

The Hon Mr Justice Robin Knowles CBE

Sir Robin is a Judge of the High Court of England & Wales, sitting in the Commercial Court, the Administrative Court, the Crown Court and the Court of Appeal Criminal Division. He is a designated judge of the Financial List. He is a member of the Financial Markets Law Committee and its governing board.

Accountable to an international Steering Group, Sir Robin is the judge with day-to-day responsibility for the Standing International Forum of Commercial Courts (SIFoCC). Sir Robin has just completed his term of office as Chairman of the International Committee of the Judicial College of England & Wales. He continues to work extensively with other jurisdictions and their judiciaries and legal professions.

During the pandemic Sir Robin has chaired a cross-sector Working Group on Possession Proceedings in England & Wales, established by the Master of the Rolls and Head of Civil Justice. He is a member of the working group on the reform of discovery/ disclosure in England & Wales.

A member of the Civil Justice Council, Sir Robin chairs its Standing Committee on access to justice for those without means. He has a career-long involvement in the encouragement and coordination of legal pro bono work,



nationally and internationally, and chairs Advocate (the Bar Pro Bono Unit) and the National Pro Bono Centre. He chaired the working group to establish the Access to Justice Foundation.

Before his appointment to the Bench Sir Robin was Chairman of the Commercial Bar Association. He worked successfully over a number of years and with others to establish the new Queen's Counsel system in England and Wales and to bring about the Rolls Building – the world's largest dedicated business dispute resolution centre. Outside the law, Sir Robin chaired the UK umbrella charity for children's palliative care and children's hospices, together with London's first children's hospice.

