

# employment

an excellent  
employment set,  
where there is  
always a barrister  
available at the  
level required

Legal 500

# about devereux

**We are one of the UK's top civil and commercial sets. We place a strong emphasis on advocacy with a professional yet client-friendly and pragmatic approach.**

Established over 60 years ago, Devereux is large enough to provide in depth expertise at all levels, but at the same time we take great care to provide a tailored approach to all our clients. The advice and representation we provide is clear, practical and delivered in a way that is unstuffy.

Devereux is ranked by the Legal 500 and Chambers UK directories as a leading employment set; many of our members are also listed individually as leading employment practitioners.

**“Devereux is ‘particularly commended for their provision of quality service’.”** [Chambers UK](#)

**“A ‘formidable advocate and ferocious cross-examiner’, Ingrid Simler QC is well known for her experience in handling cases with an EU dimension. Timothy Brennan QC ‘turns advice around very efficiently’ and Bruce Carr QC is ‘a real class act – he never seems to get phased and thinks incredibly fast on his feet’.”** [Legal 500](#)

# who we are

Devereux is widely recognised as one of the leading employment sets in the country. Our employment group includes leading silks, respected senior juniors and up and coming junior juniors. Several of our members have been recognised for outstanding performance as practitioners by being nominated for accolades such as 'Employment Silk of the Year', 'Employment Junior of the Year' and 'Barrister of the Year'. In addition a number of our members have been appointed to the Treasury Panels.

We appear in the High Court, Employment Tribunals, the Employment Appeal Tribunal, the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court. We appear not only in England and Wales but also in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Many of our members write and contribute to leading employment titles including *Harvey on Industrial Relations and Employment Law* (Lexis Nexis), *Contract Actions in Employment Law* (Bloomsbury Professional), *Jordan's Employment Law, Discrimination Law* (Bloomsbury Professional), *Employment Tribunal Remedies* (OUP), *Jordan's Equality and Discrimination: The New Law* and *Employment Aspects of Business Reorganisations* (OUP).

**“At junior level, Nicholas Randall is ‘a genuine star of the employment bar, who offers QC ability and presence, first-class judgment and a complete command of the subject’. Suzanne McKie brings a ‘commercial and strategic perspective to any case management; she is almost entirely unflappable and absorbs pressure like a sponge’.”** [Legal 500](#)

# what we do

The advice and representation we provide is clear and precise as well as practical and effective. We can be robust in the court room but have a reputation for being friendly, unstuffy and down-to-earth.

Our wide range of clients include blue chip companies, City institutions, partnerships and trade unions as well as senior executives and other high profile individuals.

We undertake all areas of employment work, collective and individual, including:

- restrictive covenants and team moves
- bonus claims
- wrongful dismissal and directors' contracts
- pension schemes and share schemes
- industrial disputes, recognition and trade union law
- discrimination (age, race, sex, sexual orientation, religion and belief and disability as well as discrimination outside the employment field)
- whistleblowing and other protected activities
- unfair dismissal, redundancy and transfer of undertakings
- disciplinary hearings
- national minimum wage
- working time
- employment taxation, NIC, PAYE, and other remuneration issues

# how we work

Our barristers are perceptive, responsive and easy to deal with and have the support of a first-rate business services team. We maintain a strong focus on quality control, effective communication and a collaborative approach to working with clients and their professional advisers.

We frequently deliver seminars on employment subjects including restrictive covenants and confidential information, equality and discrimination, trade disputes, employment related injunctions, team moves and restrictive covenants, data protection, whistleblowing and TUPE. We are always at the cutting edge of legislative developments.

Employment law issues may arise from time to time as a natural consequence of running a business. Our barristers are well equipped to help you navigate the reputational issues that can arise. When the stakes are high, you need appropriate specialists. We have an established record of dealing with the toughest cases, including those where there is considerable media interest.

We understand that you have a choice. You rightly expect technically excellent advice. You need people who can build strong working relationships and be part of a team as well as providing skilled advocacy. At Devereux we invest time in understanding your issues and appreciate the importance of your commercial requirements. We focus on what really matters, bringing razor sharp insight to complex issues. And what is more, we are easy people to deal with.

# our members

**Ingrid Simler QC**

Silk 2006 Call 1987

**Timothy Brennan QC**

Silk 2001 Call 1981

**Bruce Carr QC**

Silk 2009 Call 1986

**Oliver Hyams**

Call 1989

**Nicholas Randall**

Call 1990

**Richard Harrison**

Call 1991

**Suzanne McKie**

Call 1991

**Peter Edwards**

Call 1992

**Andrew Burns**

Call 1993

**Anna Thomas**

Call 1995

**Mohinderpal Sethi**

Call 1996

**Akash Nawbatt**

Call 1999

**Shaen Catherwood**

Call 2000

**Sophie Belgrove**

Call 2001

**Alice Mayhew**

Call 2001

**Sarah Watson**

Call 2002

**Rachel Avery**

Call 2003

**Lucinda Harris**

Call 2004

**Laura Bell**

Call 2004

**Talia Barsam**

Call 2006

**Thomas Cordrey**

Call 2006

**Sam Nicholls**

Call 2006

**Christopher Stone**

Call 2007

**Alice Carse**

Call 2008

**Kate Balmer**

Call 2009

**Georgina Hirsch**

Call 2009

**Jesse Crozier**

Call 2009

## what they say

**“Devereux ... has put the whole question of catering to the client’s needs right at the forefront of its thinking”** [Chambers UK](#)

