

Luton law firm is among the best in the country, says report

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A Luton law firm which deals with personal injury is acclaimed as one of the best in the country in a new and independent league table.

Legal publishers Chambers each year assess every law firm in the country, and rank them according to their findings. This year they rank the personal injury team of Luton-based Pictons as being in the first rank.

In particular, they single out team leader John Wardley for his 'good judgement and utter commitment to obtaining the best results for his clients'.

The report also acknowledges the firm's ground-breaking child abuse team, led by partner Tracey Emmott, which has become involved in representing those claiming abuse at the notorious Haut de la Garenne children's home in Jersey. She also featured in a recent change in the law allowing abuse victims to claim against their abusers.

Chambers' full endorsement reads:

'Praised by sources for being "forward-thinking, highly supportive of their clients and accessible – you can call them and have a sensible conversation," this firm is based in Luton but handles work – particularly abuse cases – all over the country.

'Strong across the full spectrum of personal injury work, including RTA's (road traffic accidents), industrial disease and group litigations, it possesses a particularly highly regarded capability in child abuse work'.

"Thoughtful, detailed, probing and aware," John Wardley is noted for his "good judgement and utter commitment to obtaining the best results for his clients."

John Wardley, like his partner Tracey Emmott, has become a commentator in the national media on social policy issues as they affect his clients.

'The financial outcome of cases brought to us is often not the most pressing issue for our clients,' he explains.

'Somebody who has been badly hurt by the carelessness of others, or who has suffered the anguish of perhaps seeing a child injured, quite understandably has a grievance and a burning desire to put it right.

So we recognize that our duty is to try and obtain for our clients the kind of outcome they want, financial or otherwise. In that respect we're not afraid of taking on entrenched interests or in seeking to have the law changed where it's appropriate.

It's gratifying therefore that our efforts have been recognized by such a distinguished organization as Chambers.

'This has only been possible because of the commitment of our entire team in caring for our clients and getting the best possible results. Our growing reputation in group actions, industrial disease and public health as well as child abuse is fundamental to our success.'

At the moment John Wardley is in discussions with politicians to bring about a change in the law on road safety, and in particular dangerous behaviour by cyclists. He is representing the parents of Rhiannon Bennett, the teenager from Buckingham who was knocked down and killed by a cyclist. The cyclist was subsequently charged with a minor offence and only fined for causing Rhiannon's death.

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Meanwhile Tracey Emmott is negotiating with the government of Jersey to change the law there so that her clients who claim child abuse can bring their cases to law.

Pictons have offices in Luton, Milton Keynes and Hemel Hempstead, with 13 partners and 130 staff.

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