

Dominic Crossley, Dispute Resolution partner and privacy and media law specialist at Payne Hicks Beach features in The Spear's 500 2019 Directory in the "Top Ten Reputation Lawyers" list as "outstanding in field", first published November 2018



The Spear's 500

Reputation Lawyers

TOP TEN  
REPUTATION  
LAWYERS

TOP TEN REPUTATION LAWYERS

Dominic Crossley *Payne Hicks Beach*



Dominic Crossley  
*Payne Hicks Beach*

*Outstanding in field*

FIRM SIZE UK

FOCUS *Privacy, libel and  
crisis management*

The reputation management and defamation sphere is 'a very lively market at the moment', according to Dominic Crossley. Having represented many high-profile individuals - including Steve Coogan in his phone-hacking case, former F1 boss Max Mosley in his landmark privacy law case, and acting for the 53 core participant victims at the Leveson Inquiry - the fearless and experienced lawyer says he 'has more litigation going on than most' (indeed, it's difficult to get hold of him as he's always in the courts). He says that a current trend among reputation lawyers is using the Data Protection Act as a 'weapon' in pre-publication and court battles. However, he says this is still a developing area of the law: 'The GDPR is a very dense piece of European regulation and its reach and application in the UK is yet to be tested beyond the expanding data protection rights that had been emerging in the previous two or three years.' Recently, he's been getting a huge number of requests for his team to address information from search websites. 'Belatedly, the law is recognising the enormous impact that a Google search has on personal reputation. A misleading search result or what would normally be a long-forgotten reference can be given unfair prominence on a search of an individual's name and clients are right to investigate whether they can take steps to deal with it,' he notes.