

*We don't believe in law as usual
For us, law is inspiring...*

Our story

A number of years ago, we decided that we could change the way legal services are delivered. That we could do them better. At gunnercooke, we believe the potential of our clients and our people rests with our ability to free the law and make it work as it should. Today, we attract passionate lawyers and advise with authority: every gunnercooke lawyer has a minimum 10,000 hours practising experience.

Flexibility, transparency and freedom guide everything we do. Flexibility for our people to work how they want. Transparency of cost for our clients because we removed time recordings and billable hours. Freedom for our people and clients to achieve their personal and professional aspirations.

We work with clients that believe tradition is there to be tested, not obeyed. Working together, we help them seek opportunities and push the boundaries of what's possible.

Providing a suite of corporate and commercial legal services, gunnercooke is one of the UK's fastest-growing challenger brands. Proud of what we have achieved, committed to doing more.



Rowena Summers

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Overview

What she's best at

Rowena is a specialist employment lawyer with over 14 years post qualification experience working for large commercial law firms including Hammonds, Addleshaw Goddard, DAC Beachcroft and Walker Morris. She acts primarily for corporate clients providing advice, tribunal representation, advocacy and training. Rowena is recommended by clients and colleagues as an approachable and easy to engage with business adviser who provides robust, straightforward and commercially sensible advice and representation.

Experience highlights

Contentious

Rowena has handled numerous employment tribunal matters including conducting her own advocacy and working with Counsel. Many of her cases have been multi-day, multi-strand claims. She is experienced in managing claims and guiding clients and witnesses through the tribunal process. Rowena was a senior member of DAC Beachcroft's Discrimination and Diversity Unit. This involved being a first contact for complex discrimination related queries, developing internal know how and writing training materials and briefings.

Non- contentious and know how

Rowena currently holds a know-how and training role involving writing weekly and monthly updates and case reviews, material for websites, twitter content and articles for publication in external journals.

In addition, non-contentious experience includes:

- Negotiating executive severance packages including advising on associated issues such as share options and bonus payments.
- Providing strategic advice on restructuring exercises, collective redundancies and TUPE matters.
- Advising on disciplinary, grievance and performance management issues.
- From April to October 2010, Rowena undertook a secondment to the employment legal team at Bupa. During this secondment, she gained a valuable insight into the role, drivers and perspectives of in-house counsel and HR teams. She has since provided consultancy services to Bupa as an independent contractor.

In house experience

- She designed and delivered a two-day employment training workshop at a client's US parent's HQ in Philadelphia

Publications

Rowena has presented many seminars and briefings both to large groups (for example, presenting at the CIPD annual conference) and in smaller workshop formats. Whilst at DAC Beachcroft she wrote, presented and co-ordinated bi-monthly breakfast briefings on topical subjects for senior HR professionals and in-house lawyers.