



Tom Russell

2004

Practice Areas

Family Finance

Civil

Public Access

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Contact

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Summary

Tom has over 25 years of experience in litigation, first as a solicitor and since 2004 as a barrister. His practice encompasses property-related disputes, contentious probate and commercial litigation. He has been head of the Civil and Family Group at KCHGS since 2016.

He appears regularly in the High Court and the County Courts, and enjoys a reputation as a succinct and effective trial advocate.

Tom's principal area of practice is matrimonial finance. Tom is also an experienced mediator and is regularly instructed to mediate a wide range of disputes he has an excellent track record in this field of work.

He prides himself on being approachable, proactive and user-friendly.

Tom is also a chambers pupil supervisor.

References & Recommendations

Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2023 – Social Housing Ranked Band 2

"Tom is very user-friendly for solicitors. He is very good on tactics and commerciality, and very practical. Tom's work product and his advice are very strong."

"Tom is a good advocate on housing cases. He is well prepared and persuasive."

Legal 500 2023 – Social Housing Ranked: Tier 1

"Tom is an extremely effective and an advocate. He is down-to-earth and very commercial. He takes time to understand a client's aims and remains focused on those until a resolution is reached. He is able to explain complex issues very clearly to clients and grasps detail quickly."

Joanne Millward – Rotheras

"The client was absolutely delighted with Tom. He represented her on more than one hearing and she couldn't sing his praises more highly. The client particularly was impressed by his patience, approachability and straight talking. Her words were that he had 'done her proud'. She was determined to recommend him to anyone in a similar position."

Philip Hyland, PJH Law

"In a tight case Tom's forceful precision at hearing made all the difference, I would highly recommend Tom for a contractual or reference dispute."

Lloyd Smith, Partner at Knights PLC

"I have instructed Tom for a number of years. Not only is he a strong advocate, he is also commercial, approachable and user-friendly. He is more than happy to roll his sleeves up when necessary and is an asset in any litigation project. He always sees the bigger picture and is very popular with clients and solicitors alike."

Sally Denton, Nottingham Law Centre

"We have been instructing Tom for many years. He communicates well with clients explaining the situation clearly and dealing with vulnerable clients calmly and sensitively. He prepares cases meticulously and has achieved some excellent results for us."



Tim Shock, Howes Percival LLP

"I have instructed Tom on a number of fast track personal injury trials and I am always happy with the way he does the job. He is thorough and concise with his advice prior to trial and then his advocacy is equally thorough and persuasive. In fact he won a trial for me yesterday and the client expressed his satisfaction with the way Tom conducted our case. In short, Tom has never let me down."

Josh Gregory, Knights

"Tom Russell and Oliver Nunn are who I work with regularly at KCH and they are both incredibly technically and commercially astute in equal measure."

Chambers & Partners 2024

Social Housing – Band 2

"Tom Russell is an experienced barrister with a wealth of knowledge. He prepares well and understands the objectives, and gives robust and well thought-out advice to clients."

Legal 500 2024

Social Housing Ranked: Tier 1

"Tom is a commercially astute barrister who takes a very practical approach to litigation. His advice is clear and concise."

Reported Cases

Tom's Court of Appeal experience includes representing the successful Appellant in the Court of Appeal in Rogerson v Bolsover District Council [2019] EWCA Civ 226 and the successful Respondent in Gunn v Khan [2020] EWCA Civ 1905.

Professional Experience

FAMILY FINANCE:

Tom advises and represents clients in all areas of financial remedy work, including disputes between cohabitants, division of matrimonial assets on divorce and ongoing financial arrangements.

As he specialises in the full breadth of family finance and property work and the financial aspects of family relationship breakdown Tom is regularly sought out for instructions on cases of a high-value and complex nature from first appointment through to contested final hearings.

Tom is known for his direct approach to resolving cases in the best interests of his clients and is able to draw upon his extensive experience as a mediator when advising clients of likely outcomes of proceedings. He has a forensic approach and is well regarded for the clarity of his advice and the sensible, user friendly manner with which he approaches his caseload.

Tom is also available to provide expert advice to clients in conference before proceedings have been issued to advise as to a realistic settlement, with the aim of avoiding further litigation within what can sometimes be an onerous and expensive court process.



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COMMERCIAL:

Tom is regularly instructed to advise and appear on a full range of commercial disputes including, but not limited to, contract disputes, sale of goods/services and partnership disputes.

PROPERTY:

Tom is regularly instructed on all types of property-related matters, including landlord and tenant, trusts of land, rights of way and housing cases. Tom has a special interest in unlawful eviction and has represented both claimants and defendants in these cases for many years.

MEDIATION:

Tom is a qualified mediator with over 12 years of experience. He is regularly asked to mediate a wide range of disputes and has an excellent record in this field of work.

