



# DWF Chambers

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## What the team can do for you.

DWF Chambers is committed to providing a quality and streamlined service at a competitive price to the external bar. In doing so, we can save money for our clients and at the same time increase the firm's profitability by converting an external disbursements into an internal profit cost.

## Meet the team

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Stephen Pritchett

**Partner, Barrister & Head of DWF Chambers**

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After 30 years at the external Bar practising primarily in Manchester, Steve joined DWF as Partner and Head of DWF Chambers in November 2020.

Steve is a commercial and property litigation specialist and whilst at the Bar he undertook multi-track trials involving commercial property and commercial claims including leasehold claims, break clauses, options, LTA 1954 renewals, dilapidations, covenants, easements, commercial contract, agency, professional negligence, land registration and mortgages.

Steve has appeared in all courts up to the Court of Appeal and has been ranked in recent years by both Chambers and Partners and Legal 500 for Real Estate litigation outside London.

Steve's objective at DWF is to improve the delivery of quantity and quality advocacy services primarily to DWF's client base. Steve is an accredited commercial mediator and continues to accept instructions in commercial and commercial property matters.

## Our PI/Insurance team

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Frances Lawley  
**Barrister, Head of PI & Insurance**

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Frances joined DWF Chambers in April 2020 after over eleven years of experience at the self-employed bar where her practice encompassed personal injury, commercial, chancery and property work. Frances has significant experience of personal injury litigation including all elements of EL, PL and RTA litigation as well as high-value credit hire disputes and allegations of fraud and fundamental dishonesty. Her commercial, chancery and property experience includes contract, partnership and property disputes, commercial tenancies, business interruption, professional negligence, boundary disputes and easements. She also has some experience of planning and construction work. Frances is also well-versed in all of the procedural and costs elements which arise from her substantive practice. Frances is available for oral advocacy as well as advisory work (both in writing and in conference) and drafting of pleadings.

In May 2020 Frances was appointed as a Deputy District Judge on the North Eastern Circuit. Frances is an accredited advocacy trainer and regularly provides training for pupils and new practitioners on the North Eastern Circuit. She has also provided training for other professionals through a professional skills training partnership. Frances also has experience of providing training on legal updates via seminars, articles and mock trials.

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Daniel King  
**Barrister, Deputy Head of PI & Insurance**

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Daniel is a Barrister. He was admitted to the roll in 2008 and transferred to the bar in 2021. He joins Advocacy having previously spent over 7 years working as both a litigator and in-house Advocate for a national law firm, providing the firm's fee earners and insurer clients with advocacy, drafting and advisory services.

A counter-fraud specialist, his work encompasses advocacy and drafting arising from the defence of suspected fraudulent road traffic accident claims (many involving large credit hires), in addition to retaining a general civil litigation and EL/PL practice. Daniel regularly advises on counter-fraud strategies and is experienced in the preparation of pleadings engaging s.57 of the Criminal Justice and Courts Act 2015 and fundamental dishonesty. He is a robust advocate with a proven track record of success at trial – many of the claims he has been instructed to defend have been dismissed in their entirety (including those with a credit hire element). Daniel has extensive experience at representing Defendants at contested interlocutory applications, CMCs, and final determination hearings across all tracks, having appeared in more than 500 oral hearings in County Courts throughout England and Wales over the course of the past 2 years alone.

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Jonathan Cosgrove

**Barrister**

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Jonathan joined DWF Chambers in April 2019 having previously been part of the in-house legal department at Greater Manchester Police. It was there that Jonathan gained invaluable experience in areas such as personal injury, inquests and civil actions against the police. Jonathan has been able to build on this experience as an advocate, and his current practice incorporates a variety of different areas, including occupational health, insolvency and costs. Jonathan continues to work diligently for those instructing him and can be found attending interlocutory hearings, small, fast and multi-track trials, advising in writing and drafting pleadings.

