

## George Rowell

2004



### Clerks' Details

👤 Lynn Salter  
☎ 0161 817 2754

👤 Joe Mawson  
☎ 0161 817 2753

### Appointments

- Attorney General's Regional Panel of Junior Counsel to the Crown (2008)
- Lincoln's Inn, Hardwicke Award
- Government Legal Service Scholarship review challenging £1.4m output tax assessment.

### Memberships

- Chancery Bar Association

### Education

- MA (Oxon), Dip. Law, MA in Law (City)

### Beyond the Bar

Wine, golf, food, real ale, boating, independent travel, South Asian history, property renovation.

### Insolvency CV

#### Overview

George is a commercial barrister specialising in tax disputes, professional negligence and insolvency. Although he has experience across the range of insolvency work, he has a particular interest in cases with overlapping tax and insolvency issues. Where insolvency proceedings are brought by or for the benefit of HMRC, his expertise allows him to spot weaknesses in HMRC's position that might not be apparent to other insolvency lawyers. He advises insolvency practitioners on the complicated interaction between the statutory tax assessment provisions and the insolvency legislation.

George's insolvency experience includes:

- Pursuing and defending applications in the bankruptcy court
- Freezing injunctions in the context of insolvency.
- Insolvent TUPE transfers
- Domicile and international issues
- Claims against directors of 'phoenix' companies
- Transactions defrauding creditors or at an undervalue
- Tracing and breach of trust claims
- Voluntary arrangements
- Tax-related insolvency issues

George is recommended as a Leading Junior in the Tax section of Chambers & Partners and the Commercial, Banking & Insolvency section of Legal 500 (see Recommendations for details).

## Recommendations

“Highly recommended for his extensive experience of handling tax disputes, especially those involving VAT, PAYE and inheritance tax. George is frequently instructed on behalf of both taxpayers and HMRC. ‘He is an impressive and persuasive advocate who is quick on his feet.’”

**Chambers & Partners, 2017: Tax – Regional – Band One**

“Draws praise from both clients and peers for the depth of his tax experience. He is particularly recognised for his work on tax penalties, inheritance and capital gains tax and employment-related tax issues. Strengths: He has impressive sharpness of mind and good analytical skills, and is a man with abundant common sense. When you’ve got him you have no need to go to London.”

**Chambers & Partners, 2016: Tax – Regional – Band One**

“Recommended for tax and professional negligence matters.”

**Legal 500, 2016-2017: Western Circuit – Commercial – Leading Junior**

“Recommended for employment-related tax disputes.”

**Legal 500, 2016-2017: Western Circuit – Employment – Leading Junior**

“A tenacious, confident and persuasive advocate who is quick on his feet.”

**Legal 500, 2015-2016: Western Circuit – Commercial – Leading Junior**

## Cases

- Advising administrator as to tax and NIC assessments for £3.8m arising from failed tax planning.
- Opposing bankruptcy petition brought by HMRC for tax debt of £1.1m.
- Opposing bankruptcy petition brought by bank against property developer for £1m mortgage debt.
- Defending director of 'phoenix' company against claim brought by HMRC for tax debts of his previous companies.
- Representing the Insolvency Service in statutory redundancy payment proceedings brought by 200 ex-employees of insolvent property maintenance company.
- Application to set aside bankruptcy petition on basis of invalid service and non-UK domicile.
- Fraud, tracing and breach of trust claim against bankrupt trustee of intestate estate.
- Advising former director of insolvent restaurant company in respect of claim by liquidator to recover alleged VAT debt for benefit of HMRC.