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Chantelle Staynings

Call: 2012

Chantelle combines a strong transactional and corporate advisory practice with significant experience in company and insolvency litigation.

Chantelle is experienced in advising public and private companies across the full range of company law matters, including directors' duties, corporate governance, reorganisations and Companies Act issues. She is regularly instructed on schemes of arrangement under Part 26 of the Companies Act. She also acts on a large number of capital reductions, including to remedy historic issues such as invalid share buybacks.

Chantelle has a strong litigation practice and has been instructed at all levels (including the Supreme Court) and in arbitrations. She is frequently instructed as sole counsel. Her experience includes a range of company and commercial disputes, including unfair prejudice petitions, derivative claims, breach of warranty claims, contractual claims and disputes arising from articles of association. Many of these have involved injunctions or other contentious interim applications.

She also specialises in contentious insolvency proceedings, including claims against office-holders and representing insolvency practitioners in a range of matters.

Corporate

- Companies House matters (including rectification of register/charges register/restoration to register)
- Company meetings
- Construction and drafting of constitutional documents
- Disclosure and transparency rules
- Takeover code
- Cross-border mergers
- Shareholders disputes
- Corporate governance
- Reductions of capital
- PSC register
- Directors' duties
- Schemes of arrangement

Chantelle is instructed on a large number of capital reductions, including for the purposes of rectifying defective buybacks. She also regularly advises and acts on schemes of arrangement (and, formerly, cross-border mergers).

Chantelle has a strong corporate advisory and corporate litigation practice, advising on a full range of Companies Act issues and transactional matters. These include issues arising in share sales, including drag and

Chantelle Staynings

tag rights, advice on historic buybacks and pre-emption rights. She regularly appears in the Companies Court, including on both unopposed and contested applications under the Companies Act.

Recent cases include:

Re Phoenix Digital Assets Plc [2026] 1 WLUK 183

Sole Counsel on scheme of arrangement for purposes of re-domiciliation from UK to Gibraltar.

Mandleson v Padel Solutions UK Limited [2025] EWHC 3189 (Ch)

Sole Counsel for Claimant in claim to set aside and/or restrain company from acting on purported drag notice seeking to compel the sale of the Claimant's shares. Successfully obtained interim injunction at hearing before Mr Justice Adam Johnson which (among other things) restrained any transfer of shares to the proposed purchaser pending trial.

Re Longcroft Building Services Ltd [2025]

Sole counsel for Claimant in contested claim for an order under s. 306 Companies Act 2006 to enable him to exercise his statutory rights as majority shareholder to remove the Defendant and appoint an additional director. The case raised complex legal issues regarding the extent to which the Defendant had obtained anything in the nature of a class right entitling her to remain a director.

Re Eckoh plc [2024] 12 WLUK 13

Sole Counsel on cash takeover by scheme of arrangement which raised issues relating to class composition considered by a High Court judge at the convening stage.

Kamenetskiy v Zolotarev [2024] B.C.C. 157

Sole Counsel for successful Claimants in trial of claim for declaratory relief that certain written resolutions had not been validly passed on the basis that there was no "self-help" remedy entitling shareholders to circulate resolutions.

Restructuring & Insolvency

- Contentious insolvency (incl. cross-border issues)
- Disputed winding up petitions
- Jurisdiction to wind up
- Injunctions to restrain presentation and advertisement of petitions
- Administration (incl. extensions of time)
- Validation orders
- Transactions at an undervalue/ preferences
- Bankruptcy hearings
- Cross-border Insolvency Regulations 2006

Chantelle regularly advises and acts on schemes of arrangement (and, formerly, cross-border mergers). She has experience in various issues arising in schemes, including seeking Court approval for the extension of the Long Stop Date or amendments to the scheme and class composition issues.

She regularly advises and acts on disputes relating to corporate insolvency, including winding up proceedings, administration proceedings and other contentious insolvency issues (including claims under the Insolvency Act).

Re Phoenix Digital Assets Plc [2026] 1 WLUK 183

Sole Counsel on scheme of arrangement for purposes of re-domiciliation from UK to Gibraltar.

Chantelle Staynings

Re Eckoh plc [2024] 12 WLUK 13

Sole Counsel on cash takeover by scheme of arrangement which raised issues relating to class composition considered by a High Court judge at the convening stage.

Re Investin Quay House Ltd [2021] EWHC 2371 (Ch); [2021] 8 WLUK 170

Sole Counsel on successful application to wind up a Jersey company, involving issues of COMI and winding up as an unregistered company. The court also held that the company had failed to show a prima facie case that the COVID-19 pandemic had had a financial effect on it.

Bresco Electrical Services Ltd (In Liquidation) v Michael J Lonsdale (Electrical) Ltd [2020] UKSC 25

Instructed (with Peter Arden KC and Ben Shaw) for successful appellant in the Supreme Court appeal against a decision to continue an injunction restraining it from further conduct of an adjudication concerning a construction contract dispute following its entry into insolvent liquidation. Leading Supreme Court authority on the adjudication of such disputes and the insolvency process, including the set-off of cross-claims.

