



Paul Darling OBE KC

Year of call: 1983 | Silk: 1999

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“a doyen of his area”

“He’s the man you go to if you have a difficult case; he will always come up with an innovative solution and he won’t give up, even on the difficult points.”

Chambers and Partners Asia Pacific

Paul Darling OBE KC has established a formidable reputation as an advocate in all types and levels of tribunals all over the world. He specialises in complex cases which feature multiple parties, large teams, and high volumes of material, and is often brought in by clients at short notice, late in proceedings. An ability to work with colleagues from any jurisdiction, and to grasp detail, strategy, and tactics quickly has allowed Paul to develop a practice which has taken him to every major jurisdiction, appearing in a wide variety of construction, energy, and commercial matters. Adaptability and focus have contributed to Paul's reputation as a gamechanger, brought in to direct some of the construction and commercial world's most difficult cases. Paul has represented diverse clients in tribunals such as the Commercial Court, the Technology and Construction Court, and the Court of Appeal in London, the High Court and the Supreme Court in Dublin, the High Court in Northern Ireland and Arbitration Tribunals globally. Since the early 1990s he has conducted many arbitrations in Hong Kong, Singapore, and the Middle East. He has acted in ICC, LCIA HKIAC, SIAC and DIAC Arbitrations.

Paul is also called to the Northern Ireland Bar (2004).

Areas of expertise

- Construction and Engineering
- Adjudication
- Commercial Litigation and Sale of Goods
- Professional Negligence
- Domestic and International Arbitration
- Procurement
- Health and Safety

Energy and Natural Resources

Sport

Domestic and International Arbitration

Many of Paul's cases over the years have been arbitrations, both domestic and international, some as Counsel and occasionally as Arbitrator.

He has also done a number of cases about practice and procedure in arbitration. They include:

- Issues about whether Notices of Arbitration have been properly served.
- Applications for extensions of time.
- Applications to remove Arbitrators for bias or misconduct.
- Stays of court proceedings for arbitration.

Reported cases include:

- Lafarge Aggregates Ltd v Newham London Borough Council [2005] EWHC 1337 (Comm); [2005] 2 Lloyd's Rep 577 (Commercial Court)
- Van Oord ACZ Ltd and Harbour & General Works Ltd Joint Venture v The Port of Mostyn [2003] Lawtel 19/09/2003; (TCC)
- Miller Construction Ltd v James Moore Earthmoving [2001] EWCA Civ 654 [2001] 2 All ER (Comm) 598 [2001] BLR 322 (Court of Appeal)
- Birse Construction Ltd v St David Ltd (No. 2) (2000) 78 Con LR 121 (TCC)
- Birse Construction Ltd v St David Ltd (No. 1) [2000] BLR 57, 70 Con LR 10 (Court of Appeal)
- Birse Construction Ltd v St. David Ltd (No. 1) 1999 BLR 194 (TCC)

Appointments

- Appointed by the Secretary of State as Chair of the Horserace Betting Levy Board – April 2020

Memberships

- Technology and Construction Bar Association London
- Common Law and Commercial Bar Association
- Society of Construction Law
- Professional Negligence Bar Association
- Commercial Bar Association Bar of Northern Ireland (2004)
- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- London Court of International Arbitration International Bar Association

Recommendations

- *"He is pragmatic, reliable and a massive presence." "Tenacious, a good advocate and tough in any case that you give to him."* Chambers and Partners
- *"He is extremely good, very practical and very down to earth"... "As a QC he just commands enormous gravitas and the very best respect for his advice and opinions."* Chambers Global

- *"As always, Paul's advice is commercial, he is responsive and he turns the advice around quickly." "A larger-than-life character coupled with a fearsome intellect." Chambers and Partners*
- *"He has a very bright and analytical mind and remains one of the leading advocates – very impressive on his feet." Chambers and Partners*

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