

Lisa Watson

Senior Associate

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Milton Keynes

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Overview

Lisa is a senior associate in Dentons' Milton Keynes office, focusing on employment law. She joined the People, Reward and Mobility practice in February 2018 having previously spent nearly 10 years at Macfarlanes LLP.

Lisa has a wealth of experience advising on the full range of transactional and standalone employment matters, including international projects, all aspects of TUPE, mergers and acquisitions, team moves, large-scale redundancies, reorganizations and restructures (including collective consultation), and day-to-day employee issues and documentation. On the contentious side, she has overseen numerous employment tribunal claims and disputes (including unfair dismissal, wrongful dismissal, discrimination and holiday pay actions). Lisa has also spent time on secondment to the in-house legal team of a large publicly-listed insurance business.

Experience

- **Multinational client:** Leading the employment aspects of a multi-billion-pound acquisition, involving around 70 jurisdictions and more than 300 lawyers worldwide.
- **Multinational client:** Leading the global review and overhaul of employee bonus arrangements involving more than 10 jurisdictions.
- **Multinational client:** Advising on the full range of business as usual employment issues, in relation to matters involving two recognized unions, and acting in defence of all employment tribunal claims.
- **Financial services client:** Acting in defence of multiple tribunal claims on an on-going basis.
- **Private equity house:** Advising in relation to allegations of fraud and gross misconduct against a senior individual holding economic interests worth more than £5 million.

Insights

- Author, "Holiday headaches", Dentons article, October 2018

- Author, "Confidentiality concerns", Dentons article, August 2018
- Author, "CIPD reports that a reduced amount of EU to UK migration has caused a skills shortage in the UK," Dentons article, August 2018
- Author, "GDPR – are your interests legitimate", Dentons article, April 2018
- Author, "A busy month for discrimination law", Dentons article, March 2018

Activities and Affiliations

Community Involvement and Pro Bono

- Assisting a charity on a pro-bono basis to create a suite of employment contracts and consultancy agreements.
- Acting on a pro-bono basis for a charitable organization in relation to the defense of claims of employment status, discrimination, victimization and whistleblowing.

Presentations

- Speaker, "Mock employment tribunal", Dentons, Milton Keynes, October 2018
- Speaker, "Legislation changes and the gig economy", CIPD Annual update and diversity review, Milton Keynes, June 2018
- Speaker, "Sensitive handling of mental health in the workplace: how to avoid legal pitfalls", CIPD Thriving at work without suffering in silence, Milton Keynes, June 2018
- Speaker, "Diversity and inclusion", Dentons annual update and diversity review, Milton Keynes, May 2018

Memberships

- Member, Employment Lawyers Association

Prior and Present Employment

- Senior Associate, Dentons (February 2018 to present)
- Senior Lawyer, Macfarlanes (2015 – 2018)
- Lawyer, Macfarlanes (2010 – 2015)
- Trainee Lawyer, Macfarlanes (2008 – 2010)

Areas of focus

Practices

- Employment and Labor

Education

- Oxford Institute of Legal Practice, 2008, LPC

- St Hugh's College, University of Oxford, 2007, BA (Hons), Law (Jurisprudence)

Admissions and qualifications

- Solicitor, Senior Courts of England and Wales, 2010