BRICK COURT
CHAMBERS

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

# William Hooper

**YEAR OF CALL**: 2014

*"Destined for silk, Will shows an incredible mastery of complex and detailed facts and a great passion for his work. He is a brilliant colleague and an even better advocate."*

Chambers & Partners 2026

**Clerk's Email**: **PaulsClerkingTeam@brickcourt.co.uk**



## Practice Overview

Will is a leading commercial junior. He has a broad litigation and arbitration practice and acts both led and unled across the commercial sphere, including in banking and finance, civil and commercial fraud, telecoms, shareholder disputes, cryptocurrencies, insurance and reinsurance, professional negligence, shipping and international trade, and competition. He was nominated for Commercial Litigation Junior of the Year at the Chambers UK Bar Awards 2022, recognised as one of *The Lawyer's Hot 100* legal professionals for 2022 (one of only 19 barristers to feature) and named *The Lawyer's Barrister of the Week* in June 2021.

Current and recent major instructions include:

- ***Rusal v Potanin, Whiteleave, Crispian & Abramovich*** – acting for Whiteleave and Vladimir Potanin, led by Tim Lord KC, in major civil fraud proceedings concerning the management of Norilsk Nickel (the world's largest producer of refined nickel).
- ***Ineos v Athena*** – acting for the defendant, led by Fionn Pilbrow KC, in Commercial Court proceedings concerning the rights to the ***Ineos Brittania*** yacht sailed in the 37th America's Cup.
- ***TNF and Ors v Edelman and Ors*** – acting for the Claimants, led by Craig Morrison KC, in major international conspiracy claim concerning one of the largest alleged tax evasions in US history.
- ***Magomedov and Ors v TPG and Ors*** – acted for the Claimants, led by Tim Lord KC, Thomas Plewman KC and Daniel Saoul KC, in c. US$13bn claim concerning alleged conspiracy and asset stripping.
- ***NMC v EY*** – acted for EY, led by Thomas Plewman KC and Alexander Polley KC, in alleged US$ 2.6bn professional negligence dispute.
- ***BSV v Bittylicious and Ors*** – acting for the PCR, led by Sarah Ford KC, in c. £10bn class action

concerning the delisting of the cryptocurrency "Bitcoin Satoshi Vision".
- *Paiva and Ors v Aon* – acting for Aon, led by Andrew Mitchell KC, in major reinsurance dispute arising out of the well documented LaMia Flight 2933 accident in 2016.
- *LCIA 2026* – acting as sole counsel in eight-figure arbitration concerning international telecoms contracts.

## Commercial

Will operates across the full spectrum of commercial law, with rankings in commercial litigation, banking and finance, civil fraud and cryptocurrencies. He is at home as part of small or large teams. He is also commended for his sole counsel work, described as "very mature for his call and very confident acting unled" (Civil Fraud, Chambers UK, 2024) and "happy to lead on pretty large, complex cases" (Commercial Litigation, Legal 500, 2022) whose "advocacy is always logical and cogent" (Crypto and Blockchain Assets, Legal 500, 2024), and who "will easily make silk" (Legal 500, 2025).

Notable recent work includes:

- *Rusal v Potanin, Whiteleave, Crispian & Abramovich* – acting for Whiteleave and Vladimir Potanin, led by Tim Lord KC, in major civil fraud proceedings concerning the management of Norilsk Nickel (the world's largest producer of refined nickel).
- *Ineos v Athena* – acting for the Defendant, led by Fionn Pilbrow KC, in Commercial Court proceedings concerning the rights to the *Ineos Brittania* yacht sailed in the 37th America's Cup.
- *TNF and Ors v Edelman and Ors* – acting for the Claimants, led by Craig Morrison KC, in major international conspiracy claim concerning one of the largest alleged tax evasions in US history
- *Magomedov and Ors v TPG and Ors* – acting for the Claimants in c. US$13bn claim concerning alleged conspiracy and asset stripping (led by Tim Lord KC, Thomas Plewman KC and Daniel Saoul KC)
- *NMC v EY* – acting for EY in alleged US$ 2.6bn professional negligence dispute (led by Thomas Plewman KC and Alexander Polley KC)
- *BSV v Bittylicious and Ors* – acting for the PCR in c. £10bn class action concerning the delisting of the cryptocurrency "Bitcoin Satoshi Vision" (led by Sarah Ford KC)
- *Paiva and Ors v Aon* – acting for Aon in major reinsurance dispute arising out of the well documented LaMia Flight 2933 accident in 2016 (led by Andrew Mitchell KC)
- *Hoffman v Gopher Investments* – acted in fintech dispute concerning allegations of fraudulent mis-sale and rights to equity in fintech business (led by Craig Morrison KC)

