BRICK COURT CHAMBERS

Brick Court Chambers
7-8 Essex Street, London WC2R 3LD
DX 302 London Chancery Lane

Tim Johnston

YEAR OF CALL: 2011

"Tim is a really powerful advocate and one of the standout barristers of his generation."

Chambers & Partners 2026

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Practice Overview

Tim is recognised as a leading junior in all his key areas of work. The directories describe him as: "*already a strong advocate in his own right, able to stand his ground against much more senior opponents…. With a good sense for strategy. A future silk without doubt*", "*intellectually brilliant*", "*a very good advocate with clear analysis and very good judgment. He knows what works and what doesn't*" and "*super in terms of getting prepared and working collaboratively with the team.*"

His practice spans public law, public international law, human rights, EU and competition law. He has substantial expertise in business and human rights, international environmental law, anti-money laundering law and ESG standards. He regularly appears in ground-breaking cases at the highest level.

- Public law. Tim regularly appears led and unled in leading public law cases. He is described by Legal 500 as "a***n obvious leader in the public law field***" and "***a match for any silk***". He is currently acting for the Trade Remedies Agency in the first ever appeal to the Upper Tribunal in relation to the imposition of an anti-dumping measure (***Caterpillar (Xuzhou) v Trade Remedies Agency***). In recent months he has appeared unled before the Court of Appeal in ***Mazur v Charles Russell Speechly*** [2026] EWCA Civ 369, a leading case about the nature of legal services in the UK, and ***Panayi v HMRC***, a case about conforming interpretation in UK law. He also appeared unled before the Court of Appeal in a key case in relation to interim relief in judicial review (successfully setting aside the grant of relief below): ***RRR v British Standards Institution*** [2024] EWCA Civ 530. Further back, he was instructed for the UK Government before the Supreme Court in 2022 in the ***Archie Battersbee*** case (right to die), for the Cayman Government before the Privy Council in ***Ramoon v Governor of the Cayman Islands*** [2023] UKPC 9 and for the Claimants in the '***Miller 1***claim [2017] UKSC 5. He is on the Government's A Panel of Counsel and the Equality and Human Rights Committee's A Panel of Counsel.

- Competition law. Tim is described as "***already a strong advocate in his own right, able to stand his ground in court against much more senior opponents***." He has particular expertise in Chapter 1/Chapter 2 abuse cases, including the long running Phenytoin litigation (before the Competition Appeal Tribunal, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court); and the Hydrocortisone litigation (Competition Appeal Tribunal and Court of Appeal). He acts for claimants and defendants in competition damages claims and has been instructed in Trucks, Citalopram, Perindopril, Salmon, Visa/Interchange, and Gemalto amongst other leading cases. He has particular experience in the interaction between competition and Sports Law. He acted for Newcastle United in its challenge against the Football Association and in 2024 he appeared for a global sports governing body defending a challenge to that body's sporting rules (in a confidential arbitration). He is currently instructed for the Defendants in ***NST Worldwide Limited v World Snooker Limited and others*** (due to go to trial in early 2027). He was shortlisted for competition junior of the year in 2022.

- EU law. Tim is a Tier 1 junior in European law and is described as "***highly intelligent and very personable. A delight to work with", and "a silk in waiting.***" He is called to the Bar in Ireland (2018) and has rights of audience before the CJEU. He regularly appears unled before the General Court and CJEU. He has been instructed unled in the last year in cases concerning pharmaceutical regulation (Case T-223/20, ***Orion v Commission***), competition law (Case T-310/21 ***Air Canada v Commission***) and EU environmental law (Case T-579/22 ***Client Earth v Commission*** and Case T-449/24 ***Dryade VZW and others v Commission***).

- Public international law. Tim has considerable expertise in public international law. He is regularly instructed by the United Kingdom Government to act before international bodies, including the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (***Dance v United Kingdom***, Case No. 96/2022 and ***JS v United Kingdom***, Case No. 85/2021). He also acts for NGOs, charities and private individuals in claims that concern the interface between international law, international human rights standards and domestic law. He has been instructed to intervene in the Supreme Court by the International Commission of Jurists in ***Okpabi and Others v Royal Dutch Shell Ltd*** [2021] UKSC 3 and ***Lungowe and Others v Vedanta Resources Plc*** [2019] UKSC 20. He has particular expertise in environmental law, ESG and international money laundering legislation.

Tim's other experience includes:

- Regular case reviewer for Advocate.
- Former Trustee and Vice Chair of Justice Defenders, a leading charity working in prisons in

Africa to improve access to justice.
- Member of ALBA, the Bar European Group and the Procurement Lawyers Association.

Before coming to the Bar, Tim was an academic historian and is the author of *Being Soviet: Identity, Rumour and Everyday Life under Stalin 1939-1953* (OUP, 2011).

Public Law

Tim carries out a wide range of public and public international law work, with a particular emphasis on cases that raise complex questions of human rights law. He regularly appears in leading cases on behalf of both claimants and defendants.

