



## David Hopkins

Year of call: 2013

Email: [david.hopkins@39essex.com](mailto:david.hopkins@39essex.com)

Phone: +44 (0)20 7832 1111

*"David is an excellent advocate and one of the best juniors in this area. His written and oral submissions are compelling, and he is great on his feet when dealing with questions from the bench."* The Legal 500 UK 2024

David is a senior junior whose practice spans commercial, construction, and financial services disputes, professional discipline and regulation, and public law. David is regularly instructed in proceedings in the Commercial Court, the Chancery Division, the Technology and Construction Court (TCC) and the Administrative Court and before regulators' disciplinary tribunals. A substantial proportion of David's practice has an international element, particularly in the field of international arbitration, where he has acted in disputes subject to the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), London Maritime Arbitrators Association (LMAA), Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC) and Abu Dhabi Commercial Conciliation and Arbitration Centre (ADCCAC) rules. He is a Technology & Construction Bar Association (TECBAR) accredited adjudicator and accepts appointments via the TECBAR adjudication scheme.

David is recommended as a leading junior in Chambers and Partners, The Legal 500, Chambers Global, and The Legal 500 Asia Pacific. He is a contributing editor of the Auction, Bailment and Banking and Bills of Exchange volumes of Atkin's Court Forms (2023 and 2018 issues) and the chapter on determination clauses in Wilmot-Smith on Construction Contracts (4th edn, 2021). Prior to coming to the Bar, David worked in the City for five years as a foreign exchange and interest rates derivatives structurer.



## Areas of expertise

Administrative and Public

Banking and Financial Services  
Commercial  
Construction  
Energy and Natural Resources  
Property  
Regulatory and Disciplinary  
Sport

## Property

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David acts and advises in landlord and tenant, real property, and Building Safety Act 2022 (BSA) matters.

### Cases of note

- ***Various Leaseholders v Interfit (Workshop) Limited*** – Ongoing. Acting in the First-tier Tribunal (FTT) for leaseholders seeking a remediation order under s 123 of the BSA against their landlord.
- ***Engen Technologies Limited v Building Research Establishment Limited*** – Acting for the tenant, who claims for, among other things, a declaration that the tenant's rent account was not in arrears at the time the landlord purported to forfeit the lease and appropriate interim relief.
- ***Bolton & Anor v Matthews & Anor*** – Acting for the defendants to a claim seeking specific performance for transfer of property and additional damages, raising the issue, among others, of whether a deed restating and amending the claimants' charge imposes a clog on the equity of redemption.
- ***Confidential BSA matter*** – Advising a management company, which is also the owner of the relevant property, regarding: potential claims against the developer relating to fire safety defects; whether the management company is a relevant landlord within the meaning of the BSA; and the effect of the BSA if no party is able to satisfy a remediation contribution order under s 124.
- ***Downey & Anor v Stevens & Ors [2021] EWHC 752 (Ch)*** – Acting for the defendant trustees of Magdalen Park Bowling Club in a seven-day High Court trial. The court found the contract under which the claimants alleged they were entitled to purchase the club's land for £1 to be invalid pursuant to s 2 of the Law of Property (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1989 and that, even if it were valid, it would be unconscionable for the claimants to rely on its terms.  
[Judgment](#)  
[Westlaw](#)
- ***Confidential commercial landlord and tenant dispute*** – Advising and drafting particulars of claim for a commercial tenant seeking specific performance of the repair and insurance covenants of its lease, alternatively damages, following the landlord's failure to reinstate the premises in a reasonable time after a fire.
- ***Confidential leasehold enfranchisement matter*** – Advising a property management company regarding allegations of conflicts of interest in respect of leasehold enfranchisement under the Leasehold Reform, Housing and Urban Development Act 1993.

## Recommendations

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### Directory rankings:

- Construction, Energy and Infrastructure, Leading Junior – Tier 1, Legal 500 Asia Pacific
- Construction, Leading Junior – Band 4, Chambers and Partners

- Construction, Leading Junior – Band 4, Chambers and Partners Global
- Construction, Leading Junior – Tier 4, Legal 500 UK
- Professional Disciplinary and Regulatory Law, Leading Junior – Tier 4, Legal 500 UK

## Recommendations:

- *"David is a pleasure to work with and combines technical excellence with nous and hard work."* Chambers and Partners Global 2024
- *"David provides excellent service, particularly when participating in conferences with lay clients. He will bear in mind the overall commercial issues and the big picture, as well as the fine detail of the points in dispute."* Chambers and Partners Global 2024
- *"David is an excellent advocate and one of the best juniors in this area. His written and oral submissions are compelling, and he is great on his feet when dealing with questions from the bench."* The Legal 500 UK 2024
- *"Solid application to the facts, and a good manner in applying the legal framework."* The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2023
- *"His particular strength is advising in a way that is very client friendly, he cuts out legal jargon and gets to the point."* The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2021
- *"Sharp, driven, and a pleasure to work with."* The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2020
- *"Exceptionally capable and extremely versatile."* The Legal 500 Asia Pacific 2019

## Memberships

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- AllBar, supporting those with a disability who are practising at the Bar in England and Wales, or aspiring to do so
- Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers (ARDL)
- Bridging the Bar mentor, 2022
- Chancery Bar Association (ChBA)
- Commercial Bar Association (COMBAR)
- Constitutional and Administrative Law Association (ALBA)
- Financial Services Lawyers Association (FSLA)
- International Bar Association (IBA)
- Inter-Pacific Bar Association (IPBA)
- London Common Law and Commercial Bar Association (LCLCBA)
- Professional Negligence Bar Association (PNBA)
- Society of Construction Law (SCL)
- Technology & Construction Bar Association (TECBAR)

## Qualifications

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### Education

- 2011–2013: BPTC, BPP Law School (part-time), Very Competent

- 2009–2011: GDL, BPP Law School (part-time), Distinction
- 2007–2009: MPhil, Economics, Oriel College, University of Oxford
- 2004–2007: BA, PPE, University of York, Starred First Class (first in year)

## Scholarships and Prizes

- 2011 Inner Temple Exhibition Scholar (BPTC)

## Additional Information

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### Appointments

- 2020–present: Member of the TECBAR adjudicators panel
- 2019: Member of panel appointed by the IAAF providing legal advice and representation to athletes and officials in disputes arising out of the 2019 World Athletics Championships in Doha

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London	MANCHESTER	SINGAPORE	KUALA LUMPUR
81 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1DD Tel: +44 (0)20 7832 1111 DX: London/Chancery Lane 298 Fax: +44 (0)20 7353 3978	82 King Street, Manchester M2 4WQ Tel: +44 (0)16 1870 0333 Fax: +44 (0)20 7353 3978	Maxwell Chambers, 28 Maxwell Road, WC2A 1DD 04-03 & 04-04, Maxwell Chamber Suites Singapore 069120 Tel: +65 6320 9272	#02-9, Bangunan Sulaiman Jalan Sultan Hishamuddin, 50000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia Tel: +60 32 271 1085

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clerks@39essex.com • DX: 298 London/Chancery Lane • 39essex.com