



Francis Taylor Building

“A leading set with wide-ranging
experience and capabilities within
its cohort of members”

THE LEGAL 500



Pupillage

Your guide to pupillage
at Francis Taylor Building



A leading planning, environmental and licensing law set

'FTB is renowned for its experience in environment, planning and licensing matters, and is "unsurpassed in infrastructure work", with skill-sets which cross over into areas such as energy, health and safety, and public law.'

WE ARE A
LEADING PUBLIC
LAW CHAMBERS
SPECIALISING IN:

- Planning
- Regulatory Crime
- Environment
- Ecclesiastical Law and Religious Liberty
- Licensing
- Rating
- Compulsory Purchase and Compensation
- Public Law
- Major Infrastructure Projects
- ADR
- Local Government
- European Law

Francis Taylor Building is a thriving and successful set of Chambers with a growing membership and an active recruitment policy at all levels.

Members of Chambers undertake specialist advisory work and regularly appear in courts at all levels in this country and abroad, including specialist tribunals and public inquiries.

As part of our specialist practice, Chambers undertakes work connected with infrastructure planning projects, transport and works schemes, utilities, highways, energy, rating, religious liberty and ecclesiastical, heritage and conservation, common land and village greens, education, minerals, statutory nuisance

and regulation, health and safety, compulsory purchase and compensation, easements and covenants, advertisements, employment and consumer law along with other related areas of work.

Work in other jurisdictions has included litigation in Hong Kong, Northern Ireland, the Court of Justice of the European Union, The Turks and Caicos Islands, British Virgin Islands and Bermuda.

There are 58 members, 24 of whom are silks and one is an academic tenant.



Francis Taylor Building



pupillage

Pupillage at Francis Taylor Building is a challenging and rewarding process. Its purpose is to provide a period of intensive training to equip pupils for a successful practice at the bar, and to provide Chambers with new tenants of the highest calibre.

Our pupils represent the future of Chambers, and we invest a great deal in time and resources to ensure that the training we provide is of an excellent quality, that pupils are made to feel welcome, and that they are treated fairly and equally throughout their time in Chambers.

Each year we seek to recruit two exceptionally able individuals to undertake a 12 month pupillage in Chambers. Competition for places is fierce, but the rewards for those selected are substantial.

Pupils at Francis Taylor Building are provided with a first class structured training in all aspects of practice at the Bar from some of the leading practitioners in their fields, together with an award of not less than £60,000 (including £10,000 guaranteed earnings and an option to draw-down £15,000 in the year before commencement of pupillage) and the opportunity to apply for tenancy in Chambers at the end of their pupillage.

Since 2012 we have recruited 11 junior tenants from amongst our pupils.

We are committed to equality of opportunity, and encourage applications from groups which are currently under-represented in Chambers.

'FTB is the "go-to" set for gambling, taxi, sexual entertainment venue (SEV) and live entertainment licensing matters'

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'Francis Taylor Building is singled out by sources for the "fantastic client service provided by the clerks"

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS



what would I do as a pupil?

Pupils will work alongside their pupil supervisors and experience all aspects of their professional lives. The 12 month period is divided equally between three different pupil supervisors.

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Pupils can expect to read their pupil supervisor's instructions and papers, research relevant law, attempt their own draft pleadings and opinions for discussion, and accompany their pupil supervisor to court hearings and conferences.

After the completion of the first four months of pupillage, pupils are also expected to undertake written work for other members of Chambers as well as their pupil supervisor.

In their second six months, pupils are also able and expected to accept instructions to undertake work of their own. In recent years our second-six pupils have been briefed to

appear in a variety of courts and tribunals, including the High Court, county court, public inquiries and various administrative tribunals.

Members of Chambers also provide a series of introductory seminars for our pupils during their first six months to familiarise the new pupils with the main areas of Chambers practice and the issues of law and practice that most commonly arise.

We also organise a number of formal advocacy exercises for our pupils during the course of the year, including training in the cross examination of expert witnesses (usually in partnership with expert witnesses from various external planning consultancies), and in the particular requirements of advocacy in the Administrative Court.

how can I apply?

Chambers is not a member of Pupillage Gateway.

