

# Simone Dickson

Consultant



Simone Dickson is a Consultant in our Corporate & Commercial practice. Specialising in IT law and data privacy, Simone assists and advises clients on technology, communications, and e-commerce law, including intellectual property, data protection, outsourcing and cybersecurity issues.

## About Simone

Prior to joining Cliffe Dekker (now Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr) as an Associate in 2008, Simone practiced mainly in dispute resolution, including in relation to trademark and copyright infringement, counterfeit goods, personal injury and insurance related matters. Simone was promoted to Senior Associate in 2010 and became a Director in 2011. She established her own independent consultancy in 2020 and re-joined Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr as a Consultant in 2023.

## Experience

- **Technology transactions**

Outsourcing and large-scale technology transactions.

- **Information technology agreements**

Information technology agreements and sourcing, including in respect of software development (including agile methodologies), licensing, cloud services (including infrastructure and storage), website and app development and associated terms and conditions; maintenance and support arrangements, hardware, intellectual property assignment and professional services/consulting.

- **Leading high-profile transactions**

Leading high-profile transactions in relation to various aspects of digital innovation, network outsourcing and enterprise licensing arrangements with multinational vendors.

- **Legal requirements**

Technology, intellectual property, outsourcing, service level agreement and e-commerce- related legal requirements.

- **Data protection**

Data protection requirements and obligations, including in the context of POPI and GDPR compliance projects and data breach response planning.

- **Cybercrime**

Governance around cybercrime.

## Contact Simone

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## Expertise

Corporate & Commercial Law

Technology & Communications

## Location

Johannesburg

## Language

English

- **Media related commercial transactions**

Media related commercial transactions, including licensing arrangements, production agreements, sponsorship agreements, freelancing arrangements and event management.

- **Technology procurement**

Advising a major retailer on its technology procurement and contracting requirements.

- advising a major retailer on its technology procurement and contracting requirements
- advising a major telecoms player on its sourcing requirements
- taking the lead on a number of complex agreements and service arrangements for the technology division of a major bank, which also included running high volumes of day to day matters involving tight deadlines for the client. The high profile matters she was involved in included (i) the renegotiation of the bank's enterprise software, service and support agreements with a number of global vendors, including Oracle, Microsoft, SAP and IBM (which included a number of cloud service considerations); (ii) assisting the bank with its digital transformation initiatives (which often involved tight deadlines, complex commercial models and non-technology related services); and (iii) advising the bank on an online retail platform and related mobile application, including drafting all agreements relating thereto; (iii) assisting with licence compliance verification related issues. The client often specifically praised her quality of work and level of assistance;
- advising two major local banks on their template agreements and licensing arrangements, including for cloud services;
- expert in outsourcing service arrangements, including with regard to due diligence exercises, transition and transformation, service levels, ensuring effective technology roadmap planning and compliance, licensing and intellectual property arrangements, benchmarking, step-in, cross-functional service dependencies, issues around termination, including disengagement and the effect of termination on assets and employment related issues;
- advised a major local bank on the outsourcing of its enterprise voice platform;
- Lead advisor to a major long term insurer on the outsourcing of certain of its IT service arrangements, including managed network services – Simone was involved from assisting with preparing the tender documents to drafting and negotiation of the agreements with the vendors;
- assisted with the joint outsourcing project by two SOEs of their respective IT infrastructure and service requirements;
- advised a media client on all its sponsorship, production and associated arrangements for the production and broadcast of a licensed television production in South Africa; and also advised the client on its licence and services arrangements with U.S. based licensors;
- lead advisor to a technology service provider, assisting the client with all licensing, support and implementation arrangements relating to its claims processing platform;
- assisted in a number of due diligence investigations in respect of the IT aspects relevant to the transaction;
- assisted various clients with their POPI and/or GDPR compliance projects; and

## News

### [Competition in the digital age: Can breaching data privacy laws also infringe competition law?](#)

The old adage that knowledge is power has never been more applicable than in the digital age. The more firms know about their market, economic factors and customers, the more likely they are to succeed. This drive for data accumulation raises questions of whether such practices can, in addition to potentially violating data protection laws, be a transgression under competition law?

### [Part Two: Should I ask my lawyer or should I just ChatGPT it?](#)

In Part One, we explored ChatGPT's capabilities in the legal field, and we saw both its impressive potential and significant limitations. Now, in Part Two, we delve deeper into the potential consequences for legal professionals relying solely on AI tools, such as ChatGPT, by considering a real-life scenario that sheds light on the importance of accuracy, ethics and the indispensable role of human judgement.

## Videos

### [Women in the tech industry](#)

Simone Dickson, Consultant in the Corporate & Commercial practice, appeared on eNCA to discuss women in the tech industry.

[All news by Simone Dickson →](#)

## Recognition

- Chambers Global 2024 ranked Simone Dickson in Band 4 for IT & telecoms.
- Chambers Global 2017-2019 highlights Simone as 'Up and Coming' in IT & Telecommunications. In 2020 she was ranked Band 4 in IT & Telecommunications.