

## Mr. Paul Shenton LLB (Hons), LLM (Cantab), Lord Astbury Scholar (Middle Temple)

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### General Information

Paul Shenton provides specialist advocacy and commercial advice to solicitor firms and their clients. He is ideally suited to do so, having spent many years in one of the world's largest law firms and then leading a specialist practice focusing on legal costs and funding options. He has specialist expertise in Legal Costs, Solicitor Funding and Professional Negligence.

Paul always has the client at the heart of his approach. He is committed to finding the right client solution, however long it takes. Each client is different and therefore he operates a one size fits one approach.

Paul adopts a direct and clear approach to his work: in writing, by telephone and at Court. He is unafraid to be robust and forthright where necessary but is equally cognisant of the more empathetic approach often required with lay clients.

He understands the importance of clarity and brevity. Seeking wherever possible, to turn complex issues into readily and easily understood advice.

Because of his experience and background, he rapidly seeks to identify the key issues in a matter and the consequential required solutions and advice. He always welcomes dialogue with clients.

He has an established track record of where possible seeking practical compromise but where this is not possible being unafraid to robustly defend a client's position at Court. He is the client's advocate.

Paul spent 13 years at Eversheds LLP, 8 years of which as a Partner. After initially specialising in Claimant professional negligence claims against solicitors and surveyors, establishing the UK's largest specialist team, he founded Eversheds' first national team specialising in legal costs and funding, which he led and ran.

Then in 2005, he created his own solicitor's firm that specialised in legal costs. At its peak, this firm had over 100 staff and hundreds of solicitor firm clients. He dealt with cases up to and including in the Court of Appeal Paul was the lead advocate in many cases. He has lectured on third party funding for over 15 years.

Paul was called to the Bar in 1989 as a Lord Astbury Scholar (Middle Temple). He obtained a Masters degree from Magdalene College, Cambridge University and completed his pupillage at Hardwicke Chambers, in London.

He has particular experience and expertise in the following areas:

1. Detailed assessment hearings – Has conducted well over 200 hearings at the Senior Court Costs Office (SCCO) and county courts throughout England and Wales. These have dealt with multi-million-pound costs disputes to important points of legal principle and practice.
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Appeal Hearings – Has conducted many cases in the County Court, High Court and Court of Appeal dealing with test cases and high value litigation.

3. Costs Management – strategic advice and advocacy at the case management hearings as required – can deal with both the directions and the connected costs related issues. This in financial terms can often be the most important hearing in the case.

4. Third Party Funding – worked with numerous law firms and funders for over 15 years in this rapidly developing and important area of costs and funding. With the developing field of DBAs and a risk sharing approach to litigation, this is an important field to both win and finance litigation cases.

5. Professional Negligence cases – Involved in many of the leading cases that led to the Supreme Court's decision in SAAMCO and BBL v Eagle Star.

When he is not working, Paul has two main interests. Both lifelong passions. His family (4 children) and MCFC – neither have been without their difficult moments!

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