He is a member of the Attorney General's A Panel of Counsel, and the EHRC's A Panel of Counsel.

Judicial Review/Administrative Law:

- *Panayi v HMRC*. Tim appeared unled in the Court of Appeal in this important case concerning the proper approach to conforming interpretation in EU and human rights law (judgment is awaited).
- *Mazur v Charles Russell Speechly* [2026] EWCA Civ 369. Tim appeared unled in the Court of Appeal (for the Legal Services Board intervening) in this key case concerning the provision of legal services in the United Kingdom.
- *New Lottery Company Limited and others v The Gambling Commission* [2026] CAT 14. Tim acted for the interested party in this leading authority in relation to the subsidy control regime post-Brexit.
- *Caterpillar (Xuzhou) and others v Trade Remedies Agency*. Tim is currently instructed to act for the TRA in the first challenge brought to an anti-dumping measure post-Brexit. He previously acted for the TRA in *R (Caterpillar (Xuzhou) Ltd) v Secretary of State for Business and Trade and the Trade Remedies Agency* [2025] EWHC 1124 (Admin), successfully defending a judicial review challenge in relation to the process adopted by the TRA during its investigation.
- *R (Artelia Ltd) v Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea* (claim issued early 2025). Tim was instructed to act for *Artelia* in this judicial review challenge concerning the lawfulness of RBKC's decision to adopt a policy of not allowing Artelia to be appointed as a sub-contractor. The case would have been the first case to consider the application of local authorities' barring powers under the Procurement Act 2023. The claim was conceded by the Defendant shortly before trial.
- *RRR v British Standards Institution* [2024] EWCA Civ 530. Tim acted alone before the Court of Appeal successfully setting aside the grant of interim relief at first instance.

- *R (AAA) v Secretary of State for the Home Department* [2023] EWCA Civ 745. Tim was instructed by the largest Claimant group in the 'Rwanda' litigation concerning the lawfulness of the UK Government's policy of removing asylum seekers to Rwanda.
- *R (Notemachine UK Limited) v Payment Systems Regulator* [2023] EWHC 2522 (Admin). Tim was instructed, led by Jamie McClelland, to appear for the interveners (LINK UK) in this regulatory judicial review concerning a series of decisions taken by the Payment Systems Regulator.
- *R (British Generic Manufacturers Association Limited) v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care* [2023] EWHC 1725 (Admin). Tim was instructed to act for the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, intervening in this judicial review concerning the negotiation of the next voluntary scheme for NHS branded medicines (led by Jemima Stratford KC).
- *R (United Trade Action Group) v Transport for London* [2022] EWCA Civ 1026. Tim was instructed by Transport for London to resist this appeal concerning the proper meaning of the words "*plying for hire*."
- *Pfizer Inc and another v Competition and Markets Authority* [2022] UKSC 14. Tim was instructed to appear before the Supreme Court in this significant case concerning the proper approach when awarding costs against a public authority on a statutory appeal (in this case in the context an appeal to the Competition Appeal Tribunal).
- *R (British Telecommunications Plc) v Her Majesty's Treasury* [2020] EWCA (Civ) 1. Instructed for the Treasury to resist this high-profile judicial review, concerning the indexation of BT pensions.
- *R (Miller) and others v Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union* [2017] UKSC 5. Appeared before the Divisional Court and the Supreme Court in the "Article 50" challenge, concerning the lawfulness of the Government's intention to trigger Article 50 without Parliamentary Authority (as junior to Helen Mountfield QC and Gerry Facenna QC).
- *R (on the application of Prudential Plc.) v Special Commissioner for Income Tax* [2013] UKSC. Tim appeared before a seven-member panel of the Supreme Court as sole junior to Sir Sydney Kentridge QC and Tom Adam QC in the leading case concerning the scope of legal professional privilege.

Human Rights:

- Tim is currently instructed by Transport for London to defend a number of damages claims brought on human rights grounds in relation to alleged delays in licence processing.
- *Ramoon v Governor of the Cayman Islands* [2023] UKPC 9. This Privy Council appeal concerned whether or not the court could conduct a closed material proceeding.
- *R (AAA) v Secretary of State for the Home Department* [2023] EWCA Civ 745. Tim was instructed by the largest Claimant group in the 'Rwanda' litigation concerning the lawfulness

of the UK Government's policy of removing asylum seekers to Rwanda.

