

Landmark Chambers

Barrister CV

Reuben Taylor KC



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Reuben Taylor KC

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Reuben Taylor KC specialises in all aspects of Planning, Environmental, Compulsory Purchase and Compensation Law.



Expertise

Planning

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Practice Summary

Reuben practices throughout England and Wales and acts for many leading developers as well as central Government, local authorities and individuals. He has particular expertise in the High Court and Court of Appeal, and in advisory work and advocacy on planning appeals.

He has developed a particularly strong reputation for dealing with noise, road traffic, air quality and other technical environmental impact issues.

He has been an editor of the Sweet & Maxwell Planning Law Encyclopaedia and a contributor to Atkin's Court Forms and Butterworths' Compulsory Purchase & Compensation Service and he was the joint Head of Landmark Chambers from 2020 – 2023. In his spare time, Reuben loves to play bass guitar in a hard rock band and tennis with his teenage boys.

Planning

London: Reuben regularly advises the Mayor of London in relation to planning matters and to represent the Mayor/GLA at planning appeals. This included the appeal for Newcombe house in Notting Hill Gate. Reuben successfully represented Queens Park Rangers Football club the Court of Appeal in defending planning permission for a new training ground within Metropolitan Open land (i.e. Green Belt): ***Brown v Ealing LBC*** [2018]

Tall Buildings: Reuben has been involved in a number of contentious appeals relating to tall buildings including the proposals at Kensington Forum, Newcombe House in Notting Hill Gate, the Whitechapel Estate, Sainsbury's Whitechapel (successfully defending Tower Hamlet's refusal of permission) and a tower in **Edmonton for St Modwen**.

Technical Matters: Reuben is adept at dealing with complex and technical matters. He regularly advises on the intricacies of CiL. In 2020, he secured the quashing of a statutory instrument on behalf of the **London Duck Tours** company relating to navigational safety of passenger vessels on the Thames. The Secretary of State for Transport consented to judgment before trial.

Commercial/Retail

Reuben has extensive experience in the commercial and retail fields. He has been advising the development partners at **Brent Cross** in relation to its redevelopment, he regularly acts and advises Hammerson. He also acts for Tesco, Sainsburys, Lidl and other retailers. He was successful in one of the leading cases on competing schemes: ***R. (on the application of Hawksworth Securities Plc) v Peterborough City Council*** [2016]. Reuben also successfully defended the grant of consent on behalf of developers in ***WM Morrisons Supermarket Plc v Hounslow LBC*** [2018] and in ***R. (on the application of Luna Stockton Sarl) v Stockton-on-Tees BC*** [2018].

Heritage

Notable experience in the heritage field includes winning the controversial **Clerkenwell Close** appeal for Amin Taha, defending the consent for development at **Wolverton for St Modwen** which involved demolition of some George Stephenson Railway Sheds and leading the appeal for planning permission for **enabling development** to preserve the most important existing collection of Samuel Wyatt buildings in existence at the Doddington Estate.

Infrastructure

Reuben has extensive experience spanning his entire career relating to infrastructure development including promoting **the A303 improvement at Stonehenge** for Highways England, continuing to advise **Gatwick Airport** Limited in relation to its plans for runway expansion, presenting the evidence on noise, ground settlement and highways on behalf of the Government for **Crossrail** and representing BAA at the **Heathrow Terminal 5 Inquiry**.

Residential

Throughout his career Reuben has advised and represented residential developers including, Bellway, Taylor Wimpey, Crest Nicholson, Bloor Homes and Linden Homes. He has been advising Persimmons Homes in relation to their large site SW of

Trowbridge. Reuben won for Corinthian Mountfield Ltd in the Court of Appeal in ***Shirley v Secretary of State*** [2019] an important decision relating to air quality and call-in. Reuben successfully defended the grant of permission for residential use of a 33-hectare site in the Green Belt: ***R. (on the application of Smech Properties Ltd) v Runnymede BC*** [2016]. In the same year Reuben won for Bloor Homes in ***Oadby and Wigston BC v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government*** [2016] a case relating to the interpretation of the NPPF.

Student Accommodation: He has secured consents on numerous sites for student accommodation and regularly acts for **Oxford and Cambridge Universities**. Sites he has recently secured permission on include **Mill Road, Cambridge for McLaren Group**, 166 bedspaces in a Conservation Area **St. David's Hill, Exeter**, Devon and **Pritchatts Park** for the University of Birmingham.

Qualifications

- Falmer School, Brighton
- Law with LLB (Hons) from the University of Wales - 1989

Recommendations

"Reuben Taylor engenders trust and confidence in clients."

Planning, Chambers and Partners, 2024

"He is great with clients and a technical wizard who never loses sight of the commercial objectives." "He is pragmatic, extremely responsive, a sharp mind with an affable demeanour." "He understood the sensitivities of our position and worked extremely hard to present our case to the best possible advantage."

Planning, Chambers and Partners, 2023

"Reuben is excellent to work with and shows an excellent grasp of technical issues. His case preparation is very thorough and he works extremely hard with witness teams to make the best possible case."

