

# McCormicks Briefing

Autumn 2023



McCormicks  
SOLICITORS

Building for the future  
"Tremendous" McCormicks  
Warm welcome

We have added to the expertise of our growing property team with two new appointments.

# Expanding Expertise

Janice Colley, recognised as an expert by the UK Legal 500, joins as Consultant Solicitor. Janice has extensive experience in the sector. She was formerly a Partner in a medium sized Leeds law firm before becoming a Consultant Solicitor working with well-known Yorkshire based law firms and also in-house.

Senior Associate Claire Baker-Kemp who heads the department said: "Having both worked with and instructed Janice in the past, I know she brings unrivalled levels of experience and competence which will undoubtedly be an

enormous benefit both to our clients and as we build the team here."

Janice offers expert legal advice on a wide range of commercial property matters and acquisitions including specific expertise in licensed premises, especially pubs and hotels.

She has acted for businesses of all sizes, as well as for individual property investors, on a broad range of property related matters, including telecommunication site acquisitions and acting for landowners in relation to green energy storage.

We have also welcomed



Consultant Solicitor Janice Colley

our first Graduate Solicitor Apprentice.

Sophie Hussain will work with Claire Baker-Kemp, Janice Colley and Katy Maskell-Edwards on all aspects of transactional property work.

Claire said: "Sophie has come to us with more than two years' solid



Graduate Solicitor Apprentice Sophie Hussain

commercial property experience, which makes her appointment a real benefit to our clients. I am also very impressed by Sophie in the short time she has been here."

Janice added: "Sophie is a brilliant appointment for McCormicks. She is one of the best trainees

I have ever worked with. She will be a great asset to the Property Team."

Sophie graduated from the University of Liverpool in 2020 with a first-class dual honours degree in Law and Criminology. She joined a private practice as a paralegal, assisting with the daily management of both contentious and non-contentious commercial matters.

Her experience includes assisting with commercial lease transactions for clients in the hospitality industry.

Sophie will continue to study alongside her work and is due to qualify as a Solicitor in August 2026.

McCormicks has won a host of awards since our last issue of the Briefing

## Awards galore!

Peter McCormick has been named Leading Sports & Entertainment Lawyer of the Year – UK in the tenth anniversary Leading Adviser Awards presented by Acquisition International, an international, monthly digital business magazine.

Partner James Towler, head of our Corporate and Commercial team, has been recognised in

the same publication's Legal Client Service Excellence Awards, being named Corporate Lawyer of the Year 2023 (Northern England).

Peter has also been recognised for his expertise in Sports law by Who's Who Legal, which is publishing its Sports and Gaming report.

Who's Who Legal is now part of Lexology, and the findings will

be published on the Lexology website, which has over 800,000 subscribers from over 100 countries across the globe and receives more than 60 million pageviews annually.

The practice has also been recognised in the Gamechangers™ Country Awards, set out to recognise the jurisdictional achievements of those who are responding most successfully to the

demands being placed on them in the new post-pandemic business environment.

Launched in 2006, the Gamechangers™ Country Awards are presented to those professional sector organisations and individuals who are demonstrating consistent excellence and quality in their fields, and those deemed to have continually made the greatest contribution to their country's economic growth over the last five years. McCormicks has been recognised as a Best

Practice Operator.

In addition, the practice has been named Best Lawyer of the Year - 2024 - Harrogate, UK in the Global 100 magazine and given the same title in the M&A Today Global Awards 2024.



James Towler

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In our last issue of the Briefing, I talked about the importance of optimism, rather than pessimism, and I am pleased to say that positive thinking seems to be reaping benefits as we go into Autumn.

# Building for the future

No welcome to the Briefing would be complete without a mention for our friends at Leeds United and, as I write, the team is now in the top six in the Championship, albeit after a slightly shaky start to the season. We will remain optimistic about the rest of the season!

Closer to home, McCormicks has plenty to be positive about too. Our recruitment process has been at full tilt in recent months and I am delighted to say you can read about some of the bright new stars who have joined us in these pages.