- *R (Craighead) v Secretary of State for Defence* [2023] EWHC 2413 (Admin). Tim was instructed unled for the Claimant in this important case concerning freedom of expression and the restrictions imposed on SAS servicemen from publishing their memoirs.
- In 2022 Tim acted in a confidential matter before the European Court of Human Rights concerning Article 14 discrimination within the ambit of Article 8.
- *R (Doctors UK) v Secretary of State for Health*. Tim was instructed to act for Doctor's UK in this important challenge concerning inadequate provision of PPE during the Covid-19 pandemic and the duty – under Article 2 – to investigate the resulting deaths.
- *R (Amey Ltd and others) v Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government* [2021] EWHC 1436 (Admin). Tim acted for the Claimants in this case, which concerned a retrospective amendment to secondary legislation – which deprived Amey of its entitlement to an 'Exit Credit' from a public sector pension scheme. The case concerned the effect of Article 6 and A1P1.
- In May 2019 Tim appeared unled for the UK Government at a trial held in the Court of the Sovereign Base Area in Cyprus, in *Louca v Secretary of State for Defence* a claim alleging breaches of Articles 3, 5 and 8 and concerning an incident at an overseas British military base in Cyprus.
- Tim has also acted for the UK Government in several claims including a matter concerning Article 3 (and Article 2) rights, before the European Court of Human Rights.

Public International Law:

- Tim regularly advises the UK Government on its international law obligations, including those arising out of the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement, the Northern Ireland Protocol/Windsor Framework and the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures. He also advises the UK Government, claimants and companies on the application of international business and human rights standards.

- Tim is currently instructed in a high-value (£100m plus) dispute between an investment fund and its investors concerning the meaning and application of the local (offshore) anti-money laundering regulations. This followed on from his instruction in *Maples Corporate Services Limited and another v Cayman Islands Monetary Authority*, a 2023 judicial review in the Cayman Islands in which the Court set aside all of CIMA's findings of infringement on the grounds that CIMA had misunderstood the relevant anti-money laundering legislation.
- *R (AAA) v Secretary of State for the Home Department* [2023] EWCA Civ 745. Tim was instructed by the largest Claimant group in the 'Rwanda' litigation concerning the lawfulness of the UK Government's policy of removing asylum seekers to Rwanda. He was specifically instructed to address the issues surrounding the application of the Refugee Convention in

UK law.

- *Dance and Battersbee v Barts Health NHS Trust* UKSC 2022/0015. Tim was instructed to act for the Secretary of State for Health, and prepare written submissions in the Supreme Court, in relation to this high-profile case concerning the removal of life-sustaining treatment from a child. The issue before the Supreme Court concerned the status of a request from a UN Committee to stay the removal of life-support.
- *Dance v United Kingdom* United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Case No. 96/2022. Tim is instructed by the UK Government to resist this application alleging an interference with the rights of the Complainant's son on grounds of disability.
- *JS v United Kingdom* UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: Case No. 85/2021. Tim was instructed to prepare written submissions for the UK Government in this claim. The Committee concluded – consistent with those submissions – that the complaint was inadmissible.
- *Lungowe and Others v Vedanta Resources Plc* [2019] UKSC 20. Tim acted pro bono for the International Commission of Jurists and the Corporate Responsibility Coalition in this important claim concerning the liability of a parent company for the human rights and environmental abuses of its overseas subsidiary. Tim's clients intervened in the Supreme Court to make submissions about the relevant international and comparative law standards in this area.
- *Okpabi and Others v Royal Dutch Shell Ltd* [2021] UKSC 3. Tim was instructed pro bono for the International Commission of Jurists and the Corporate Responsibility Coalition before the Supreme Court in this claim concerning the liability of Shell for environmental damage and personal injury resulting from an oil spill by one of Shell's subsidiaries in the Niger Delta.
- In 2019 Tim appeared unled for the UK Government at trial in *Louca v Secretary of State for Defence* before the Courts of the Sovereign Base Area in Cyprus. The case turned on the extent to which the Secretary of State owed a civilian resident of Cyprus any duties under the domestic Human Rights Convention and whether or not that individual fell within the Secretary of State's jurisdiction. The claim was dismissed on these grounds.
- Instructed to advise a high-profile NGO concerning the remedies available in domestic and international law to overseas victims of slavery wishing to bring claims against UK-listed companies complicit in their abuse (together with Professor Robert McCorquodale).

Financial Services:

- Tim has considerable financial services experience. In 2025 he was instructed in a high-value (£100m plus) dispute between an investment fund and its investors concerning the meaning and application of the local (offshore) anti-money laundering regulations. This followed on from his instruction in *Maples Corporate Services Limited and another v Cayman Islands*

Monetary Authority, a 2023 judicial review in the Cayman Islands in which the Court set aside all of CIMA's findings of infringement on the grounds that CIMA had misunderstood the relevant anti-money laundering legislation.

- *R (Notemachine UK Limited) v Payment Systems Regulator* [2023] EWHC 2522 (Admin). Tim was instructed, led by Jamie McClelland, to appear for the interveners (LINK UK) in this regulatory judicial review concerning a series of decisions taken by the Payment Systems Regulator.
- *R (Donegan) v Financial Services Compensation Scheme Limited* [2021] EWHC 760 (Admin). Tim acted pro bono in this complex judicial review claim arising out of the collapse of London & Capital Finance (a financial services company).

