

Louis Browne QC

Call 1988 | Silk 2017



Clerks' Details

Neil Wright
0151 242 8814

Appointments

- Recorder

Memberships

- Personal Injury Bar Association
- Professional Negligence Bar Association

Education

- First Class Honours Degree, Law
- Postgraduate Degree of Bachelor of Civil Law, Balliol College, Oxford

Public Law & Judicial Review CV

Overview

Louis has an established public law and judicial review practice. He has experience of a wide variety of cases across a range of sectors, including:

- Care and social services
- Education
- Government
- Housing
- Immigration
- Planning
- Revenue
- Transport

Louis has been involved in some of the most significant work in the public law field over the past few years.

Louis has a First Class Honours Degree in Law and the Postgraduate Degree of Bachelor of Civil Law, Balliol College Oxford.

He was called to the Bar in 1988 and began practising in 1992. He was appointed Treasury Counsel in 2000 and has remained on the Panel until he took Silk in 2017. He is now on the Government Silk Panel.

He is a Recorder of the Crown Court and is also authorised to sit on civil claims.

Louis is ranked Tier 1 for his public law work in The Legal 500 2021 guide – *“Highly skilled barrister with excellent knowledge of his working area.”*

Cases

Independent Inquiries

- Acted as the Chairman of a multi-disciplinary Independent Review Panel which conducted an Inquiry for a British University. This Inquiry considered the very important issue of the extent to which the University had discharged its Prevent Duty. This is a duty imposed upon Higher Education bodies under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

Care and Social Services

- Acting for the HM Coroner challenging the inquest into the death of the Claimant's mother. The Trust, caring for the deceased, had failed to repeat blood gases prior to the deceased's discharge. Due to detailed Grounds for Contesting the claim, the Judicial Review claim was refused.
- Challenges to community care plans
- Whether a multi-disciplinary assessment was required prior to a decision to close a local authority care home
- Relationship between a local authority and the provision by a private body accommodation to persons in need of care and assistance
- The circumstances in which a duty to provide care and assistance under N.A.A 1948 s21(1) arose where a need for rehousing was identified
- Challenges to care assessment of a child with learning difficulties: provision of package at a residential placement

Education

- Challenging basis of statement in a special educational needs case
- Allocation of secondary school places: Education Act 1996 ss13 and 14
- Appears on behalf parents, schools and local authorities in the first Tier Tribunal (SENDIST) and the Upper Tribunal. Louis advises and acts on all matters arising out of the Education Act, from school transport to school re-organisation, judicial review challenges to exclusions and admissions decisions, cases involving human rights in the education field, including discrimination claims, and disputes as to the rights and liabilities of academies

Government

- Challenging the decision of the Welsh Assembly to introduce proposals to ban electronic training collars for dogs in Wales

Housing

- Transfer of social housing under Housing Act 1985 s32(2)
- Housing allocation policy, homelessness under the Housing Act 1996 s193
- Legitimate expectations: closure of care homes
- Priority need of accommodation, Housing Act 1996

Immigration

- Duties owed to asylum seekers: National Assistance Act 1948 s21 and 21(1A)
- Local authority deciding not to offer support to overstayer and her children other than to pay for return journey home. Upheld by High Court

Miscellaneous

- Policy limiting number of permits to sell food at roadside cafes flawed

Planning

- Successfully challenged grant of planning permission for major development where appropriate certification not given to adjacent land owner issued

Revenue

- Advising HMRC on a challenge to a provision of VATA 1984 which prohibits an appeal on an issue of fact. The contention was that this is inconsistent with Convention rights

Transport

- Limiting numbers of licences for Hackney carriages

Recommendations

“He cares deeply about his cases and is an excellent advocate.” **Chambers and Partners 2021**

“He cares deeply about his cases and is a pleasant advocate.” **Chambers and Partners 2021**

“His strengths are: Excellent interpersonal skills. Patience. Very bright.” **The Legal 500 2021**

“Very hard working and immensely knowledgeable in his field. He is approachable and easy going with clients. Meticulous attention to detail is apparent in his advocacy and written submissions. A very capable barrister, who is well regarded by his clients and is highly recommended.” **The Legal 500 2021**

“Highly skilled barrister with excellent knowledge of his working area.” **The Legal 500 2021**

“Recommended for data breach claims.” **The Legal 500 2021**

“His attention to detail is second to none and he really understands complex medical evidence. He takes an excellent approach with factual professional witnesses which puts them at ease and allows him to quickly get to the heart of complex issues.” **Chambers and Partners 2020**

“His ability to digest complex expert evidence is exceptional” **The Legal 500 2020**

“A strong advocate with good client care skills.” **The Legal 500 2020**

“A fearsome opponent.” **The Legal 500 2020**

“His legal acumen is first rate.” **The Legal 500 2018/19**

“A combination of great legal acumen, tenacity and pragmatism.” **The Legal 500 2018/19**

“A fierce and equitable advocate.” **The Legal 500 2018/19**

“Very experienced across the spectrum of public law matters.” **The Legal 500 2017**

“Highly experienced in personal injury matters.” **The Legal 500 2017**

“A commanding advocate.” **The Legal 500 2017**

“A strong negotiator with an excellent analytical ability.” **The Legal 500 2016**

“Highly experienced in judicial reviews.” **The Legal 500 2016**

“Mr Browne presented this difficult case with great clarity and skill.”

“...showed consummate professionalism throughout the hearing.”

“In accordance with the best traditions of government litigation and with a professionalism that brings credit to the Bar, Mr Browne drew our attention to the [academic] criticism that had been made of the decision upon which he relied.”