

Lucy Garrett KC

Call: 2001 Silk: 2018

"Lucy is an out-and-out star, a gifted legal mind and persuasive advocate who can cut through endless legal and technical complexities to get to what really matters."

Legal 500 2024



Clerk Details

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Practice Overview

Lucy is a leading KC specialising in construction, engineering, energy and shipbuilding, with a particular focus on projects involving complex factual, technical and contractual disputes. She has extensive experience of high value, high profile litigation and arbitration in relation to major infrastructure projects, including PFI, and energy projects from windfarms to nuclear. Her practice includes claims for and against construction professionals in these sectors and project-related issues such as insurance, bonds and guarantees. She is also instructed in relation to Building Liability Orders and Remediation Contribution Orders. Lucy also advises on and acts in adjudications, from referral stage to enforcement. She is described in the directories as "an out-and-out star", "a dream to work with", "a gifted legal mind" and "a brilliant advocate with a superb way of persuading judges".

She is always in demand for her forceful advocacy, commercial approach and "stellar" intellectual ability. Lucy has extensive experience in the Business and Property Courts (both TCC and Commercial Court) and has appeared at appellate level. She divides her practice approximately equally between UK litigation and international arbitration. She has acted in multiple disputes in civil code jurisdictions and is familiar with the standard forms often used internationally such as FIDIC and, increasingly, NEC,

and with international parties and tribunals.

Lucy's energy and shipbuilding practice and her experience of the offshore standard forms are reflected in her co-editorship (with Mr Justice Constable) of the leading text in its field, Keating on Offshore Construction and Marine Engineering (3rd Edn., published August 2024). She is also co-editor of the looseleaf Keating on JCT and author of the Construction Professionals chapter in Keating on Construction Contracts.

Lucy is nominated in 2024 for the Legal 500's Professional Negligence Silk of the Year. She was elected a Bencher of Gray's Inn in 2023 and was one of The Lawyer's "Hot 100" in 2021. She has been top ranked in Chambers & Partners, Legal 500 and Who's Who Legal in construction, energy, international arbitration and professional negligence for many years and is a Who's Who Legal Thought Leader in Construction in 2023 and 2024. As a junior, she won Chambers and Partners' Construction Junior of the Year in 2013 and was nominated again in 2015.

Practice Areas

Construction & Engineering

- Acting for a parent company in one of the first BLO cases.
- Acting for the main contractor in a number of disputes arising out of the construction of Battersea Power Station.
- Acting for the management company in disputes relating to East Village (formerly the athlete's village for the London 2012 Olympics).
- Multiple major disputes arising out of cladding issues on apartment blocks, acting variously for residents, developers, contractors and members of the professional team.
- Acting for the employer in relation to a prestigious development procured on a construction management basis.
- Acting variously for the Trust, Project Co, the Contractor, the Facilities Manager or the Independent Tester in a series of PFI disputes relating to hospitals in the UK.
- Acting for a major engineering firm in relation to the design of three hospitals.
- Acting for an oil & gas major in relation to the expansion of a supergiant oil field.
- Acting for the D&B contractor against structural engineers in relation to a care home development
- Acting for the construction manager in a series of disputes relating to a major commercial property development.
- Acting for a nuclear engineering firm in relation to supply of equipment to a nuclear power station.
- Commercial Court litigation in a shipbuilding dispute: the reported decision is now one of the leading cases on delay and the prevention principle.
- Multi-billion US\$ ICC arbitration relating to the construction of a hospital complex in Qatar.

- £100m plus high profile Cambridgeshire Guided Busway litigation in the TCC. This case was the first dispute on the NEC2 form to come to Court.
- Multi-million pound claim arising out of the Pinnacle project in the City of London.
- Multi-million AED DIAC arbitration arising out of the construction of Dubai airport (under UAE law).
- Acting for employers, contractors and subcontractors on many other final account disputes on UK and international projects.
- Numerous adjudications and enforcements representing employers, (sub)contractors and professionals including a number of reported cases on points of law.

