

Anton van Dellen

Self-employed junior over 7 years in practice

About Me, My Practice and Professional Activities

I was called in 2010 and my practice involves defamation, public law (mainly inquests) and regulatory work. I have been an elected member of the Bar Council since 2018 and am currently a Vice-Chair of the Bar Council's Legal Services Committee. I also sit as an Assistant Coroner in West London.

I have recently supported the Bar Council's intervention in the XGY litigation, which concerns barristers being sued by third parties for things said by a barrister in Court. I have provided a witness statement for the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court which addressed the practical difficulties associated with the distinction between the immunity applying to evidential but not administrative matters.

I originally qualified as a medical doctor in South Africa and was subsequently a registrar in neurosurgery and a Rhodes Scholar. I worked for NHS from 1999 to 2007, including as a Medical Director and Interim Chief Executive.

I am also an advocacy teacher trainer for Inner Temple and sit on Inner Temple's Executive, Finance and Investment Committees. I have delivered advocacy training in Warsaw, Prague, South Africa, the ICC in The Hague and the Dutton Keble Advanced Advocacy course.

What I Can Offer the Bar Council

I hope to offer the Bar Council continued service as a Vice Chair on the Legal Services Committee. There remains important work to be done to protect barristers from being sued by third parties for things said by barristers in Court. We are also facing an avalanche of documents generated by AI which sometimes impedes our ability to advise our clients, handle complaints and work in Court. I hope to concentrate on these areas in the coming years.

Motivation for Standing

My motivation for standing is to continue to serve the profession, using my experience of the work that I have done on the Bar Council's Legal Service Committee. The Bar Council has a vital role in improving access to justice, which is an important part of the work of the Bar Council's Legal Services Committee. The criminal, civil and family courts are under increasing pressure and part of the role of Bar Council's Legal Service Committee is to hold HMCTS to account in how it runs these Courts and Tribunal centres.