

Imogen Robins

Year of Call: 1991
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Overview

Imogen Robins MCIArb, is a reputable family law specialist renowned for her expertise in family finance, serving high-net-worth (HNW) divorcing couples. Her practice centres on handling complex financial cases, which include inherited wealth, property portfolios, family businesses, significant pensions, trusts, and pre-nuptial agreements. She is also instructed in cases under Schedule 1 to the Children Act 1989.

She is consistently ranked as a leading junior in both Chambers & Partners and the Legal 500, the leading legal directories. She is ranked in the top 30 Barristers in England and Wales as a Legal Influencer on LinkedIn.

Imogen stands out for her adept management of international family cases, which frequently involve foreign assets, with recent examples including Nigeria, USA, and Mauritius. Her written documents are persuasive and she produces compelling arguments on her clients' behalf.

Imogen's commitment to responsive client care is exemplary. She prioritises her clients' needs, offering guidance and support throughout the legal process. Imogen is a solutions-focused barrister, working in collaboration with solicitors and clients to achieve their goals. She is praised for her advocacy skills both in negotiations and at final hearings, where she skilfully and robustly represents her clients' best interests. She is happy to advise at the commencement of a case and act as a sounding board in the initial stages. A recent client described her as *"absolutely brilliant, both professionally and personally."*

Imogen regularly writes and lectures in her field of expertise for family law professionals. Recent speaking engagements include:

Family Law Week Financial Remedies Conference – March 2025

3PB Non-Court Dispute Resolution Launch – May 2025

Pets on Divorce with Paris Smith – June 2025

Pensions on Divorce with Brewin Dolphin – October 2025

Navigating Pet Custody in Separation & Divorce – MBL Seminars - November 2025

Non-Court Dispute Resolution Seminar - HH Stephen Wildblood KC & Blake Morgan November 2025

Recommendations

"Imogen is incredibly good with clients and solicitors alike. Her style of advocacy is clear. Her cross-examination skills are incredibly strong."

"Imogen has a very calm and supportive persona which helps clients who are fearful of financial proceedings."
"Imogen Robins is extremely thorough in her presentation and preparation. She is an excellent advocate."
Chambers UK 2027/Financial Remedies/Western Bar

'Imogen is extremely thorough and a delight to work with. Clients adore her for her thoughtfulness and diligence.'
Legal 500 2027/Family: divorce and financial remedy/Western Bar

'Imogen has a sharp eye for detail. Her knowledge of the law is exemplary, and she is warm and personable while also taking a hard line when needed. A stellar barrister.'
Legal 500 2026/Family: divorce and financial remedy/Western Bar

Chambers UK 2026/Financial Remedies/Western Bar

Strengths: "Imogen has a wonderful style of advocacy, which is effective while remaining kind and incredibly considerate of all parties in her approach."
"Imogen's client care skills are second to none. She is kind and empathic, without ever losing her professional objectivity."
Chambers UK 2025/Family Matrimonial Finance/Western Bar

"Imogen is always easy to work with and is very collaborative with instructing solicitors. Her cross-examination is tenacious but deceptively measured and is highly effective at getting witnesses to let their guard down in conceding a point."
Legal 500 2025/Family: divorce and financial remedy/Western Bar

"Imogen is very knowledgeable and good with complex cases. She has an excellent client manner."
Chambers UK 2024/Family Matrimonial Finance/Western Bar

"Imogen is fantastic with clients and is able to provide firm advice whilst remaining aware of each individual's needs. Imogen's advocacy is both courteous and persuasive."
Chambers UK 2023/Family Matrimonial Finance/Western Bar

"Imogen has excellent attention to detail, is always well prepared and her written documents are clear and persuasive. She has a sympathetic approach with nervous clients but does not shy away from giving clear and forthright advice when required".
Legal 500 2022/Family: divorce and financial remedy/Western Bar

"Imogen has great attention to detail around the facts of the case but also has the ability to pick up the more subtle nuances between parties enabling her to tailor her advice to clients so that it is sensitive, detailed and pragmatic."
Legal 500 2021/Family: divorce and financial remedy/Western Bar

"I have known Imogen for more than 20 years, she is a go to barrister for both specialist Matrimonial Finances and complex Children Act matters. Imogen's client care to both her lay and professional clients is second to none."
Head of Family, Top 100 Law Firm

"I just wanted to say that Imogen did a fantastic job. She came alive in court and did an excellent job. I would definitely instruct Imogen again."
Family law partner in a leading law firm, after final hearing in a contested financial remedies case with overseas assets, February 2024

"I am so grateful for all the hard work you put into my case. I thought you were absolutely brilliant, both professionally and personally. You really took time for me and made me feel safe and comfortable. I also thought you did brilliantly in front of the judge."
Lay client in financial remedies case 2023

"Imogen was at first just the name of a barrister with a good reputation and wealth of experience recommended as just what I needed for my case; a barrister that two separate solicitors—from two completely different firms—had mentioned as their first choice for the family court I would be attending. My case was a complex and difficult one. The bundle was in excess of 1.5k A4 sheets of paper; much of it was not easy reading...During the actual hearing, I was deeply thankful for the way Imogen commanded the courtroom, while all the time remaining respectful and cordial to the other party. It really is an art that