Jonathan is also experienced in employment cases and was recently successful in securing a six-figure award on behalf of a claimant. In 2021 Jonathan was successful in securing pupillage with DWF Chambers. In recognition of his substantial advocacy experience prior to commencing pupillage, the Bar Standards Board granted a four-month reduction from the normally required twelve months and in February 2022 became a fully qualified barrister.



Daniel Tresigne

**Barrister**

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Daniel has been a member of DWF Chambers since September 2018, enjoying a varied practice across personal injury, commercial litigation, chancery and costs.

Daniel has gained experience across his practice which exceed his call. His experience includes a range of personal injury work, including RTA, EL and PL litigation; contractual disputes, primarily consumer contracts dealing with the provisions of goods and/or services; and chancery work, focussing on the repair and replacement of street furniture. Daniel's practice also encompasses a broad range of procedural and costs points, which regularly arise as part and parcel of his general practice.

Daniel has established a reputation as being both pragmatic and approachable, having a down to earth approach with both solicitors and lay clients. Daniel deals with a broad range of cases, having attended matters valued between £30 and £10m. His practice ranges from pre-action disclosure, through interlocutory hearings and

applications, through to final hearings. He is also available for written advocacy, such as pleadings or advice. Daniel also provides helpful training sessions through mock trials and articles to clients.

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Sean Batterton

**Barrister**

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Sean adopts a client-focused approach and has an excellent rapport with solicitors and clients. Sean prides himself in approaching advocacy with common sense and analysis, resulting in clear persuasive submissions. He has a developing expertise in employment law and is gaining experience in cases involving unpaid wages, unfair dismissal, and discrimination cases.

Sean accepts instructions in all areas of personal injury work. He undertakes work for Claimants and Defendants at all levels and has experience in matters where fraud and fundamental dishonesty are alleged including LVI claims.

He regularly advises on both liability and quantum and drafts pleadings in employers' liability, public liability and road traffic claims.

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Jack Hickling

**Barrister**

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Prior to obtaining pupillage Jack worked as a County Court Advocate in both an employed and self-employed capacity for a number of years. Jack has appeared in a number of hearings on a wide range of civil law matters including road traffic accidents, consumer credit, contractual, housing, and commercial disputes. Jack's experience led to him being appointed as an Advocacy Manager where he was responsible for assisting in the supervision and management of Advocates on a daily basis. This included providing advice and support to Advocates, in addition to aiding in the recruitment and training of new Advocates.

From this role, Jack was seconded as a Group Litigation Manager at a group of three private parking enforcement companies. Within this role, Jack had overall responsibility for debt recovery and litigation across the business,

where he had to develop the group's overarching strategy and implement it via process changes to develop industry leading function.

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**Sarah Platts**  
**Barrister**

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Sarah has experience in a wide range of civil matters, including personal injury, contractual, consumer credit, housing, employment, insolvency and commercial proceedings.

Sarah completed pupillage in-house with a firm of solicitors in April 2019 and has since gained experience in personal injury. Sarah enjoys a varied practice across personal injury, including RTA, EL/PL and holiday sickness. Sarah has experience dealing with fraud and counter-fraud work.

Prior to obtaining Pupillage, Sarah worked as County Court Advocate for a national firm for 18 months undertaking a varied workload in RTA's, insolvency and contractual matters. Sarah is also well-versed in procedural and costs elements which arise from her practice.

Sarah is available for oral advocacy, advisory work and drafting of pleadings.

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**Christopher Field**  
**Solicitor Advocate**

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Christopher joined DWF Chambers in 2022 and brings with him a breadth of Civil Litigation experience.

Christopher is a Solicitor Advocate who qualified at a specialist Credit Hire practice where he handled a litigated caseload of up to 350 files and undertook advocacy on a range of different types of hearings.

Most recently Christopher worked with Merseyside Police in their Civil Litigation and Employment team where he gained exposure to a range of different matters including Civil Claims against the Police, Debt Recovery, Employment Claims, and EL/PL claims. Whilst working with Merseyside Police Christopher undertook multiple

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Public Interest Immunity hearings for which he gained particular interest.

