



James White

Call 2014

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James accepts instructions across a broad range of Chambers' areas of expertise, with a particular emphasis on competition law, group litigation, and commercial law. James also focuses on insurance, professional liability, and consumer disputes.

Before joining Chambers, James worked as an employed barrister at Herbert Smith Freehills LLP where he gained extensive experience of complex and high value group litigation (often with an international dimension) and non-contentious economic and business regulatory work.

James has experience being led and appearing in court in his own right. For example, James has appeared in his own right in a diverse range of cases, including in the following practice areas: commercial law, financial services, consumer law, insurance, professional negligence, professional discipline, and medical law. James also has experience of being led in arbitral proceedings.

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EU & Competition Law

While working as an employed barrister at HSF, James gained extensive experience of competition litigation, disputes concerning EU law, and non-contentious competition and EU advisory work. Among other things, James worked on the defendant side in competition damages actions brought in the High Court and the CAT, including applications for collective proceedings orders. James also regularly contributed to advice on the application of competition law in non-contentious contexts and to advice on aspects of retained EU law and the Brexit transition period.

Since joining chambers, James has been instructed in a number of competition matters, including the *Trucks*

CPO proceedings.

James welcomes instructions across the full range of EU and competition work.

Group Actions

James is developing a strong practice in group litigation and benefits from the extensive experience he gained during his time at HSF. In particular, James has experience across a wide variety of issues that arise in group cases, including jurisdiction disputes, applicable law issues, generic and specific pleadings, and tackling complexities in managing disclosure and expert evidence. Further, and unusually for a barrister of his call, James has considerable experience of working directly with large international clients to devise and implement commercially focused case strategies in group action contexts.

Most recently, James has been instructed as junior counsel by a vehicle manufacturer facing emissions claims.

Commercial

James has a fast-growing commercial litigation practice. In particular, James has recently been instructed in cases concerning:

- Breach of contract
- Variation of contract
- Disputes following the sale of a business
- Duress
- Misrepresentation
- Deceit
- Jurisdiction disputes
- Applicable law issues
- Challenges to arbitral awards

James welcomes instructions across the full range of commercial disputes.

Consumer

James is often instructed in consumer cases, including those arising under the Consumer Rights Act 2015, the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008, and the Consumer Credit Act 1974.

Among other things, (i) James has advised on and appeared in consumer actions concerning misrepresentation, (ii) James has advised an international business on aspects of UK advertising law and potential liability to consumers, and (iii) James has represented lenders in disputes concerning ss.140A-C of the Consumer Credit Act 1974.

Insurance

James accepts instructions in insurance disputes and insurance advisory work. Among other things, James has experience acting as junior counsel for an insurer in arbitral proceedings to determine a coverage issue. Further, James has experience of drafting pleadings in coverage disputes, appearing in court in his own right on case management issues in insurance cases, and advising on issues including subrogation and aggregation.

James also has significant knowledge of the insurance sector. While at HSF, James advised on competition law issues connected with the potential acquisition of a major international (re)insurance broker by another major international (re)insurance broker. Through this experience, James became closely familiar with the insurance sector and the commercial objectives of (re)insurers and their brokers.

Professional Discipline and Professional Negligence

James has solid experience of professional negligence disputes and professional disciplinary work. Among other things, James has drafted pleadings in numerous professional negligence claims and has appeared as sole counsel in a professional disciplinary appeal in the High Court. James has also been instructed as one of a number of junior counsel in a complex and high value professional negligence dispute in the High Court. Most recently, James provided advice on a potential claim by a building owner against various construction professionals.

Product Liability

James welcomes instructions in product liability cases. James is particularly well placed to contribute to product liability group actions. James is also comfortable advising in product liability cases concerning personal injuries, having frequently advised on personal injury issues in medical negligence and personal injury cases at start of his career.

Employment

James has experience appearing in the Employment Tribunal and has strong knowledge of employment law having studied the subject to master's degree level. James welcomes instructions in this area.

Publications

- (Co-Author) 'Collective or Class Actions and Claims Aggregation in the United Kingdom', in Heaton, N. and Holt, B. (eds.) Private Litigation Guide, GCR (2020 and 2021).

- ‘Defining ‘exclusion’ clauses and excluding ‘defining’ clauses: the need to clarify the scope of the Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977’ (2016) 5 JBL 373.

Memberships

- COMBAR

Education

Education

- BPTC – Kaplan Law School (Queen Mother Scholarship, Middle Temple)
- BCL – Brasenose College, University of Oxford
- LLB – University of Exeter (Law School Prize; Dean’s Commendation)

Other Scholarships

- Harold G Fox Scholarship, Inns of Court