

Andrew McLaughlin

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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Personal Injury, Industrial Disease, Clinical Negligence, Insurance, Property, Property Damage

Andrew is a leading senior junior in the fields of personal injury and industrial disease recommended in Chambers UK and the Legal 500 for over 20 years. Andrew continues to practise from St John's Chambers in Bristol but is instructed nationwide by Defendants. He is known above all for being a formidable trial lawyer. He is ranked as a band 1 practitioner in personal injury and is listed as a disease expert in Chambers UK Spotlight table. He has been a member of the Government panel ('Treasury Counsel') since 2012. In 2018 he was appointed to the 'A' panel which is reserved for counsel expected to conduct work on the Government's behalf involving millions of pounds against KCs.

Andrew is instructed by all the national firms nearly always on behalf of defendants and their insurers, especially in cases involving fundamental dishonesty, catastrophic injuries, amputations, fatal accidents, chronic pain disorders, serious psychiatric injuries as well as asbestos-related disease, HAVS, occupational stress, sexual abuse and WRULDs. He has been involved in numerous reported or high profile cases in recent years. He opened the appeal on behalf of the successful defendants in *Denton v TH White*. He appeared for the Defendant in *Williams v Betsi Cadwaladr Local Health Board* [2022] EWHC 455 (clinical negligence), *Walkden v Drayton Manor Park* [2021] EWHC 2056 (fundamental dishonesty), *Arshdeep v Buttar Construction* [2021] EWCA Civ 1408 (interim payment tetraplegia), *ATX v CRS and DPS* (2019) *Kemp Quantum* (severe child brain injury and tetraplegia), *Smith v Secretary of State for Transport* [2020] EWHC 1954 (asbestosis), *Stewart v Lewisham & Greenwich NHS Trust* [2017], EWCA Civ 2091 (manual handling), *Dyson v Heart Of England NHS Trust* [2017] EWHC 1910 (clinical negligence), *Smith v Secretary of State for Transport* [2020] EWHC 1954 (asbestos). This year he comprehensively defeated a well known KC in a £1.6m fundamental dishonesty claim to widespread national acclaim.

Andrew acts primarily for defendants in complex clinical negligence cases.

In addition, he defends public authorities against claims for misuse of private information, breach of confidence and breach of Data Protection legislation.

Personal Injury

Andrew's key fields of expertise lie in fundamental dishonesty, brain and spinal injury and alleged chronic pain, employers' liability for accidents at work and industrial disease, road traffic accidents, bullying and stress at work, sexual abuse, occupier's and public liability.

Andrew is instructed by nearly all major insurance companies as well as private individuals and companies. He is instructed by the Government Legal Service on behalf of various departments of state. He also undertakes work on

behalf of NHS Trusts and Local Authorities.

Andrew has extensive experience of dealing with multi-track claims at all levels, mainly in the High Court and Court of Appeal. He led a junior in *Stewart V Lewisham & Greenwich NHS Trust* cited above to defeat a KC who was appealing the loss of a substantial manual handling claim. This year he has scored several major wins for insurers in claims involving fundamental dishonesty. The most notable of these was the resounding defeat of Satinder Hunjan KC in *Walkden v Drayton Manor Park* in which a former managing director claimed almost £1.6m but lost on the basis he had been fundamentally dishonest. Since then he has also defended a tyre company at a liability trial in which the claimant was crushed underneath a bus and shattered his pelvis, again on the grounds he had been dishonest in the presentation of his case on liability. He has dealt with numerous lower leg amputations and interestingly a double hand amputation which went to an approval hearing this year.

In 2019 Andrew acted for the 2nd Defendant in the largest PPO case in history in this country *ATX v CRS and DPS* [2019] EWHC 6/6/19 (lawtel) in which the court approved a PPO of £950,000 per annum to a child who had suffered tetraplegia and severe brain injury. He opened the appeals in *Denton v TH White* on behalf of the successful lead defendants, TH White.

He has a detailed knowledge of the legal and medical issues arising in claims for damages arising from bullying or stress at work, exposure to asbestos, noise-induced deafness, hand/arm vibration syndrome, exposure to hazardous substances, including bacteria, work-related upper limb disorders.

Andrew is respected by clients and opponents alike for his formidable courtroom skills, especially cross-examination.

Andrew is known amongst clients for his approachable style, flexibility and turnaround time.