Environmental:

- Tim is regularly instructed to advise NGOs, Government, local authorities and private businesses concerning the effect of international and domestic environmental law. He has advised government bodies on scrappage schemes, emissions targets and the binding nature of climate commitments.
- Currently instructed to act unled for ClientEarth in a claim before the General Court of the European Union concerning the European Commission's definition of "sustainable activities." (Case T-579/22 *ClientEarth v Commission*).
- Currently acting for a number of NGO's together to challenge the European Commission's definition of certain activities in the aviation and shipping sectors as sustainable (Case T-449/24 *Dryade VZW and others v Commission*).

Discrimination:

- In 2022 Tim acted in a complex and confidential matter before the European Court of Human Rights concerning interference with Article 14, within the ambit of Article 8.
- *IWGB v Transport for London*. Tim was instructed for TfL to defend this claim alleging that a change to the London congestion charge is unlawful on the grounds that it indirectly discriminates on grounds of race.
- *R (Uber London Limited) v Transport for London* [2018] EWCA Civ 1213. Tim was instructed to act for TfL in the High Court and the Court of Appeal, as a junior to Martin Chamberlain QC. The case raised two broad issues: freedom of establishment in EU law and indirect discrimination under the Equality Act and under the Human Rights Act. The Court of Appeal allowed TfL's appeal and reversed the judgment below.
- Instructed (as a junior to Martin Chamberlain QC) to appear in *Paulley v Firstgroup Plc* [2014] EWCA Civ. 543, the leading Court of Appeal authority on the duty to make reasonable adjustments an important case concerning the scope of the duty imposed on service

providers to make reasonable adjustments for wheelchair users.

Electoral law:

- *R (Lutfur Rahman) v Local Government Election Court* (CO/3413/2015). Instructed to appear on behalf of Mr Rahman before the Divisional Court in this challenge to the decision of the Election Court stripping him of the right to stand as a candidate in forthcoming elections (as a junior to Paul Bowen QC).
- *Gilles and Saunders v Iain McNicol* (as a representative of all members of the Labour Party except the Claimants): Tim was instructed to advise (together with Richard Gordon QC) and act alone in this high-profile claim concerning the selection of the Labour party candidate for the directly elected mayoralty in the London Borough of Newham. The Defendants agreed to re-run the selection.

Surveillance, Security and Information Law:

- Tim regularly advises Government departments and agencies concerning complex questions of intelligence and information law.
- Junior counsel to David Anderson QC's Review of Investigatory Powers, commissioned by Parliament and published in May 2015.
- Instructed (as a junior to Jemima Stratford QC) by the All Party Parliamentary Group on Drones to advise on the lawfulness of the current statutory framework and current government practice concerning the interception and use of communications data.

Public Inquiries:

- Tim acted for one of the Core Participants before the Independent Inquiry into Child Sex Abuse.

Competition

Tim has a busy competition law practice. He was nominated as Competition Law Junior of the year in 2022. The Directories say of him that "*Unusually for a junior counsel, Tim is already a strong advocate in his own right, able to stand his ground in court against much more senior opponents. He is an all round excellent litigator, with a good sense for strategy. A future silk without doubt"* and as having a "*well-deserved reputation as an outstanding competition barrister. His advocacy is clear and forceful and he is frequently instructed against silks.*"

Chapter 1/Chapter 2 Infringements:

- *Pfizer v CMA* [2024] CAT 65: Tim appeared for *Pfizer* in this leading case concerning excessive pricing led by Mark Brealey KC and Robert O'Donoghue KC. He took responsibility for the clinical issues at trial, including cross examination. The Tribunal set aside the CMA's decision and imposed a fresh finding of infringement. All parties appealed, the appeal was heard in January 2026 and judgment is awaited.
- *Allergan and others v CMA* [2024] EWCA Civ 1023. Tim appeared for Allergan – the recipient of a £111 million fine – in a five-week trial before the Competition Appeal Tribunal in November/December 2022. He then appeared at a further hearing before the Tribunal concerning procedural fairness (unled) and again before the Court of Appeal in an expedited appeal led by Daniel Jowell KC.
- *Allergan and others v CMA* [2023] CAT 56. This is a separate limb of the *Allergan* litigation concerning excessive pricing. Tim appeared for Allergan at trial, led by Daniel Jowell KC and secured a £26 million reduction in the penalty imposed on Allergan. Permission to appeal has been granted in relation to the substantive allegations of excessive pricing.
- *Pfizer Inc and another v Competition and Markets Authority* [2022] UKSC 14. Appeared before the Supreme Court in this important case concerning the recoverability of costs from a regulator where an infringement appeal is successful.
- *Flynn Pharma and another v Competition and Markets Authority* [2020] EWCA Civ 339. Tim appeared for the respondents in this important appeal in relation to an alleged case of excessive pricing. The Appeal failed and the finding of the Competition Appeal Tribunal that the CMA's decision should be quashed was upheld.
- *Ping Europe Ltd v Competition and Markets Authority* [2020] EWCA Civ 13. Tim appeared in this leading case concerning object infringements under EU law as a junior to Robert O'Donoghue QC and David Scannell before the Court of Appeal.

