Angus Groom

Called to the Bar 2023
+44 (0)20 7696 9900
angusgroom@southsquare.com





Angus joined South Square as a tenant in October 2024

Angus accepts instructions in Chambers' core areas of practice, including banking and finance work, offshore litigation, corporate restructuring and insolvency, company law and commercial litigation and arbitration. Angus also accepts instructions raising issues of tax law—including both pure tax disputes as well as matters involving contract, trust and fraud issues with a tax element—and he particularly welcomes instructions including issues of economic and financial analysis.

During pupillage, Angus assisted on a wide range of insolvency and commercial work. He assisted with advising on insolvency proceedings ranging from complex cross-border insolvencies to domestic administrations and liquidations. He was also involved in litigation arising out of insolvency including in relation to clawback claims by office holders and other company law claims. Angus has also been involved in a range of commercial disputes involving issues of contract, fraud, economic torts, and company law. These have included a number of claims with cross-border elements through which Angus has gained experience of applications to serve proceedings on defendants out of the jurisdiction.

Angus has also been involved in proceedings in bankruptcy, including in relation to statutory demands and in relation to the Court's jurisdiction to make a bankruptcy order (Drelle v Servis-Terminal LLC [2024] EWHC 521 (Ch), Sabbah v Abela [2024] EWHC 1790 (Ch)).

Angus has gained substantial experience on the restructuring side of Chambers' practice—being involved in restructuring plans including Re CB&I UK Limited (McDermott), Re Project Lietzenburger Strabe Holdco SARL (Aggregate), Re AGPS Bondco Plc (Adler), Re C-Retail Limited (Superdry), Re Cine-UK Limited (Cineworld) as well as a number of schemes of arrangement. Angus was also involved in the Re Consort Healthcare (Tameside) Plc restructuring plan which saw the first application for security for costs in English restructuring proceedings.

Angus has also been involved in offshore work. This has included assisting members of Chambers in relation to the insolvencies of Three Arrows Capital Limited (in liquidation in the BVIs, and also in relation to proceedings in the Cayman Islands) and China Evergrande Group (in liquidation in Hong Kong, and in relation to proceedings in the BVIs and in the Cayman Islands).

Before pupillage, Angus worked for a leading tax KC during which time he was involved in tax advisory work as well as in litigation in the tax tribunals and in the Courts from the High Court to the Supreme Court. Angus gained experience across all areas of revenue law, assisting on matters involving Income Tax, VAT, Corporation Tax, Capital Gains Tax, Stamp Duty Land Tax and ATED, Inheritance Tax, Customs

Duty and Import VAT. During pupillage, Angus was involved in the Mercy Global proceedings which arose out of a major VAT fraud.

Angus graduated with a double first from his undergraduate studies in Economics at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he was a Junior and then Senior Scholar, before going to read for an MPhil in Economics at Nuffield College, Oxford. At Oxford he was awarded both the prize for best overall performance in his first year and the George Webb Medley Prize for achieving the highest marks in the written papers in his second year. He was awarded the Lord Bowen Scholarship to study the PGDL and the Lord Denning Scholarship to study the Bar Course.

Angus is an economist and research fellow at a leading Westminster think tank where he has presented his research at the highest levels of Government. This experience gives Angus a particular fluency and advantage in matters involving economic, accounting and other financial analysis.

Insolvency & Restructuring

Corporate Insolvency

Legal research, advice and drafting in relation to a claim brought by a company in administration to challenge the subordination of the company's debts by a reduction of share capital (assisting Matthew Abraham).

Legal research and drafting in relation to claims to recover dispositions of company property that have been voided by section 127 IA 1986 (assisting Matthew Abraham).

Legal research and drafting in relation to the assignment of claims by office holders (assisting Matthew Abraham).

Written advice in relation to trust arrangements over funds paid to an insolvent company (assisting William Willson).

Assistance and drafting in relation to an application to amend the claims brought against company directors in combined Part 7 / Insolvency Act proceedings (assisting William Willson).

Re China Evergrande Group – legal research and advice in relation to clawback claims and issues under the BVI Insolvency Act as part of the cross-border liquidation (assisting Matthew Abraham).

NMC Healthcare Limited & Others v Shetty & Others [2024] ADGMCFI 0007 – Legal research and assistance in relation to fraudulent trading and wrongful trading claims brought in the ADGM (assisting Adam Al-Attar KC).

Three Arrows Capital Limited – assisted with legal research, advice and drafting on a range of insolvency, company and trust law issues arising in the ongoing liquidation in the BVIs (assisting Henry Phillips).

Legal research and advice in relation to a high value preference claim and in relation to information gathering powers of office holders (assisting Henry Phillips).

Legal research on procedural questions arising in wrongful trading proceedings (assisting Clara

Johnson).

Legal research on stays and recission of a members' voluntary liquidation (assisting Clara Johnson).

Drafted a skeleton argument for the trial of an appeal of the rejection of a proof of debt (assisting Clara Johnson).

Legal research and advice on clawback claims by liquidators (assisting Charlotte Cooke).

