

ISABEL BARTER

Call 2010

Get in touch

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Practice Overview

Isabel is recommended in the directories as leading practitioner for Professional Negligence, Product Liability, Property Damage work and Group Litigation, and her clients often come to her for this combined expertise. She is described as a "real star", "frighteningly intelligent", having "piercing insight" and "a great strategic mind".

Isabel was nominated for Professional Negligence Junior of the Year at the Chambers Bar Awards 2022, and for Group Litigation and Consumer Junior of the year at the Legal 500 Awards 2022.

Isabel is Associate Editor of, as well as expert contributor to, Simpson (ed.) *Professional Negligence and Liability*. She is also joint General Editor of Bloomsbury's 'Journal of Professional Negligence', and a member of the PNBA Executive Committee.

Prior to coming to the bar, Isabel worked in the charitable sector. She graduated from Cambridge with a BA (Hons) in History. She obtained a Distinction on the GDL and an Outstanding on the BVC. She was also a Major Scholar of the Inner Temple.



*"driven and intelligent,
she is excellent"*
(Chambers UK)

Practice areas

Commercial Dispute Resolution
Commercial Fraud
Private International Law & Travel
Product Liability
Professional Negligence
Property Damage

Qualifications

BVC (Outstanding)
Graduate Diploma in Law
(Distinction)
BA (Hons) History

Education

Corpus Christi College, Cambridge
University
City Law School
BPP Law School



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Professional Negligence

"A real rising star. I would want her involved in any professional negligence case." (Chambers UK Bar) "She's very bright, responsive, and she provides a huge amount of support so the junior solicitors love working with her." (Chambers UK Bar).

Isabel was nominated for Professional Negligence Junior of the Year at the Chambers Bar Awards 2022.

Isabel's professional negligence practice encompasses a wide range of professions, and she acts for both claimants and defendants. She has been recommended for several years in both legal directories for professional negligence, where recently she has been described as "hard-working and has brilliant judgment, an absolute delight to work with" (Chambers UK Bar), and "capable and authoritative...a superstar in the making" (Legal 500).

Isabel is Associate Editor of, as well as expert contributor to, Simpson ed. *Professional Negligence and Liability*. She is also joint General Editor of Bloomsbury's 'Journal of Professional Negligence', published quarterly, and a member of the PNBA Executive Committee.

Isabel is currently acting for the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea and the Tenant Management Organisation (led by David Turner KC and Clare Dixon KC) in relation to recovery actions arising out of the Grenfell Tower fire. She also frequently acts as sole Counsel.

Other notable cases include: acting for Law of Property Act receivers in a £16m claim for damages (led by Mark Simpson KC), *Page v Kidd* (an appeal concerning s.14B of the Limitation Act 1980); acting for a tax advisory firm in a £35m claim alleging dishonest assistance and fraudulent trading (*IAP v Jeffcote Donnison*); a multi-million pound claim against a barrister; and *Mehjoo v Harben Barker*, concerning accountants' negligence.

Product Liability

Isabel is recommended in the Directories as "the best product liability junior out there for complex claims. She is phenomenally bright and hard-working, and a delight to deal with. Great strategic mind" (Legal 500) and as having a "a first-class intellect combined with ... a thorough understanding of technical evidence" (Chambers UK Bar).

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Isabel has been shortlisted for 'Group Litigation & Consumer Junior of the year' at the 2022 The Legal 500 Bar Awards.

Isabel's product liability practice covers disputes arising from medical devices and pharmaceuticals, construction products, industrial and IT equipment, automotive parts, and household goods. She also deals with claims with a cross-border element, including currently in relation to an allegedly defective product said to have caused a multi-million pound fire manufactured in Italy (led by Neil Moody KC).

Isabel is currently acting for Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and the Tenant Management Organisation (led by David Turner KC and Clare Dixon KC) in relation to recovery actions arising out of the Grenfell Tower fire.

She is also acting for Boston Scientific in relation to multiple claims concerning vaginal mesh.