Competition Damages claims:

- *Umbrella Interchange Fee Claimants v Umbrella Interchange Fee Defendants (Visa Inc)* [2024] EWCA Civ 1559. Tim was instructed by Visa to appear before the Court of Appeal in this important case concerning whether post-Brexit CJEU judgments are binding, if the reasoning of that judgment is pertinent to an accrued cause of action in EU law (led by Simon Salzedo KC).
- *Secretary of State for Health and Social Care & Others v Lundbeck Limited & Others* [2024] CAT 42 and [2025] EWCA Civ 677. Tim was instructed as part of a team of defendant counsel in this preliminary issue dispute concerning the point from which limitation ran in this claim. The appeal will be heard in 2025.
- *Gemalto Holding BV v Infineon Technologies AG* [2022] EWCA Civ 782. Tim appeared in the Court of Appeal, led by Sarah Ford KC, in this important case concerning limitation in competition damages claims.

- *OT Computers Ltd (in liquidation) v Infineon Technologies AG and another* [2021] EWCA Civ 501. Tim appeared in the Court of Appeal in this case concerning whether – and to what extent – the point at which time runs for the purposes of bring a competition damages claim is different for a company in liquidation.
- *Veolia Environnement SA and others v Stellantis NV* Case 1292/5/7/19(T). Tim is instructed to act for the Claimants in the largest trucks follow on damages claim arising out of the cartel in relation to truck manufacture in the European Union.

Other:

- Tim regularly advises on and acts in relation to all aspects of competition law compliance. He has particular experience in sports, telecommunications and pharmaceutical law.
- Tim is instructed by the defendants in the ongoing snooker abuse of dominance claim: *NST Worldwide Limited v World Snooker Limited and others* (due to go to trial in early 2027).
- Tim was instructed by a global sports governing body to defend the lawfulness of its sporting rules on competition grounds at a confidential arbitration in 2024.
- *St James Holdings Ltd v Football Association Premier League Limited.* Tim was instructed by SJHL in this challenge – before the Competition Appeal Tribunal – concerning the FAPL's decision to block the takeover of Newcastle United Football Club. The takeover was approved very shortly after the hearing of FAPL's application to challenge the CAT's jurisdiction.
- *BT v Ofcom* (*BCMR)* [2017] CAT 25. Tim acted for Gamma Telecom Holdings, intervening in this appeal by BT (and CityFibre) challenging the decision of Ofcom to require companies in the telecommunications sector to make their infrastructure available to third parties on a "dark fibre" basis.
- *BT v Ofcom* (*APCCs*) [2016] CAT 22. Tim acted for Gamma Telecom Holdings, an intervener in this appeal against a decision of Ofcom, concerning the proper method of calculating porting charges for numbers that have migrated to new communications providers (as a junior to Sarah Love).

EU law

Tim is widely recognised as a leading junior in European law. Legal 500 2023 describes him as 'an excellent senior junior with very good written skills and a very accomplished advocacy style; he is a silk in waiting.' He was called to the Bar in Ireland in 2018 and is a member of the Irish Law Library. He is regularly instructed to act alone before the European Courts and continues to advise on retained EU law in a domestic (UK) context.

His key recent instructions include:

- Case T-579/22 ClientEarth v Commission. Tim is instructed to act alone for ClientEarth in this important environmental challenge concerning the Commissions definition of sustainable activities, for the purposes of EU law. The appeal has now been filed to the CJEU.
- Case T-449/24 *Dryade VZW and others v Commission*. Tim is instructed to lead a team of counsel acting on behalf of a group of NGOs challenging the European Commission's definition of sustainable activities in the context of aviation and shipping. The hearing was held in early 2026 and judgment is awaited.
- Case T-310/21 Air Canada v Commission. Tim was instructed to act alone for Air Canada, challenging the rate of interest applied by the Commission when repaying a penalty arising out of a quashed cartel decision. Judgment was recently handed down in favour of the airliens.
- Instructed to prepare submissions in relation to a compliance check by the European Chemicals Agency for a major European chemicals company.
- Case C-349/20 NB and AB v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Tim was instructed to act for the UNHCR intervening in this important case concerning the circumstances in which a stateless person of Palestinian origin should be afforded refugee status.
- Case T-363/19 United Kingdom v Commission instructed to act on behalf of the UK Government (led by Philip Baker KC) in a challenge to the Commission's finding that the regime governing the taxation of wholly owned foreign companies amounted to State aid. The case has been appealed to the CJEU.
- Case C-594/18 P Austria v Commission instructed to act on behalf of the UK Government in an action concerning the State aid measures provided in support of the new nuclear reactor at Hinkley Point C before the General Court and CJEU (as a junior to Aidan Robertson QC).
- Case T-101/18 Austria v Commission instructed to act for the United Kingdom Government alone before the General Court in this State aid challenge concerning the construction of a nuclear plant in Hungary.
- Instructed to act alone in a challenge by the UK Government to a decision of the European Commission to claw back EU research funding provided to the Met Office.
- Case T-110/18 Grange Backup Power v Commission instructed to act for the UK Government, led by Gerry Facenna QC, in this challenge to the Commission's decision that it did not need to open a formal investigation into the lawfulness of the electricity capacity market in the United Kingdom.
- Case C-316/15 Hemming v Westminster City Council. Appeared before the Court of Justice, as junior to Philip Kolvin QC (Cornerstone Chambers) in this reference from the United Kingdom Supreme Court.
- Case C-547/14 R (Philip Morris Brands SARL and Philip Morris Limited) v Secretary of State for Health (Claim No CO/2969/2014). Instructed to appear alone before the Court of