Imogen has perfected. Her tireless attention to detail and ability to pull threads together was remarkable and made all the difference to the outcome. Imogen is a credit to her profession and I will always be grateful that she took my case on and gave it her all the way she did. I would highly recommend Imogen to anyone who wants the best of both worlds; compassionate, clear communication, combined with wealth of knowledge and experience, second to none."
Lay client in a contested fact-finding hearing where findings were made of domestic abuse, 2023

"Whilst playing only a relatively small part in the process of my divorce Imogen made a huge difference in achieving a positive outcome for me. She was very clear about what could realistically be achieved so there would be no surprises. I cannot speak highly enough of her or thank her enough for the compassion she showed me on that exceptionally difficult day."
Lay client in settlement of financial remedies case, 2022

Academic qualifications

- Inns of Court School of Law, London
- LLB (Hons)
- MCIArb – Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

Professional bodies

- Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
- Family Law Bar Association
- Western Circuit
- Ecclesiastical Law Society
- Institute of Family Law Arbitrators (IFLA)

Direct Access

Imogen Robins is qualified to accept instructions directly from members of the public and professional clients under the Direct Public Access scheme.

Expertise

Finance

Imogen's work is centred on financial remedies, including married and cohabiting couples and private law children cases. She brings commitment, excellent negotiation skills and sound judgment to her cases. In her work she is known for her tactical experience and legal expertise. She is patient, a good listener and strives to build a caring and supportive relationship with her clients. Her warmth and compassion belie a steely determination to achieve the optimum result. Often the best results can be achieved through negotiation but this is not always possible.

In court, Imogen uses her eloquence and advocacy to full advantage. She is available to advise during every stage of the case and is happy to speak to solicitors in confidence prior to instruction. Her strong interpersonal skills mean she is comfortable dealing with people from all walks of life. Her clients include company directors, professionals and musicians. She aims to provide an excellent service to all, regardless of wealth or status.

Selected Cases
X v X (2024)
Contested final hearing where some of the assets where held outside the jurisdiction in Jamaica. The case involved valuations and issues on non-disclosure. A successful outcome where assets were preserved for the wife.

T v T (2023)
Acting in a case for an Australian national. A successful settlement was achieved.

P v P (2022)
Acting in an ecclesiastical divorce involving a high ranking member of the Church of England. It required knowledge of church structures and a sympathetic approach; including advice about Bishops' Visitors. The case settled following a "without prejudice hearing".

M v M (2022)
Acting for the husband in a private FDR where there were assets outside the jurisdiction. The case included an extensive property portfolio and several care homes with a total value of £15 million. The case involved business valuations, tax experts and issues of non-disclosure. The case settled following a private FDR before Alexander Chandler KC.

X v X (2020)
Setting aside a financial remedy order following the making of a final order in the husband's absence. Consideration given to the implications of Covid-19.

Y v Y (2019)
A case where there were alleged to be substantial assets held abroad in Nigeria. Both parties were medical consultants. The case involved expert evidence as to valuations of property, tax and pensions. A successful outcome was achieved for the client.

R v R (2019)
A complex variation case under MCA 1973 Section 31, involving a substantial £3 Million pension pot. A successful outcome was achieved for the client.

X v X (2018)
Complex litigation, involving MCA 1973 S. 25(2)(g), where one party had dissipated hundreds of thousands of pounds. Consideration of all the possible outcomes and in particular the relevance of MAP v MFP [2015] EWHC 627, given one of the parties' mental health.

T v G (2018)
Schedule 1 to Children Act 1989 case involving internationally recognised musicians. A successful outcome was achieved for the mother and the case settled without the need for a contested hearing. The case was sensitive as the parties were high

profile in the music industry.

D v D (2017)
Case involving a property tycoon with substantial business and property interests. There was satellite litigation in the Chancery Division that had to be considered during the progression of the case.

W v W (2017)
An unusual case where the District Judge was asked to make an interim remedy in respect of the parties' dog. The court considered the interrelation between realty as in land and personal possessions. An interim order was made an Imogen's client was permitted to see the dog. Wickes v Wickes [1999] Fam 65 and BR v VT [2015] EWHC 2727

M v M (2016)
Acting for a dentist who allegedly had offshore trusts in the British Virgin Islands. A complex case involving third party disclosure from the trustees, negotiations with the Inland Revenue regarding tax appeals and accountancy evidence. Court threatening to join the trustees and make indemnity costs orders in the event that disclosure did not take place.

M v M (2016) (UKHC)
High Court forum shopping case, involving consideration of the appropriate forum for financial remedies litigation. Whether the case should be tried in England and Wales or USA (Georgia). Heard before Mr Justice Holman.

B v B (2016)
Acting for the wife in a case involving a military pension, business accounts, where both parties had been in the medical profession.