I hope you have not personally been affected by any increase in crime but it is fair to say that our Crime and Fraud department has been looking after more

clients than ever. Under the guidance of Partner Peter Minnikin we have added two more members to the team, Shah Ahmed and Eve Million.

I should also mention our Property team, who look after both residential and commercial clients, which has also seen two new members in Janice Colley and Sophie Hussain, reflecting the growth of our property practice, with four lawyers now available to handle the transactions.

We have added to our Commercial Litigation department with Regan Semiaro and have also added to our support staff to ensure the wheels continue to run smoothly.

You can also read about the host of awards we



Peter McCormick

have won since our last Briefing.

Optimism is very much a feature of the Yorkshire Young Achievers Awards which are almost upon us. I know we will hear some amazing stories about the grit and determination to succeed shown by young people in our region. Do, please, support the event – tables are available by contacting Sonia Jones at [s.jones@mccormicks-solicitors.com](mailto:s.jones@mccormicks-solicitors.com).

Our Crime and Fraud team has grown again with two new appointments, reflecting the increasing demand for its services.

## Growth in crime

Associate Solicitor Shah Ahmed and Junior Criminal Law Executive Eve Million have been recruited just months after two members of staff were promoted to new roles in the team.

Shah Ahmed joins from a Leeds practice where he worked as solicitor specialising in Crown Court cases, gaining a wealth of experience preparing serious cases and working alongside many barristers, some of whom are now Judges and King's Counsel.

He qualified as a solicitor in 2012 and is a fully accredited police station representative. He has been regularly attending police stations across Yorkshire and beyond dealing with every type of offence; from minor road traffic offences to more serious allegations of murder.

Eve Million assists the team in all aspects of Criminal work and client care.

She was awarded first

class honours in Law with Criminology degree at Leeds Law School in June. She also took the Leeds Law School prize for the best graduating student on her course and the prize for best student on any "Law with" course.

She is soon to begin working towards her police station representative accreditation.

The Head of the Crime and Fraud team, Partner Peter Minnikin, said: "I believe there are few practices in the North Yorkshire region which can offer the breadth and depth of experience in crime, fraud and regulatory matters that our team can bring. I am delighted to welcome both Shah and Eve who will be invaluable in what is a very busy area for us."

Mccormicks is the only practice in Harrogate to be ranked for General Crime and Fraud in the latest edition of the leading guide to the legal profession, the UK Legal 500.



Associate Solicitor Shah Ahmed



Junior Criminal Law Executive Eve Million



*"I know we will hear some amazing stories about the grit and determination to succeed shown by young people in our region."*



"Tremendous firm and has been for a long time" and "they have long-term, well-thought-out strategies and stick to them" are among the testimonials to McCormicks in the newly-published UK Legal 500, the leading guide to the legal profession.

# Praise for "tremendous" McCormicks

McCormicks has won 32 individual recommendations for its lawyers in 18 areas of law.

Senior Partner Peter McCormick OBE wins places in both the London section and Yorkshire and Humber section of the Hall of Fame for his expertise in Sport.

The whole practice wins recommendations in 18 areas of law: Corporate and Commercial; EU and Competition; General Crime and Fraud; Dispute Resolution/Commercial Litigation; Employment; Insolvency and Corporate Recovery; Agriculture and Estates; Charities and Not-For-Profit; Contentious Trusts and Probate; Family; Private Client: Personal Tax, Trusts and Probate; Commercial Property; Property Litigation; and Sport; along with London rankings for Dispute Resolution: Mediators; Professional Discipline; Sport; and Reputation Management.

It has again led the way for Harrogate and North Yorkshire-based practices as the only Harrogate practice recommended in eight areas of law, namely EU and Competition; Insolvency and Corporate Recovery; General Crime and Fraud; Contentious Trusts and Probate; Dispute Resolution; Professional Discipline (London); Sport (Yorkshire and the Humber and London); and Reputation Management (London).

Peter McCormick said: "It is very gratifying to see so many positive testimonials from clients which form the backbone of the research carried out by the UK Legal 500 and I congratulate my colleagues on this recognition for their skills and hard work."

