



Robert Riddell

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Robert Riddell principally practises in the fields of personal injury, civil fraud, costs and public law.

He has a busy court practice, representing both claimants and defendants at trial or at interlocutory stages, and has appeared in the County Court and High Court, both at first instance and on appeal. He also has a busy paperwork practice, providing advice to clients on liability, quantum, evidence and procedure, as well as drafting pleadings and schedules of loss.

Before coming to the Bar, Robert had a career as a political adviser in Westminster, including serving as a special adviser in the Cabinet Office.

Expertise

Personal Injury

Robert has experience of acting on behalf of claimants and defendants in personal injury, fatal accident, and clinical negligence claims, including where there are injuries with complex questions of causation and/or quantum. He has a busy trial and interlocutory practice in both fast and multi-track cases arising from road traffic accidents, accidents at work, and public/ occupiers' liability accidents.

Robert is often asked to provide paper advice to clients on substantive or procedural matters. He has been instructed by the South Yorkshire Police in the ongoing Hillsborough group litigation, advising on both liability and quantum. Recently he has also provided advice to a major UK firm of PI specialists on the impact of the new whiplash compensation regime.

Motor Insurance Fraud

Robert represents and advises insurers in a broad range of areas, in particular in employers' and public liability matters. Robert also advises in suspected fraudulent road traffic claims, and conducts fast and multi-track trials where there are allegations of fraud and/ or fundamental dishonesty, primarily (but not



exclusively) for insurers.

He has experience of allegations of phantom occupancy, contrived or staged accidents, and exaggerated claims. He has obtained enforceable costs orders on behalf of defendant insurers against claimants, and third party costs orders in claims involving the presence of other organisations. Robert is a regular contributor to TGC's Fraud Newsletter.

Robert has experience of disputes arising from coverage and indemnity clauses in insurance policies including, but not limited to, motor insurance litigation. Recent non-motor cases have included disputes over a party's entitlement to make automatic deductions from guaranteed payments under an alleged indemnity clause.

Costs & Litigation Funding

Robert has a growing costs practice. He has appeared in the Senior Courts Costs Office at first instance, and successfully on appeal in relation to the recovery of a pre-2013 ATE insurance premium.

At multi-track level, he has experience both of costs budgeting and detailed assessments in the County Court and SCCO. For fast track matters, he has knowledge and experience of arguments relating to fixed recoverable costs, including but not limited to arguments relating to QOCS. He also has extensive experience of costs and procedural issues arising under the MOJ Personal Injury Portal.

Public Law

Robert has been instructed under the Government Legal Department's Junior Junior scheme to assist in claims for judicial review and under the Human Rights Act. He has been instructed by the Home Office in relation to the Grenfell Inquiry, and has undertaken disclosure exercises and drafted witness statements for claims involving the Department for Work and Pensions.

Having completed a pupillage seat with Julia Smyth, Robert has a particular interest in the law of domestic and EU social security law, and has been published on this field in *Judicial Review*.

He also has experience dealing with issues arising under immigration law and, relatedly, matters concerning asylum, nationality and unlawful detention. On a pro bono basis, Robert has acted on behalf of Bail for Immigration Detainees (BID) at immigration bail hearings both in and out of London.

Awards

- David Karmel Entrance Award, Gray's Inn

Education

- BPTC, City University (2016)



- GDL, City University (2014)
- BA (Hons) English Language & Literature (First Class), Oxford University (2003)

Memberships

- Personal Injury Bar Association
- Bar Pro Bono Unit