Simon Kilvington KC



Called: 1995
Silk Date: 2016

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Practice Overview

Personal Injury (Band 1)
Simon Kilvington KC continues to develop his outstanding practice handling industrial disease and serious injury claims. He is well known for his expertise in asbestos-related cases. He is regularly instructed in cases involving complex medical and accountancy evidence.

"Simon deals with everything in such an assured way, while still being professional and demonstrating empathy needed." [Chambers & Partners, 2027]

"Simon pays absolute attention to detail and has very in-depth knowledge of complex issues. He is very thorough and detailed." [Chambers & Partners, 2027]

"Simon has an excellent bedside manner, putting claimants and litigation friends at ease, while also providing simplified language that is easy for a lay person to understand." [Chambers & Partners, 2027]

"Simon is a thorough, clear-sighted strategist and has an easy presentation style with clients of all walks of life. He is great to work with and clients have total confidence in him." [Chambers & Partners, 2027]
Industrial Disease (Band 1)
Simon Kilvington KC of Byrom Street Chambers is an experienced practitioner of personal injury law who is admired for his knowledge of industrial disease litigation. He focuses on asbestos cases. He has experience appearing before the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal.

"Simon is an exceptional courtroom advocate who is ready to fight. I've seen him turn the tide in court against heavy odds to achieve a result. He is very, very persuasive on his feet." [Chambers & Partners, 2027]

"Simon is clear thinker with plenty of pragmatism. He approaches everything with rigour and gives 100% to his clients and cases." [Chambers & Partners, 2027]

"Simon is an outstanding KC in this field." [Chambers & Partners, 2027]

Strengths:
“*An outstanding KC with a meticulous approach, he expertly navigates complex financial claims while delivering exceptional client care, making him an invaluable asset for any case.”*
“*Simon is the top silk in the country for claimant industrial disease work. A compelling advocate, he is highly regarded and enormously respected by solicitors, clients and adversaries alike.”*
“*His attention to detail is unmatched, and he is renowned for his logical approach to complex issues. He has an enviable reputation for his advocacy and negotiation skills.”*
“*Simon's ability to grasp and process detail in a claim is extremely impressive, even in a case with voluminous documentation.”*
“*Simon is an all-around excellent choice for claimants. He is knowledgeable, approachable and great. He is prepared to argue the point to get the right result.”*
“*Simon builds a good rapport with clients and he is incredibly detailed. His measured approach to the evidence is valued, and he is always incredibly well prepared for any meeting or discussion.”*

“Simon is a hugely engaging leading counsel with bags of experience and a charismatic deployment of capabilities.”
“Simon is very thorough in his approach and leaves no stone unturned. He is a very safe pair of hands.”

Legal 500

Personal Injury (1)
"Simon quickly familiarised himself with the issues and demonstrated an impressive ability to absorb and analyse the material with clarity and precision. He navigated complexities of the case with ease, providing clear direction to me and experts and well-considered strategic input from the outset. His grasp of the medical evidence, both in terms of distilling the key points and understanding its impact on the wider legal issues, was invaluable in strenghtening our overall position." [Legal 500, 2027]

"Judges respect Simon and he never takes bad points. He is always taken seriously. He has a lovely manner with clients and solicitors; he explains things really concisely and clearly with sensitivity to vulnerable clients."

PRACTICE AREAS
Personal Injury
Industrial Disease
Professional Liability

ASSOCIATIONS
Personal Injury Bar Association

Personal Injury

Simon's caseload comprises complex and high value personal injury litigation including cases involving employers' liability, road traffic accidents, product liability and foreign accidents. Chambers & Partners 2012 says that he is "frequently found on high value spinal and brain injury cases... " In addition he regularly handles complicated Fatal Accident Act claims with multiple dependants and issues under sections 3 & 4 of the 1976 Act and difficult psychiatric injury cases. He has extensive experience of handling high value quantum claims and has a particular facility with complex accountancy evidence.

