions Act 1995.
- *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.

## Construction & Engineering

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**“Tom Asquith is very considered, thoughtful and responsive. He is very engaged and works incredibly hard.”** – Chambers & Partners: Professional Negligence: Technology and Construction

**“Tom is an excellent barrister. He has in-depth technical knowledge and an understanding of the construction profession. Tom is a strong advocate who is able to present a case in a clear and persuasive manner. He is friendly, polite, approachable, positive but robust and able to elicit key information from clients even on more sensitive aspects of a case”** – Legal 500: 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.

### 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.

## Insurance & Reinsurance

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**“Tom has an impressive knowledge of insurance law and expertise in policy coverage analysis. He provides advice on complex policy coverage points in a manner that is clear, succinct and easily digestible, yet is very clearly on top of the detail.”** – Legal 500: Insurance and Reinsurance

Tom acts for both policyholders and insurers. He has completed a secondment in Mayer Brown LLP's insurance department, helping him to understand insurance cases from an instructing solicitor's perspective. He has also spent time at Lloyd's shadowing underwriters.

## Featured Insurance cases

- *Curtiss & Ors v Zurich Insurance Plc & Anor* [2021] EWHC 1999 (TCC). Guidance on the disclosure pilot scheme, led by Fiona Sinclair QC. The claim related to the issuing of insurance policies on new build properties.
- *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 relating to cover notes, led by Jeffrey Chapman QC.
- *Pietro Gatto (T/A AG Avvocati Gatto) v Allianz SPA* [2017] EWHC 3908 (Comm). Trial of insurance coverage claim based on Italian law.
- *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.

## Professional Negligence

***"Tom is impressive, knowledgeable and congenial."*** – Chambers & Partners: Professional Negligence

***"Tom is a fantastic barrister. He is very easy to work with, his drafting is impeccable and he feels a part of the legal team offering concise, candid and practical advice."*** – Legal 500: Professional Negligence

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

***"He understands the commerciality of claims and tailors his advice accordingly."*** – Legal 500: 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, lawyers and valuers.

## Featured Professional Negligence cases

- *Hope Capital Limited v Alexander Reece Thomson LLP* [2023] EWHC 2389 (KB). Trial of claim by bridging finance provider against valuer.
- *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.
- *Godfrey Morgan Solicitors (a firm) v Mr Michael Armes* [2017] EWCA Civ 323. Limitation appeal – CPR 19.
- *Seery v Leathes Prior* [2017] EWHC 80 (QB). Trial of claim against solicitor's firm – underlying unfair prejudice petition.

## Awards



## Education

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

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