

Charlotte Pope-Williams

Call Date: 2011



Charlotte Pope-Williams is an award-winning Barrister and accredited mediator with a broad international commercial and commercial chancery practice.

She has a particular specialism in financial services disputes including but not limited to acting for banks, pension funds, asset managers and insurers in commercial litigation and in relation to contentious regulatory matters involving regulatory authorities such as the Bank of England, the Prudential Regulation Authority (“PRA”), the Financial Conduct Authority, the Financial Ombudsman Service and the Financial Services Compensation Scheme amongst others.

Charlotte previously worked in the financial services disputes team at multinational law firm Pinsent Masons LLP for almost half a decade where she was involved in a number of high profile matters.

Charlotte’s practice also includes ADR such as CEDR mediation and ARIAS arbitration notably as it relates to insurance and reinsurance. Charlotte is keen to further develop her international arbitration experience and welcomes mediator appointments. She is an Associate Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (ACIarb).

Charlotte practised as an employed barrister at the UK’s central bank in the Bank of England’s Legal Directorate before commencing work at Pinsent Masons LLP where she worked on a matters ranging from the PRA’s first ever major enforcement action against RBS, the Bank of England’s Alternative Liquidity Facility, LIBOR transition and the Serious Fraud Office’s investigation into the Bank.

Charlotte is proud to be of Vincentian heritage and entitled to Vincentian nationality meaning that she can be admitted to the Bars of several Caribbean countries to practise law generally.

Charlotte is also Chambers’ Pro Bono Champion in association with the Bar’s National Pro Bono Charity Advocate (<https://weareadvocate.org.uk/>)

Recent cases of interest:

- *Republic of Mozambique v Credit Suisse International & Ors*: acting on behalf of the Credit Suisse Deal Team (led by [Peter Knox KC](#) and [Rupert Butler](#), Leverets Group) in a multi-billion-dollar civil fraud claim concerning the enforceability of state guarantees. Trial took place from October 2023 until December 2023, judgment is awaited.
- *Barrett (Snively) v Charles Jnr (Pearnell) and anor* Privy Council Appeal from the Court of Appeal in

3 HARE COURT

- Jamaica (ongoing) concerning the validity of an option to purchase land.
- Cryptocurrency civil fraud case. Acting for the Claimant in a claim for the tort for deceit, failure of basis and unlawful means conspiracy. Trial took place in November 2023.
- Successfully resisted a bankruptcy petition on behalf of a litigant in person in connection with alleged outstanding council tax liability.
- Advising an international mining company about the effectiveness of a compromise from an English law perspective.

Legal Services

Derivatives & Financial Product Litigation

Charlotte has extensive experience of acting for a range of some of the largest financial institutions in the world. Her work experience encompasses the full gamut of financial services matters including advising about ISDA contracts, LIBOR transition, the CHAPS high value payment system, central bank issued digital currency and access to central bank liquidity facilities. Charlotte is also one of very few lawyers in private practice that has in-depth and extensive knowledge of the Bank of England's Note Circulation Scheme and Scottish and Northern Ireland Notes regime.

Notable Derivatives & Financial Product Litigation cases

She has been advising a leading insurer on a compensation scheme worth over £250 million relating to the historic miss-selling of defined benefit pension schemes.

She advised and conducted an investigation for an FCA regulated firm into balance discrepancies worth approximately £40 million in just over 1 million customer accounts. Potential issues of fraud, regulatory enforcement by the FCA and other regulators and satellite litigation by customers

Acting for a reinsurer in relation to alleged breaches of contracts by insurers worth millions concerning life products giving rise to arbitration.

Commercial and Commercial Chancery Litigation

Charlotte has been involved in commercial and commercial chancery litigation at an appellate level, in the High Court and in the County Courts

Notable Commercial and Commercial Chancery Litigation cases

Republic of Mozambique v Credit Suisse International & Ors

Acting for Andrew Pearse in a multi-billion dollar civil fraud claim.

Brake & Anor v Guy & Ors (Costs) [2022] EWHC 2907 (Ch) and Brake & Anor v Guy & Ors [2022] EWHC 1911 (Ch)

Acting for a pension trustee and pension administrator in a complex third party debt order.

Maddox RP LLP v Grey GR Limited Partnership

A multi-million pound dispute about the acquisition of ground rents as investments by one of the UK's largest pension funds.

Caitlin Syndicate Ltd v Amec Foster Wheeler USA Corp [2020] EWHC 2530

Which was an anti-suit injunction concerning a PI insurance claim relating to \$1.5 billion bet the company lawsuit in the US.

