

Joanna Chatterton

Partner

I specialise in managing high-risk employment matters, helping businesses navigate complex regulatory issues and workplace investigations.



Jo leads Fox Williams' expert employment practice, focusing on advising employers and senior executives in the financial services and professional practices sectors. With a practice that spans almost three decades, Jo has become a trusted advisor for businesses, particularly overseas banks, insurance companies, law firms, and barristers' chambers as well as senior executives and partners. She helps them navigate their most complex and high-risk HR challenges, with a deep expertise in the intersection of employment and regulatory law.

In her role, Jo is known for leading workplace investigations, including high-profile cases such as the CBI investigation. She partners with clients to manage investigations into allegations of discrimination, harassment, and regulatory breaches, always with a focus on risk management. Her practice also includes defending businesses against discrimination and whistleblowing claims and handling business protection litigation. Jo frequently advises senior executives facing career-impacting allegations or navigating whistleblowing and grievance processes.

Since joining Fox Williams in 1998, Jo has played a key role in shaping the firm's culture, becoming a partner in 2006 and serving on the Partnership Board. She is a regular speaker at industry events, including those hosted by the Association of Foreign Banks.

Legal Expertise

- Employment & discrimination law
- Whistleblowing
- Employee relations matters
- Employment Tribunal litigation
- Investigations
- Regulatory aspects of employment in financial services & law firms
- Business protection

Experience

- Acted for an international law firm on the defence of a former partner's whistleblowing and employment status claim.
- Represented a Turkish Bank in connection with a claim by a former employee for sex and nationality discrimination.
- Advised Domestic & General Limited on board changes arising from new investment.
- Acted for MS Amlin in connection with a significant restructure of the business, in particular in connection with board reorganisation and collective redundancy exercises.
- Acted for two US law firms facing allegations of harassment against partners.
- Represented Nathalie Abildgaard in connection with her claim of sexual harassment against her former employer and one of its senior employees.
- Acted for a former lawyer in his discrimination claim against Shell including in his appeal to the Court of Appeal on the scope of legal advice privilege.

Memberships

- Employment Lawyers Association
- European Employment Lawyers Association
- Association of Partnership Practitioners

Accreditations



Joanna Chatterton

LEADING PARTNER

Legal500

UNITED KINGDOM

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