

SOLICITOR OF THE YEAR



Alice Kinder
Anthony Collins Solicitors
LLP

Alice joined the company as soon as she qualified in 2018 and is an Employment and Pensions solicitor. She is a consistent high performer and has had a significantly positive impact.

She has led investigations into local government pension schemes and expanded pension work. Happy clients include national charities. Alice is keen to showcase the company's social purpose and is a vocal advocate for Birmingham.

Her achievements in CSR and in awareness raising for diversity in the law profession are inspiring.



Kishma Bolaji
Shoosmiths LLP

Inspirational solicitor Kishma was promoted to Senior Associate in 2019 while she was on maternity leave after the birth of her youngest son. She is a medical negligence specialist, who notched up ten years of being qualified in 2019. She is now also admitted to practice in her native Virgin Islands.

Her work is consistently praised as outstanding. Kishma loves to encourage and inspire through sharing her story and is a leading supporter of diversity, inclusion and social mobility after lamenting their absence when she trained.

Kishma is renowned for her work in this area and as a founder of the Birmingham Black Lawyers she is humbled to see its many achievements. She plays an active role in graduate recruitment and makes a significant contribution through community and charity projects.



Samantha Miller
Eversheds Sutherland
(International) LLP

Samantha is a brilliant Associate in Real Estate Dispute Resolution and advises on all types of property dispute. She is known for exceptional client service and is currently lead litigator for five shopping centres. As a positive role model, Samantha is supervising and developing four paralegals. She is being sponsored to apply to become a Senior Associate. As chair of BPS Birmingham Future, she plays a pivotal and significant role in the advancement of the city and is a LoveBrum member. Samantha's charity work has been important and she continues to support a wealth of brilliant causes including Bags for Brummies and Kids Out.



Simon Grimshaw
Hogan Lovells International
LLP

In his five years at Hogan Lovells, Simon has progressed from founding junior corporate solicitor to senior associate and team leader of the corporate team in Birmingham. He continues to lead by example, motivating others.

Managing a team of five qualified lawyers and a trainee, he has been instrumental in his team's growth from start-up office to integral part of Hogan Lovells' corporate offering, nationally and internationally. He has led on a number of complex, cross-border deals and acted for global clients.

He remains committed to contributing to the city of Birmingham and continues to work with major institutions in the city. Voluntary activities include collaborating with the Central England Law Centre and setting up the first partnership with Kids in Need of Defense [sic.] UK ("KiND") in Birmingham. This helps children and young people access pro bono legal representation.



Christina Georgiou
Squire Patton Boggs (UK)
LLP

Christina has made a massive difference in various ways both in her role as an associate in the employment law team but also in her relentless support for fellow professionals within the firm and outside.

She works at a level described as three years in front of her qualification and supervises more junior team members. She has set up the Birmingham Associate Group (BAG) which has led to mentoring and relevant training opportunities. She regularly volunteers at Birmingham Legal Advice Clinic. Christina initiated HR Connect for Birmingham professionals which has proved a great success. She also assists at Chamber events. As chair of Squire Patton Boggs Charity Committee she oversaw £20,000 of fundraising for Alzheimer's Research as well as impressive sums raised for cancer charities.