- *Republic of Mozambique v Credit Suisse and Ors* – acting for the Privinvest parties in the 'tuna bond' c. $2bn fraud dispute concerning wide-ranging infrastructure contracts for services in Mozambique's exclusive economic zone (led by Duncan Matthews KC and Philip Riches KC)
- *Allianz Global Investors v Barclays Bank and others* – acting for HSBC in substantial follow-on and stand-alone damages claims concerning alleged manipulation of forex rates over a ten-year period (led by Helen Davies KC and Sarah Abram KC)
- *eircom v BT* - Acting for BT in defending a claim seeking loss of a chance damages arising out eircom not being awarded an alleged nine- figure telecoms contract by the Ministry of Finance in Northern Ireland(led by Robert Palmer KC)
- *LA Micro (UK) Ltd v LA Micro Group* – Will has acted for the defendant in a jurisdiction challenge, two trials, and two appeals in a case that is now (across the appeal judgments): (i) the leading authority on "judicial estoppel"; and (ii) (now following the Supreme Court judgment) the only English law authority addressing the question of whether a constructive sub-trust can arise pursuant to a specifically enforceable agreement to dispose of a beneficial interest where the beneficiary under the notional sub-trust is also the legal owner of the property concerned. At its heart the case concerns the contested ownership of a high-value computer hardware company (led by Clare Stanley KC).
- *Shell v Greenpeace* – acting for Greenpeace in injunctive proceedings concerning the right to protest on a drilling rig on the high seas (led by Victoria Wakefield KC)

- *Gregor Fisken Ltd v Carl* – Will successfully acted unled both at first instance and in the Court of Appeal (against two different senior commercial silks) in a case concerning issues arising out of the sale of a USD 44m Ferrari, and in which the Court of Appeal endorsed the "signature principle" that a party signing a contract unqualified prima facie is taken to be the contracting party with rights and liabilities under the contract.
- Junior counsel to Steven Gee KC and Tom Whitehead for the successful appellants in the Supreme Court in The New Flamenco [2017] UKSC 43, the key Supreme Court decision on mitigation of loss. Will also acted in consequential arbitration proceedings led by Elizabeth Blackburn KC concluding in 2022.
- *Quilter v Leonteq*- Junior counsel on complex multiparty dispute concerning allegedly fraudulent sales of structured note investment products to a major insurance institution; as well as secret commissions as part of a complex and sophisticated international fraud (Will originally acted off- shore in the Isle of Man before the case was moved to the Commercial Court following a jurisdiction challenge).
- *Wilton (UK) Limited v Banks* – junior counsel in multiple c. £40m proceedings (including derivative proceedings) arising out of an alleged joint-venture to acquire and exploit a golf course.
- Acting as sole counsel for one of the founding members of highly successful cryptocurrency

platform in a dispute among the founders.

- *Funding Secure v Luxmore* – junior counsel in Chancery Division proceedings concerning alleged fraudulent activity in the peer-to-peer lending sector.
- Acting as sole counsel in respect of an injunction to procure the discharge of USD 15m worth of steel from a vessel in Odessa prior to the Russian military targeting the infrastructure facilitating the route out of the port into Western Ukraine.
- Successfully obtaining (as sole counsel) an injunction in support of arbitration proceedings on an urgent basis prohibiting the sale of a €7.6m motor yacht which the respondent was threatening to sell in Italy.
- Sole counsel in Commercial Court proceedings concerning alleged unpaid commission to fund managers.
- *Kahlbetzer v David Aldridge* – junior counsel on fraud dispute in the Chancery Division concerning a remarkable set of facts involving a long- running love scam and a cyber-fraud against an Australian billionaire.
- Acting for an individual in c. €5m claim for carried interest against a major private equity house: issues include leaver provisions in the relevant limited partnership and overlapping issues of employment law.
- Acting for various individuals and entities in respect of prospective multiple derivative claims and multilayered s. 994 petitions in well-known marketing group.

## Arbitration

Will frequently appears in arbitration both led and unled. Recent work includes:

- *LCIA 2026* – acting as sole counsel in eight-figure arbitration concerning international telecoms contracts
- *CIARB 2024* – acting as lead counsel in eight-figure arbitration concerning a government infrastructure contract.
- *HKIAC 2023* – acted for a major tech company in Hong Kong arbitration claim for c. US$200m for alleged breach of warranty in a patent licensing agreement (led by Sarah Abram KC)
- *LCIA 2023* – acting for a major pharmaceuticals company in a c. $900m arbitration concerning a vaccine licensing agreement (led by Salim Moollan KC)

- *LCIA 2023* – acting unled for the government in a £7m dispute concerning a flood-defence infrastructure contract

