



DMH Stallard

Dispute Resolution

**Highlights
(Financial Year
2025-26)**

The DMH Stallard difference

Depth of expertise

Adds real value

Quality Partner led
Excellent results

Best commercial
outcome

Results driven

Experienced Client-first
Cost-effective

Reputation

Solution oriented

DMH Stallard’s Dispute Resolution and Commercial Litigation practice is widely recognised for its depth of expertise and consistent delivery of excellent results.

When a dispute arises, what matters most is not the legal theory — it is the outcome for you and your business. That simple idea drives everything we do.

Our Dispute Resolution team has built a strong track record of helping clients protect their interests, their reputations, and their bottom line. We are commercially minded and solutions orientated, and we start every matter the same way – by understanding what you want to achieve, and working out the smartest, most cost-effective way to get there.

That does not always mean going to court. Negotiation, mediation, arbitration, and other forms of alternative dispute resolution can often deliver better results, faster and at lower cost. Where litigation is genuinely the right course of action, we will pursue it with determination — but we will never recommend court proceedings simply for the sake of it. A legal win only counts if it translates into a positive commercial result.

We handle the full spectrum of commercial disputes, from straightforward contractual matters to complex, high-value cases, often with an international and cross-jurisdictional dimension. Our clients range from international institutions and well-known brands to owner-managed businesses and high-net-worth individuals.

Every matter we take on is partner led and we set clear, realistic objectives with you from the outset and focus on delivering against them as quickly and effectively as possible; an approach that sets us apart — and one that consistently achieves positive outcomes for our clients.

The work highlights that follow illustrate the wide range of cases we take on, and are intended to provide a clear sense of the quality and breadth of what we do.

If you would like to discuss how we can help, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Simon Elcock

Partner and Head of Dispute Resolution

“The Commercial litigation team at DMH [Stallard] are very experienced and are used to working with a full spectrum of clients which enables them to adapt their approaches accordingly.”

Legal 500 – Commercial Litigation, 2025

Some of our highlights from the financial year, 2025 – 2026

Illustrating success across a range of sectors

Major national institution



High value risk mitigation

Advising a multi-national PLC with an ongoing project to address a myriad of financial and regulatory issues. We have worked very closely with this client to identify and rectify these issues, so as to achieve the client's objectives in a cost-effective manner whilst successfully managing a situation that could have caused significant financial loss and reputational damage to our client.

Well-known airline company



Defending unfair prejudice allegations

Acting for a well-known airline defending a multi-million-pound minority shareholder petition under section 994 of the Companies Act 2006 regarding unfair prejudice. There were significant allegations made against our client for alleged breach of a range of duties and numerous other allegations were adduced as unfairly prejudicial. The petition is contested by our clients, with complex legal arguments and a detailed factual matrix.

Multinational telecoms company



Significant contractual breach claim

Advising a multinational telecoms business in relation to a significant claim involving a contractual breach following the purchase and on-sale by our client of communications equipment. We advised the client as to the strength of its position and worked to achieve a very favourable settlement for them. This was an important and high value matter for the client and there was the potential for adverse reputational issues, which we were able to avoid.

Real estate developers



Defending a multi-faceted claim

Advising the developers of two sites for residential homes in respect of a claim brought against them by a large Plc for alleged breach of covenant and interference with rights relating to land purchased from the landlord of a shopping centre complex where the Plc had held a lease for many years. There is also a professional negligence angle, in respect of a claim against the clients' former solicitors who advised on the purchase of the land.

International aviation business



Recovery of sums owed by former employees

Advising a well-known client operating in the aviation sector across multiple jurisdictions in relation to a series of claims involving former employees who left the business but failed to repay sums owed to our client for training provided in accordance with their employment contracts. This has been a very important issue for our client because the contractual obligations at issue are commonly applied in this industry, so that recovery of the sums owed, which we have achieved, was imperative and has set an important precedent.

Leading accounting company



Allegations of breach of directors' duties and misrepresentation

Advising a leading accounting company on a complex dispute, working together with its insurer under the company's 'directors and officers' policy, defending a number of claims which include alleged failure to promote the success of the company, conflicts of interest, refusal to raise capital, intent to remove minority shareholders from the board, governance issues and alleged solicitation of key personnel.

Administrators of an estate

Acting for the Administrators of the estate of a deceased founding business owner in respect of a claim against one of the deceased's business partners for breach of a Declaration of Trust in circumstances where it is alleged that the document is invalid and inauthentic. The outcome of the claim will determine the rights of the deceased's estate to around £30 million worth of shares.

