

Chris Coombes

Senior Associate

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Focus Areas

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
International Employment Law
Policies, Procedures and Handbooks

Overview

Chris Coombes advises clients on the full spectrum of employment issues and has broad experience working on global employment projects for clients with international operations. He helps clients find pragmatic, commercial solutions, especially in the context of settlement negotiations and post-termination restrictions. Chris has a particular focus on the platform economy and technology sectors, having spent the latter part of 2022 on secondment to Uber's legal team.

Chris regularly advises clients in relation to redundancies, business transfers, grievances, misconduct, performance, data protection and trade union issues. He has experience in leading complex, sensitive settlement negotiations and has also worked on multiple high-value employment tribunal claims, with a particular focus on discrimination and whistleblowing.

Clients in Legal 500 say, "Chris Coombes is a rising star, having been virtually seconded to one of our businesses for most of the year. What makes the difference is that GQ|Littler understand our business structure and the varying influences on decision making around the companies." Others say, "Philip and Chris are experts in their field but what sets them apart is the commerciality of the advice and the speed of service. They make us feel like we are their only client – and certainly their most important! We value the honesty of the advice and the practical solutions they offer us. They have made strong connections with our team such that they are now very much regarded as part of our cohort."

Before joining GQ|Littler in April 2020, Chris trained and qualified at international law firm Baker McKenzie. During his training contract at Baker McKenzie, Chris completed seats in the employment, private equity and corporate tax departments.

Professional and Community Affiliations

- Member, Employment Lawyers Association

Bar Admissions

United Kingdom (England and Wales)

Publications & Press

New Duty to Prevent Sexual Harassment in the UK – Guidance for Employers

Littler ASAP

August 30, 2024

Cross-Border Legal Perspectives: Comparing the UK and Germany's Approaches to Unfair Dismissal

Littler Insight

August 26, 2024

New Duty to Prevent Sexual Harassment in the UK – How Can Employers Comply?

Littler ASAP

June 28, 2024

New Decision from the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom Has Significant Implications for Trade Union Law

Littler Insight

April 22, 2024

Littler World Cup Matchups Part 6: Harassment

Littler Insight

December 7, 2022

Littler World Cup Matchups Part 3: Workplace Safety

Littler Insight

November 21, 2022

Littler World Cup Matchups Part 2: Short-Term Sick Pay

Littler Insight

November 18, 2022

Littler World Cup Matchups Part 1: Paid Vacation and Annual Leave

Littler Insight

November 17, 2022

Littler Global Guide - United Kingdom - Q4 2021

Littler Global Guide Quarterly

January 19, 2022

Littler Global Guide - European Union - Q2 2021

Littler Global Guide Quarterly

July 19, 2021

Speaking Engagements

What Employers Need to Know About the UK Worker Protection Act

September 24, 2024

Reductions in Force - The EU Process

July 9, 2020

Managing Large-Scale Workforce Reductions in the UK During COVID-19

June 12, 2020