- *LMAA 2020/21* – acting for owners in renowned New Flamenco matter following the remission to arbitration by the Supreme Court (led by Elizabeth Blackburn KC)
- *LCIA 2020* – acting in telecoms dispute in complex tripartite arrangement (led by George Peretz KC)
- *LCIA 2020* – acting in shareholder dispute involving issues of Russian law
- *GCA (Groceries Code Adjudicator) 2020* – acting as sole counsel in second ever arbitration under the Groceries Code Adjudicator rules, in respect of claim by the provider of foodstuffs against a major supermarket
- *Ad hoc arbitration 2019* – acting in s. 69 proceedings in respect of an arbitration award concerning a USD 800m drilling rig (led by Steven Gee KC)
- *LCIA 2019* – acting in private equity dispute involving well-known investment bank and concerning non-payment of carried interest
- *Ad hoc arbitration 2019* – acting in ad hoc arbitration concerning allegedly fraudulent mis-sale of Iranian petroleum products to Pakistan buyers (led by Vasanti Selvaratnam KC)
- *LCIA 2016* – acting in dispute concerning the sale between oligarchs of a bank

Will also has a wealth of experience in applications to Court under the Arbitration Act 1996, including under s. 69.

## Competition

Recent work includes:

- *BSV Delisting* – acting for the PCR in a c. £9bn claim concerning the delisting of the 'Bitcoin Satoshi Vision' cryptocurrency by various crypto-exchanges (led by Sarah Ford KC)
- *Allianz Global Investors v Barclays Bank and others* – acting for HSBC in substantial follow-on and stand- alone damages claims concerning alleged manipulation of forex rates over a ten-year period (led by Helen Davies KC and Sarah Abram KC)
- *Dawsongroup plc and ors v DAF Trucks and ors* (Trucks Cartel) – acting for the claimant Dawsongroup in a competition damages claim arising out of the European Commission's decision concerning the well- known trucks cartel (led by Tim Ward KC and Robert Palmer KC)
- *Daimler AG v Walleniusrederierna Aktiebolag* (RoRo Cartel) – acted for WWL in a competition damages claim concerning "roro" carriage services (led by Josh Holmes KC). Interim applications included an application for a preliminary reference to the CJEU [2019] EWHC 3197 and a split trial [2020] EWHC 525 (Comm)

## Education

Education

BA (Hons) History and English Literature, Jesus College, Oxford, First Class (second in year)

GDL, City Law School, Commendation

BPTC, BPP Law School, Outstanding (second in year)

Scholarships and Prizes

- Queen Mother Scholarship, Middle Temple (the Inn's top scholarship; awarded for both GDL and BPTC years) (2012-2014)
- Baron Dr Ver Heyden de Lancey Prize, Middle Temple (for best performing Middle Temple student on the BPTC) (2014)
- Certificate of Honour, Middle Temple (2014) (for outstanding performance on the BPTC)
- Hong Kong Scholarship, Middle Temple (2014) (to support three weeks in Hong Kong spent as a judicial assistant and in Des Voeux Chambers)
- Top mark on International Trade Module, BPP Law School (2014)
- Excellence Award, BPP Law School (2014)
- Viscount Sankey Scholarship, Jesus College, University of Oxford (2012-14)
- College Prize for Achievement in Finals, Jesus College, University of Oxford (2011)

In 2011-12, prior to coming to the Bar, Will worked for a children's arts education charity. He retains an interest in education and theatre and was a member of the Middle Temple Revels. He also enjoys distance running.

## Directories

Commercial Dispute Resolution: "William Hooper is really intelligent, he just gets things immediately and is super on the ball." Chambers & Partners, 2027

Commercial Dispute Resolution: "William is calm, courteous, conscientious and crisp." Chambers & Partners, 2027

Commercial Dispute Resolution: "William is a safe pair of hands and never daunted by the scale of

the task." Chambers & Partners, 2027

Commercial Dispute Resolution: "A highly personable man with a real brain who is a quick thinker and an excellent draftsman." Chambers & Partners, 2027

Commercial Dispute Resolution: "William is a very capable and experienced junior." Chambers & Partners, 2027

Fraud: Civil: "He is very smart and understands how to put a case in a way that will attract the judge. He really does the hard work to find the real "smoking gun" documents." Chambers & Partners, 2027

Fraud: Civil: "A calm and clear advocate who is on top of the details and great to work with, you can debate points with him and pick up the phone to him." Chambers & Partners, 2027

Fraud: Civil: "He is a very calm and persuasive advocate. He is fantastic to work with; very user-friendly and always makes himself available." Chambers & Partners, 2027