In addition to his other experience, Christopher has worked in the Counter-Fraud department of a national defendant firm and held a management role within a national advocacy services provider.

Christopher's experience allows him to understand and further his client's needs at all stages of the litigation process, from the point of inception to conclusion.



Christopher Neale

**Solicitor Advocate**

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Chris has extensive experience in civil litigation, personal injury and counter-fraud practice that include all elements of EL/PL and RTA litigation; in addition to having a wealth of experience in credit hire disputes, and disputes containing allegations of fraud and fundamental dishonesty. He also has a developing practice in coronial and tribunal work, including public inquiries and inquests.

Chris also has experience as a reviewing lawyer for private prosecutions brought arising from findings of fundamental dishonesty in civil proceedings.

Chris is regularly instructed to attend hearings ranging from interlocutory matters, to Fast Track Trials, CCMCs, and appeal hearings; and appears in Court on a daily basis. He also maintains a busy paperwork and advisory practice.

His experience extends beyond his years as a qualified advocate. Prior to his admittance to the Roll in 2018 as a Solicitor Advocate, Chris was called to the Bar in 2010 by The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple - this itself following in excess of seven years pre-call experience in Chambers across the northern circuit - and over the next eight years worked as a solicitor's agent dealing with personal injury and property disputes, as an unpaid assistant to the Director of Prosecutions (Isle of Man) dealing with complex criminal cases; before returning to work for a leading claimant law firm practicing in personal injury; and to sit as a lay magistrate.

Chris welcomes instructions for oral advocacy, as well as advisory work and drafting of pleadings.

## Our Dispute Resolution/ Commercial team

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Alex Deakin

**Barrister, Deputy Head of Dispute Resolution and Commercial**

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Alex joined DWF Chambers in May 2021 and currently specialises in all aspects of PI and commercial work.

Alex initially completed pupillage with a well-regarded London criminal set, before becoming a member of a Legal 500 leading set in Kent practising civil law. Alex has been instructed at all levels in the country court and has growing experience in the High Court. Primarily, Alex considers himself to be a trial advocate, having been instructed in countless Fast Track trials, covering RTAs, occupier liability and public liability. It is his thorough case preparation which results in the best possible outcome for each client.

Outside of traditional PI work, Alex has been instructed on a variety of chancery matters; including drafting statements of case, providing advices, and attendance at trial.

Having previously qualified as a Chartered Accountant, with one of the Big 4, Alex has a keen eye for the figures and also recognises the commercial realities facing clients.

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Christopher Hudson

**Barrister**

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Since joining DWF Chambers in July 2018 Chris has built a broad civil practice and is instructed to attend a range of hearings including small claims, contested application hearings, costs-only disputes, and costs and case management hearings in both of Advocacy's personal injury and commercial practice areas.

In personal injury litigation, Chris takes on a wide range of instructions across many personal injury practice areas including motor claims, occupational health, catastrophic injury, and industrial disease, representing both claimants and defendants in hearings as well as drafting statements of case, applications and advices.

In commercial litigation, Chris has developed broad experience in claims involving jurisdictional issues, contractual construction, and software licence agreements, breach of contract, misrepresentation, and company disputes. He also has a busy insurance recoveries practice. Chris has a particular interest and aptitude in contract issues which has seen him instructed to appear at hearings and draft documents across a variety of practice areas where contractual disputes arise, including insurance, employment, and debt claims. Chris has a lot of experience in interlocutory hearings and has a deep understanding of civil procedure and costs which ensures he achieves the best possible results for clients.

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Aaron Luxton

**Barrister**

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Aaron is a Barrister with Higher Rights of Audience (Civil Proceedings) and was admitted to the roll in 2020. Prior to training as a solicitor, Aaron was called to the bar in 2015.

During Aaron's training contract (2018-2020) he gained experience in a number of practice areas including real estate, commercial litigation, corporate and restructuring. During his commercial litigation seat, Aaron was exposed to a range of commercial disputes including phone hacking, employment disputes, contract claims and an international arbitration.