Energy & Natural Resources

- Acting for two subcontractors in separate disputes arising out of the construction of Hinckley Point C.
- Acting for the contractor in a dispute arising out of the construction of a solar farm.
- Acting for an oil & gas major in relation to the expansion of a supergiant oil field.
- Acting for an oil & gas major in relation to the design and construction of a gas platform.
- Acting for a contractor in a dispute arising out of the Dorset Visual Impact Project.
- Acting for an oil & gas major in relation to an oil pipeline in Yemen.
- Acting for a nuclear engineering firm in relation to supply of equipment to a nuclear power station.
- Several separate LMAA arbitrations arising out of the termination of various drilling rigs, each involving disputes of several hundred million US\$.
- Commercial Court litigation relating to the performance of a semi-submersible drilling rig and including issues of consequential loss.
- Acting for reinsurers in cUS\$300m ICC arbitration involving a DSU claim relating to a hydroelectric power plant.
- Counsel for the engineers in an LCIA arbitration relating to the foundation design of a meteorological mast.
- Acting for the employer in multi-million pound dispute arising out of the renovations of a gas terminal.
- US\$200m ICC arbitration arising out of the construction of a desalination plant in Qatar.
- Multi-million euro TCC litigation relating to the decommissioning and dismantling of platforms in the North Sea.
- Two major (US\$100m and US\$8m respectively) ICC arbitrations relating to the construction of the BTC oil pipeline.

Infrastructure & Utilities

- Acting for a subcontractor in a dispute arising out of the construction of the Qatar metro.
- Acting for two subcontractors in disputes arising out of the construction of Hinckley Point C.
- Acting for the contractor in a dispute arising out of the construction of a solar farm.

- Acting for a contractor in a dispute arising out of the Dorset Visual Impact Project.
- Various disputes arising out of the Crossrail project.
- Acting for a nuclear engineering firm in relation to supply of equipment to a nuclear power station.
- Acting for reinsurers in cUS\$300m ICC arbitration involving a DSU claim relating to a hydroelectric power plant.
- £100m plus high profile Cambridgeshire Guided Busway litigation in the TCC. This case was the first dispute on the NEC2 form to come to Court.
- Multi-million US\$ ICC arbitration arising out of the construction of Qatar port.
- Multi-million dollar ICC arbitration arising out a desalination plant in Qatar.
- Multi-million AED DIAC arbitration arising out of the construction of Dubai airport.
- Multi-billion dollar arbitration relating to the construction of the new metro in Dubai.
- Numerous road and rail cases in the UK and internationally.

International Arbitration

- Hong Kong arbitration relating to the construction of a pharmaceutical factory.
- ICC arbitration arising out of the construction of the Qatar metro.
- Acting for an oil & gas major in relation to the expansion of a supergiant oil field.
- Acting for an oil & gas major in relation to the design and construction of a gas platform.
- Acting for a major engineering firm in relation to the design of three hospitals.
- Acting for a nuclear engineering firm in relation to supply of equipment to a nuclear power station.
- Several separate LMAA arbitrations arising out of the termination of various drilling rigs, each involving disputes of several hundred million US\$.
- Multi-billion US\$ ICC arbitration relating to the construction of a hospital complex in Qatar.
- Multi-million US\$ ICC arbitration arising out of the construction of Qatar port.
- Counsel for the engineers in an LCIA arbitration relating to the foundation design of a meteorological mast.
- Acting for reinsurers in cUS\$300m ICC arbitration involving a DSU claim relating to a hydroelectric power plant in Brazil.
- Multi-million dollar ICC arbitration arising out a desalination plant in Qatar.
- Multi-million AED DIAC arbitration arising out of the construction of Dubai airport.
- Multi-billion dollar arbitration relating to the construction of the new metro in Dubai.

Offshore Construction & Marine Engineering

- Acting for an oil & gas major in relation to the expansion of a supergiant oil field.

- Acting for an oil & gas major in relation to the design and construction of a gas platform.
- Several separate LMAA arbitrations arising out of the termination of various drilling rigs, each involving disputes of several hundred million dollars.
- Dispute arising out of the sinking of a cruise ship.
- Multi-million dollar ICC arbitration relating to the performance of mega sea-going suction-cutter dredgers.
- Commercial Court litigation relating to the performance of a semi-submersible drilling rig and including issues of consequential loss.
- Commercial Court litigation in a shipbuilding dispute: the reported decision is now one of the leading cases on delay and the prevention principle.
- Counsel for the employer in a technical shipping dispute arising out of a project for the design and construction of 30 ships.
- Counsel for the engineers in an LCIA arbitration relating to the foundation design of a meteorological mast.
- Multi-million euro TCC litigation relating to the decommissioning and dismantling of platforms in the North Sea.

PFI/PPP

- Acting variously for the Trust, Project Co, the Contractor, the Facilities Manager or the Independent Tester in a series of PFI disputes relating to hospitals in the UK.
- Acting for the Independent Certifier in relation to a social housing development.
- Acting for the D&B contractor against structural engineers in relation to a care home development.
- Acting for a contractor in a PFI dispute in relation to a prison in the UK.
- Advising on multiple other PFI/PPP contracts.