SM Life Ventures vs Susan Morrice et al Claim No NEVHC 2011/0162

which was heard in the British Virgin Islands.

Applications under the Insolvency Act 1986 and Insolvency Rules (England and Wales) 2016

Acting for one of the UK's major energy suppliers in a contractual dispute relating to financial products worth over £3M resulting in a mediation.

Professional Negligence

Charlotte's financial services work has included a heavy diet of professional negligence matters such as acting for a global insurance broker defending a professional negligence claim made by a client in relation to obtaining a death in service benefit scheme for all employees worth approximately £700,000.

Appeals to the Privy Council

Barrett (Snively) v Charles Jnr (Pearnel) and anor Privy Council Appeal from the Court of Appeal in Jamaica

(ongoing) concerning the validity of an option to purchase land.

Resisting an application for permission to appeal to the Privy Council from the Jamaican Court of Appeal in respect to the Jamaican Court's approach to sentencing following a criminal trial (ongoing).

Charlotte was part of the legal team for the Claimant in *E. Anthony Ross vs Bank of Commerce (Saint Kitts Nevis) Trust and Savings Association Ltd (St. Christopher and Nevis)* [2012] UKPC 3

Civil Fraud

Charlotte's recent experience in civil fraud matters has included working on the Republic of Mozambique litigation and *SKAT* litigation where she was part of the team acting the foreign tax authority Claimant in a \$2.4billion claim multijurisdictional claim it is bringing against a number of Defendants for civil fraud, breach of contract and negligence.

Charlotte acted pro bono for a Claimant in cryptocurrency civil fraud case concerning the tort for deceit, failure of basis and unlawful means conspiracy.

Public Law

Charlotte's previous work in the public sector means that public law has been a major part of her practice notably advice about engaging with public sector decision-makers and judicial review together with more niche areas such as select committee powers and electoral law such as Political Parties, Elections and Referendums Act 2000. As regards decision-makers Charlotte worked on setting up the Bank's Enforcement Decision Making Committee, which was established in August 2018 in response to HM Treasury recommendations.

Public Inquiries and Inquests

Charlotte has experience of inquiries, investigations and collective redress schemes undertaken in the private and public sector

Notable Public Inquiries and Inquests cases

Advised one of the UK's largest financial institutions about litigation risk and regulatory enforcement risk arising from its interactions with the Work and Pensions Select Committee.

Part of the legal team working on the City of Edinburgh Council's independent inquiry into how it handled complaints about the conduct of an employee who took his own life after being charged with serious sexual offences.

Direct Access

Charlotte is able to accept instructions directly from members of the public, companies and other entities through the public access scheme (also known as direct access). She is able to advise and draft pleadings and documents for individuals and small and medium sized businesses on a direct access basis. She is happy to accept instructions on a direct basis in appropriate cases. If you wish to instruct Charlotte on a direct basis, please speak to the clerks.

For more information on public access, please see the Bar Council [website](#).

Publications

- **Case analysis on *Green and others v Metropolitan Police Commissioner*[2022] EWCA Civ 1686, Lexis Nexis** – 16 February 2023 [Stopping pension benefits and human rights \(Green v Police Commissione... \(lexisnexis.com\)](#)
- [Plan for board level targets on gender and diversity for UK listed companies](#) – Charlotte Pope-Williams | The Scotsman
- [‘Prudential regulation and enforcement of mutual insurers in the new era of ESG, Diversity and Inclusion’](#) – (Association of Financial Mutuals) newsletter
- [Legal Research and why it will always matter](#) – Lexis Nexis Future of Law Blog

Memberships

- Commercial Bar Association (“**COMBAR**”)
- Chancery Bar Association
- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (“**CIarb**”) – Associate Member
- Financial Services Lawyers Association (“**FSLA**”) – Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee Member
- International Bar Association (“**IBA**”)
- Bar Association for Commerce Finance and Industry (“**BACFI**”), General Committee
- Bar Council of England and Wales, Employed Barristers Committee (“**EBC**”)
- The Society of Mediators
- London Common Law & Commercial Bar Association (LCLCBA)

Education

- Bar Professional Training Course (Very Competent), BPP (London)
- Law and French Law LLB (Hons) (2.1), University College London

Languages

- French (Proficient)

Awards

- Employed Barrister of the Year in a Law Firm 2022/2023
- Lord Denning Scholarship (Lincoln's Inn)
- Harold G. Fox Scholarship (Middle Temple)
- Chomeley Studentship (Lincoln's Inn)