Concluded cases
S v B - Instructed by Claimant with significant cognitive impairment (with David Allan QC); substantial dispute as to the cause of the ongoing problems and their reversibility; approximately £1 million recovered

L v T - Instructed by Claimant in complex fatal accident and associated nervous shock claims with road traffic act insurer indemnity issues; £150,000 recovered

W v L - Brain injury to man already lacking capacity; recovered substantial lump sum payment

P v V - Significant psychiatric injuries sustained by a Claimant witnessing the death of a work colleague; substantial dispute as to the extent of the right to recover for psychiatric injury

F v C - Instructed by Defendant in public liability claim for £6.5m claim brought by film director - complex accountancy evidence - settled at joint settlement meeting for £400,000

B v M - Instructed by Claimant with catastrophic facial injuries (with David Allan QC); £1.5 million recovered

W v. A - Instructed by Claimant in fatal accident claim involving significant liability dispute and complex quantum

issues: settled at joint settlement meeting

B v W - Instructed by Claimant in claim arising out of tragic accident when Deceased run over by ex-partner: sensitive and involved issues between dependants; resolved at joint settlement meeting

Sample current cases

Instructed by self employed businessman with subtle brain injury having catastrophic effect on business - £multi-million claim with complex accountancy evidence
Instructed by spinally injured Claimant in public liability claim; elderly Claimant with substantial dispute as to accommodation and care needs and the need for periodical payments
Instructed by Claimant in high value fatal accident case with associated significant personal injury claim

Professional Liability

Simon advises in relation to the negligence of legal professionals in the conduct of personal injury and industrial disease claims. He has recently handled claims arising out of inadequate advice about provisional damages.

Industrial Disease

Simon has been in a number of leading asbestos cases in recent years including Sabin v BRB (Residuary) Ltd (with David Allan QC) examining the use of pathological evidence and Willmore / Sienkiewicz (with David Allan QC) on the extent of the Fairchild exception. In 2012, he handled what is thought to be the largest living mesothelioma claim recovering in excess of £3 million. He is regularly instructed in mesothelioma and lung cancer claims involving substantial expert evidence issues. He frequently represents Claimants on difficult show cause hearings in the RCJ and handles complex quantum disputes.

Concluded Cases
Sabin v BRB (Residuary) Ltd (2010) EWHC 267 - Comprehensive judgment addressing the use of pathological evidence in asbestosis claims

Knowsley MBC v Willmore (with Sienkiewicz) (2011) UKSC 10 - leading case on the extent of the Fairchild exception with significant obiter on the causation of lung cancer and the use of epidemiological evidence

J v R - high value living mesothelioma claim for self employed businessman - settled for £750,000 2 days before trial

P v M - mesothelioma suffered by successful entrepeneur; complex accountancy evidence and eventual settlement in excess of £3 million

W v N - fatal lung cancer claim with issues of causation and epidemiological evidence; involved consideration of Australian jurisprudence; settled day before start of 10 day trial

S v M - fatal mesothelioma claim on behalf of Maltese citizen (with David Allan QC); significant jurisdiction and choice of law issues; recovered substantial damages

B v M - bladder cancer claim with significant dispute about the consequences of the disease; settled after a joint settlement meeting

Sample current cases

Cases concerning the ability of a Claimant to pursue a claim for mesothelioma having settled a previous claim against other tortfeasors for pleural plaques on a full and final basis
Nasal cancer claim with complicated epidemiological evidence

Complex liability issues arising out of the decision of the Court of Appeal in Williams
Wood dust and asbestos related fibrosis case with epidemiological evidence
Multiple mesothelioma claims, both living and fatal

Directory Comments

Chambers & Partners 2025 (PI) - Band 1
Simon Kilvington KC continues to develop his outstanding practice handling industrial disease and serious injury claims. He is well known for his expertise in asbestos-related cases. He is regularly instructed in cases involving complex medical and accountancy evidence.

"Simon is simply the best around. He's perceptive, tactically astute and a consummate advocate."

"He has a down-to-earth, open approach with clients and a team approach with instructing solicitors. He also possesses steely resolve, a no-nonsense approach and is excellent in the courtroom."

"Simon genuinely cares and is empathetic to clients who are in really difficult situations. Not only is he very empathetic, he is a firm and assured advocate."

Chambers & Partners 2025 (Industrial Disease) - Band 1
Simon Kilvington KC of Byrom Street Chambers is an experienced practitioner of personal injury law who is admired for his knowledge of industrial disease litigation. He focuses on asbestos cases. He has experience appearing before the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal.