Declaration of
Trust breach

Cypriot investment house

Advising an investment house based in Cyprus in relation to a claim by the seller of a group of companies, of which our client purchased the entire shareholding, for payments under an earn-out clause. Our client also has a professional negligence claim against its solicitors arising out of the alleged defective drafting of the share purchase agreement, which forms part of the proceedings.

Defending complex proceedings
relating to share purchase
agreement

Land owner

Acting for the owners of farmland who sold part of their estate to a property developer. The developer then annexed a larger area, having miscalculated the amount of land that it required to implement the planning permission that it had obtained. Given the size of the estate, the relatively small area annexed was not itself an issue. However, this was an important point of principle for the client who, acting on our advice, forced the developer to buy the annexed land and pay an additional purchase price.

Resisting a
"land grab"

Professional negligence claim

Acting for a private individual in an extremely complex claim against a bank for alleged breach of duty. The case centres on the secured borrowing on a jointly owned property (the client's matrimonial home), taken to pay off the debts of only one party (in this case the husband's debts). The bank in question failed to notify our client directly of the need for independent legal advice, alongside a number of other failings. The bank has taken steps to repossess the matrimonial home. Our client asserts that the bank's security is liable to be set aside and cannot be relied upon for enforcement purposes.

Bank's breach of duty

Property and hospitality group

Acting in a complex property and company law dispute regarding the grant of a long lease of commercial premises in London. The opposing party alleged the lease constituted a transfer of value without consideration, breaching directors' duties. Initially, the High Court dismissed the claims as time-barred and ordered the defendant to pay over £1.4m in unpaid rent. However, earlier this year, the Court of Appeal overturned that decision, ruling the limitation period did not apply. This ruling does not determine the merits of the underlying claim, and the case will return to the High Court if the parties fail to reach a settlement.

Complex alleged
directors' duties breach

UAE Investment house

Acting for an investment house based in Dubai in relation to a claim against its solicitors regarding a £5 million loan secured by way of a charge over a property in London. Our client alleges the solicitors failed to provide adequate advice as to the terms of an existing loan, did not fully disclose the amount outstanding at the date of completion or provide appropriate terms to safeguard our client's position in the event of default. As a result of the solicitor's failings, our client has an unsecured loss of over £800k.

Failings regarding advice
on a large loan

Tech plc



Tech sector trade mark infringement defence

Acting for a technology distribution business in the defence of a claim brought by a global energy management, automation and digitalisation specialist. The Claimant alleges our client sold products which were not licenced in the territory in which they were sold (UK / EEA). The case management of this claim addressed key issues common to IP / IT claims, with decisions made to conduct disclosure by way of example and trial by sample. Further, the question of legal causality in respect of quantum comes into play, in light of the long supply chain.

Offshore lender



Substantial loan enforcement

Acting for an offshore lender on the enforcement of a significant loan of around £20 million against an individual property developer, secured by first and second ranking charges. We achieved a sale of the property secured by the first ranking charge by the appointment of receivers. However, this left a significant shortfall which is now the subject of bankruptcy proceedings.

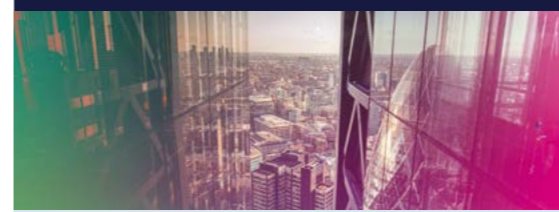
Chinese manufacturer



Intellectual property High Court proceedings

Acting for a manufacturer in two separate High Court proceedings against two companies and their former directors. The claims encompass design right infringement, passing off and copyright infringement, covering complex cross-border litigation in relation to both China and the UK. At the heart of the dispute is the question as to who owns the rights to the popular branding sign on certain products, the validity of a popular design, and the ownership of the copyright of relevant packaging.

International claim



Significant fraud accusation

Acting in proceedings for an individual with international links accused of a £2.3 million fraud arising out of alleged secret commission and non-delivery of invoiced perishable goods spanning an eight-year period. The case involves forensic analysis of thousands of supply chain documents, extremely serious dishonesty allegations and complex witness evidence issues. We successfully obtained an adjournment on medical grounds and due to geopolitical conflict rendering a fair trial impossible. We simultaneously successfully defended a hostile freezing injunction application against our client and achieved a substantial costs award against the Claimant.

