



# Housing Management & Litigation

We have a dedicated department of 6 housing management lawyers. The department is led by Partner, Karl Anders, who has nearly 25 years' experience of advising clients in relation to residential landlord and tenant law. We undertake a broad range of work covering both contentious and non-contentious matters. Our clients include national public and private sector landlords, major lending institutions, letting agencies and fixed charge receivers.

“They are prepared to go the extra mile for us.” – Chambers



## HOW WE CAN HELP

### Supporting you as a trusted adviser

Our partnering approach is focussed on spending significant face time with our clients. This ensures that we maximise our familiarity with the individual client's philosophy, working practices and the challenges they face in their businesses. By doing so, we can provide a supportive service, which addresses the specific needs of the individual client in an efficient way and which also provides value for money.

We are also pleased to introduce “Housing Partners in Law” - a legal services solution for social housing providers who need external legal support. We are the only firm in the region holding the highest ranking for social housing legal services by both Legal 500 (for Yorkshire and Humberside) and Chambers & Partners (for the North East and Yorkshire).

### IT and Innovative Working

We have developed a bespoke landlord and tenant case management system and website: FreeHome™, which provides our clients with a fast, cost effective and transparent rental repossession service. The key features of FreeHome™ include: a direct interface with the Courts' PCOL website; reduced court fees; secure 24/7 online access to bespoke case progress/financial information and competitive fixed fees charged on a stage by stage basis. To date, we have dealt with more than 2,500 cases for landlords via FreeHome™.

“The quality of work is excellent. They work with us and that is key and they put things in plain English.” – Chambers & Partners

### Creating value

As part of our partnering approach, we provide clients with additional case and business support, with the emphasis on information sharing, best practice and joint horizon planning. This includes online access to Reach™ our KnowHow database, monthly case management reports and reviews, internal policy and procedure reviews, briefings on new legal developments and legal training and seminars from specialist Counsel.

“[Karl Anders is] very easy to work with, very knowledgeable, and one of the best specialists we've ever spoken to” – Chambers & Partners

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#### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Commercial contracts
- Rental reposessions via FreeHome™, our unique website and fixed fee case management product for residential landlords
- Possession claims based on other breaches of tenancy
- Anti Social Behaviour Injunctions
- Long lease forfeiture
- Trespass and Service Occupancy possession claims
- Asset Management and Security of Tenure issues
- Internal Policies and Occupational Agreements
- Advising Fixed Charge Receivers
- Long Lease Extensions of Flats under the Leasehold Reform, Housing and Urban Development Act 1993
- Enfranchisement of Leasehold Houses under the Leasehold Reform Act 1967
- Collective Enfranchisement
- Appointment of Managers and Right to Manage companies
- Right to Buy/Right to Acquire
- Judicial Review challenges
- Disrepair Claims
- Freehold Rentcharge disputes
- Nuisance and Breach of Easement

#### WALKER MORRIS

*“A distinctive law firm valued by its clients for consistently delivering excellent results.”*

We offer our clients a full service commercial law firm focused on providing a wide range of clients, nationally and internationally, with partner led high quality advice. The national centre of excellence in Leeds that we have built offers significant advantages in terms of developing a strong team-based culture within the Firm, with the inherent value and cost effectiveness that a Leeds base brings.

The success of our model is reflected by our clients, which are drawn from a broad range of sectors. We are recognised for our strong multi-disciplinary teamwork and straight forward advice. Both the Firm and our lawyers are recognised as leaders in their fields with 96 per cent of our partners recommended in either Chambers or Legal 500 for their expertise.

#### KEEP UP-TO-DATE

To keep up-to-date with our latest bulletins please contact one of our Housing Management and Litigation Team below to be added to our email list or follow us on twitter: @WMHousingLit.

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