

William Hanbury

Call 1985



Clerks' Details

 Ian Spencer
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 Nicole Luna
 0113 203 1975

 Luke Heywood
 0113 203 1970

Memberships

- Chancery Bar Association
- Professional Negligence Bar Association
- Northern Chancery Bar Association (committee member)
- Northern Circuit Commercial Bar Association (former committee member)
- Property Bar Association

Appointments

- Part-time Judge of the Upper and First-tier Tribunals (Immigration and Asylum Chamber)

Education

- Manchester University - Law LLB (class 2 (i))
- Inns of Court School of Law – Bar exams
- Major award holder and Paul Teichman scholar at Inner Temple

Practice Overview

An accomplished barrister with more than thirty years of experience, Bill practises in most areas of commercial dispute resolution with an emphasis on property law including landlord and tenant (commercial and residential), conveyancing, trusts of land disputes, Inheritance Act claims and disputes over partnership property including professional negligence claims arising out of these practice areas.

Bill also specialises in local government law especially local government finance and has appeared in the High Court in statutory appeals, judicial review challenges and appeals by way of case stated in relation to liability orders and is recommended in the 2023 edition of Chambers Directory for local government work. This includes:

- Business rates and council tax - acting for both ratepayers and billing authorities including advising on the success or otherwise of tax avoidance measures;
- Appearing and advising on town and village green enquiries - acting both for applicants and respondents.

Since joining chambers in 2008, Bill has advised local and other public authorities as well as companies and individuals and appeared at all levels of the courts and tribunals system including the Lands Chamber, Administrative Court, the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court.

Bill adopts a flexible fees structure including working for fixed fees where appropriate.

Bill is consistently recommended as a leading individual in the Legal 500 guide and Chambers and Partners directory.

Recommendations

A highly regarded junior, recognised for the wide scope of his practice and ranked as a leading individual by the Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners guides.

Recent client feedback includes:

"[The Client] says he has just one word to describe you and it is 'wow'."

Solicitor

"The North's Leading authority and advocate on Property Law"

Solicitor

"...Bill Hanbury (the counsel you recommended) was excellent and we really appreciated you (the solicitor) being there to support him and us. Stress levels here are significantly reduced as a result!"

Solicitor

Legal Directories:

"William Hanbury is excellent in boundary disputes, as he should be, having written an excellent book on the subject."

Chambers and Partners 2023

'A polished and impressive advocate. He is strong on his feet in court and very good on the technical aspects of the law.'

The Legal 500 2023

"William Hanbury is an experienced barrister who regularly acts for local authorities. He offers a wealth of expertise in ratings and valuation and local government powers matters, and is also well regarded for his handling of property law cases."

Strengths: "He provides trustworthy advice."

Chambers and Partners, 2022

"William is very thorough. He is strong on the technical details, and has a calm and measured approach."

The Legal 500, 2022

"Bill has a very good knowledge of property law and prepares well. Always gets his point across and provides sound advice."

The Legal 500, 2021

"Provides accurate advice and inspires clients' confidence."

The Legal 500, 2020

"Very attentive."

Chambers and Partners, 2019

“Self-assured before a judge.”

The Legal 500, 2018/19

“Measured and reliable.”

Chambers and Partners, 2018

“He commands respect from judges.”

The Legal 500, 2017

Further feedback includes:

“Well respected by the judiciary. Very calm and collected.”

“An exceptionally decent opponent.”

In a recent High Court case, the client said: “A witness asked me to pass on to you his sincere gratitude for your work on this case. We all had reservations before and after the trial, having not faced this type of challenge before, but you managed to convince the District Judge of the merits of our case for which was no mean feat.”

“Thanks for your sterling work... – the client is very happy.”

“Bill is a class act; over the last 5 years he has consistently delivered a high-quality service...”

“Extremely conscientious and capable practitioner. He has a good grasp of the legal issues and explains himself clearly at all times.....”

“A first rate service and I have advised colleagues that they should use your services wherever possible.”

“Bill’s advice is always clear and concise. He is also very approachable and willing to assist. “

“An accomplished barrister with a thorough grasp of the law.”

“Another superbly executed case by yourselves has resulted in the desired outcome.”

Publications and Seminars

He is the author of:

- “Boundary Disputes – A Practical Guide” which is due to be published in its third edition by the Law Society in 2022

- “Defective Premises- Law and Practice” (2009) Sweet and Maxwell

Recent articles have included:

- In October 2021 Bill co-wrote “Dilapidations in challenging times” a two-part series of articles for Estates Gazette with Paul Raeburn FRICS
- “Legal professional privilege in the spotlight again” (29 July 2020) Estates Gazette

He also lectures widely including:

- Lecturing at R 3’s annual Northern conference on challenges facing landlords and others arising out of the new Commercial Rent (Coronavirus) Act 2022
- Lecturing at the Annual Property Webinar in June 2022 on alternative dispute resolution procedures for boundary disputes
- Lecturing at the annual Financial Mis-selling Conference on when to plead fraud in financial mis-selling claims by Legal Training in September 2021
- To chambers’ annual property seminar on the same topic in June 2021
- Lecturing on the Supreme Court’s decision in *Hurstwood v Rossendale* in May 2021
- Speaking to the Leeds Business and Property Court Forum in their commercial property webinar on the challenges facing commercial landlords in collecting rent in the post-COVID period in May 2021

Earlier seminars have included:

- In 2020 in-house on the frustration of leases caused by the pandemic
- In 2019 conducting a lecture to the RICS on boundary disputes
- In 2019 with Neil Cadwallader (now HHJ Cadwallader) on CVA’s and the High Street
- In November 2018 to chambers annual Local Government and Social Housing Seminar on town and village greens
- In 2017 to Plexus law on flood risk and insurance
- In 2017 conducting a webinar and podcast on boundary disputes for the Law Society

He has also assisted the Law Society with the preparation of exam questions for conveyancers including advising on fraud prevention.

Beyond the Bar

Bill enjoys walking - particularly in the Yorkshire Dales. He is also a member of York Musical Society and regularly sings in their choral concerts. He is interested in buildings and conservation and has been a member of the committee of the York Georgian Society. He is also keen on wine and belongs to several clubs and attends their tastings.