Aaron qualified into a busy and well regarded insolvency team ranked tier 1 by Legal 500. Aaron brings with him extensive contentious restructuring and insolvency experience, including surrenders of a leasehold estate, retention of title claims and director's duties advice. Aaron has also assisted with and prepared a number of Court applications, most notably a contentious directions application for administrators.

When instructed on personal injury matters, Aaron is able to rely on a wealth of paralegal experience gained in a respected clinical negligence department across 2+ years where he drafted statements of case and applications across a broad range of clinical negligence disputes whilst running his own caseload.

Aaron is a passionate and determined advocate who has built a reputation for going the extra mile for clients to provide excellent client care to both solicitor and lay clients. Aaron understands the challenges and demands faced by solicitors and uses his own, personal, experience of such demands to provide a complete service to solicitor clients.



Jack Littler

**Pupil Barrister**

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Jack joined DWF Chambers in January 2021. Prior to this, Jack attended BPP University Manchester where he sat his Bar Professional Training Course. Obtaining a 'Very Competent', he did particularly well in his Company Law and Cross-Examination modules, achieving 91% and 89% respectively. Jack completed his LLB at the University of Sheffield in 2019 and received a first class degree. He was also awarded the John Grosse Prize in the Common Law of England for obtaining the highest average mark by a final year student in a common law subject.



Jack participated in two pro bono outfits during his BPTC, the Enterprise Clinic and the Employment Legal Advice Network. For the Enterprise Clinic, Jack was responsible for interviewing clients and drafting letters of advice to attempt to resolve their dispute. Jack then assisted with the production of a document that explained employment rights related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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**Natalia Grey**  
**Solicitor Advocate**

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Natalia joined DWF Chambers in July 2022. Prior to joining DWF Chambers, Natalia qualified into a busy and well regarded litigation team in an international law firm.

Natalia utilises her experience gained during her years as a paralegal and a solicitor, which transpires in a practical and commercial approach. This is greatly appreciated by corporate and lay clients. She has taken on work of high value, some in excess of £500,000.

Natalia focuses on building her experience as an advocate having dealt with court applications, CMCs, CCMCs and trials. Her current practice incorporates a variety of different areas, including personal injury, RTA and contractual disputes.

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**Michael Vora**  
**Solicitor**

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Michael joined DWF Chambers in March 2021 following around 12 months in Real Estate Finance where he was instructed by Development Finance Banks to handle multi-million pound refinancing matters alongside their redemption work. Michael has experience in handling high value professional indemnity cases involving both breach of contract and negligence claims.

Michael also has experience in undertaking WP negotiations with the aim of achieving settlement and is an accredited as an ADR-ODR Civil and Commercial Mediator.

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Paige Dennison

**Advocate**

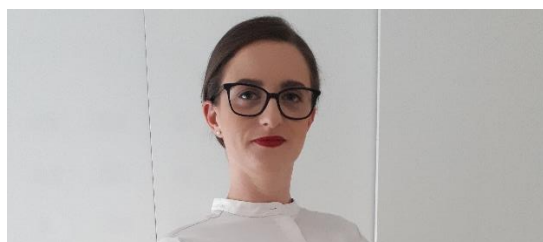
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Paige joined DWF Chambers in January 2021 having spent the years since completion of her BTPC in a variety of paralegal roles dealing with personal injury, housing, childcare and re-mortgaging. She has experience of managing personal injury files including issuing proceedings and drafting court orders.

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Aga Wieczorek

**Advocate**

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Aga joined DWF Chambers in August 2022. Prior to this, she worked as a file handler in the Fraud Ring Team of a national law firm, having completed her BPC LLM at the University of Law. Aga obtained an overall grade of 'Very Competent' for the BPC along with achieving an 'Outstanding' in Cross Examination and Civil Advocacy.

Aga placed 1st in the University of Law Civil Litigation Moot as well as the Plea in Mitigation Moot. She has further completed a LLM Master of Laws degree achieving an overall Distinction.