Notable cases include *Wilson v Beko Plc* (concerning safety regulations/s.41 of the Consumer Protection Act 1987) and *Allen v Depuy* (concerning the applicable law and territorial scope of the Consumer Protection Act 1987).

Isabel has also provided evidence of product liability law for the Polish courts.

Click [here](#) for links to Isabel's and Charles Dougherty KC's **Short Introduction to the Consumer Protection Act 1987**.

Property Damage

Isabel's property damage work overlaps with that of her professional negligence and product liability practice.

Recent cases include those concerning damage to domestic and commercial premises caused by fire, floods and explosions (including as a result of defective construction products), and cases involving nuisance and *igniis suus*.

Isabel is currently acting for Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea and the Tenant Management Organisation (led by David Turner KC and Clare Dixon KC) in relation to recovery actions arising out of the Grenfell Tower fire, and in relation to a multi-million pound fire led by Neil Moody KC

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Other notable cases include *Wilson v Beko Plc* (concerning whether a consumer could make a claim for property damage under safety regulations/s.41 of the Consumer Protection Act 1987).

Isabel is Associate Editor of, and also expert contributor to, Simpson ed. *Professional Negligence and Liability*. She is also joint General Editor of Bloomsbury's 'Journal of Professional Negligence', published quarterly.

Commercial Fraud

Isabel's commercial fraud expertise complements other areas of her practice, particularly professional negligence.

Significant recent cases include: defending receivers in £16m claim for wilful misconduct; defending a professional in a million-pound claim brought in deceit and negligence (sole counsel), acting for tax advisers in relation to a to a £35m claim by their former client for, *inter alia*, advising its client to participate in a tax fraud, dishonest assistance, conspiracy, fraudulent trading and fraudulent breaches of fiduciary duty (led by Mark Simpson KC), and acting for defendants in a multi-million pound claim who were accused of fraudulently creating documents to evidence terms of an oral contract relating to a development site (led by Mark Simpson KC).

Commercial Dispute Resolution

Isabel's commercial practice arises naturally out of her other practice areas, particularly professional negligence, property damage and product liability.

She has particular expertise of claims arising out of the supply of professional services, contractual 'chains' in relation to construction work, sale of goods claims, and profit-sharing agreements. She has a special interest in vicarious liability, having appeared in *Mohamud v WM Morrison Supermarkets plc* in the Supreme Court.

Private International Law

Isabel's conflict of laws practice crosses her product liability, property damage, commercial dispute resolution, and professional negligence expertise.

Recent cases concerning defective products include: questions of jurisdiction, applicable law and service out in relation to products

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imported into the UK including *Regent Superbowl & Others v Slush Puppie* acting (led by Neil Moody KC) for defendant supplier of an iced drink machine said to be the cause of a multi-million pound fire (ongoing); the territorial scope of the Consumer Protection Act 1987 (*Allen v Depuy*); complex issues arising out of large multinational contracts, and claims brought against holding companies for, *inter alia*, the actions of their foreign subsidiary.

Significant Cases

Grenfell Tower recovery acting (led by David Turner KC and Clare Dixon KC, together with Tom Fairclough and Conor Ewing) for Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea and the Tenant Management Organisation in respect of recovery claims arising out of the Grenfell Tower (ongoing).

Vaginal mesh claims acting for leading manufacturer of mesh in relation to multiple claims (ongoing).

Regent Superbowl & Others v Slush Puppie acting (led by Neil Moody KC) for defendant supplier of an iced drink machine said to be the cause of a multi-million pound fire (ongoing).

Page v Kidd & Spoor Harper Solicitors [2021] 11 WLUK 294, a professional negligence claim concerning s.15B of the Limitation Act 1980 (the 15-year longstop), acting for the defendant solicitors in a strike out which was unsuccessfully appealed.

CNM Estates (Tolworth Tower) Ltd v Simon Peter Carvill-Biggs and Freddy Khalastchi, a £16.6m claim brought against Law of Property Act receivers alleging negligence in the sale of a development site (led by Mark Simpson KC). Isabel was successful in preventing the claim for damages continuing.