Applications are made using our standard application form, which is available to download from our website. Application forms can also be obtained by contacting Suzanne Ornsby QC.

Completed application forms can be posted or emailed to pupillage@ftbchambers.co.uk, and must be returned by 31 January 2020 for pupillage commencing in October 2021.

We look to recruit ambitious and able candidates with a degree of at least upper second class (not necessarily in law).

how are pupils selected?

The selection process has three main stages.

At each stage, candidates are assessed by reference to the following criteria:

- Intellect
- Academic achievement
- Advocacy experience and achievement
- Extra curricular activities
- Suitability for and interest in our areas of work

The applications are initially considered on paper, to determine which candidates should be invited for interview. There is then a first round of interviews, following which a shortlist is drawn up of

candidates who will be invited to take part in a second round of interviews. Candidates will usually be invited to consider a short written problem at interview.

A decision is then taken as to which candidates should be offered a pupillage in Chambers.

Pupillage guidelines and the application form can be downloaded from Chambers' website.

how are tenants selected?

Pupils are assessed throughout their time in Chambers, and written reports are provided by each pupil supervisor for consideration by the Pupillage and Tenancy Committee.

These reports are discussed with the pupil as they are completed.

Factors relevant to the selection of individual new tenants will include:

- Intellectual ability
- Diligence
- Articulacy and cogency, both oral and in writing
- Skill in personal relations, particularly with future clients
- Overall performance during pupillage

"Pre-eminent for infrastructure planning work"

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mini-pupillage

Unfunded mini-pupillages are short periods of work experience with Chambers lasting up to one week. They provide an opportunity for mini-pupils to meet members of Chambers, to be introduced to the type of work we do and to life in Chambers.

Mini-pupils will typically spend their time attending court with members of Chambers, reading papers, carrying out research and drafting.

NOTE:

CHAMBERS DOES NOT INTERVIEW CANDIDATES FOR MINI-PUPILLAGES AND REFERENCES ARE NOT REQUIRED.

Prospective pupils are encouraged to undertake a mini-pupillage at Francis Taylor Building. Although we consider mini-pupillage to be a useful opportunity to meet prospective pupils, it is not a prerequisite for their selection and our mini-pupillages are not assessed.

Francis Taylor Building offers a total of approximately 40 mini-pupillages per year, split into three periods largely coinciding with the court terms: January to March, April to July and October to December. Mini-pupillages are not offered on Bank Holidays or during the Christmas, Easter or summer vacations.

Chambers' mini-pupillages are designed to be most useful to those who are (or who will be shortly eligible) to apply for pupillage.

We therefore require that:

- Law students must be in at least their second year of a qualifying law degree by the time they undertake a mini-pupillage with us. More information on

qualifying law degrees is available on our website.

- Non-law students must have at least started the GDL by the time they undertake a mini-pupillage with us.

If you are unsure whether you are eligible or would like to request an exemption from the above requirements please contact us at pupillage@ftbchambers.co.uk before applying.

Applications for mini-pupillage should be made to Charles Streeten electronically by email to pupillage@ftbchambers.co.uk and must comprise the following:

- A covering letter of no more than one side of A4 outlining your interest in a career at the Bar and in Francis Taylor Building; and
- A CV of no more than two sides of A4 detailing your relevant qualifications and experience, including a list of all mini-pupillages so far undertaken or confirmed for the future.

equal opportunities

Chambers operates an equal opportunities policy and is committed to promoting and advancing diversity and equality among its members and staff.

We do not discriminate on the grounds of race, colour, ethnic or national origin, nationality, citizenship, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, political persuasion, disability, age or religion. We fully endorse the Bar Council's Equality and Diversity Code. Chambers is pleased to be involved in initiatives aimed at increasing diversity. It participates in the Pegasus Access Scheme, which is a work experience programme administered by Inner Temple that aims to support those from


diverse backgrounds who are considering a career at the Bar. It also hosts meetings of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

Chambers is happy to make reasonable adjustments for disabled candidates and encourages applications from groups which are under-represented at the Bar.

'The set is particularly well known for handling complex, long-running and often legally intensive planning applications for infrastructure developments'.

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS





*'FTB named as Client
Service Set of the Year by
Chambers and Partners
Bar Awards 2015'*



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