## What the guide says

### AGRICULTURE AND ESTATES

Peter McCormick leads the agriculture team at McCormicks, which is based in Harrogate. The team acts for a number of landed estates and other clients range from charities to individuals; its workload includes advising on the diversification of

estates, residential property developments, and refinancing issues. The group also has particular expertise in handling work relating to shooting estates. "You can expect a quick efficient service to all enquiries." "Peter McCormick is great to do business with and also as a trustee

a pleasure to work with. Elaine Lightfoot is a delight and a very knowledgeable solicitor and always available at short notice and will know the person within McCormicks to answer a particular question if it's not in her field of expertise." "They have dedicated teams to cover all aspects of work

who are knowledgeable in their respective fields."

### CHARITIES AND NOT-FOR-PROFIT

Peter McCormick leads the Harrogate-based charities team at McCormicks, offering advice to high-profile charities with focuses ranging from sports to nature. Working closely with the firm's private client and corporate and commercial teams, the practice offers a range of expertise to clients, with notable experience supporting charities with their creation and registration with the Charities Commission and providing continual advice regarding governance and development issues. "The team at McCormicks are always able to respond to our issues. They react quickly and engage in a clear and thorough manner explaining complex issues well whilst providing appropriate levels of support." "Everyone is friendly and efficient. They respond clearly to questions and provide appropriate advice with follow-up as needed."

### COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

McCormicks stands out for its property advice to clients in the sports, charity and leisure sectors, including Leeds United and the Yorkshire Agricultural Society. The team frequently advises on the property aspects of sports clubs' commercial operations, and it also assists with the development of residential and freehold sites for cultural and leisure activities. The practice is additionally instructed by an increasing number of retailers and corporate entities, which instruct the team to handle portfolio management as well as landlord and tenant work.

### CONTENTIOUS TRUSTS AND PROBATE

McCormicks' Harrogate Private Client team is led by Elaine Lightfoot. Its contentious trusts and probate workload includes Inheritance Act claims; issues of will validity involving issues of capacity and duress; and disputes between executors and trustees. The team also has experience regarding contentious family trusts and Trusts of Land and Appointment of Trustees Act claims.

### CORPORATE AND COMMERCIAL

McCormicks is well regarded for its expertise in the sports sector, with the team acting for clients such as the Premier League, Leeds United FC and Norwich City FC. Beyond that, it is also active in the hospitality and leisure sectors, as well as acting for owner-managed companies. The team is co-headed by Peter McCormick and James Towler from Harrogate.

### DISPUTE RESOLUTION/ COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

Harrogate-based McCormicks' offering includes contractual and construction disputes, debt recovery, professional negligence, and contentious probate. The firm has specific expertise in sports litigation, with notable clients including the Premier League, Leeds United Football Club, and Wycombe Wanderers Football Club. David Birks leads the team, having joined the firm in November 2022. Peter McCormick OBE is a key name.

### DISPUTE RESOLUTION: MEDIATORS (LONDON)

McCormicks' Senior Partner Peter McCormick OBE is nationally recognised for



Senior Partner Peter McCormick OBE



Partner Peter Minnikin



Partner James Towler

his expertise in Sports-related mediations. McCormick is chair of the Premier League since 2022 and is regularly delegated by its board to resolve disputes through mediation.

**EMPLOYMENT**

McCormicks specialises particularly in employment law relating to Sports organisations, with football and shooting being the two primary points of focus. The Harrogate team is active in relation to non-contentious work and it is led by Peter McCormick, who is eminent in the Sports sector. Iain Jenkins is another name of note, and he acts across the technology, manufacturing, financial services, recruitment, transport, and healthcare sectors.

**EU AND COMPETITION**

McCormicks is frequently entrusted by sport sector clients on Competition Law matters, with a particular focus on the football industry.

Beyond that, the firm is also active in the construction and entertainment sectors. The team is led by Peter McCormick from Harrogate, who has experience in handling large-scale competition investigations.