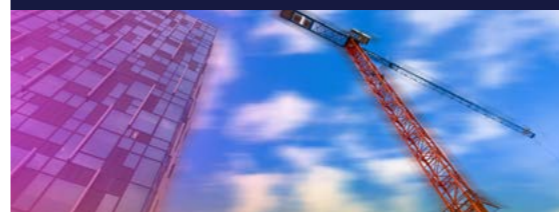
Care provider



Care home acquisition disputes

Advising a care provider on claims arising from a share purchase agreement and property acquisition of a care home, involving disputed deferred consideration of £500k and a breach of warranty claim of up to £600k. With the aid of expert evidence, we negotiated a favourable settlement for our client.

Real Estate investment company



Professional negligence claim

Acting for a London property investment business in a professional negligence claim against a firm of solicitors with a value exceeding £800k arising from a failure to note or advise on a restrictive covenant that prevented the conversion of an acquired property to an HMO. The failure related to a covenant the buyer was required to sign up to as part of the purchase transaction. Causation issues arise from the purchase by auction.

Wealthy businessman

Acting for a successful individual accused of a breach of fiduciary duty arising from the sale of a valuable care home group. The value of the claim as alleged exceeds £7 million and encompasses complex issues of trust law, limitation, joint venture partnership and accounting.

Breach of fiduciary duty

Medi-tech business

Acting for a start-up medical technology company in relation to a director / shareholder dispute that is paralysing the business. The resolution may involve a rare, so-called “reverse” s.994 petition, where the company or majority shareholders initiate action against a minority shareholder.

Directors / shareholders dispute

“DMH [Stallard] are commercial in their approach to litigation, and this is particularly relevant when preparing and instructing Counsel.”

Legal 500 – Commercial Litigation, 2025

Core Areas of Expertise

Director and Shareholder disputes – we handle a wide variety of director, shareholder, partnership and corporate governance disagreements, which, if not resolved, will often cause deadlock in a business and substantially impact its success.

Professional Negligence – we represent a range of professionals and entities, where allegations of negligence have been made and claims brought, with clients often having suffered significant losses as a result of the advice they relied on.

Contractual Disputes – we act for businesses, other entities and individuals in a broad range of contractual disputes, from claims arising out of breach of supply, service and distribution agreements, sale and purchase agreement disputes including post-completion claims, to complex multi-party disputes involving joint ventures and consortium arrangements, often in an international and cross-jurisdictional context.

Technology, Media and Telecommunications – we advise businesses across the technology, media and telecommunications sectors on the full spectrum of disputes arising from their operations, including claims relating to software and systems failures, IT procurement and outsourcing agreements, data breaches and cyber incidents, intellectual property infringement, and the licensing and exploitation of digital content.

Crypto and Digital Asset Disputes – as the digital asset landscape continues to evolve, so too do the disputes arising from it. We advise clients on claims involving cryptocurrency fraud and misappropriation, disputes over the ownership and transfer of digital assets, smart contract failures and regulatory enforcement actions.

Commercial Fraud – we have extensive experience acting in high-value and complex fraud matters, including claims involving misrepresentation, breach of fiduciary duty, conspiracy, bribery and corruption as well as the misappropriation and concealment of corporate assets.

Reputation Management and Defamation – protecting and preserving reputation is critical for businesses and individuals alike. We advise on all aspects of defamation, privacy and media law, acting swiftly to prevent or limit the publication of damaging material and pursuing claims where reputational harm has occurred or where personal or commercial standing has been unjustly harmed.

“The DMH [Stallard] team are professional, responsive and thorough when it comes to conducting litigation. The team has good breadth and depth and are able to pick up matters at short notice and respond quickly and accurately.”

Legal 500 – Commercial Litigation, 2026

We bring deep expertise across a wide variety of disputes, regularly advising on complex, high-value matters with national, international and cross-border elements.

What sets us apart is our ability to resolve disputes efficiently and effectively. Every matter is partner led, and our approach is always results driven, ensuring our clients receive the highest level of strategic guidance from the outset.

Key contacts



**Simon
Elcock**



**Rhodri
James**



**Tim
Ashdown**



**Nicola
Billen**



**James
Colvin**



**David
Bowman**



**David
Bailey**



**Keith
Pearlman**

“DMH is a very solid firm. They’re very strong in the commercial dispute area and they have a good, broad commercial practice.”

**Chambers & Partners –
Litigation, 2024**



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