Professional Negligence

- Counsel for the engineer in a dispute with the Environment Agency.
- Acting for the D&B contractor in a claim against engineers involving complex structural and geotechnical engineering issues.
- Acting for a major engineering firm in relation to the design of three hospitals.
- Multiple major multi-party disputes arising out of cladding issues on apartment blocks, acting variously for residents, developers, contractors and members of the professional team.
- Counsel for the D&B contractor against structural engineers in relation to a care home development.
- Acting for the construction manager in a series of disputes relating to a major commercial property development.
- Acting for a nuclear engineering firm in relation to supply of equipment to a nuclear power station.
- Counsel for the engineers in a dispute relating to the innovative foundation design of a meteorological mast.
- Acting for the employer in a high-value dispute relating to the design of factory processing equipment.

- Counsel for the architect in the Walter Lilly v Mackay litigation, originally involving seven parties. The reported decision on the dispute between the contractor and employer includes guidance on the law relating to delay and global claims.
- High profile multi-party multi-million pound litigation in the Guernsey High Court arising out of the Royal Chambers and Royal Terrace development, acting for the engineers.
- Counsel for the employer in a technical dispute involving a professional negligence claim against engineers and conflicts of law arising out of the construction of an oil platform.
- Numerous fees claims acting for architects, engineers and other construction professionals.

Reported Cases

- Battersea Project Phase 2 Development Company Limited v QFS Scaffolding Limited [2024] EWHC 591 (TCC)
- Halsion Limited v St Thomas Street Development Limited [2023] EWHC 2045 (TCC)
- URS Corp Ltd v BDW Trading Ltd [2023] EWCA Civ 189
- Transocean Drilling UK Ltd v Providence Resources plc [2014] EWHC 4260 (COMM)
- Laing O'Rourke Delivery Ltd v Sweett (UK) Ltd [2024] EWHC 1088 (TCC)
- University of Brighton v Dovehouse Interiors [2014] EWHC 940 (TCC)
- Adyard Abu Dhabi v SDS Marine Services BLR 384, 136 Con LR 190, (2011) 27 Const. LJ 594
- Cleveland Bridge (UK) Ltd v Whessoe-Volker Stevin Joint Venture BLR 415, 130 Con LR 159, (2010) 26 Const LJ 670, [2010] CILL 2876
- Clancy Consulting Ltd v Derwent Holdings Ltd & Ors [2010] EWHC 762 (TCC)
- AMEC Group Ltd v Thames Water Utilities Ltd EWHC 419 (TCC)
- Multiplex Construction (UK) Ltd v Cleveland Bridge UK Ltd EWCA Civ 139, Court of Appeal
- Multiplex Construction (UK) Ltd v Cleveland Bridge UK Ltd CILL 2863, Court of Appeal
- OSC Building Services v Interior Dimensions Contracts Ltd CILL 2688 TCC
- Multiplex Construction (UK) Ltd v Cleveland Bridge UK Ltd EWHC 2220 (TCC)
- Pierce Design International Ltd v Johnson 115 Con LR 110
- Multiplex Construction (UK) Ltd v Cleveland Bridge UK Ltd EWHC 569 (TCC)
- Multiplex Construction (UK) Ltd v Cleveland Bridge UK Ltd All ER (D) 04 (Oct), [2007] All ER (D) 358 CA
- Multiplex Construction (UK) Ltd v Cleveland Bridge UK Ltd 122 Con LR 88, [2009] 1 Costs LR 55
- Pierce Design International Ltd v Johnston All ER (D) 324 TCC

- Multiplex Construction (UK) Ltd v Cleveland Bridge UK Ltd ALL ER (D) 288, (2007) 111 Con LR 48
- Multiplex Constructions (UK) Ltd v Cleveland Bridge UK Ltd Vol. 23 No. 4 p. 299 TCC
- P4 Ltd v Unite Integrated Solutions plc BLR 1 (costs)
- P4 Ltd v Unite Integrated Solutions plc BLM Vol.24 No.1 (trial)
- P4 Ltd v Unite Integrated Solutions plc BLR 150 (summary judgment)
- McGlinn v Waltham & others All ER 1126
- McGlinn v Waltham Contractors Ltd All ER (D) 145 TCC
- McGlinn v Waltham Contractors Ltd BLR 432 TCC
- McGlinn v Waltham Contractors Ltd 102 Con LR 111 TCC [2005] TCLR 8

Other information

Education & Professional Career

- Queen's Counsel 2018
- Tenancy at Keating Chambers 2004
- Tenancy at 2 Temple Gardens 2002
- Called to the Bar 2001
- Postgraduate Diploma in Law 2000
- BA English Language and Literature (First Class) University of Manchester 1998

Additional Information

Lucy enjoys reading. Her current recommendations are Birnam Wood by Eleanor Catton, Skippy Dies by Paul Murray (The Bee Sting is also very good but not as good as Skippy) and I, Claudius by Robert Graves. Sadly the 2019 and subsequent Reachers are to be avoided at all costs but all the previous ones remain excellent.