**“Timothy Brennan QC is ‘an unrivalled choice when a definitive answer is needed on complex tax-driven employment legislation.’ He is ‘charming, highly intellectual and ruthless when you need him to be.’ Brennan is commended for his collegiate approach.”** [Chambers UK](#)

**“Ingrid Simler QC ... is ‘a popular choice for really tough cases’ (and) commended for her collegiate approach. ‘Tenacious and very cool under pressure,’ she is an exceptionally good cross-examiner, as well as being ‘accessible and crystal-clear in her advice to clients’.”**  
[Chambers UK](#)

**“Bruce Carr QC, who is ‘one of the cleverest and most impressive barristers in this field.’ He is highly sought after for his expertise in industrial relations, an area in which he is ‘obviously storming ahead.’ Not only does he combine ‘excellent commercial judgement with engaging and persuasive advocacy,’ but he is also ‘a great team player and willing to roll his sleeves up’.”**  
[Chambers UK](#)

## what they say

**“Oliver Hyams of Devereux Chambers is singled out for... his general wealth of experience. Clients note he is ‘responsive and deals with things quickly’.”** [Chambers UK](#)

**“The ‘enormously bright and commercial’ Nicholas Randall, receives widespread praise for his ‘creative mind’ and ‘down-to-earth attitude.’ He is a great tactician and ‘not afraid to tell it to you straight’.”** [Chambers UK](#)

**“Suzanne McKie advises on a range of employment issues and has a particular expertise in discrimination work. She ‘works tirelessly for her clients and is incredible in cross-examination’.”** [Chambers UK](#)

**“Peter Edwards is a go-to junior for trade union work and has ‘done a huge amount of brilliant work in this area’.”** [Chambers UK](#)

**“Andrew Burns is popular for industrial relations issues. Burns is extremely quick to get to the heart of difficult issues, and his enthusiasm and positive nature make him ‘a key asset to any team’.”** [Chambers UK](#)

## what they say

“Sources admire Mohinderpal Sethi’s calm demeanour and his ‘keen eye for detail.’ He is also seen as being ‘incredibly hard-working and responsive to the client’.” [Chambers UK](#)

“Akash Nawbatt is an ‘excellent strategist who is extremely hard-working.’ He has ‘a very understated style that is incredibly compelling and effective,’ and is appreciated by instructing solicitors for his charming client manner.” [Chambers UK](#)

“Shaen Catherwood is noted as being ‘very pragmatic and possessed of fantastic client care skills’.” [Chambers UK](#)

“Sophie Belgrove continues to make an impression with her ‘articulate and forceful arguments.’ She is a ‘fighter in court,’ and proves ‘calm and reassuring to clients’.” [Chambers UK](#)

“the ‘robust and driven’ Lucinda Harris joins the rankings as a ‘real rising star’.” [Chambers UK](#)

# other areas of work

## Commercial

- Insurance & Reinsurance
- Professional Negligence
- Telecommunications
- Energy & Natural Resources
- General Commercial
- Finance

## Tax

- Tax assessments, disputes and litigation
- Discoveries, investigations, statutory powers, disclosure opportunities
- Tax avoidance and anti-avoidance
- Residence, domicile, DTAs
- Capital Allowances
- Remuneration structures and taxation of employees
- Financial regulation, money laundering and proceeds of crime

## Clinical Negligence

## Personal Injury

- Accidents Abroad & International Travel
- Employers Liability
- Neurotrauma
- Spinal Injury

## Cross practice

- Arbitration & Mediation
- Conflict of Laws
- Human Rights
- Partnership
- Regulatory & Professional Discipline
- Sports Law

# how to instruct us

We aim to provide responsive, flexible and timely advice of the highest quality, tailored to the needs of our clients.

Our clerks are always willing to advise on the suitability and availability of counsel and to discuss fee structures.

We believe that our continued success is down to our high quality legal expertise and competitive rates, combined with our down-to-earth and supportive approach to dealing with clients. This reflects the overriding ethos of Devereux – providing first class service to all our clients.

If you would like further information about our expertise in employment law, or about the way we work in general, or to arrange a meeting, please contact:

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**“The ‘receptive and helpful’ clerks are ‘never anything but accommodating’ and left solicitors impressed since they are ‘interested in wanting to know what we want rather than just content to sell their people to us’.”** [Chambers UK](#)



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