Justice of the European Union in this reference from the UK High Court.

Public procurement

Tim regularly acts for public authorities and claimants in procurement challenges.

- *R (Artelia Ltd) v Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea* (claim issued early 2025). Tim is instructed to act for *Artelia* in this judicial review challenge concerning the lawfulness of RBKC's decision to adopt a policy of not allowing Artelia to be engaged as a sub-contractor. The case will be the first case to consider the application of local authorities' barring powers under the Procurement Act 2023.
- *Live Nation v The Royal Parks*. Tim was instructed alone to appear for AEG Presents Ltd (the winning tenderer and a global music entertainment company) in this two-week High Court trial concerning the tender exercise to award the Hyde Park Music Festival.
- Instructed to act alone for a losing tenderer to challenge a substantial (multi-million pound) roadworks contract in the United Kingdom.
- *Lancashire v Department for Communities and Local Government* (CO/1703/2015) a significant case concerning the claw back of European Regional Development Funding (as a junior to Fergus Randolph QC).
- *NP Aerospace v Ministry of Defence* [2014] EWHC 2741 (TCC). A substantial procurement challenge concerning alleged 'predatory pricing', abnormally low tenders and manifest errors of assessment.
- *Honeybeerecruitment.com Limited v The Minister for the Cabinet Office*. Instructed to act for the Defendant in this leading case concerning an apparent breach of the 2015 Regulations.
- *Fujitsu v DVLA* (HC-13-CO553). A very substantial public procurement challenge concerning a purported failure to retender a publicly procured contract.

Qualifications

2011-2012: Pupillage Brick Court Chambers.

2010-2011: Bar Professional Training Course (Outstanding).

2009-2010: Graduate Diploma in Law (Distinction).

2003-2007: DPhil Modern History, Keble College, Oxford.

2002-2003: MSt Historical Research, Keble College, Oxford (Distinction).

1998-2001: BA Hons. Modern History, Keble College, Oxford (Double First).

Scholarships and Prizes:

2010-2011: Denning Prize, Lincoln's Inn.

2009-2010: Lord Bowen Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn.

1999-2006: Undergraduate and Graduate Scholar, Keble College, Oxford.

Select publications

'Notes From a Small Island: Natural Justice and the Institutional Design and Practice of Competition Authorities and Appellate Courts', in Competition Policy International (2014) (10.1) (with Robert O'Donoghue).

'The Snowden "Revelations": Is GCHQ breaking the law?', in, European Human Rights Law Review (2014) (2) (with Jemima Stratford QC).

Two chapters in K. Bacon, European Union law of State Aid (2019, OUP).

Contributing author to the forthcoming edition of M. Brealey ed., Competition Litigation: UK Practice and Procedure.

Before coming to the Bar, Tim was a fellow in Modern European History at St Peter's College Oxford. He is the author of Being Soviet: Identity, Rumour and Everyday Life Under Stalin 1939-53 (OUP) (selected by the Financial Times as one of their non-fiction books of the year in 2011).

Directory quotes

"He is very good analytically and has a brilliant drafting style, really curt and precise and efficient. He's a real first-class brain." (Chambers & Partners, 2027)

"Tim is an excellent advocate, quick on his feet and a very strategic thinker." (Chambers & Partners, 2027)

"He has very strong client-handling skills: he gives a sense of confidence and provides clear advice." (Chambers & Partners, 2027)

"Tim is a super-strong junior, comfortable being led or doing cases unled, and he's a silk of the future. He has very strong client handling and always gives clear advice and a sense of confidence to his clients." (Chambers & Partners, 2027)

"He's an excellent junior: he's got really good technical knowledge and a good drafting style." (Chambers & Partners, 2027)

"Tim is an incredible barrister. He is articulate, strategic and can engage brilliantly with clients." (Chambers & Partners, 2027)

"Tim is a really powerful advocate and one of the standout barristers of his generation." (Chambers & Partners, 2027)

"Very amenable; easy to work with; fast to get to the core of an issue." (Legal 500, 2027)

