



**HAWKSWELL  
KILVINGTON**

Specialist Construction Solicitors



# Construction law support for law firms

Hawkswell Kilvington is a niche and award-winning law firm, one of only a handful of firms in the UK whose sole focus is on providing legal services to the construction and engineering industries.

Our team of professional and highly experienced lawyers focus exclusively on providing advice and solutions in all areas of construction law, from drafting, reviewing and amending bespoke and standard form construction contracts and sub-contracts, through to resolving construction disputes through adjudication, mediation, negotiation, arbitration and litigation.

We recognise that many law firms do not have internal construction expertise, and that it can be difficult for property lawyers to provide their clients with an appropriate solution when specific construction law advice and input is required. As a niche firm, we can help you to provide your clients with that full service solution, giving you peace of mind that your clients will not have to look elsewhere; and therefore helping you to maintain your all-important client relationships.

We can also represent your clients in construction disputes, including in adjudication proceedings which are unique to the construction industry, and which require specialist knowledge and expertise.



# Areas of expertise

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Our team of experienced non-contentious construction lawyers have an up-to-date and in-depth knowledge of the latest legal developments. The team adopts a pragmatic, commercial and cost-effective approach to project documentation.

The team specialises in drafting, reviewing, amending and advising on all types of construction documentation and contracts, including JCT contracts, NEC3 and NEC4 contracts and other popular standard forms. The team also has a wealth of experience in drafting, advising on and negotiating consultant appointments, collateral warranties, novation agreements, parent company guarantees, performance bonds and letters of intent.

The team has worked on matters in a wide variety of construction sectors, including retail, infrastructure, health, education, power and waste, and acts for developers, funders, tenants and purchasers, as well as contractors, subcontractors and consultants.

## Construction law support

We provide construction law support to firms of all sizes. Examples of the kinds of support we regularly provide to other firms include:

- Drafting and advising on the construction documentation required for developments being undertaken by their client.
- Reviewing and reporting on the suitability of construction documents where their client is purchasing or leasing a building.
- Providing input into the construction-related aspects of agreements for lease and development agreements.
- Advising on issues relating to fit-out works in a tenanted property.
- Providing construction support where their client is a funder providing development finance.

We also have a team of contentious construction lawyers who can provide specialist assistance in relation to construction disputes that might arise.



# Benefits we can offer

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## Expertise

Construction law is complex and, in many ways, unique. A lot of property lawyers have some working knowledge of the basics, but often do not feel comfortable dealing with construction documentation. We are specialists in our field and can provide you and your clients with an expert solution. In our experience, clients respect their property lawyers for bringing on board specialist construction experience and assistance in order to achieve the best results.

## Flexibility

Relying on us to provide construction law support on an as and when basis gives you the freedom to focus on your core business and practice areas. Many of the firms we support prefer to give work to us when required, rather than taking on the challenges of trying to establish their own in-house construction team.

## Risk-free referrals

Construction law is all we do. We can help you to provide your clients with a full service solution, giving you peace of mind that your clients will not have to look elsewhere; therefore helping you to maintain your all-important client relationships.

## Collaborative approach

We recognise that firms like to handle referrals in different ways, and we aim to be able to adapt to your requirements. We are happy to be engaged either by the client directly or by the referring firm, and we can have as much or as little direct contact with the client as may be required.

## Teamwork

We have established great relationships with the firms we support and we are always available to provide initial views and assistance, including in relation to fee estimates that your clients might be seeking.

We have also worked alongside other firms for panel tenders, and regularly refer non-construction related work back to partner firms.



# About our team

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**Daniel Silberstein** | Partner  
+44 7515 574935 | dsilberstein@hklegal.co.uk

Praised by clients for his “experience, commitment, legal knowledge and negotiation skills,” Daniel specialises in complex and high-value construction disputes. He provides strategic advice on issues such as valuations, time extensions, liquidated damages, defective works and construction related professional negligence claims, successfully resolving many claims by alternative dispute resolution methods.

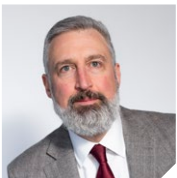
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**Thomas Salter** | Partner  
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Described by Chambers and Partners as providing “sound advice that is not only pragmatic, but easy to understand,” Thomas focuses on contentious matters and advises clients on complex construction and engineering disputes throughout the contractual supply chain. He is regularly instructed to represent clients in adjudication, litigation, arbitration and mediation.

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**David Spires** | Partner  
+44 7596 298077 | dspires@hklegal.co.uk

Described by clients as “a pleasure to work with,” David has seen a lot in his 20-year career as a construction specialist. His work covers all aspects of construction and engineering law, with particular emphasis on resolving complex disputes through adjudication, where his career has run in parallel with the growth of this forum into the industry’s principal means of dispute resolution.

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**Gary Ashton** | Partner  
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Gary has dealt with many complex, multi-party, high value disputes in his 18-year construction law career and has personally acted in over 125 adjudications. A dispute resolution specialist, he is commended in the Legal 500 as “a breath of fresh air, understanding the construction industry and being proactive in ways that are not often thought of. He has a great wealth of knowledge.”

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**Rachel Heald** | Partner  
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Rachel leads the firm’s non-contentious team. Working with clients across the construction ecosystem, she drafts, negotiates and advises on all forms of building contracts, consultant appointments, collateral warranties, letters of intent and performance bonds. Her substantial cross sector experience includes retail fit-outs, care homes, hotels and residential developments.

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**Ben Mellors** | Partner  
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Ben is a specialist in international construction and engineering projects. His practice ranges from advising on, and negotiating, engineering and EPC contracts to acting in international arbitration. He is an expert in the FIDIC forms of contract. He is praised by clients for “his first-class legal brain, work ethic and collaborative approach”. His focus is on highly technical matters and achieving client-orientated solutions through various methods of dispute resolution.

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## HAWKSWELL KILVINGTON LIMITED

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