

Practice Areas
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Charities
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Professional Liability
Property
Tax

Trusts

Wills and Estates

Mediation and Arbitration
International

Robert Pearce QC

| Silk 2006 | Call 1977

Profile: Trusts

Experience and Expertise

Robert Pearce QC advises on trust and associated tax issues. He is an experienced trust draftsman. He has wide experience in contentious litigation in this field and also in non-contentious applications to the court. He has experience of trusts established both under the law of England and Wales and under other common law jurisdictions.

Reported Cases of Note

- MN v OP (High Court, 2017). Variation of trusts, anonymity orders.
- Lawson v Howard-Lawson (Court of Appeal, [2012] 3 All ER 60; [2012] WTLR 617). Construction of “name and arms” clause in Will trust.
- Power v Open Text (UK) Ltd Group Life Assurance Scheme Trustees (High Court, [2010] Pens LR 89; [2010] STI 567). Group life assurance scheme, trustees’ powers and duties.
- Re Barton deceased (High Court, [2002] WTLR 469). Variation of trusts; choice of applicable law; Recognition of Trusts Act 1987.
- Lloyds Bank v Duker (High Court, [1987] 1 WLR 1324). Administration of estate owning shares in private company.

Recommendations

Robert Pearce QC is recommended as a leading silk in the Private Client, Personal Tax, Trusts and Probate section of the current edition of The Legal 500, and in the Traditional Chancery section of the current edition of Chambers UK.

Recent directory comments include:

- “He is calm under pressure and provides excellent, clear advice.” (Trusts and Probate, Legal 500, 2017)
- “He’s very clear, confident and articulate. He is able to break instructions down into various segments and make them much more understandable.” (Chancery: Traditional, Chambers UK, 2017)
- “He is polite and courteous with both clients and the other side.” (Chancery: Traditional UK, Chambers HNW, 2016)
- “He is very approachable, very clear in explaining the issues and good at drafting.” (Traditional Chancery, Chambers UK, 2015)
- “A real eye for detail.” (Private Client, Trusts and Probate section, The Legal 500, 2014}
- “Handles a range of contentious and non-contentious chancery matters. Trust disputes and related tax matters are areas of particular expertise. ‘He is hugely knowledgeable and very accommodating. Flexible and prepared to accommodate client needs, he makes himself available no matter when required, and is able to provide the client with a clear vision of where he thinks a case is heading’.” (Traditional Chancery section, Chambers UK, 2014}
- “Robert Pearce QC has a superb reputation.” (Private Client: Trusts and Probate, The Legal 500, 2013)
- “Robert Pearce QC is widely regarded as ‘a very academic and incredibly clever chap.’ Traditional Chancery, Chambers UK, 2013)
- “Robert Pearce QC stands out for his ‘supremely sound judgment and authority.’ He thrives on cases peppered with difficult technical aspects to them, especially those containing contentious trusts and wills. Solicitors favour him as he ‘creates all-angles summaries of cases of a quality that is hard to beat’.” (Traditional Chancery, Chambers UK, 2012)
- “... Robert Pearce QC is extolled for his work across a wide swathe of traditional chancery. All manner of private client issues are handled by this ‘artful and sophisticated practitioner,’ who proves particularly good on trust and tax of trusts matters.” (Traditional Chancery, Chambers UK, 2011)

- “Robert Pearce QC’s ‘skills as a draftsman and breadth of knowledge of trust law are outstanding’.” (Charities section, The Legal 500, 2011)
- “Robert Pearce QC is similarly highly regarded, and maintains an equally wide practice that takes in a wealth of contentious and non-contentious private client work. Sources highly recommend him for his specific expertise in complex trust and trust tax issues. He is known for the fact that ‘he hits the nail on the head with his advice time after time’.” (Traditional Chancery, Chambers UK, 2010)
- “Robert Pearce QC ‘has a first-class intellect and is thoughtful and conscientious’.” (Private Client, Personal Tax, Trusts and Probate section, The Legal 500, 2009)
- “Robert Pearce QC ‘has a superb reputation’ across a variety of chancery areas, with commentators singling out, in particular, his ‘wonderful attention to detail’.” (Traditional Chancery section, Chambers UK, 2008}

Publications

Contributing editor of the title Trusts and Administration of Estates in The Civil Court Practice published by LexisNexis.

Qualifications

BA (Oxford), Jurisprudence, first class; BCL.

Memberships

STEP; Charity Law Association; Property Bar Association; ACTAPS.