"Top-notch, crisp, and powerful drafting, a tremendous work ethic, and powerful advocacy. Tim's submissions are pithy and crisp." (Legal 500, 2027)

"Tim is a very strong public law barrister. A top choice at the senior junior level - I would be confident fielding him unled against leading silks." (Legal 500, 2027)

"Tim Johnston has notable experience in state aid cases that examine investment in the future of EU energy markets. His broader expertise encompasses complex telecommunications appeals and competition law matters, and he has also assisted on matters relating to refugee rights under EU law." Chambers & Partners 2026

"Tim Johnston handles regulatory appeals against CMA decisions on behalf of companies in the pharmaceutical sector. He has further experience on the defendant side of standalone behavioural infringement cases and follow-on actions." Chambers & Partners 2026

"Tim Johnston is a sought-out junior in all areas of public and public international law. His civil liberties practice sees him acting for claimants both domestically and internationally in cases that include discrimination and asylum, among others." Chambers & Partners 2026

"Tim Johnston is a sought-after barrister with a strong track record in high-profile commercial judicial review, including challenges involving competition, contract and financial services law. He attracts instruction from individuals, companies and central government." Chambers & Partners 2026

"He is a very considered and effective advocate and is willing to take the fight to the other side. He is very collaborative and rolls up his sleeves." Chambers & Partners 2026

"Tim Johnston is an effortlessly bright guy." Chambers & Partners 2026

"Tim has a very compelling style on his feet, which allows him to make submissions clearly and simply and win over the bench." Chambers & Partners 2026

"Tim Johnston is a superb drafter and very impressive." Chambers & Partners 2026

"Tim is very diligent and incredible to work with. He is willing to put his neck on the line to give

difficult advice." Chambers & Partners 2026

"Tim is extremely smart and gets on top of things." Chambers & Partners 2026

"Tim is a go-to leading junior. He is excellent with clients and a strong advocate." Chambers & Partners 2024

"Tim is technically brilliant and has complete command of public law with exceptional strategic thinking. He understands how to skilfully frame difficult advice with a clear focus." Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Tim is a formidable advocate who can go up against any silk. He is very hard-working and has a close eye on the strategic dimensions of any case." Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Tim conveys a detailed and vigorous understanding of the case and the issues at hand. He has good expertise and provides both practical and substantive advice on a matter, which is invaluable." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Tim is a fantastic team player. His drafting is excellent, and he is responsive and incredibly industrious. He knows the law in this area inside out and brings his wider public law experience to bear." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"He gets to the point quickly, cuts through the noise and nails the key points. He is never afraid to argue a point." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Tim is an exceptional barrister on all levels. His advocacy is second to none, he understands the importance of strategic litigation." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"He has an incredible work ethic, complete mastery of the subject matter, and very good client management skills." (Chambers & Partners 2026)

"Tim is a very intelligent individual, and an absolute pleasure to work with. Very good with clients. He is all over the material at an early stage, and his comments and drafting are first rate." (Legal 500, 2026)

"Tim is a highly capable junior. He is an excellent advocate and has a very good drafting style." (Legal 500, 2026)

"Tim is a great junior with a terrific instinct for the points that matter and already a formidable advocate in his own right." (Legal 500, 2026)

"Tim is a match for any silk. He is a formidable advocate, equally comfortable with novel legal issues and with challenging factual cases" (Legal 500, 2025)

"Unusually for a junior counsel, Tim is already a strong advocate in his own right, able to stand his ground in court against much more senior opponents. He is an all round excellent litigator, with a

good sense for strategy. A future silk without doubt." (Legal 500, 2025)

"Tim is intellectually brilliant. He has very good judgement and produces excellent work." (Legal 500, 2025)

"Tim has an impressive ability to grasp and express complex facts and law very quickly. He produces very convincing written pleadings. I am looking forward to working further with him." (Chambers & Partners 2024)

"Tim is excellent; he is very easy to liaise with and is a very good advocate with clear analysis and very good judgement. He knows what works and what doesn't." (Chambers & Partners 2024) *"Tim is super in terms of getting prepared and working collaboratively with the team."* (Chambers & Partners 2024)

"Tim is a fantastic junior. His drafting is persuasive and concise and he cuts through to the heart of the key legal issues. His advocacy is strong and he is increasingly leading on a wide range of cases." (Chambers & Partners 2024)

"Tim has good judgement; he is efficient and hard-working. He has confidence and a skill set beyond his years of call." (Chambers & Partners 2024)

"An excellent client bedside manner. He is considered, thoughtful, and gets to the crux of the argument quickly and ably." (Chambers & Partners 2024)

"Excellent, clear, crisp drafting combined with a broad and deep knowledge of competition and public law. Very user-friendly, always willing to pick up the phone to talk through issues." (Legal 500 2024)

"Tim is highly intelligent and very personable. A delight to work with." (Legal 500 2024)

"A junior with judgement and talent well beyond his year of call." (Legal 500 2024)