"Simon is the best of the best - a brilliant advocate with a huge amount of trial experience, meticulous attention to detail and charisma in court."

"Simon is a superb lawyer who is both academic and pragmatic."

"He is an extremely good advocate who knows the law inside out."

"Simon is an excellent advocate with the clarity of thought required to successfully predict the opponent's arguments. He is an assertive negotiator as a result of thorough preparation."

Chambers & Partners 2024 (PI)
Simon Kilvington KC continues to develop his outstanding practice handling industrial disease and serious injury claims. He is well known for his expertise in asbestos-related cases. He is regularly instructed in cases involving complex medical and accountancy evidence.

"Simon is my go-to barrister, he is excellent on those tricky cases and has such empathy with claimants he puts them at ease immediately. His advocacy skills are immense, and he has a fantastic sense of humour."

"Simon is a fantastic leading counsel. He is always well prepared and great with clients in difficult cases and personable."

"He is very considerate towards instructing solicitors and has a very grounded approach in his interactions with clients."

Chambers & Partners 2024 (Industrial Disease)
Simon Kilvington KC is an experienced practitioner of personal injury law who is admired for his knowledge of industrial disease litigation. He focuses on asbestos cases. He has experience appearing before the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal.

Simon Kilvington QC continues to develop his outstanding practice handling industrial disease and serious injury claims. He is well known for his expertise in asbestos-related cases. He is regularly instructed in cases involving complex medical and accountancy evidence.

"Simon Kilvington KC is an excellent advocate."

"He is tenacious and able to deal with problems in a case with ease."

"He is an excellent negotiator."

"Simon is incredibly astute and perceptive."

Chambers & Partners 2023 (PI) - Band 2

Strengths: "He is commercial and looks at the whole picture." "He is calm and collected with clients, putting them at ease immediately. He is detailed and analytical, ensuring that the best possible case is produced." "Simon has sound judgement which can cut through the most complicated of cases with ease."

Chambers & Partners 2022 (PI) - Band 2

Simon Kilvington QC is an experienced practitioner of personal injury law who is admired for his knowledge of industrial disease litigation. He focuses on asbestos cases. He has experience appearing before the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal.

Strengths: "He is incredibly thorough and very forensic when looking at evidence. He can explain complex legal points in a digestible way."
Chambers & Partners 2022 (Industrial Disease) - Band 1

Continues to develop his outstanding practice handling industrial disease and serious injury claims. He is well known for his expertise in asbestos-related cases. He is regularly instructed in cases involving complex medical and accountancy evidence.

Strengths: "He's tactically excellent and is very good with clients. He can cut through the issues quickly and succinctly, and provides very clear and concise advice to his clients." "He's clear, analytical and very good on his feet."
Chambers & Partners 2020 (PI)

An experienced practitioner of personal injury law who is admired for his knowledge of industrial disease litigation. He focuses on asbestos cases. He has experience appearing before the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal.
Strengths: "A true asbestos specialist who is at the top of his game. He has an excellent bedside manner and an ability to summarise highly complex legal arguments without ever making them dull or overly complicated." "He is spellbinding in court and puts vulnerable clients at ease with his down-to-earth, calming manner. He's a real team player with an encyclopaedic knowledge of asbestos disease litigation."
Chambers & Partners 2020 (Industrial Disease)

An experienced practitioner of personal injury law who is admired for his knowledge of industrial disease litigation. He focuses on asbestos cases. He has experience appearing before the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal. "He's intellectually secure and absolutely up to date on the law." "He's very impressive, methodical and calm under pressure."
Chambers & Partners 2019 (Industrial Disease)

Continues to develop his outstanding practice handling industrial disease and serious injury claims. He is well known for his expertise in asbestos-related cases. "He is an extremely persuasive advocate, as well as being great with clients." "He is one of the standout barristers in the UK for asbestos litigation. He is a formidable advocate, has an unflappable and forensic manner, and is always meticulously prepared. He has the ability to explain complex legal issues to clients in a down-to-earth and succinct manner."
Chambers & Partners 2019 (PI)