**FAMILY**

The ‘fast-paced and accurate’ Family team at McCormicks in Harrogate is led by managing partner Stephen Hopwood. The team includes Resolution members and is committed to early negotiation and resolution for clients. Clients benefit from distinct experts in finance, domestic abuse and children law across the team. Its workload includes financial remedy after separation in situations involving businesses and multiple properties; additionally, the team has experience in children law cases involving domestic abuse and criminal allegations. “The team at McCormicks are very fast-paced and accurate.” “They provide pragmatic advice and do not do work just

for a fee.” “They have long-term, well-thought-out strategies and stick to them.” “They are professional, prompt and provide you with confidence and industry leading advice.” “Stephen Hopwood – diligent, well researched pragmatic advice. Very organised and also caring. A pleasure to deal with.”

**GENERAL CRIME AND FRAUD**

The Harrogate-based McCormicks team handles the full spectrum of criminal defence work, with particular specialisms in historic sexual abuse, drug conspiracy, and corporate manslaughter cases. Additionally, the group has significant experience working with pharmacists and sports bodies. Peter Minnikin leads the team. “Tremendous firm, and has been for a long time.” “Peter Minnikin – responsive, efficient, no-nonsense approach. Works incredibly hard, thinks outside the box, and delivers. Knows his law. Always follows up on calls/emails.”

**INSOLVENCY AND CORPORATE RECOVERY**

David Birks leads the Harrogate-based insolvency and restructuring offering at McCormicks. The team’s practice focuses on sporting clients, with notable ongoing work for the Premier League. It also acts for and alongside local insolvency practitioners.

**PRIVATE CLIENT: PERSONAL TAX, TRUSTS AND PROBATE**

Peter McCormick and Elaine Lightfoot co-head the private client team at McCormicks in Harrogate. The team focuses on estate planning and administration, alongside Court of Protection matters, and advising trustees and settlors. It has particular expertise regarding charitable trusts and the administration of complex estates.

**PROFESSIONAL DISCIPLINE (LONDON)**

Particularly well known for football-related disciplinary and regulatory matters, McCormicks also handles SRA investigations, SDT defence matters and NPA work. Peter McCormick OBE is a widely-respected Sports expert; Peter Minnikin’s workload incorporates disciplinary work involving medical practitioners; and Litigation head David Birks is a 2022 hire. “Very commercial, pragmatic and practical.” “Peter McCormick OBE is an outstanding lawyer in this field.”

**PROPERTY LITIGATION**

McCormicks is instructed by standout clients in the sport and entertainment sectors, as well as a number of developers and landed estates, to advise on

boundary disputes, possession claims, and a diverse range of contentious tenancy matters. The practice is newly led by David Birks, who joined the team in November 2022 and excels at handling dilapidation claims and development disputes. Commercial litigator Peter McCormick maintains close relations with the firm’s sports clients.

**REPUTATION MANAGEMENT (LONDON)**

McCormicks regularly acts for some of the most significant organisations in the sports and entertainment sectors on defamation and other aspects of reputation management. Splitting his time between Harrogate and London, practice head Peter McCormick handles defamation issues for prominent sports clients, including Leeds United and The Premier League. “Peter McCormick with his vast client base is a calm port in the storm that can suddenly surround individuals and corporate entities. He has built a team around him that supports his culture.” “Peter McCormick – sound commercial advice on a number of reputational matters.”

**SPORT (LONDON)**

Harrogate-based McCormicks leverages the experience and standing of Peter McCormick, chairman of the legal advisory group of the Premier League, to advise the elite league on a range of matters, including owners’ and directors’ tests during club takeovers and acquisitions, third party ownership disputes, and the stewardship and policing of stadiums. Sports team head James Towler is also a key contact for



Partner David Birks



Partner Elaine Lightfoot



Senior Associate Iain Jenkins

the Premier League, taking on a number of corporate and commercial instructions, including sponsorship, media rights and data protection agreements. David Birks, head of the commercial disputes and sports litigation team, is a further name to note. "Deeply rooted in the football industry, excellent for both contentious and non-contentious work." "Peter McCormick is almost certainly unique in the football law sector, given his very senior position within the Football Association." "James Towler knows his way around the industry and is careful, courteous, and efficient." "Their contact list, respect and industry knowledge is massive. They immediately get to the point and are practical and pragmatic in approach."

