

Charlotte Higham

Partner

Manchester

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About Charlotte

Charlotte Higham specialises in construction and engineering law with a primary focus on noncontentious development work.

She acts across a broad range of sectors, advising on procurement and implementation of high-value, complex developments. She advises on development agreements, framework agreements and standard form contracts (including Joint Contracts Tribunal (JCT), New Engineering Contracts (NEC3 and NEC4), Institution of Chemical Engineers (IChemE), International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC) and Model Form (MF/1)) and negotiates the construction aspects of agreements for lease, sale agreements and funding agreements. She also negotiates consultant appointments and related agreements, such as warranties, bonds and guarantees.

She has particular experience in the living sector, focusing on student accommodation, build-to-rent (BTR) and co-living together with office, life sciences and logistic sectors. Charlotte is at the forefront of advising clients on the liabilities and risks associated with the Building Safety Act (BSA) and, in particular, compliance with the new building control regime.

She has acted in a large number of construction disputes, both for claimant and defendant clients, and has experience in all types of dispute resolution procedures, including litigation, arbitration, adjudication and alternative dispute resolution (ADR).

Experience

- Advising Bruntwood Scitech on its £1.7 billion development of the innovation district, "Sister", located in Manchester city centre and spread across 4,000,000 square feet.
- Acting as the construction lead for Alumno Group on its student accommodation developments across the UK, most recently in Manchester, Leeds, Bath and Birmingham.
- Acting for Bruntwood on the £1 billion "Circle Square" neighbourhood at the former BBC site in Manchester.
- Acting for Platform_ on its joint venture with Northwood Investors, initially to develop more than 1,000 units of BTR assets across the UK.
- Acting for Watkin Jones on its BTR and co-living developments across the UK.

- Advising multiple developers and funds on the liabilities created by the Building Safety Act 2022 and navigating the new building control regime prior to and throughout the construction stage.
- Advising Bruntwood Scitech and Manchester Science Partnerships on developments at Manchester Science Park, Birmingham Health and Innovation Campus, Citylabs 2.0 and Citylabs 4.0 in collaboration with Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust.
- Advising West Midlands Combined Authority on the £1 billion extension of its Metro and light-rail network.
- Advising Liverpool John Moores University on the development of its city centre campus.

Credentials

Education

- BPP Law School, Manchester, L.P.C., 2008
- BPP Law School, Manchester, G.D.L., 2007
- University of Leeds, B.A. (Hons.), 2006

Admissions

- England and Wales, 2011

Recognitions

- Named as a notable practitioner and associate to watch by *Chambers and Partners*
- Ranked in *Legal 500 UK 2023*

Expertise

Services

- Real Estate

Industries

- Construction & Engineering

About our firm

One of the world's strongest integrated law firms, providing insight at the point where law, business and government meet. We deliver commercially focused business solutions by combining our legal, lobbying and political capabilities and invaluable connections on the ground to a diverse mix of clients, from long-established leading corporations to emerging businesses, startup visionaries and sovereign nations. More than 1,500 lawyers in over 40 offices across four continents provide unrivaled access to expertise.