Planning, Legal 500, 2023

"He has a tremendous ability to cut through to the key issues and present an incisive argument." "Reuben has an excellent legal brain coupled with great commercial nous." "He is bright and incisive – a great strategic thinker."

Planning, Chambers and Partners, 2022

"Reuben is genuinely first-class. He is always brilliantly prepared and thorough. He cuts through to the chase and delivers on-point, commercially astute legal advice. Reuben is an outstanding advocate both in court and in the inquiry room and combines a first-class mind with real approachability. He has a great sense of humour and is a pleasure to work with."

Planning, Legal 500, 2022

"He's great on technical matters and he understands the methodologies which underlie that work."

Planning, Chambers and Partners, 2021

He is described as "a very user-friendly barrister and always on the ball producing clear, expert advice and guidance." "He has a very analytical mind and is very good at cutting through extraneous stuff and getting to the point very quickly."

Chambers and Partners, 2021

"As a silk, he is absolutely top of the tree."

Legal 500, 2021

"Very commercially astute and practical in his advice."

Legal 500, 2020

"He is a very user-friendly barrister and always on the ball producing clear, expert advice and guidance." "He has a very analytical mind and is very good at cutting through extraneous stuff and getting to the point very quickly."

Planning, Chambers and Partners, 2020

Cases and inquiries

18 03 24	Success in a Tall Building Appeal for Abri Group
07 03 24	Secretary of State Grants Development Consent Order for the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project
19 02 24	A303 Stonehenge DCO
15 01 24	A12 Widening Scheme DCO Approved
28 07 23	Boswell v Secretary of State for Transport
02 06 23	Completion of the Public Examination into the Development Consent Order for the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project
02 02 23	New Lidl Store for Brentwood
20 07 21	Bristol Airport planning inquiry opens
28 05 20	Oadby and Wigston BC v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government [2016]

28 05 20	A303 Stonehenge Examination [2019]
28 05 20	White Moss, Cheshire East [2017]
28 05 20	Whitechapel Estate Inquiry [2017]
28 05 20	Land between Audlem Road/Broad Lane, Stapeleigh [2018]
28 05 20	Land to the Rear of High Street, Great Missenden [2018]
28 05 20	Sainsbury's Whitechapel [2018]
28 05 20	Clerkenwell Close Inquiry [2019]
28 05 20	Doddington Estate Appeal [2020]
28 05 20	Cranfield Road, Milton Keynes [2020]
28 05 20	Newcombe House [2019]
28 05 20	Walnut Gardens Exeter [2019]
28 05 20	Seven Oaks Local Plan Inquiry [2019]
28 05 20	R (on the application of Smech Properties Ltd) v Runnymede BC [2016]
28 05 20	Brown v Ealing LBC [2018]
28 05 20	R (on the application of Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England) v Milton Keynes Council [2018]
28 05 20	R (on the application of Luna Stockton Sarl) v Stockton-on-Tees BC [2018]
28 05 20	WM Morrisons Supermarket Plc v Hounslow LBC [2018]
28 05 20	Shirley v Secretary of State [2019]
28 05 20	Manor Place, Oxford [2017]
28 05 20	Crouchland Biogas Inquiry [2017]
28 05 20	100 Cromwell Road [2016]

28 05 20	Edmonton Green Shopping Centre [2016]
28 05 20	Land at Mill Lane, Over [2016]
13 09 18	Historic England challenge to Planning Permission Rejected
08 08 18	R (Orange PCS Ltd and ors) v London Borough of Islington [2005] EWHC 963
26 06 18	Somerfield
26 06 18	West End Green
26 06 18	Secretary of State confirms M4 J11 Orders
26 06 18	Quinn Glass Limited
26 06 18	Reading Inner Distributor Road
26 06 18	Crossrail Bill (Parliamentary Hybrid Bill proceedings) [from 2004 and continuing]
08 06 18	R. v Durham CC Ex p. Huddleston
08 06 18	R v Durham County Council ex parte Lowther
07 06 18	BAA Plc v Secretary of State for Transport, Local Government and the Regions
07 06 18	R. (on the application of Fernback) v Harrow LBC
05 06 18	R. (on the application of Rockware Glass Ltd) v Chester City Council
05 06 18	R (on the application of Buglife: The Invertebrate Conservation Trust) v Thurrock Thames Gateway Development Corp
04 06 18	Crossrail Bill (Parliamentary Hybrid Bill proceedings) [from 2004 and continuing]
04 06 18	English Heritage, Westminster CC and Ashton v Secretary of State for Communities & Local Government
31 05 18	Court of Appeal Upholds Basildon Council's Decision to Enforce Against Largest Gypsy Site in the UK
31 05 18	Ardagh Glass v Chester City Council and Quinn Glass [2009] EWHC 745 (Admin)
25 05 18	High Court rules on interpretation of the Air Quality Directive in call-in judicial review

24 05 18	Challenge to QPR Training Facilities on Metropolitan Open Land Fails
24 05 18	Court of Appeal rejects appeal in Oadby & Wigston case
08 05 18	Court of Appeal upholds planning permission for new QPR training ground and academy facility
26 07 16	R. (on the application of Hawksworth Securities Plc) v Peterborough City Council [2016] EWHC 1870 (Admin)