Drafting and advice in relation to an application for recognition of insolvency proceedings under the CBIR (assisting Charlotte Cooke).

Drafting winding up orders (assisting Charlotte Cooke).

Legal research on the insolvency rules and case law applicable to decisions of a chair at a creditors' meeting (assisting Charlotte Cooke).

Legal research and advice on procedural and substantive points in relation to a possible claim based on s127 IA 1986 (assisting Marcus Haywood).

Assisted in relation to a *Berkeley Applegate* application (assisting Marcus Haywood).

Legal research and drafting in relation to the contested appointment of sets of administrators (assisting Adam Al-Attar KC).

Legal research in relation to an administration involving issues with pension schemes (assisting Adam Al-Attar KC).

Assisted in relation to an administrators' remuneration application (assisting Henry Phillips).

Restructuring

Re Consort Healthcare (Tameside) Plc [2024] EWHC 1438 (Ch), [2024] EWHC 1702 (Ch) – assisted with preparation of the company's contested restructuring plan, including drafting a skeleton argument in response to the first ever application for security for costs in Part 26A proceedings (assisting Henry Phillips).

Re Project Lietzenburger Straße Holdco SARL (Aggregate) [2024] EWHC 563 (Ch); [2024] EWHC 563 (Ch), [2024] EWHC 468 (Ch) – legal research, advice and drafting for a creditor opposing the restructuring plan, with a focus on international recognition, the "sufficient connection" test, and COMI (assisting Charlotte Cooke).

Re AGPS Bondco plc (Adler) [2023] EWHC 916 (Ch); [2024] EWCA Civ 24 – assisted in relation to the further appeal made by the plan company to the Supreme Court.

Re CB&I UK Ltd (McDermott) – [2023] EWHC 2497 (Ch), [2023] EWHC 2987 (Ch); [2024] EWHC 398 (Ch) – legal research and advice for a creditor supporting the contested restructuring plan, with a focus on procedural issues relating to evidence, costs, and the scope of the Part 26A jurisdiction (assisting Charlotte Cooke).

Re Cine-UK Limited (Cineworld) – legal research and other assistance in preparing the company's restructuring plan (assisting Henry Phillips).

Re C-Retail Ltd (Superdry) [2024] EWHC 1194 (Ch) – drafted a skeleton argument for the sanction hearing of the company's restructuring plan (assisting Matthew Abraham).

Re Plusholding GmbH (PlusServer) [2023] EWHC 2915 (Ch), [2024] EWHC 828 (Ch) – drafted a skeleton argument for the sanction hearing of the company's scheme of arrangement (assisting Charlotte Cooke).

Tristan Oil Ltd v The Scheme Creditors (BVIHCM 0120/2023, 19 March 2024) – assisted in relation to applications to be joined as a party in order to seek to set aside the sanction of a scheme of arrangement in the BVIs (assisting Marcus Haywood).

Legal research and advice in relation to a proposed foreign scheme of arrangement (assisting Adam Al-Attar KC).

Bankruptcy

Drelle v Servis-Terminal LLC [2024] EWHC 521 (Ch) – legal research in relation to the scope of a debt under s267 IA 1986, on whether a foreign judgment can be the basis for a bankruptcy petition, and more broadly on the enforcement of foreign judgments at common law (assisting Clara Johnson).

Sabbah v Abela [2024] EWHC 1790 (Ch) – drafting and assistance in relation to the trial of jurisdictional issues relating to "substantial dispute" and "place of residence" (assisting Marcus Haywood).

Legal research and drafting in relation to a statutory demand in high-value bankruptcy proceedings (assisting Matthew Abraham).

Assistance and drafting in relation to the service of a bankruptcy petition out of the jurisdiction (assisting William Willson).

Legal research on the allocation of bankruptcy cases between Courts under the Practice Direction on Insolvency Proceedings (assisting Marcus Haywood).

Commercial Litigation and Arbitration

Mercy Global Consult Ltd v Adegbuyi-Jackson & Ors, [2023] EWHC 2567 (Ch); [2023] EWHC 3203 (Ch) – drafted parts of various skeleton arguments in proceedings brought by liquidators against the company's directors to recover the proceeds of a VAT fraud (assisting Clara Johnson).

Legal research on private international law rules applicable to declarations of legal principles sought in support of foreign proceedings (assisting Tom Smith KC).

Assisting with a freezing order sought and obtained in the BVI Court (assisting Richard Hacker KC)

Legal research in relation to a Part 8 claim involving issues of construction and rectification (assisting Matthew Abraham).

Legal research and drafting in relation to injunctions to prevent an outsider purporting to take control over a company (assisting William Willson).

Legal research and drafting in relation to combined court and arbitration proceedings involving issues of jurisdiction under the Arbitration Act 1996 (assisting Matthew Abraham).

Legal research, advice and drafting in relation to proceedings arising out of the enforcement of a charge (assisting Clara Johnson).

Drafting responses to applications to adjoin trials for medical reasons (assisting Clara Johnson and, separately, Hannah Thornley).