Wilson v Beko [2019] EWHC 3362 (QB); [2019] 12 WLUK 105, a seminal case concerning whether a consumer could bring a claim under s.41 of the Consumer Protection Act 1987 (led by Charles Dougherty KC), (the appeal was discontinued).

Instant Access Properties Ltd (In Liquidation) v Jeffcote Donnison LLP (and others) [2018] EWHC 756 (Ch), £35m claim alleging negligence, dishonest assistance and fraudulent trading (led by Mark Simpson KC).

Fultons v Guy Shattock Associates Limited & Others, a multi-million pound claim brought against approved inspectors in deceit and negligence.

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Mohamud v WM Morrison Supermarkets plc [2016] UKSC 11; [2016] AC 677, a case concerning the breadth of vicarious liability (led by Benjamin Browne KC and Roger Harris).

Allen & Others v Depuy International Limited [2015] 2 WLR 442, an important new case on the applicable law and the territorial scope of the Consumer Protection Act 1987 (led by Charles Dougherty KC).

Mehjoo v Harben Barker (A Firm) [2014] 4 All ER 806 concerning accountants' negligence, which involved issues relating to the breadth of an accountant's duty, domicile, tax avoidance schemes and remoteness (led by Mark Simpson KC).

Recommendations

Isabel has been nominated for Professional Negligence Junior of the Year at the Chambers Bar Awards 2022, and for Group Litigation and Consumer Junior of the year at the Legal 500 Awards 2022.

Isabel has been recommended in Chambers UK Bar since 2015 (at 5 years' call) and in Legal 500 since 2016.

"A real rising star. I would want her involved in any professional negligence case."

Chambers UK Bar 2023 (Professional Negligence)

"Isabel is an exceedingly good technical lawyer."

"She is personable, client-friendly and a seamless addition to the team."

Chambers UK Bar 2023 (Product Liability)

"She is a specialist in property damage. Isabel gets to grips with the facts and the legal issues quickly, and provides clear and concise advice."

Chambers UK Bar 2023 (Property Damage)

"A rising star who is immensely bright, tenacious and easy to work with."

Legal 500 2023 (Professional Negligence)

"Isabel is undoubtedly a leading specialist product liability junior. She has an outstanding practice in this field. She is incredibly hardworking with a great attention to detail. She has a great capacity for explaining technical points in clear language and for getting directly to the heart of the issues."

Legal 500 2023 (Product Liability)

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"She has a brain like a computer: she can read, analyse and memorise huge amounts of data, but she's also extremely user-friendly, which is a rare combination at the Bar." "She's very bright, responsive, and she provides a huge amount of support so the junior solicitors love working with her."

Chambers UK Bar 2022 (Professional Negligence)

"Isabel is extremely intelligent and hard working. She is also brilliant at putting clients at ease. Capable and authoritative. She is a superstar in the making." "gets to grips with the most complex cases amazingly fast"

Legal 500 2022 (Professional Negligence)

"She is thorough and good at digging into material and finding information."

Chambers UK Bar 2022 (Product Liability)

"Isabel is in my view the best product liability junior out there for complex claims. She is phenomenally bright and hard-working, and a delight to deal with. Great strategic mind."

Legal 500 2022 (Product Liability)

"Excellent at getting on with things in a cost-effective way; she's very pragmatic and commercial, which clients really like." "Hard-working and has brilliant judgement. An absolute delight to work with."

Chambers UK Bar 2021 (Professional Negligence)

"She has an amazing eye for detail and a powerful intellect. Wonderfully clear advice and tremendous work ethic. A real star."

Legal 500 2021 (Professional Negligence)

"She's sharp, enthusiastic and hard-working." "Isabel gets to grips with the facts and the legal issues quickly and provides clear and concise advice." "She is thorough, insightful and very easy to work with."

Chambers UK Bar 2021 (Product Liability)

"She has a first-class intellect combined with great attention to detail and a thorough understanding of technical evidence."

Legal 500 2021 (Product Liability)

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