



CONSTRUCTION LAW

We specialise in the following areas:

- Adjudication
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Arbitration
- Building Contracts
- Collateral Warranties
- Company Structures
- Corporate Recovery
- Engineering Contracts
- Guarantees
- Mediation
- Professional Appointments

Over the last few years, the UK construction sector has experienced significant changes. In particular, it has benefited from the introduction of strategic partnering between developers and contractors, resulting in more emphasis being placed on getting contracts right at the outset in order to minimise the risk of disputes further down the line. Where these do arise, the sector has been leading the way in alternative forms of dispute resolution.

Gillespie MacAndrew's team of experienced lawyers provides pro-active advice from start to finish of a construction project. We advise developers, contractors and other construction professionals of all sizes across Scotland, on the full range of commercial and legal issues at all stages of projects.

During planning and design stages we aim to help you get the right contracts in place from the outset. Our construction law experts work closely with our property and corporate teams to ensure that all aspects of your project from site acquisition to finance and corporate structuring are set up and administered correctly.

During the construction phase, when timescales are critical, we provide prompt and practical advice on any issues arising.

Where disputes arise, we can facilitate early and cost-effective resolution. Where there are issues that cannot be resolved through negotiation, we have extensive experience of arbitration and adjudication as well as formal litigation in the Court of Session and other commercial courts.

Following a development's successful completion, the disposal and realisation of hard-earned profits is the final and vital stage. Our commercial and residential property marketing teams can assist in ensuring this is tied up as efficiently as possible.

Whether you are a developer, a contractor or a professional, cash flow is key to the success of any construction project. It is therefore crucial to have expert advice and systems in place to maximise corporate recovery. We can help you deliver practical and effective solutions based on sound commercial advice.

We can offer:

- Assistance in completing standard form building and engineering contracts.
- Advice on company formation and share structure.
- Bespoke terms and conditions of business and specifications of works.
- Review and revision of terms of collateral warranties and guarantees.
- Assisted negotiation to resolve claims and disputes.
- Representation at adjudications, arbitrations and court.
- Creative global solutions through mediation.
- Tailor-made marketing plans for pro-active sales of residential and business property.

[Meet the team overleaf...](#)

THE TEAM



GORDON INNES, PARTNER

Gordon is head of the Litigation department at Gillespie Macandrew. He has a background of some 30 years advising clients in the construction industry on all areas of law including drafting ICE engineering contracts, JCT and SSBC agreements, professional appointments and collateral warranties. Gordon has extensive experience of both contentious and non-contentious issues and has represented a wide range of clients in arbitrations and adjudications. He can provide you with reliable practical advice on issues relating to all areas of your business.

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ELIZABETH McLAUGHLIN, ASSOCIATE

Elizabeth is the Construction Team leader at Gillespie Macandrew. She is client focused and has a sound understanding of construction industry practices. Elizabeth provides practical and tailored solutions to developers, contractors and professionals. She can work with you on all aspects of JCT building contracts or prepare terms and conditions for bespoke agreements. Elizabeth qualified as an Advocate in 1998 and has over 10 years' experience in litigation, including alternative dispute resolution, adjudication and mediation. Areas of expertise include issues relating to acquisition of land, organising the professional team and cash flow management.

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CHRISTOPHER SMITH, PARTNER

Christopher is a Partner in the Corporate department at Gillespie Macandrew. He has expertise in advising on the right corporate structure for developments of all kinds. He also has broad experience of commercial contract preparation, negotiation and disputes. Christopher is an active member of the Chamber of Commerce and works with his clients to provide dynamic, forward-thinking solutions.

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COLIN MACKAY, PARTNER

Colin is a Partner in the Commercial Property department at Gillespie Macandrew. He has extensive experience of working with clients providing advice in relation to site acquisitions and commercial leasing. Colin works alongside clients and other members of the professional team providing advice on issues that arise from the concept of the development to its completion. Colin can cut through the technical jargon to make your options clear and help you put ideas into practice.

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JOHN STIRLING, PARTNER

John Stirling is a solicitor advocate and specialises in property litigation. He was involved in the litigation that established the current understanding of the notice procedures for interim payment under the Construction Act and has published widely on that subject and others. He has an interest in all aspects of the law of contract and of heritable securities. He is a reporter to the Court of Session for corporate capital reconstruction petitions. This mixture of interests and experience gives depth to the advice given to our construction clients.

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Law firm of the year | *Scottish Legal Awards 2007*