Legal research on the types of damages that the Court can award in tort claims, including in relation to aggregated and exemplary damages (assisting Hannah Thornley).

Legal research and advice on possible claims against a director in relation to loans made by their company (assisting Hannah Thornley).

Advice in relation to ongoing proceedings involving a multinational group covering a range of procedural and cross-border issues (assisting Marcus Haywood).

Legal research in relation to a dispute arising out of a joint venture raising cross-border and company law issues (assisting Adam Al-Attar KC).

Drafting in relation to a Russian law claim brought against a UK based financial institution (assisting Adam Al-Attar KC).

Legal research on private international law issues raised by cross-border fraud claims (assisting Tom Smith KC).

Assisting with a five-day multi-track trial involving allegations of breach of a shareholders' agreement (assisting Jamil Mustafa).

Banking & Finance

Legal research and advice in relation to fund documents of a Cayman Islands Fund (assisting Henry Phillips).

Legal research, advice and drafting in relation to a claim brought by a company in administration to challenge the subordination of the company's debts by a reduction of share capital (assisting Matthew Abraham).

Legal research, advice and drafting in relation to proceedings arising out of the enforcement of a charge (assisting Clara Johnson).

Drafted a defence to a financial miss-selling claim (assisting Charlotte Cooke).

Drafted an opinion on the construction of a subordination agreement (assisting Hannah Thornley).

Drafting in relation to a Russian law claim brought against a UK based financial institution (assisting Adam Al-Attar KC).

Legal research on the consequences of a failure to register a company charge (assisting Adam Al-Attar KC).

Company Law

Legal research, advice and drafting in relation to a claim brought by a company in administration to challenge the subordination of the company's debts by a reduction of share capital (assisting Matthew Abraham).

Legal research and drafting in relation to injunctions to prevent an outsider purporting to take control over a company (assisting William Willson).

Assistance in relation to claims brought against directors including claims for breach of directors' duties and breach of fiduciary duties (assisting Clara Johnson).

Assisting with a five-day multi-track trial involving allegations of breach of a shareholders' agreement (assisting Jamil Mustafa).

Drafted skeleton arguments and attended hearings for claims under the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 (assisting Charlotte Cooke and, separately, Hannah Thornley).

Legal research and advice on the operation and validity of a poison pill rights agreement at common law and in the US (assisting Clara Johnson).

Legal research in relation to a dispute arising out of a joint venture raising cross-border and company law issues (assisting Adam Al-Attar KC).

Legal research on the consequences of a failure to register a company charge (assisting Adam Al-Attar KC).

Legal research and assistance in relation to the enforcement of claims to recover company shares (assisting Henry Phillips).

Offshore

Three Arrows Capital Limited – assisted with legal research, advice and drafting on a range of insolvency, company and trust law issues arising in the ongoing liquidation in the BVIs (assisting Henry Phillips).

Re China Evergrande Group – legal research and advice in relation to clawback claims and issues under the BVI Insolvency Act as part of the cross-border liquidation (assisting Matthew Abraham).

NMC Healthcare Limited & Others v Shetty & Others ([2024] ADGMCFI 0007) – legal research and assistance in relation to fraudulent trading and wrongful trading claims brought in the ADGM (assisting Adam Al-Attar KC).

Tristan Oil Ltd v The Scheme Creditors (BVIHCM 0120/2023, 19 March 2024) – assisting in relation to applications to be joined as a party in order to seek to set aside the sanction of a scheme of arrangement in the BVIs (assisting Marcus Haywood).

Drafting written advice on whether the High Court would make an administration order over a Jersey company (assisting Clara Johnson).

Drafting and advice in relation to an application for recognition of BVI insolvency proceedings under the CBIR 2006 (assisting Charlotte Cooke).

Legal research and advice in relation to fund documents of a Cayman Islands Fund (assisting Henry Phillips).

Legal research and assistance in relation to the enforcement of claims to recover company shares in the BVIs (assisting Henry Phillips).

Career

2024 – Tenancy at South Square

2023 – Pupillage at South Square

Education & Qualification

2023 – Called to the Bar of England and Wales

2022-2023 – Inns of Court College of Advocacy, Bar Course

2021-2022 – BPP Law School, Postgraduate Diploma in Law

2019-2021 – Nuffield College, Oxford, MPhil in Economics

2016-2019 – Trinity College, Cambridge, Economics Tripos

Scholarships & Prizes

2022 – Lord Denning Scholarship (Lincoln’s Inn)

2021 – Lord Bowen Scholarship (Lincoln’s Inn)

2021 – George Webb Medley Prize for the best performance in the written papers in the MPhil in Economics (Department of Economics, University of Oxford)

2020 – Department Prize for best overall performance in examinations in the MPhil in Economics (Department of Economics, University of Oxford)

2019 – ESRC Grand Union Doctoral Training Partnership Studentship (Economic and Social Research Council and Nuffield College, Oxford)

2018 – Senior Scholarship (Trinity College, Cambridge)

2017 – Junior Scholarship (Trinity College, Cambridge)