Commercial Litigation: "Will is a very in-demand junior, and we are lucky to have him on our team. He has a calm manner and does not panic when a problem is encountered; he finds a neat solution. I was speaking to another client recently who, it turns out, is using Will on another matter. He is highly thought of." Legal 500, 2027

Banking and Finance: "Will was an exceptional junior - very clever and easy to work with." Legal 500, 2027

Cryptocurrency: "His judgment and leadership of a situation are more that of a junior silk; this is clear, for example, in the way that he works with the junior-junior." Legal 500, 2027

Fraud: Civil: "William Hooper possesses a strong civil fraud caseload, often acting as sole counsel on matters. He is experienced advising clients in fraught multi-jurisdictional fraud proceedings." Chambers UK, 2026

Fraud: Civil: "Will shows an incredible mastery of complex and detailed facts and a great passion for his work." Chambers UK, 2026

Fraud: Civil: "William Hooper is very good on his feet." Chambers UK, 2026

Commercial Dispute Resolution: "William Hooper gets all the points and writes well. He is able to cope with a serious amount of pressure and stress and still produce excellent work." Chambers UK, 2026

Commercial Dispute Resolution: "Destined for silk, Will shows an incredible mastery of complex and detailed facts and a great passion for his work. He is a brilliant colleague and an even better advocate." Chambers UK, 2026

Commercial Dispute Resolution: "William Hooper has an impressive advocacy style and very solid client-handling skills." Chambers UK, 2026

Commercial Dispute Resolution: "William Hooper is absolutely excellent. He is very intellectually quick and creative." Chambers UK, 2026

Banking and Finance: "Calm, considered, and very sharp." - Legal 500, 2026

Fraud: Civil: "A highly intelligent junior who has impressive attention to detail." - Legal 500, 2026

Commercial Litigation: "William is exceptionally bright and able." - Legal 500, 2026

Commercial Dispute Resolution: "Highly intelligent, professional and client-focused, he is a calm and reassuring presence in court." - Chambers UK, 2025

Commercial Dispute Resolution: "Will is very approachable and he is great at black letter law." - Chambers UK, 2025

Fraud: Civil: "William is very sharp, bright and responsive." - Chambers UK, 2025

Fraud: Civil: "Will has been a pleasure to work with. His work is careful and thoughtful and he would be a real asset to any team in complex disputes." - Chambers UK, 2025

Banking and finance: "Will is very bright, and delivers his advice confidently. He is a strong advocate – particularly for someone of his call. He is also a pleasure to deal with." - Legal 500, 2025

Commercial litigation: "Hard-working lawyer, with an outstanding legal brain. Will easily make silk." Legal 500, 2025

Crypto and blockchain assets: "Will is very bright, and delivers his advice confidently. He is a strong advocate - particularly for someone of his call. He is also a pleasure to deal with." Legal 500, 2025

Fraud: Civil: "He has an outstanding legal brain." Legal 500, 2025

Fraud: Civil: "William is very bright, easy to work with and good at thinking laterally and imaginatively." - Chambers UK, 2024

Fraud: Civil: "He is very enthusiastic, client-focused and very hard-working." - Chambers UK, 2024

Fraud: Civil: "Will is extremely clever, very mature for his call and very confident acting unled." - Chambers UK, 2024

Commercial Dispute Resolution: "William Hooper is good at finding a way through things and thinking laterally and imaginatively." - Chambers UK, 2024

Crypto and Blockchain Assets: "His advocacy is always logical and cogent" - Legal 500, 2024

Banking and Finance: "William is a standout performer. Very clever and thoughtful – good on strategy and strong written advice." - Legal 500, 2024

Commercial Dispute Resolution: "William is a superstar junior: he is intelligent, unflappable and a reassuring presence." "He is a very bright junior with a good bedside manner and a sharp mind." – Chambers UK, 2023

Commercial Dispute Resolution: "A very bright junior possessed of a good bedside manner and a sharp mind. His drafting is excellent and he is also very capable when on his feet. A bright future awaits him." – Chambers UK and Chambers Global, 2022

Rising Star in Commercial Litigation: "Very bright and easy to work with, and happy to lead on pretty large, complex cases despite his relatively junior years. He speaks with gravitas. A star junior and one to watch."– Legal 500, 2022

Commercial Dispute Resolution :"A master of detail in a case." "William Hooper is a pleasure to work with and is perceptive when it comes to the strength and weaknesses of arguments." – Chambers UK and Chambers Global, 2021

## Publications

- Hooper, "Breach, Benefit, and the Lost Cause" (2016) L▮R 132, 547-552
- Whitehead and Hooper, "Failure of businessman to recognise his company's distinct legal personality", (2017) JIBFL May, 317