Lucy took a sabbatical from the Bar between June 2018 and December 2019 to work as a Senior Advisor for the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change. She spent 18 months in Sierra Leone working closely with the Mayor of Freetown, the extraordinary Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr OBE. Her blog describing her experiences is [here](#).

Appointments & Awards

- Nominated for Legal 500 Professional Negligence Silk of the Year (2024)
- Bencher at Gray's Inn (2023)
- Nominated for Chambers & Partners Diversity and Inclusion Outstanding Contribution (2023)
- The Lawyer Hot 100 (2021)
- Nominated for Chambers & Partners Construction Junior of the Year (2015)
- Chambers & Partners Construction Junior of the Year (2013)
- Prince of Wales Scholar, Gray's Inn (2001)

Seminars & Publications

- Co-editor of Keating on Offshore Construction and Marine Engineering (3rd Edition) and author (1st and 2nd Editions)
- Co-editor of Keating on JCT Contracts [Looseleaf & CD-Rom]
- Contributor, Keating on Construction Contracts (current and previous Editions)
- Co-author of Litigation in the Technology and Construction Court (1st Edition)
- Contributor, The Technology and Construction Court by Mr Justice Coulson (1st Edition)
- Numerous seminars and papers

Recommendations

"Whether it is strategic advice, drafting submissions or pleadings or advocacy in court Lucy's output is always first class. She is incredibly cerebral, but does not lose sight of the commercial aspects of a case."

Construction, Legal 500 UK Bar 2026

"Lucy Garrett is very engaged, responsive and very commercially aware."

Construction, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2026

"She is a robust advocate who tenaciously puts forward arguments."

Construction, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2026

"Lucy is very professional and provides succinct advice, addressing the key issues in the claim with a practical and commercial perspective for clients."

Construction: Professional Negligence, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2026

"Lucy is always accessible and client-friendly, but with excellent gravitas and credibility of delivery of advice and advocacy."

Construction: Professional Negligence, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2026

"She has a fantastic way of dealing with experts and is very good on the law."

Construction: Professional Negligence, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2026

"Lucy provides excellent, commercially minded advice on both strategy and specific legal issues."

Construction: Professional Negligence, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2026

"Her written work and advocacy are extremely well prepared. She's very calm and measured and passionate about her cases and her clients."

Construction: Professional Negligence, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2026

"Lucy is a powerhouse. I appreciate her candor and forthrightness. She is very good and prodigiously hard-working."

Energy & Natural Resources, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2026

"Lucy is a delightful barrister whose work is always excellent. She is a true team player who works so well with every member of the team, no matter what their level."

Energy & Natural Resources, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2026

"She is incredibly knowledgeable, pragmatic and sensible."

International Arbitration: Construction/Engineering, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2026

"Lucy Garrett has a great mind. She is easy to deal with and a nice person, but tough when needed."

International Arbitration: Construction/Engineering, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2026

"She is a fierce advocate."

Construction, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2025

"Lucy Garrett is extremely intelligent and her submissions are very compelling."

Construction, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2025

"Lucy finds the off-piste, curveball analysis points that help everyone see the case in a different way."

Construction, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2025

"Lucy is a standout individual for delay claims."

Construction: Professional Negligence, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2025

"Lucy Garrett is very impressive."

Construction: Professional Negligence, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2025

"Lucy Garrett is very direct, all over the detail and her whole demeanour enables her to be approachable to the ultimate client."

Energy & Natural Resources, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2025

"Lucy provides focused legal advice against complex fact patterns and her awareness of broader commercial issues is invaluable."

Energy & Natural Resources, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2025

"Lucy quickly gains clients' trust both for being a delightful team player, even when the going gets tough, and for giving concise, merits-based advice."

Energy & Natural Resources, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2025

"She's highly attuned to commercial outcomes."

International Arbitration: Construction/Engineering, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2025

"Lucy has a great ability to present strategy and complex legal arguments to a client."

International Arbitration: Construction/Engineering, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2025

"She is very robust in her views, which clients like, and she provides good, solid advice that shows she is on top of everything."

International Arbitration: Construction/Engineering, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2025

"Lucy Garrett is very tenacious."