"He is very responsive and a real team player. His advocacy is understated, but powerful, and he very much has the ear of the bench." "His drafting is excellent and very thorough." (Chambers & Partners 2024)

"He is hard-working and his written submissions are excellent. His advocacy is strong and succinct, and he is very responsive and easy to work with." (Chambers & Partners 2023)

"He is a very good drafter and makes himself available for preparation. He is a very good junior: the sort of person you want to have sitting next to you." (Chambers & Partners 2023)

"Tim is a solid and reliable junior." (Legal 500 2023)

"Tim's knowledge of the law in this area is excellent and is complemented by his highly industrious work ethic and crisp, clear drafting. He is also a formidable advocate who clearly has the ear of

judges with his succinct submissions. Surely a star of the future." (Legal 500 2023)

"Tim is an excellent senior junior with very good written skills and a very accomplished advocacy style; he is a silk in waiting." (Legal 500 2023)

"Tim has a well-deserved reputation as an outstanding competition barrister. His advocacy is clear and forceful and he is frequently instructed against silks." (Legal 500 2023)

"He is enthusiastic, full of ideas and someone who thinks carefully and deeply about topics. He is also an articulate and compelling speaker." "He was a pleasure to work with: able to work to very tight deadlines and to provide helpful advice." "His drafting is exceptional and he turns things around quickly, and he produces powerful, persuasive documents." (Chambers & Partners 2022)

"Tim is very insightful and knowledgeable, and the client was pleased with his robust and thoughtful advice." (Chambers & Partners 2022)

"He has a great reputation in the public law field." (Chambers & Partners 2022)

"An obvious leader in the public law field, Tim is clever and able to juggle a remarkable workload. He is a go to junior in this field." (Legal 500 2022)

"An excellent communicator and advocate. Tim has an engaging and down to earth manner, and a vivid turn of phrase." (Legal 500 2022)

"Tim is an out-of-the-box thinker, dependable and experienced in EU law matters. He presents superbly to both his instructors and our clients – his advice and delivery are always commercial." (Legal 500 2022)

"He is extremely hard-working, his drafting is excellent and his advocacy is really good too." "He gets to grips with cases and complex matters incredibly quickly." (Chambers & Partners 2021)

"He is extremely bright, picks things up very quickly, and produces very nice written work and pleadings." (Chambers & Partners 2021)

"Extremely bright, and also really good at saying exactly the right thing at exactly the right time.

Has excellent judgement and is very likeable and easy to get along with." (Chambers & Partners 2021)

"His burgeoning parallel public law practice is a tremendous asset in antitrust cases." (Legal 500 2021)

"Tim has a wealth of experience in EU law as it applies to public procurement and is able to explain difficult concepts in plain English. Tim is also an out-of-the-box thinker and dependable and presents superbly to both his instructors and our clients." (Legal 500 2021)

"An out-of-the-box thinker, dependable and experienced in public procurement disputes. He presents superbly." (Legal 500 2021)

"An inventive and confident litigator, who retains a calm head and very respectful manner throughout difficult circumstances." (Legal 500 2021)

"Sought-after junior with broad expertise across areas including human rights, pensions, licensing and electoral law. He attracts instructions from a number of central government entities." "He's very easy to work with as he understands the broader context of our work and achieves the balance between real-world considerations and pure questions of law." "We often turn to Tim for matters of high complexity. He has a real firm grip of the law, and he can apply that to unique situations. He's very authoritative, which is good for the courtroom and the client." "He's superb and will become an absolutely stellar lawyer. He has an easy turn of phrase which the courts like." (Chambers & Partners 2020)

"You can just give him a call and speak with him openly about the case; he's always available to just have a chat if something is not entirely clear." "He is practical, sensible and has a really good sense of what the client has in mind. Clients really like him and value his work ethic and great legal mind." (Chambers & Partners UK & Global 2020)

"Produces strong written work, has good advocacy skills and is good with clients." (Chambers & Partners 2020)

"A bright, up-and-coming public lawyer who finds himself in leading cases." (Legal 500 2020)

"An outstanding junior who is able to quickly cut to the key issues in a case." (Legal 500 2020)

"Committed and available, he masters his brief. Good at spotting essential points for pleadings." (Legal 500 2020)

"He is bright, quick and able to adjust to work in the way that clients require." (Chambers & Partners 2019)

"Very responsive, intelligent and commercially minded, one to watch for the future." (Legal 500 2018-19)

"He is very supportive, quick to grasp facts and a barrister who provides good, practical advice." (Chambers & Partners 2018)

"An excellent junior, who brings wider public and commercial experience to the case." (Legal 500 2017)

"He combines intelligence and sensitivity with an incredible work ethic. A proactive lawyer who has an excellent sense of humour." "Tim is a team player who will work all hours to get the job done. He is on a fantastic upward trajectory with his public procurement practice." (Chambers & Partners

2017)

"Very responsive and clear in his views." (Legal 500 2016)