



## Ian Brownhill

Year of call: 2009

Email: Ian.Brownhill@39essex.com

Phone: +44 (0)20 7832 1111

### *"Ian is a brilliant advocate"* Chambers and Partners 2024

Ian was awarded the Legal 500 Bar Awards junior of the year for Court of Protection and community care in 2023. He is one of the country's leading specialists in mental capacity, medical treatment disputes and has a broad practice in public, human rights and regulatory law.

Outside of the Court of Protection, Ian advises and acts in safeguarding cases in respect of both adults and children. Sport, education and criminal justice issues feature frequently in his cases. Ian's inquest practice often involves highly sensitive cases with a mental health element.

Ian's practice has crossed borders. Ian is frequently instructed by charities, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and companies with an international reach, especially in respect of safeguarding matters. Ian has been instructed by, or worked alongside, lawyers from Scotland, the United States, Canada, the Crown Dependencies and British Overseas Territories.

Ian was one of the first barristers to be ranked by Chambers and Partners for his work in respect of independent investigations. In addition, he is commissioned to provide training to statutory organisations and in the private sector.

Ian sits as HM Assistant Coroner for Kent, is a chair and member of the Football Association's Safeguarding Review Panel and is Legally Qualified Chair and Hearing Body Panel Member for British Equestrian.



## Areas of expertise

Court of Protection - Welfare

Court of Protection - Property and Affairs

Medical Treatment Cases

Administrative and Public

- Civil Liberties and Human Rights
- Education
- Inquests
- Parole Board and Prisons
- Safeguarding
- Investigations
- Sport
- Regulatory

## -- Inquests

---

Ian has acted as counsel in a huge variety of inquests. The majority of Ian's inquests arise from custodial or health and social care contexts. Ian is especially sought where there are issues in respect of the deceased's mental capacity.

Ian is instructed by other coroners to act as counsel to the inquest and in respect of judicial review claims and fiat applications.

As a coroner, Ian has presided over a number of jury inquests and conducted the whole range of coronial work. Ian does not accept instructions in his coronial jurisdiction of Kent.

### Cases of note:

- **Inquest touching upon the death of GS** - Inquest into the death of a man who died after the ambulance service failed to convey him to hospital while suffering from alcohol withdrawal. Prevention of future death reports were made by the coroner.  
[Judgment](#)
- **Inquest touching upon the death of Edward Ham** - Inquest into a prisoner who died after receiving sub-optimal medical care.  
[Media](#)
- **Inquest touching upon the death of Phil Townshend** - Inquest into the unexpected death of a politician.  
[Media](#)
- **Inquest touching upon the death of Tyrese Glasgow** - Inquest into the death of a 12-year-old schoolboy.  
[Media](#)

## Recommendations

---

*"Ian is very approachable and knowledgeable. His advocacy is exceptional and his drafting skills are fantastic."* Chambers & Partners UK, 2024

*"Ian Brownhill is well versed in conducting independent investigations across a wide variety of sectors including education, charities, social care and sport. He is experienced in matters concerning safeguarding and other sensitive issues."* Chambers & Partners UK, 2024

*"He is user-friendly, very generous with his time and knows a lot about the way the prisons and probation interface with Court of Protection issues, which is really helpful in complex cases."* Chambers & Partners UK, 2022

*"Ian is incredibly knowledgeable in many fields. His advice is always very considered and balanced, and he*

*is adept at putting clients at ease and is always very approachable.*"The Legal 500, 2022

*"Ian's knowledge of this area of law is endless; there is nothing he does not know. In cross-examinations he leaves no stone unturned and always ensures the best job is done for the client."*Chambers & Partners UK 2021

*"Ian is a robust and punchy advocate, very well liked and respected, who always gives good, practical advice. Extremely hard working and highly intelligent barrister who works on complex issues quickly and efficiently."*The Legal 500 2021

*"He is knowledgeable, takes a no-nonsense approach and he is very good at problem solving. He very quickly gets straight to the heart of the issues."* *"An incredibly passionate advocate."*Chambers & Partners UK 2020

*"Incredibly bright, articulate, approachable, and responsive."*The Legal 500 2020

*"He's a real rising star in the Court of Protection – he's always really responsive, is very skilled in cross-examination and he's easy to work with."* *"Ian's drafting and advocacy is always so concise."*Chambers & Partners UK 2019

## Memberships

---

- Court of Protection Bar Association (CPBA)
- The Coroners' Society for England and Wales
- Amicus ALJ

## Qualifications

---

### Education

- Jurisprudence, BA Hons (Oxon), Lincoln College, Oxford University
- BVC, College of Law

### Scholarships and prizes

- Hardwicke Entrance Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn
- Tancred Student, Lincoln's Inn
- Shelford Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn.

## Additional information

---

### Appointments

- HM Assistant Coroner for Kent
- Chair and Member of the Football Association's Safeguarding Review Panel
- Legally Qualified Chair and Hearing Body Panel Member for British Equestrian.

### Languages

- French (conversational)
- Italian (basic)

---

**London**

81 Chancery Lane,  
London  
WC2A 1DD  
Tel: +44 (0)20 7832 1111  
DX: London/Chancery Lane 298  
Fax: +44 (0)20 7353 3978

**MANCHESTER**

82 King Street,  
Manchester  
M2 4WQ  
Tel: +44 (0)16 1870 0333  
Fax: +44 (0)20 7353 3978

**SINGAPORE**

Maxwell Chambers,  
28 Maxwell Road,  
WC2A 1DD  
04-03 & 04-04, Maxwell Chamber  
Suites  
Singapore 069120  
Tel: +65 6320 9272

**KUALA LUMPUR**

#02-9, Bangunan Sulaiman  
Jalan Sultan Hishamuddin,  
50000 Kuala Lumpur,  
Malaysia  
Tel: +60 32 271 1085

BARRISTERS • ARBITRATORS • MEDIATORS

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