

# Paul Kirkpatrick

Partner

 **Manchester**

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Paul is the head of our manufacturing and industrials sector and a partner in our commercial dispute resolution team, specialising in high-value, complex litigation, often with an international dimension. Paul acts for major corporates, working closely with in-house teams and general counsel to achieve commercial resolutions to business-critical issues. Paul has a particular interest in the automotive sector.

Paul has substantial experience having previously led dispute resolution teams at national commercial law firms. Paul acts as the lead partner on a wide variety of contentious, commercial matters, including disputes involving breach of contract, professional negligence, breach of warranty, shareholders' disputes and numerous other issues, frequently involving foreign jurisdictions. Paul has vast experience at resolving disputes at mediation and through other forms of alternative dispute resolution. He also spent a period of his career working in-house for BT plc, and brings a business perspective in meeting his clients' objectives.

Paul heads up a key sector in our corporates group and is central to the work we carry out across the four key sectors, helping to connect clients and spotting opportunities for them, with a particular onus on sustainability.

Clients appreciate Paul's down-to-earth manner and his pragmatic approach to resolving issues as painlessly as possible.

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## Expertise

Automotive

Food and drink

Manufacturing and industrials

Retail, consumer and logistics

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## Featured experience

## **Acting for a manufacturer of medical devices**

Representing the client in an international arbitration concerning a cross-border dispute with a customer based in India. We were seeking recovery of in excess €2m for breach of a settlement agreement, whilst proceedings were underway and starting to escalate, we settled the dispute on favourable terms to the client.

## **Advising leading automotive manufacturer**

Acting for a leading automotive manufacturer on a €1.7m cross-border supply chain dispute. We advanced claims for breach of contract and product liability. We are in the process of navigating the client through challenging questions of strategy, jurisdiction and reputation management.

## **Breach of warranty claim for global tyre manufacturer**

Assisting a well-known tyre manufacturer in a £450,000 claim for breach of warranty and misrepresentation arising from statements made in a share purchase agreement. We achieved a fantastic result at mediation allowing the client to get on with its business.

## **Claim by leading manufacturer and retailer of electric vehicles**

Advising a major automotive manufacturer in relation to a supplier claim for losses of £1.8m relating to pricing, and pursuing a £1.5m counterclaim relating to the supplier's failures in performance of the supply contract. By adopting a robust stance at mediation, we have neutralised the dispute, allowing our client to continue with its focus on sustainability and innovation.