

## **Robert Webb QC**

YEAR OF CALL: 1971 YEAR OF SILK: 1988

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## **Practice Overview**

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Robert Webb QC has previously been a Door Tenant at Brick Court Chambers from 2009-2012 before he became General Counsel of Rolls Royce, a post from which he retired in 2015, to rejoin Brick Court. Called to the Bar in 1971, he became a Silk in 1988 and was Head of Chambers at 5, Bell Yard for ten years, from 1988-1998. His practice was commercial aviation and much involved in 'mass disasters' and multi-forum issues. For example, the recovery for insurers of much of the Kuwait Airways fleet in Gulf War I; the sinking of the Herald of Free enterprise at Zeebrugge; the shooting down of the Korean Airline flight KAL 007 by the Russians. He was also Counsel to the Royal Pharmaceutical Society for a decade, fighting specialist cases in this area, in Europe and in the UK. After leaving the Bar for commercial life initially, for ten years as General Counsel at British Airways and as a Director of the London Stock Exchange (retiring as Senior Independent Director in 2015), he left British Airways and went on to be a Director of a number of public companies; Chairman of Autonomy (a FTSE 100 company), BBC Worldwide (the commercial arm of the BBC) and Senior Independent Director of Argent Group (the property company developing Kings Cross). He was a Recorder of the Crown Court from 1993-1998 and has arbitrated as well as argued a great number of commercial and aviation disputes in the UK and around the world.

## **Qualifications & Career History**

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Called to The Bar, Inner Temple 1971 (also Lincolns Inn, 1996)

Queen's Counsel 1988

Head of Chambers, 5 Bell Yard, London 1988-1998

Recorder of the Crown Court 1993-1998

Bencher, Inner Temple 1997 to date

Chairman, International Relations Committee, Bar Council 1997/8

### **Career History (Industry)**

1998-2009 General Counsel, British Airways

Comprising Law, Government Affairs, Safety and Security, Risk Management, Environmental Policy, Corporate

Responsibility and BA Health Services.

2012-2015 General Counsel, Rolls-Royce (including risk, government relations, export controls and communications)

### **Previously held Non Executive Directorships**

Air Mauritius 1999-2004

Trustee British Airways Pension Fund 2000-2002

London Stock Exchange 2001-2015 (Senior Independent Director, Chairman Remuneration Committee)

Speedbird Insurance Company (Bermuda) Ltd 2002-2004

London First 2002-2009

Emerging Health Threats Forum CIC 2006-2012

British Broadcasting Corporation 2007-2012 (Chairman Fair Trading Committee 2007-2009, Chairman BBC Worldwide 2009-2012)

Autonomy plc 2009-2011 (Chairman)

Argent Group 2009-2012 (Deputy Chairman)

Sciemus Ltd 2010-2011 (Chairman)

Senior Independent Director and Chairman of the Remuneration Committee, Holdingham Group Ltd (Hakluyt) 2005-2019

## **Education**

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Wycliffe College, Gloucestershire 1959-1967

Exeter University 1967-1970 (LLB 1970)

Council of Legal Education (1970-1971)

## **Current Positions**

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- Chairman, Darktrace Ltd
- Chairman, Luminance
- Senior Advisor, Brunswick Group LLP