Before commencing her BPC LLM, Aga completed a marshalling scheme with the Belize Supreme Court. She also completed an internship at The Hague with the Victims and Witnesses Team at the International Criminal Court.

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Klaudia Klapsia

**Advocate**

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Klaudia joined DWF Chambers in November 2021. Prior to this, she has completed her Bar Practice Course obtaining an overall grade of 'Very Competent' along with achieving an 'Outstanding' mark in Civil Advocacy and Drafting.

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Klaudia has further completed a LLM Master of Laws degree achieving a Distinction. Klaudia has experience of handling a range of civil law matters, including personal injury, credit hire and fraud, having worked in a variety of paralegal roles for both Claimant and Defendant law firms.

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Helen Hankey

**Advocate**

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Helen joined DWF Chambers in August 2022 having previously worked as a paralegal in a Claimant law firm, assisting with personal injury cases in the area of travel litigation. During this role, Helen assisted on high value cases and considered complex issues involving jurisdiction and foreign law. Helen also has experience in Real Estate Commercial and Residential Teams, where she assisted in post completion matters. Helen registered properties at the land registry and assisted with post completion queries from file handlers.

Helen has obtained a First-Class law degree from Manchester Metropolitan University. During her studies, Helen secured first place in an internal mooted competition at the University. Helen completed the LLM in Legal Practice at the Bar at Manchester Metropolitan University, where she achieved a Distinction overall and a 'Very Competent' on the Bar Practice Training Course element. Helen achieved an 'Outstanding' mark in Civil Advocacy, Examination in Chief, Drafting, Opinion Writing and Resolution of Disputes Out of Court. Helen volunteered at the Greater Manchester Law Centre, where she assisted clients in appealing decisions regarding their benefits.

## Our Clerking team

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Dan Monaghan  
**Director of Clerking**

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Dan joined DWF in 2021 after 25 years spent clerking in external chambers. He has a wealth of experience in the legal profession and is an expert in how chambers operate and function.

Dan is responsible for the management of the clerking function at DWF Chambers and manages our team of experienced clerks. He assists all members of the team with their practice development and is passionate about providing a first class service to all our clients.

Working closely with the Head of DWF Chambers, Dan strives to provide a first class service to all our clients and to assist all practice groups to provide bespoke and innovative products often in collaboration with our practice groups 'current and new initiatives.

Dan invites all clients to contact him directly at any time to discuss any issue which our team can assist them on.

When time allows, Dan can be found riding or tinkering with his motorcycle or playing guitar.

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Anthony Flannigan  
**Deputy Director of Clerking**

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Anthony joined DWF in 2021 having spent 10 years clerking at Cobden House Chambers in Manchester and previously working as a paralegal for a Solicitors firm. He brings a vast experience and knowledge of the legal market to the Advocacy Team.

In conjunction with Clerking, Anthony is primarily responsible for the diary management and practice development of all members of the Advocacy team and, along with the team of experienced clerks, to ensure the delivery of a first class service to all clients.

Alongside the Head of DWF Chambers and Director of Clerking, Anthony is responsible for the continued development of clerking practices to ensure the highest quality service at all times. Anthony's role involves providing invaluable support to the Director of Clerking in the management and administration of the team and deputising in his absence.

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Declan Fitzmaurice

**Clerk**

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Declan joined DWF in September 2022 from Cobden House Chambers, he began his clerking career in 2015 at Byrom Street Chambers. He is responsible for day-to-day management of the diary and works closely alongside Anthony Flannigan, Sarah Monaghan and Owen Macro.

Outside of work he can be found attending gigs or avidly following Manchester United.

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Sarah Monaghan

**Clerk**

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Sarah joined DWF in 2021.

She has many years' experience in the legal profession having previously worked as a clerk in external chambers, a conveyancing assistant in a busy solicitors practise and as a PA to a number of barristers.

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Owen Macro

**Clerk**

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Owen joined DWF in December 2021 after 4 and a half years at King's Chambers.

Owen enjoys playing snooker and reading Greek classics, as well as going to the gym and following his beloved Manchester City.

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