



Maples Teesdale LLP

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The firm is a leading commercial property practice. It handles all aspects of commercial property work, including construction, property litigation, and associated company and commercial work.

The firm:

Breakdown of work	%
Commercial property	70
Construction	10
Property litigation	10
Company/commercial	10

Maples Teesdale is a property practice that is acknowledged as a leader in its sector. The firm has a deep understanding of the market in which its clients operate and provides legal advice within a commercial context.

Contacts

Commercial property Mark Bryan
Construction Paul Matcham
Property litigation David Stevens
Company/commercial Paul Burke

Clients: include major institutional investors, property developers, construction companies, banks and occupiers. Among them are Royal & Sun Alliance, Ignis Asset Management, Phoenix Assurance, RREEF (Deutsche Bank), Legal & General, the US government, Rockspring Fund Managers, CLS Holdings, Friends Provident, Lloyds TSB, Nestlé UK and Europa Capital.

Number of partners 11
Number of other fee-earners 25

Over the last year, Maples has continued to gain significant new instructions and has also made new staff appointments. Eight of the current 11 partners are ex-Norton Rose.

Editorial Extracts from Legal 500

Commercial Property

Maples Teesdale LLP is 'absolutely first rate: provides expert, pertinent advice, and is enjoyable to work with'. It is strong for investment work, and also continues to be instructed by the US government regarding its ongoing embassy relocation. [Declan Power](#), [Chris Wilkinson](#) and [Katherine Watts](#) are 'all very good and commercially aware', and the 'responsive' [Roger Thornton](#) is also recommended

The firm was shortlisted for the Legal Business and The Lawyer Real Estate Firm of the Year Awards in 2009, in recognition of its work on the US embassy relocation in London and was shortlisted for the British Legal Awards.

Maples, according to clients, has 'a robust negotiating style and brings intellectual capital to the table. They are thinking, creative lawyers who solve problems'.

Types of work undertaken:

The property team deals with all types of commercial property work, including development work, joint ventures, forward fundings and property finance deals. It also deals with investment work, including lettings and landlord and tenant issues.

Construction

Maples Teesdale LLP is 'knowledgeable and highly focused on property', and 'very responsive'. The practice, which focuses on non-contentious work, recently advised the UK Commercial Property Trust on the construction aspects of sale and purchase transactions for three shopping centres in Shrewsbury. [Paul Matcham](#) is 'unbelievably efficient', and 'terrier-like in chasing up matters'.

The construction group gives advice on non-contentious matters, negotiating building contracts, professional appointments and related documentation.

The property litigation team handles all property-related disputes, including specific performance or termination of contracts, injunctions and claims for damages. The team has been very active recently helping clients with service charge disputes, rent reviews, dilapidations, planning disputes and enforcement of lending obligations.

Property Finance

Maples Teesdale LLP's 'advice is intuitive, commercial and practical, with partner involvement throughout'. Clients include Lloyds TSB Bank, RBS and Nationwide Building Society. [Neil Sagoo](#) 'stands out as having an in-depth knowledge of property law with a very practical approach', and [Roger Thornton](#) is also recommended.

The corporate team advises on company and partnership matters, such as joint ventures, shareholder agreements, partnership and company formations, trading agreements, and purchase and sale of businesses.

2010 saw a number of large property companies and institutions instruct Maples for the first time, including Legal & General, Nestlé UK and Rockspring Fund Managers.

Property Litigation

Maples Teesdale LLP is commercial, 'good value for money' and 'absolutely first rate'. It won a £5m dilapidation claim for RSA. Practice head [David Stevens](#) is 'able to drill down through a mass of facts to get to the essential points. He is bright, thoughtful and articulate'