**SPORT (YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER)**

Standing out for the profile of Harrogate-based founding partner Peter McCormick, the Sports practice at McCormicks continues to provide top-tier advice to its footballing clients, while also assisting a growing number of shooting groups, rugby clubs and cycling associations. McCormick, who has previously served as chairman of the Premier League and the Football Association, continues to actively advise on the regulatory and contracting aspects of major sports club buyouts and takeovers. He co-leads the practice alongside James Towler, a key contact for corporate and commercial matters, and sports litigation expert David Birks, who joined in November 2022. "Brilliant sports law firm. Niche expertise, particularly in football." "Peter McCormick is in a class of his own."

We have welcomed another two new faces to the team in recent months.

# A warm welcome

Regan Seminaro joins as a Commercial Litigation Executive, working with Partner David Birks in all aspects of litigation cases undertaken at the firm.

Regan graduated from the University of Texas at San Antonio in 2016 with a degree in English with a Concentration in Professional Writing.

She has been helping clients in the litigious sector in San Antonio, Texas since 2017. Regan worked as a Paralegal in complex commercial

litigation concerning contractual provisions, breach of fiduciary duties and fraud for clients across many industries, including technology, real estate, construction, oil and gas, pharmaceuticals, and financial institutions. In 2020, Regan received her US Paralegal Certification.

Regan moved to England in 2022 and brings a unique international perspective to litigious disputes. Her philosophy is to provide clients with not only excellent



Regan Seminaro



Reena Patel

representation, but also the highest quality of professionalism and client care.

Reena Patel has joined as Accounts Assistant,

working alongside Accounts Manager Hayley Firth to ensure the smooth running of the Accounts Department.

Solicitor Lucy Harbron has been expanding her knowledge with a visit to The Law Society (TLS).

# Learning more

Lucy, who works in our Family department, is national representative for Harrogate and North Yorkshire Junior Lawyer Division and attended the National Committee meeting which takes place annually at TLS and is an opportunity for the national chair to meet representatives of junior lawyer divisions from regions across England and Wales.

She said: "It was particularly useful to speak with other representatives. The Harrogate and North Yorkshire division is approaching the end of the first year so guidance from established divisions on topics such as, membership engagement, successful events and sponsorship ideas was useful.

"A representative from TLS presented to us their research project regarding student knowledge and accessibility to law society resources at that level. There were lots of positive discussions about how the regional divisions can work together, utilise their connections to increase awareness and promote the work of TLS to

promote access to resources."



Lucy Harbron

# Have you booked?

We are looking forward to welcoming friends and clients to the 29th Yorkshire Young Achievers Awards in November.

As many of you already know, the Awards are always exciting, uplifting and heart-touching in equal measure and we can promise this year will live up to expectations.

The dinner will be held on Thursday 16 November at

the Centenary Pavilion at Leeds United's Elland Road ground and is the main fundraiser for the Yorkshire Young Achievers Foundation which makes grants to young people and organisations supporting them across the region. The Awards have raised more than £1.3m to date.

We would love to see you there. To book your table, please visit [www.yorkshireyoungachievers.co.uk](http://www.yorkshireyoungachievers.co.uk).



Lucy Harbron is part of the Family team. Here, she takes a look at the importance of the process of appeals by looking at a recent landmark Court of Appeal decision that dealt with both legal parentage for same-sex parents and jurisdiction.

# International issues

## When can a party appeal a decision?

It is important to note at the outset that you cannot apply to appeal a decision because you do not agree with the decision that the Judge has made. There is the potential for appeal of the lower court if the party can show that the original Judge's decision was either 1) incorrect or 2) unjust due to a serious procedural or other irregularity. Either party to the proceedings can attempt to appeal a decision and this is the case whether an order was made or where the court refused to make an order.

## How to appeal?

The procedure for appeals can be found within the Family Procedure Rules 2010

under Part 30 and the Civil Procedure Rules under Part 52. The set of rules that must be compiled with depends on the level at which the original decision was made.

