

## Atlantic Chambers member appointed Senior Treasury Counsel to the Crown

By Ben Schofield on Apr 21, 09 01:26 PM



A LIVERPOOL barrister has been appointed as Senior Treasury Counsel to the Crown at the Central Criminal Court.

The Attorney General appointed Atlantic Chambers barrister Andrew Edis QC to not only advise the Law Officers and the Director of Public Prosecutions, but to prosecute the most complex, high profile and serious crimes in the country on behalf of the Crown.

Mr Edis, who was called to the bar in 1980, will now join the select group of counsel, but today vowed also to stay with Atlantic Chambers.

He will remain a member of Atlantic Chambers, but will also join the Chambers of David Waters QC at 2 Hare Court, London - the home of other Senior Treasury Counsel.

Speaking at Atlantic Chambers, Mr Edis, 51, said: "Atlantic Chambers is and always will be my home in the law.

"I have been a member of Atlantic Chambers for nearly 30 years and was head of Chambers for six years.

"I will still be in Cook Street with my Atlantic Chambers colleagues very regularly.

"I have spent a lot of time and effort in working with my friends here to build up a strong and efficient set of Chambers at Atlantic and I am not going to leave all that and all my clients behind."

Mr Edis' appointment is even more prestigious for Atlantic Chambers as he is the second ever barrister to be appointed from outside the ranks of Junior Treasury Counsel.

The other is Peter Wright QC, also a member of the Northern Circuit.

The post is advertised for open competition and awarded after a careful process of references and interview.

Baroness Scotland of Asthal, QC, the Attorney General announced the new appointments and said that they "will ensure that the professional excellence of the Treasury Counsel team continues to deliver a service of real value to the public."

Mr Edis, a keen Everton supporter, has been prosecuting terrorism cases for over three years now and has been involved in prosecuting other heavy criminal work.

Last autumn he secured the first conviction ever under section 56 of the Terrorism Act 2000 for directing a terrorist organisation in one of the cases where allegations of torture in Pakistan were made.

This was the most senior Al Qaeda man to be tried and convicted in this country and he is now serving a life sentence.

In June he prosecuted Severn Trent Water for the Serious Fraud Office for misleading its regulator, OFWAT.

His next terrorism trial starts in June this year, and he prosecutes a fraud case for the Serious Fraud Office for part of the autumn.

He also has murders to prosecute at the Old Bailey, but still has capacity to advise on and conduct cases for his client base at Atlantic Chambers.

He took silk in 1997 and became a Deputy High Court Judge in 2001.

**Client:** Atlantic Chambers  
**Website:** Legalweek.co.uk  
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