



Legal 500 2018 Update

Every year, the people who know the people who buy lunch for the people who write the Legal 500, are no doubt pleased to be listed, but slightly perplexed at their descriptions within the narrative.

They need perplex no more, with the unconscious assistance of moles within the Legal 500's bunker, the @wigapedia guide to decoding those Delphic Legal 500 comments.

What the Directory says	What that means
<i>"a firm advocate in court and in negotiations"</i>	A bit scary. known to make opponents cry on occasion
<i>"has all the attributes of much more senior counsel"</i>	Has gout and is prematurely balding
<i>Brilliant at putting complex legal issues in simple terms"</i>	Basically a Nutshell Guide in Barrister form
<i>"one to watch"</i>	We especially suggest you watch your back when she's on the other side
<i>"likely to go far"</i>	Mainly to Willesden, Mansfield, Wigan, Slough...
<i>"really impressive"</i>	Like the Taj Mahal. Or someone managing to eat a whole Wimpy Olympic Breakfast
<i>"excellent at managing clients expectations"</i>	Tells them the case is worth peanuts and when he gets anything, they think it's a fantastic result.
<i>"calm and efficient"</i>	Almost certainly a serial killer
<i>"regularly appears in the TCC"</i>	Usually to ask directions to the Mayors and City of London Court"

What the Directory says	What that means
<i>"turns around paperwork very quickly"</i>	Clearly not that busy
<i>"a senior clerk of the future"</i>	Drinks too much"
<i>"Good academic and commercial blend"</i>	Wears corduroy pinstripes and has leather patches on his gown
<i>"Strong junior"</i>	Not good enough to be a silk
<i>"Gets straight to the point"</i>	No chance of a cup of tea in the conference
<i>"Strong on tactics"</i>	Knows no law whatsoever
<i>"has a hands -on approach"</i>	Bar Disciplinary Tribunal hearing is still pending
<i>"Clients love him"</i>	Solicitors, not so much.
<i>"Goes the extra mile"</i>	Appears regularly in Penzance County Court
<i>"Impressive paperwork"</i>	Can't string a sentence together in court
<i>"Down-to-earth"</i>	Smells a bit
<i>"No-nonsense approach"</i>	Has been known to punch his opponent.
<i>"Very persuasive advocate"</i>	Complete bluffer
<i>"Embodiment of a modern barrister"</i>	Usually answers his mobile
<i>"Destined to rise further"</i>	From the incredibly low point where he is now
<i>"Excellent to work with"</i>	Usually buys lunch.
<i>"Up to date with legal developments"</i>	Has access to her room-mate's 2014 White Book
<i>"Great legal research skills"</i>	Has a pupil
<i>"shows sound judgement"</i>	Can't name a single statute
<i>"gives comprehensive legal advice"</i>	Writes 50 page opinions which are entirely incomprehensible
<i>"authoritative"</i>	Decrepit and long-past retirement
<i>"gives a real four-star service"</i>	Has a part-time job at McDonalds
<i>"thinks outside the box"</i>	Likely to run an idea up the flagpole and see who salutes, while
<i>"attention to detail is exceptional"</i>	Constantly correcting my typos

What the Directory says	What that means
<i>“gives straightforward and concise advice”</i>	Send most of her Opinions by text message
<i>“empathetic”</i>	Has chocolate digestives in conference
<i>“Puts clients at their ease”</i>	Clients normally fall asleep during her conferences out of sheer boredom
<i>“hardworking”</i>	Not very good, but tries his best
<i>“has a sound grasp of the law”</i>	But a rather more tenuous grasp on reality
<i>“Always reads the papers thoroughly”</i>	We couldn't think of a single positive other thing to say about her, other than she usually wears her wig straight
<i>“single-minded”</i>	Very much single. Usually has soup-stains on his tie.
<i>“staggering appetite for work”</i>	If he had any.
<i>“ a safe pair of hands”</i>	Close friends with DLT
<i>“an intelligent lawyer with a good grasp of legal principles and how they are applied”</i>	Or in other words – ‘he’s a lawyer’.