G V R (2016)
Acting in a financial provision case where a notice to show cause application was made by the husband 8 years after the consent order had been lodged with the court. Successfully resisting the application on the part of the wife. Case involved potential cross-examination of a witness via video link from the Middle East.

M v M (2015)
Acting in a financial provision case involving a substantial property portfolio that required division following a long marriage. The case involved expert accountancy evidence.

A v AT (2014)
Acting for a wife seeking to vary a consent order under S 31 MCA 1973 to extend the term of maintenance beyond the child's 21st birthday to enable her to remain in the former matrimonial home. A successful outcome was achieved.

Children

Senior family barrister Imogen Robins undertakes complex private law children cases. Below are some examples of her work.

F v T (2023): Acting in a fact finding hearing for the respondent facing 24 allegations of domestic abuse, coercive and controlling behaviours. No findings were made against my client and they were exonerated on each allegation.

D v D (2023): Acting in a fact-finding hearing for the applicant; with allegations involving domestic abuse, coercive and controlling behaviours and rape. Findings were made against the respondent at the final hearing.

Z v Z (2021): Acting for a party in a non-convention case where allegations of child abduction and were made. The children were brought to this country from an African nation. The case involved jurisdictional issues and consideration of expert evidence. All contact had stopped following the alleged unlawful removal but was re-instated by the court to included overnight stays. There were allegations of physical and emotional abuse and parental alienation. A Children's Guardian was appointed for the children.

S v S (2020): A complex relocation case, involving aspects of emotional abuse, parental alienation with the need for expert

psychological evidence and the involvement of a children's guardian. The case had cross-jurisdictional considerations and the need for mirror orders.

X v X (2020): A private law case that involved parental alienation, allegations of domestic abuse and a request for psychological evidence. All contact had broken down. A successful outcome was achieved and all contact restored, including overnight stays.

Y v Z (2019): Acting for a medical professional where child arrangements had broken down and no contact was taking place. Allegations of parental alienation were relevant to the determination and the court found in favour of my client. A shared care order was made and the judge declined to make a specific issues order in relation to schooling.

S v S (2018): Successfully resisting an application for leave to remove three children from the jurisdiction to the USA. Acted for the father.

W v W (2018): Case involving parental alienation where a 14-year -old boy was refusing to see his mother. The Family Separation Clinic was involved to see whether they could facilitate in the re-introduction. The case resulted in a successful outcome for the mother and child.

W v L (2018): Child arrangements case where contact was re-instated, to include overnight contact after a gap. It involved sensitive issues and the introduction of the father's new family.

W v W (2016): Family Law Act injunction involving a wealthy elderly married couple. The issues in the case involved DOLS (deprivation of liberty safeguarding orders), multiple experts and the Official Solicitor. Imogen had to consider "Wookey capacity" and the ability of the court to make injunctions where a party was subject to DOLS.

O v O (2016): Advising in an international relocation case and successfully resisting the relocation on behalf of the father of the child concerned.

M v T (2015) (UKHC): High Court case on paternity and DNA samples from abroad. Required detailed consideration of the law as to the obtaining of DNA samples.

Re D (Natural Parent Presumption) (1999) (Court of Appeal) 1 FLR 134: Successful appeal on the right of a child to be brought up by a natural parent.

Family Law Arbitration

Many of Imogen's cases are successfully resolved outside of the traditional court process through Non-Court Dispute Resolution (NCDR).

Imogen is a dedicated advocate for non-court solutions and an experienced Financial Remedies Arbitrator, specialising in resolving financial disputes through arbitration and other NCDR methods. Her expertise covers a wide range of issues, including property division, high-value pensions (including public sector pensions), school fee orders, spousal maintenance, nuptial agreements, and trusts.

In addition to her arbitration work, Imogen has advised and represented clients in the higher courts, challenging financial remedies arbitral awards. These challenges have included cases concerning capital division and spousal maintenance claims.

Imogen's approach emphasises efficiency, confidentiality, and fairness—helping clients achieve balanced outcomes without the stress and expense of prolonged court proceedings.

FDR Hearing Service

Imogen acts as an evaluator in private Financial Dispute Resolution (FDR) hearings, providing clear, pragmatic guidance to help parties reach fair and efficient settlements outside of court.

She has acted as appellate counsel in complex arbitration matters. Notably, Imogen was instructed to appeal an arbitral award following the landmark decision in Haley v Haley [2020] EWCA Civ 1369, achieving a successful outcome for her client.

Her experience in both conducting and challenging arbitral decisions reinforces her reputation as a skilled advocate in financial remedies, family arbitration, and dispute resolution.

For more information on private remote FDR hearings please click here.

Private law

In private law Children Act cases, Imogen's work is centred on representing clients in complex and significant cases. These include allegations of coercive and controlling behaviours, domestic abuse, parental alienation and intractable contact disputes, where expert evidence is required from psychologists or other professional experts. Her cases often have an international and cross-jurisdictional element. Imogen's work includes both internal and external relocation cases, where permission is sought to take a child to another part of the country or abroad.