



Alys Williams

Call: 2016

...very good at unpicking complex issues in order to understand the key issues on a matter. She is calm and considered and is certainly very well prepared for all conferences and court appearances...

Legal 500 2024

EMAIL: clerks@civitaslaw.com TELEPHONE: +44 (0)2920 375020

Alys specialises in personal injury and clinical negligence, public law and commercial and chancery.

In personal injury and clinical negligence, she regularly receives repeat instructions in both an advisory and advocacy capacity across a range of personal injury matters, on behalf of both Claimants and Defendants in high value claims. She has experience of industrial disease, Animals Act, public liability, employers' liability, injuries abroad and occupiers' liability claims. She has extensive experience in fatal accident claims.

In administrative and public law, Alys' practice encompasses a broad spectrum of police, education, local government and housing and disrepair law. She also has a growing professional discipline practice and acts as legal-advisor including for the Education Workforce Council Wales. She is also regularly instructed in fitness to practice proceedings on behalf of the NMC and has been appointed an Independent Member of Police Misconduct Hearings. She has a busy education law practice and is one of the co-authors of the Nodi Guide to Additional Learning Needs Law in Wales.

Alys has acted in and advised on a wide variety of commercial matters. She has acted in numerous claims involving contractual disputes and has significant experience dealing with claims/counterclaims alleging misrepresentation and disputing the validity of agreements based on mistake, undue influence or illegality. She has acted from small claim to multi-track level in claims of this nature. She also regularly appears in property disputes ranging from possession, disrepair, particularly for Defendants, to complex disputes on commercial leases and construction.

A native Welsh speaker, Alys is originally from Pwllheli, North Wales and attended the University of Liverpool where she read law and achieved a First Class Honours. She is happy to accept instructions, conduct hearings and conferences and advise through the medium of Welsh and is keen to develop her practice by doing so.

Expertise

Personal Injury

Alys has a varied and busy personal injury and clinical negligence practice. She regularly acts for Claimant and Defendant at both fast track and multi-track level.

Alys' practice encompasses all areas of personal injury work, both in court and in an advisory or drafting capacity. She has experience of industrial disease, Animals Act, public liability, employers' liability, fatal accidents, injuries abroad, occupiers' liability claims, as well as secondary victim claims. She has a particular expertise in fatal accident claims.

Alys was named a 'Rising Star' in the field of Personal Injury in the Legal 500 2023 and 2024.

Cases

- Acted for the Defendant housing association at trial where there were a number of inconsistencies in the Claimant's evidence. The Defendant was successful in obtaining a finding of fundamental dishonesty and an order for costs.
- Acted for the Claimant as a secondary victim who witnessed the immediate aftermath of an RTA which caused the tragic death of her young son. Advised on issues of indemnity, procedure in light of the Defendant's imprisonment, the identity of the correct Defendant(s) and drafted pleadings. Advised on settlement and achieved a favourable settlement at almost full value.
- Successfully represented the Claimant in a public liability claim against the local authority which maintained a defence under s.58 Highways Act 1980. Under cross-examination the Highways Inspector accepted that the defect shown in images taken by the Claimant at the time of the accident – and which remained in that state for some months – was actionable. The trial judge found that the Defendant's system of inspection had failed and the claim succeeded.
- Acted for the Claimant dependent in a fatal accident claim arising from an RTA. Advised on quantum and appropriate settlement in light of the risks arising from the relatively elderly age of both the deceased and the Claimant. Achieved a very favourable five figure settlement at 80% of the pleaded value.

Administrative & Public

Alys has a busy administrative and public law practice. She has built on her experience in judicial review in immigration matters for both claimants and the Secretary of State, to judicial review more widely, including on behalf of police forces in Wales and the Independent Office for Police Conduct.

She regularly acts for police forces in Wales in both operational and litigation matters, in proceedings relating to various civil orders, including domestic violence protection orders, sexual harm prevention orders and stalking protection orders, where she has a particular interest. She has been instructed numerous times in applications for disclosure of family court proceedings. She has also appeared on behalf of HMRC and the police in confiscation proceedings and has successfully obtained closure orders in the Magistrates Court in respect of both business and residential premises. She has extensive experience of Police Property Act claims.

She has acted for both the Welsh Government and various local authorities in public law matters across a wide spectrum of subject matters including the extent of the local authority's duty under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998.

Alys has a growing professional discipline practice and acts as legal-advisor including for the Education Workforce Council

Wales. She is also regularly instructed in fitness to practice proceedings on behalf of the NMC and has been appointed an Independent Member of Police Misconduct Hearings. She has been instructed multiple times to act as a legal clerk to the Independent School Appeals Panel, on admission and exclusion appeals, including for appeals through the medium of Welsh. She has advised local authorities across Wales on their approach to school closure/reorganisation in accordance with the School Organisation Code.

Alys has a developing and busy disrepair practice acting on behalf of a number of local authorities and housing associations. She regularly appears in claims from small claims to fast track level in these matters, as well as interlocutory hearings, particularly allocation, and is happy to accept instructions to prepare pleadings. She is well versed in the changes brought about by the Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016 and has advised private and social landlords of their obligations under the Act.

Alys has acted in possession claims of all levels for both Claimants and Defendants across issues of anti-social behaviour, rent arrears, and other breaches of tenancy, in addition to advising on unlawful eviction claims. Alys has advised and acted for social landlords across the spectrum of anti-social behaviour, including committal proceedings, and has dealt numerous with the public sector equality duty under the Equality Act 2010, Article 8 and proportionality defences.

Commercial and Chancery

Alys has acted in and advised on a wide variety of commercial matters. She has acted in numerous claims involving contractual disputes and has significant experience dealing with claims/counterclaims alleging misrepresentation and disputing the validity of agreements based on mistake, undue influence or illegality. She has acted from small claim to multi-track level in claims of this nature. She also regularly appears in property disputes ranging from possession, disrepair, particularly for Defendants, to complex disputes on commercial leases and construction.

Alys has acted in and advised on a wide variety of commercial and insolvency matters. Examples of her work in this area include pursuing and opposing applications to set aside statutory demands for both individuals and companies, and advising on the enforcement of agreements regulated by the Consumer Credit Act, as well as bankruptcy and administration proceedings.

She has acted in numerous claims involving contractual disputes and has significant experience dealing with claims/counterclaims alleging misrepresentation, and disputing the validity of agreements based on mistake, undue influence or illegality. She has acted from small claim to multi-track level in claims involving issues of reasonable care and skill in contracts for supply of services and acted for both Claimants and Defendants in a number of Consumer Rights Act 2015 cases.

In property law, Alys has advised on and acted in disputes on surrender of lease, particularly commercial leases, relief from forfeiture, boundary disputes, proprietary estoppel, trespassers, and common intention constructive trusts. She has successfully obtained injunctions requiring the treatment of Japanese knotweed. She has acted on behalf of both Claimants and Defendants in numerous building disputes. She has advised on whether a purported tenant is occupying by virtue of a tenancy at will or a licence. She has experience advising on the prospective removal of entries on the Land Registry and has a busy disrepair practice acting on behalf of a number of local authorities and housing associations.

Alys was named a 'Rising Star' in the field of Commercial Litigation in the Legal 500 in 2023 and 2024.

Memberships

- Personal Injuries Bar Association