

## Scottish Stable Overviews

### Ranked in 13 practice areas

#### Axiom Advocates

Axiom is a leading commercial and public law stable in Scotland and has at its disposal a number of talented advocates. Members are retained by both defenders and pursuers, including individuals, private sector companies and government regulators. They provide advice and representation in hard-fought proceedings before the Supreme Court and the European Court of Human Rights as well as the Scottish courts. Individual and group actions are dealt with, in addition to judicial reviews, appellate proceedings, petitions and other forms of instruction. Members' expertise spans various practice areas, including public and administrative law, and with it civil liberties and human rights cases, as well as commercial areas such as banking, construction, intellectual property and tax. Recent work highlights include the lawsuits stemming from the tunnel collapse at the Glendoe hydroelectric scheme and the Volkswagen emissions scandal. Instructing solicitors portray the stable's advocates as "really excellent across the board" and "at the top in terms of being commercially minded, dynamic, professional and slick."

### Ranked in 8 practice areas

#### Ampersand Advocates

Ampersand stands out for its deep bench of experienced silks and juniors. It counts among its ranks a number of specialist practitioners, as well as generalists who turn their hands to numerous areas of law. Advocates at the stable deal deftly with a wide array of instructions, including first-instance proceedings as well as statutory appeals and judicial reviews. They represent both pursuer and defender clients, including regulatory bodies, corporations, insurers and individuals. Their wide remit incorporates all areas of commercial and public law, from civil liberties and human rights to employment, property, planning, construction, personal injury and clinical negligence. Recently members have appeared in a slew of high-profile cases, such as the challenge by the Scotch Whisky Association to the minimum pricing for alcohol, and the litigation resulting from the collapse of Heather Capital, a £400 million hedge fund. The stable's advocates earn plaudits from sources for their "practical approach to cases" and are deemed "approachable" and "good to deal with."

### Ranked in 4 practice areas

#### Compass Chambers

Compass Chambers wields especial clout in the related areas of clinical negligence, health and safety, personal injury and product liability. Its advocates are routinely engaged by pursuers and defenders, including individuals, companies and government regulators, in relation to complex claims and investigations. They are well acquainted with individual and group actions that carry serious allegations. Their cases relate to various circumstances and centre on injuries and fatalities sustained in the workplace and medical establishments. Industrial disease is an area of particular strength; members have appeared in several cases relating to asbestos exposure. Commentators describe Compass Chambers favourably as "a first port of call" and certify that it "has a degree of excellence from top to bottom, which no other stable can match."

### Ranked in 3 practice areas

#### Terra Firma Chambers

The advocates at Terra Firma appear with regularity before the Scottish courts and are especially admired for their capabilities in relation to agricultural law, planning and environmental law, and tax law. They are tasked by clients with a wide array of cases, pertaining to such matters as individual and corporate taxation, rural affairs and proposals to build roads, houses and wind farms. They recently appeared in HMRC's prosecution of Balhousie Holdings Limited, which concerned the zero-rating of care homes in the context of a financial transaction. "They are my go-to chambers," comments one interviewee, who adds: "I always tend to go to them before anyone else. I find them very helpful and they're always able to get things organised quickly."

### Westwater Advocates

Westwater Advocates has a wide selection of advocates capable of tackling contentious, or potentially contentious, cases. Agricultural law is an area of particular prowess, with members frequently appearing in disputes regarding such matters as renewable energy projects and disagreements between landlords and tenants. The stable has further expertise in employment law. Members often act for employers and employees in connection with such allegations as unfair dismissal and breach of contract. They recently appeared in *GMB Claimants v Glasgow City Council*, a series of well-publicised equal pay claims. The stable is perhaps best known however for its dominance in the field of family law litigation. Members handle a wide array of financial remedy and child law matters, including abduction, adoption and divorce cases. They possess impressive knowledge of relevant international laws such as the Hague Convention.

### Arnot Manderson

Arnot Manderson is widely recognised for its strength in tax law and also commands credibility for its expertise in the twin fields of clinical negligence and personal injury. On the tax side members act for clients on all sides of disputes, including HMRC, individuals, companies and financial services providers. They are noted for their comprehensive grasp of such issues as warranty enforcement and property valuation. In terms of clinical negligence and personal injury law advocates at the stable act for pursuers but also defend medical professionals, medical defence organisations and NHS trusts. They deal with the full spectrum of matters, including high-value claims resulting from serious injuries and fatal accidents as well as cases concerning historic abuse and industrial disease. An instructing solicitor remarks: "I have always been impressed by them. The stable is run efficiently like clockwork and has good people in the team."