

Steven Snowden KC

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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Personal Injury, Industrial Disease, Sport, Clinical Negligence, Inquests, Insurance, Group Litigation, Public Inquiries

Steven Snowden KC is Head of Chambers at 12KBW. He is recognised as one of the leading barristers in the country in his main practice areas, being recommended as a leading KC for personal injuries work (Star Individual in the Chambers & Partners directory and Tier 1 in Legal 500) and he is also ranked in the directories for Industrial Disease and for Inquests/Inquiries.

Steven is an extremely experienced advocate who regularly deals with substantial and complex cases in Court and in settlement meetings. His main area of practice is high-value, complex or sensitive personal injury work, in which he acts for Claimants and for Defendants. His current caseload includes the liability and quantum aspects of head injuries, paraplegic and other serious spinal injury cases, amputations, psychiatric injuries and fatal claims.

In industrial disease work he deals with mesothelioma and other asbestos claims, and other occupational illness claims involving difficult issues of liability, causation or quantum.

His practice also encompasses associated clinical negligence and professional negligence work, insurance, sports, group litigation and public inquiries.

He was the elected Chair (2020 – 2022) of the Personal Injuries Bar Association, a member of the Bar Council (2020 – 2022), a Director of BMIF (2022 – 2024) and has for many years been one of the authors of the Judicial College Guidelines for the Assessment of General Damages in Personal Injury Cases.

Public Inquiries

Recognised as a leading silk in the Legal 500 (Tier 4) for Inquests and Inquiries.

- Steven was from 2018 to 2025 leading counsel for the largest group of infected and affected individuals and families in the Infected Blood Public Inquiry, which was the largest public inquiry into deaths and injuries in English legal history. It investigated how, in what was described as the largest treatment disaster in the history of the NHS, haemophiliacs and others were in the 1970s and 1980s given blood factor products and blood transfusions which were contaminated with HIV, Hepatitis C and other viruses with devastating consequences. The wide terms of the Inquiry involved scrutiny of government decisions, the accountability of clinicians and civil servants, commercial exploitation and political cover-up, medical ethics, the involvement and influence of pharmaceutical companies and the inadequacy of current support schemes and Trusts. The Final Report was delivered, with considerable press coverage, in March 2024.
- Steven acted from 2023 to 2025 as leading counsel for the largest group of patients and families in the initial stages of the Essex Mental Health (Lampard) Inquiry, dealing with its conversion from non-statutory to statutory, Terms of Reference, Core Participant status, opening statements, commemorative evidence and the initial hearings of family evidence.