International Arbitration: Construction/Engineering, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2025

"Lucy is one of the best construction silks in the field. She is very much a go-to silk. Lucy has shown a first class ability at determining a strategy in respect of a very complex contractual dispute."

Construction, Legal 500 UK Bar 2025

"Lucy is an authoritative, charming and energetic advocate."

Energy, Legal 500 UK Bar 2025

"Simply brilliant. Concise and focused, always on top of the facts and her brief and trying to get the best outcome for the client."

International Arbitration: Counsel, Legal 500 UK Bar 2025

"Lucy has a great skill to distil complex and challenging scenarios into legal and strategic advice that is clear and compelling.

Her written advocacy reflects that clarity and depth of analysis."

Professional Negligence, Legal 500 UK Bar 2025

'Lucy is very bright, responsive, has an excellent bedside manner and is an absolute pleasure to work with.'

Construction, Legal 500 2024

'Lucy is an out-and-out star, a gifted legal mind and persuasive advocate who can cut through endless legal and technical complexities to get to what really matters.'

Energy, Legal 500 2024

'Lucy is engaging, bright and user-friendly and presents incredibly well to clients and tribunals alike. She is a delight to work with: sharp and focused, practical, honest and objective in her advice and input.'

International Arbitration Counsel - Legal 500 2024

'An absolute favourite - a dream to work with, the perfect client-facing counsel option, with frank, honest and insightful advice.'

Construction, Chambers UK Bar 2024

'Lucy finds things that others don't and approaches cases in a way that changes things for the client.'

Construction, Chambers UK Bar 2024

'Lucy Garrett is extremely intelligent. She managed to find arguments that no one else did. She also manages clients in such a way that everyone is listening to her every word.'

Professional Negligence, Chambers UK Bar 2024

Keating Chambers 'Lucy is an excellent barrister who is acquiring a well deserved reputation as strong advocate and first class lawyer in the field of international arbitration. Always a joy to work with.'

International arbitration, Legal 500 2023

'Lucy is extremely talented with razor-sharp intellect and boundless energy. She has great client care skills and is great at innovative thinking to find solutions to achieve commercial results. Definitely someone to have on your side.'

Construction, Legal 500 2023

"An exceptionally good operator who is easy to deal with and wears her enormous intellect lightly."

Professional Negligence, Chambers UK Bar 2022

"She is brilliant and she is hugely energetic."

International Arbitration, Chambers UK Bar 2022

"She is a very good advocate and doesn't go into a hearing without knowing everything about the case." "She is really determined and passionate about her cases. She approaches everything with her 'A' game."

Energy, Chambers UK Bar 2022

"She is absolutely on top of all of the detail. She makes stressful litigation feel like driving in a comfortable limo."

Construction, Chambers UK Bar 2022

"She is a brilliant advocate with a superb way of persuading judges."

Construction, Chambers UK Bar 2022

"Energetic and hardworking, she gets to the heart of the issue and combines depth of legal knowledge with a keen commercial outlook."

Energy, Legal 500 2022

"She combines an incredible work ethic, an amiable personality, intellectual strength and an understanding of the commercial realities of the construction industry."

Construction, Legal 500 2022

"Lucy is hands-on, approachable and very bright. Excellent legal analysis and a real expert in construction disputes."

Construction, Legal 500 2021

"A great barrister with a broad practice. She is always perfectly prepared and incredibly nice to deal with."

Professional Negligence, Chambers UK Bar 2021

"Extremely popular."

International Arbitration, Chambers UK Bar 2021

"A real talent." "She has a mastery of the practice area."

Construction, Chambers UK Bar 2021

"A true star for her generation, who is without question headed for greatness."

Construction, Chambers UK Bar 2020

"An absolute standout construction silk who approaches her work with great vigour and tenacity."

Construction, Chambers UK Bar 2020

"She has brilliant knowledge of the law and a very attractive manner in court, and is fantastic with clients."

Professional Negligence, Chambers UK Bar 2020

"The clients love her and her work is always first class."

International Arbitration, Legal 500 2020

Lucy Garrett QC is "very highly thought of by clients" for her expert representation in construction disputes, showcasing her profound industry knowledge and talent as an advocate in complex proceedings.

Who's Who Legal 2019: UK Bar Construction

"Uncompromisingly tough and has an excellent style of drafting and oral advocacy."

Construction, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2019

"She's excellent on her feet, works very hard and is an intelligent barrister."

Energy, Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2019

"A real fighter; her drafting is excellent, she has superb knowledge and a brilliant manner with experts."

Construction, Legal 500 2018