Re Greensill Bank AG

Sole Counsel on recognition application to the High Court for the high-profile German insolvency proceedings relating to Greensill Bank. The court accepted that it had jurisdiction to recognise the insolvency proceedings under the CBIR 2006 following Brexit.

Litigation & Arbitration

- Shareholder disputes
- Unfair prejudice petitions
- Fiduciary obligations
- Warranty claims
- Joint venture disputes
- LLP / partnership disputes
- Directors' disqualification
- Fraud and asset recovery
- Interim remedies
- Commercial litigation
- Arbitration

Chantelle has recently acted as sole counsel on a number of shareholder and contractual disputes which have settled prior to trial, including acting for the Defendant in a claim for breaches of warranty arising out of the acquisition of a chemical products business, with alleged value of £4.6m to £9.1m, together with a connected Part 20 claim for contribution.

She is currently instructed (led by Andrew Thornton KC) in an unfair prejudice petition in connection with a digital wallet provider and its proposed £125 million sale to a major UK bank and in a separate shareholder dispute in connection with a AI company (with ongoing proceedings in both England and the Isle of Man).

Chantelle has been instructed on a number of substantial confidential arbitrations, including on behalf of a major UK bank in connection with a dispute concerning notification of warranty claims and an arbitration arising out of disputes between former owners of a portfolio of hotels worth over £1 billion.

Key cases include:

Re Candey Limited [2024] EWHC 1398 (Ch)

Sole counsel on unfair prejudice petition brought by member and former director of law firm against other

Chantelle Staynings

directors alleging exclusion from management, breaches of directors' duties, wrongful dilution and breaches of a shareholders' agreement.

Re Bramber Road Management Ltd [2024] EWHC 51 (Ch)

Sole counsel for the successful Claimants in trial in the Companies Court (Chancery Division) relating to various disputes about the management and control of a company. The case involved complex company law issues, with the Claimants successfully establishing (among other things) that the articles of association had been amended by conduct to allow each member to appoint a director.

White v Nicholson [2022] EWHC 1104 (Ch); 5WLUK 561

Instructed as sole counsel for the Claimants in trial of a claim to enforce a share sale agreement. Succeeded at trial in May 2022 in obtaining specific performance.

Hyams v BTC Activewear Limited [2022]

Instructed as junior counsel for the Respondents in unfair prejudice petition relating to a high-value clothing distribution company.

Davies v Ford [2021] EWHC 2550 (Ch); [2021] 9 WLUK 226

Instructed (with Ben Shaw) on behalf of successful Claimant in quantum trial to determine equitable compensation for breaches of directors' duties and a claim in knowing receipt. Instructed as sole advocate in a number of interlocutory hearings, including in [2020] EWHC 3063 (Ch) relating to expert evidence.

Re: Jackal Premier Sites Ltd

Instructed and advised as sole Counsel on petition under s 994 CA 2006 in the High Court valued at over £1.5 million and involving allegations of non-payment of dividends, misuse of assets and exclusion from management, together with various interim applications (including for non-party and specific disclosure).

Re: AMT Coffee Limited [2019] EWHC 46 (Ch)

Instructed (with Nigel Dougherty) on behalf of Petitioners in trial of unfair prejudice petition under s 994 CA 2006 alleging matters including non-payment of dividends and excessive remuneration.

Cool Seas (Seafoods) Ltd v Interfish [2018] EWHC 2038 (Ch)

Instructed (with James Potts KC) on behalf of Respondents in trial of unfair prejudice petition and counterclaim. Instructed as sole advocate in various hearings, including consequential hearings on quantum and applications for "unless" orders and security for costs.

Interactive Technology Corp Ltd v Ferster [2016] EWHC 2896 (Ch)

Instructed in trial of shareholders' dispute involving unfair prejudice petition, breach of duty and trust claims (led by Andrew Thompson KC).

International & Offshore

Chantelle is frequently instructed in cases involving an international or offshore element, and is currently instructed on shareholder disputes in the BVI and Isle of Man.

Memberships & Publications

Chantelle Staynings

Chancery Bar Association

Co-author of "The Law of Majority Shareholder Power" (2nd edition, 2017) published by Oxford University Press

Contributor to FromCounsel

Education & Awards

2012: City Law School: BPTC (Outstanding)

2006: Oxford Institute of Legal Practice: LPC (Distinction)

2005: Oxford Brookes University: GDL (Distinction)

2004: Trinity College, Oxford University: BA (Hons) English (1st class)

Recognition

Ranked in:

Chambers and Partners UK

Company

Legal 500

Company

Quotes

"Chantelle Staynings is all over the detail but also very pragmatic and commercial. She works very well as part of a team, which is really reassuring" Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2026

"Chantelle is good at identifying the important legal points and ignoring the noise. She has sound judgement and stands her ground" Legal 500 2006

"Chantelle's written and oral advocacy are brilliant and she has a very calm, charismatic and persuasive demeanour in court" Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2025

"Charismatic and smart, Chantelle grasps the brief quickly and argues cases with grace, good humour and steely determination" - Legal 500 UK Bar 2024

"Chantelle is very good with judges and excellent at picking the best points to take." – Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2025

"Practical, incredibly hard working and really good on the analysis front." – Chambers & Partners UK Bar 2024