There are strict time limits which must be considered. The appeal must be lodged with the Court within the time limit of 21 days for both County Court and High Court rulings, unless a lesser time has been ordered. If this deadline is missed, there is no guarantee that the appeal will be allowed. There may be an opportunity to appeal 'out of time' however, but this will require a detailed explanation to the Court who will then decide how to proceed.

It should be noted that even when the criteria are met, there is still no guarantee that the appeal will be allowed. The Court must be satisfied that the appeal has 1) a real prospect of success or 2) there is some other compelling reason why the appeal should be heard. The Judge hearing the application for permission to appeal can grant or refuse the application. If the application for permission is successful at this stage, the case will be listed for a formal appeal hearing.

The general rule in family financial proceedings is that there is typically no order as to costs. In child proceedings, where the court is determining the child's welfare and

upbringing, the general rule is that neither party should be deterred from helping the court achieve the right solution by the risk of having to pay the other party's costs.

## Recent Court of Appeal decision

A recent example of the Court of Appeal decision in *S (Children: parentage and jurisdiction)* [2023] has been described as an 'historic win' and has 'opened the door on a new chapter in international family law.' The Court of Appeal has provided guidance on two key issues regarding 1) legal recognition for parentage for same-sex parents and 2) jurisdiction.

## Case summary

In this case, the children, all British citizens born in the UK were conceived by fertility treatment. The respondent ('R') is the biological mother and the children share the same genetic father. The party making the application for appeal, the appellant ('A') was the civil partner of R when the children were born.

R was not named on the children's birth certificates and therefore, did not have parental responsibility for any of the children. The relationship broke down between the parties and R moved to a gulf state with the children in 2015. One year later, the civil partnership was dissolved.





In 2022, A applied to the Family Court for child arrangements order to regulate time spent with the children. The issue arose about whether A was a legal parent of the younger children. In summary, where artificial insemination takes place, legal parentage is applied in that the woman carrying child is the legal mother. If the mother is married or in a civil partnership at the time of treatment, her spouse or civil partner will be the second parent unless that party did not consent to the artificial insemination. In this instance, the Judge could not conclude that A had clearly objected nor consented to the artificial insemination. The High Court found that A was not a legal parent.

The second issue was whether the English Courts had jurisdiction as the children were not habitually resident in England. The relevant statute under s2(1)(b)(i) and 2A(1)(a) Family Law Act 1989 states that the court

of England and Wales are able to make orders for the children when the Hague Convention does not apply, and the order relates to continuing matrimonial or civil partnership proceedings for divorce or dissolution. A's case was that there was jurisdiction as the civil partnership had dissolved in England and this was connected to her children application. Due to the laws in the gulf state and her status as a same-sex parent, A could not make the children application to the court in the Middle East. However, the High Court found that the English Courts did not have jurisdiction to deal with A's application.

The decision was then appealed on the basis that the Judge had wrongly interpreted and applied the law to the facts of the case. On revisiting the relevant statute on legal parentage (section 42 of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008), Lord Justice Peter Jackson allowed the

appeal by saying the 'detail of the evidence may have distracted' the Judge in the lower court from the 'big picture [...] Where no issue is brought before a court, the spouse or civil partner of the gestational mother will be the parent of a child born after assisted reproduction in consequence of the statutory presumption of parenthood. Where an issue is raised, the court must give effect to the statutory wording by asking itself the question: "Has it been

shown on the balance of probabilities that the spouse or civil partner did not consent to the assisted reproduction that was undertaken?"' It could not be proven that A had actively not consented and the appeal was granted.

With regard jurisdiction that was also granted, Lord Justice Moylan said: "The courts of England and Wales have jurisdiction to entertain the applications and to make...orders in respect of the children, including those who are not

present in England and Wales".

The appeal is significant as it has highlighted an international issue for many families that use artificial insemination and have parentage that may be recognised in England, but not internationally. Positively, the legal position on whether someone is a parent and how children based abroad can still in the English jurisdiction has been made far more accessible following this decision.

Lucy Harbron is a Solicitor in our Family Department. She assists the Head of Family, Stephen Hopwood in acting for a broad range of clients in all aspects of Family law including divorce, finances; resolving disputes about children; separation agreements; cohabitation issues and cohabitation agreements; pre-

nuptial and post-nuptial agreements; and family law injunctions.

