

Connie Trendle

Call: 2024



Clerk Details

Paul Adams

T: +44 (0)20 7544 2609
padams@keatingchambers.com

Jacob Watson

T: +44 (0)20 7544 2679
jwatson@keatingchambers.com

Rosina Thomas

T: +44 (0)207 544 2658
rthomas@keatingchambers.com

Practice Overview

Connie gained a 1st Class Law degree from Oxford University in 2023. She was called to the Bar in 2024, undertook pupillage at Keating in 2024/25 and obtained tenancy at Keating in 2025 upon successful completion of pupillage.

Connie has been instructed as junior counsel on a number of high value matters including: a \$100 million energy plant dispute arbitrated under the ICC rules; a number of fire safety disputes which include claims for Building Liability Orders under the Building Safety Act 2022; a delay dispute worth £10 million concerning the construction of a hotel; and a final account payment dispute adjudication in which the client was awarded £300,000.

Connie also acts as sole counsel, including most recently: drafting the Particulars of Claim for a £500,000 water ingress defects claim which included claims under the DPA, alongside breach of contract and misrepresentation; providing advice in respect of an adjudication; and preparing the particulars on behalf of an insurer who sought to bring a subrogated claim against a developer for defects in the development.

Connie has a range of advocacy experience including in respect of: HGCRA payment provisions; track-allocations; road traffic accidents; money claims; applications to register a charge; and winding up petitions.

Connie accepts instructions in all areas of Keating Chambers' core practice areas, including construction and engineering, infrastructure, energy, international arbitration, and procurement.

Practice Areas

Construction & Engineering

- Connie's recent construction and engineering instructions include:
 - Junior counsel on a £10 million delay dispute concerning the construction of a hotel.
 - Junior counsel on a number of fire-related matters which concern cladding defects and Building Liability Orders.
 - Sole counsel on a £500k claim in respect of water ingress defects. This includes drafting the claim form and Particulars of Claim pleading breach of contract, misrepresentation, and a claim under the Defective Premises Act.
 - Sole counsel pleading a defects claim brought by an insurer against a developer
- Connie's drafting work includes:
 - A Letter of Claim in a delay dispute worth over £10 million (Junior Counsel).
 - Particulars of Claim, including: seeking damages for breach of contract and negligence; claiming breach of contract, misrepresentation and s1 of the DPA in respect of £500,000 of water ingress loss and damage; claiming against an architect for breach of contract and tortious obligations; and claiming on behalf of an insurer against a developer for defects in a housing development.
 - Defences, including on matters concerning breach of contract, misrepresentation, and negligence; and in respect of Building Liability Orders under the Building Safety Act 2022.
- Connie has provided advice on the following matters:
 - A procedural question concerning amended Particulars of Claim which were served without the requisite consent or permission. Following the advice, Connie drafted the relevant application to the court.
 - Matters of contractual interpretation; contract formation; contract variation; and the validity of exercise of contractual options.
 - Whether a Particulars of Claim complied with the CPR and the prospects of a successful strike out application.
 - The law of negligent misstatement.
 - Limitation and exclusion clauses, and the impact of the Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977.
 - The operation of the NEC 4 payment provisions and the possibility of challenging a final account.
 - Jurisdiction to hear an appeal based on the order of the Court below.

- Connie has produced skeleton arguments:
 - Defending an allegation of fraud, and denying the existence of a collateral contract between the parties.
 - Concerning whether a clause was unenforceable as an agreement to negotiate, and/or amounted a condition precedent to a right to commence arbitration.
 - On the meaning of s1(1)(a) of the Defective Premises Act 1972.
 - Resisting an appeal of a strike out/summary judgment decision of the court below.
 - Seeking summary judgment and/or strike out.

Advocacy

- Connie has a wide range of advocacy experience including:
 - Successfully advocating in the County Court for the re-allocation of a claim to a different track which had cost advantages for the client.
 - Successfully defending a money claim in the County Court.
 - Representing a contractor in a payment dispute trial in the County Court.
 - Appearing on behalf of a supporting creditor in a winding up petition.
 - Making an application to extend time to register a charge.

Energy

- Connie is presently acting as Junior Counsel in relation to a \$100 million energy plant dispute arbitrated under the ICC rules.
- Connie has produced advice on a matter of contractual interpretation in respect of an energy dispute.

International Arbitration

- Connie is junior counsel in an ongoing arbitration to which the ICC rules apply.
- Connie has drafted:
 - Submissions for a Reply in an arbitration on claims for an extension of time.
 - A Particulars of Claim and Notice of Arbitration in respect of a claim for breach of contract and negligence against a contractor.

Adjudication

- Acting as Junior Counsel, Connie drafted the Reply in a final account payment dispute adjudication, in which the claimant was successful on all grounds and was awarded a sum of over £300,000.
- Connie has been instructed to provide advice on: payment in an adjudication, including considering whether there was an estoppel.

- Connie has produced advice on resisting adjudication enforcement proceedings.
- Connie has settled Particulars of Claim for an adjudication enforcement dispute.
- Connie has produced skeleton arguments on:
 - The proper identification of a contract for the purposes of adjudication enforcement.
 - Adjudication enforcement.

Procurement

- Produced a Particulars of Claim alleging manifest errors in a council's evaluation process under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.
- Produced advice on the merits of any potential challenges to a procurement process, and the risk of moving forwards and awarding the contract.
- Researched and attended an advice conference as junior counsel on a potential scoring challenge to the procurement of a contract by a local council.

Other information

Education & Professional Career

- BVS, City Law School Distinction - June 2024
- Volunteer advocate, The School Exclusion Project - 2024
- BA (Jurisprudence), Oxon First Class - July 2023
- Quadrant Prize, for the highest marked script in International Trade Final Honour School - June 2023
- Best Oralist, University of Oxford Bar Society Commercial Moot - Dec 2022
- John V. Lovitt Prize, for one student at Christ Church who ranks first in a written law examination - May 2022
- Publication, Oxford University Undergraduate Law Journal - May 2022
- First Prize, Oxford University Undergraduate Law Journal Essay Competition sponsored by 7 Kings Bench Walk Chambers - Feb 2022
- Scholarship election - Feb 2022
- Publication, The Pupil Magazine, Oxford Bar Society - Nov 2021
- Collections Prizes in every set of undergraduate collections - 2021 – 2022

Additional Information

Outside of work, Connie enjoys playing and supporting Netball. She is also a keen cook and is always on the lookout for new recipes to try.