Lucy graduated from Newcastle University with a degree in History. She then completed the Graduate Diploma Law and Legal Practice Course at the University of Law in Leeds. Lucy then completed her two-

year training contract at McCormicks in the Family Department under the supervision of Stephen Hopwood.



Lucy Harbron





# Out of hours

David Leuchars is a Solicitor in our Corporate and Commercial Department. When he is not hard at work you can find him watching sport – any sport – and he is enjoying this Autumn.

## Other than the law, what would your dream career be?

I thought for a while I might end as a writer of some description. For some reason I liked the idea of being a journalist, and depending on my mood that would be music, sport, or the front-line of a war somewhere. Eventually some form of sanity prevailed, and I went down the legal route.

## If you could win any sporting trophy or

## title, what would it be and why?

I am a huge fan of just about all sport, and also a massively competitive person, so I would gladly take any trophy I could get my hands on. But my first love was always Formula 1, and, as I would struggle to fit in one of the cars these days, I would probably be the team principal, and ensure my team won the teams' title. And then keep the trophy for myself.

## Where is your favourite place in Yorkshire and why?

There are so many places I love in Yorkshire, but if I have to pick one it has to be the Yorkshire Sculpture Park. Beautiful

scenery and amazing art- if the weather's good it is a fantastic place for a day out.

## If you could choose your last meal in advance, what would it be?

Now we're talking! I can never get enough of Italian food, so I would have to pick a lasagne followed up by some cannoli, all accompanied by a bottle of wine worth more than my monthly rent. It is my last meal so I may as well be a little excessive.

## What is the best piece of advice you have ever been given?

Don't be an idiot. Changed my life.

## If you suddenly came



## into a significant amount of money, what would your first five purchases be?

A house, a car, one of those fancy robot vacuum cleaners, a holiday to Italy, and, if the amount of money was REALLY significant, a large tub of Lurpak.

## What do you do to wind down after a busy day in the office?

I have been trying to build up some skills/hobbies lately, partly so I can answer questions like this. Currently I am

trying to learn how to play the guitar, which is progressing slowly but I am enjoying the challenge.

## What is your favourite season of the year and why?

Definitely Autumn! Summer is usually far too hot for me, and I am always glad to see Autumn come around as this means cooler weather (except for this year apparently!) and, importantly, the start of the football and NFL seasons.

## OUR EXPERTISE



McCormicks offers the full portfolio of legal services to all forms of organisation including businesses, charities and sporting bodies, together with private individuals. The firm offers expertise in all areas of corporate and commercial work whilst maintaining a commitment to the personal client in areas such as rural property, tax, Trusts, probate, family matters and crime.

### Charities & Community

- Charities
- Not For Profit

### Corporate & Commercial

- Acquisitions and Disposals
- Banking and Finance
- Commercial Agreements
- Competition and EU Law
- Corporate Crime, Fraud and Risk
- IT and Data Protection

- Insolvency and Bankruptcy
- Intellectual Property
- Partnership and Company Law
- Regulatory and Disciplinary

### Crime

- General Crime
- Corporate Crime, Fraud and Risk
- Dispute Resolution and Litigation
- Commercial Disputes
- Mediation and Arbitration
- Partner/Shareholder Disputes
- Property and Construction
- Reputation Management

### Employment

### Family & Matrimonial

- Children
- Matrimonial

### Insolvency & Bankruptcy

### Mediation & Arbitration

### Property

- Agriculture and Estates
- Commercial Property
- Development and Regeneration
- Residential Property

### Sport, Media & Entertainment

- Employment
- IT and Data Protection

- Insolvency and Bankruptcy
- Intellectual Property
- Media and Entertainment
- Mediation and Arbitration
- Regulatory and Disciplinary
- Reputation Management
- Sponsorship
- Sport

### Tax, Trusts, Wills & Estates

- Agriculture & Estates
- Care of the Elderly
- Tax and Trusts Disputes
- Trust and Tax Planning
- Wills and Probate

### MCCORMICKS SOLICITORS

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