



Georgina Fenton

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Expertise

Public, Planning and Environment, Property

Overview

Georgie joined Chambers in 2021 following completion of pupillage during which she was supervised by Galina Ward, Myriam Stacey QC, Zack Simons, David Blundell QC and Julia Smyth. Georgie is developing a practice across all areas of Landmark's specialisms, with a focus on public, planning and environmental law.

Prior to starting pupillage, Georgie was a judicial assistant in the Court of Appeal to Lord Justice Lindblom assisting on a variety of planning cases. Most notably, Georgie assisted with the writing of the judgment for the Heathrow Airport expansion case, which was the first significant ruling in the world on the Paris Climate Agreement (*R. (on the application of Plan B Earth) v Secretary of State for Transport* [2020] EWCA Civ 214).

Prior to and during her legal studies, Georgie volunteered with Communities Empowerment Network, Reprieve and Citizens Advice.

In her spare time, Georgie plays netball and volunteers with a local soup kitchen (Refugee Community Kitchen).

Public Law

Georgie aspires to develop a broad public law practice. Her recent work includes:

- Acting for a local authority in a Court of Protection case regarding the ongoing care arrangements for a service user.
- Advice to a local authority regarding a disability discrimination claim relating to the provision of therapy under an Education Healthcare Plan.

While a pupil, Georgie gained experience in a wide range of public law matters, including:

- Drafting advice on the interpretation of the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement, legislative changes in naturalisation laws, the implications of the UK Government's COVID-19 Travel Regulations and the legal obligations on GPs as data controllers.
- Observing open proceedings in the Shamima Begum litigation, regarding deprivation of nationality on national security grounds.
- Assisting with the preparation of hearings, including the Supreme Court case challenging the two-child limit to child tax credit (*R (on the application of SC, CB and 8 children) v Secretary of State for Work and Pensions and others* [2021] UKSC 26).
- Assisting with the preparation of witnesses in the Residential Schools and Effective Leadership hearings of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

Prior to starting pupillage, Georgie gained experience in education law by volunteering with Communities Empowerment Network challenging school exclusions of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

While a judicial assistant to Lord Justice Lindblom, Georgie assisted with the judgment in the case of *R (on the application of the Governing Body of X) v Ofsted* [2020] EWCA Civ 594 concerning an application for an interim injunction by a school to prevent the publication of an Ofsted report.

Planning and Environmental Law

Georgie is developing a varied practice across all areas of planning and environmental law. Her recent work includes:

- Drafting judicial review grounds for the Environmental Law Foundation to challenge the revocation of an Environmental Traffic Regulation Order. The grounds were later successful in the High Court (*R(Keyhole Bridge User Safety Group) v Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council* [2021] EWHC 3082 (Admin)).
- Advising a local authority on the prospects of successfully defending an appeal against the non-determination of an application for a certificate of lawful use.
- Advising planning consultants on the loss of permitted development rights.
- Research and advisory work for the RSPB.

Georgie developed her experience in planning law before pupillage as a judicial assistant in the Court of Appeal to Lord Justice Lindblom. During her time as a judicial assistant Georgie worked on a variety of planning cases, including:

- *R(on the application of Plan B Earth) v Secretary of State for Transport* [2020] EWCA Civ 214) regarding the expansion of Heathrow Airport.
- *R(on the application of William Corbett) Respondent v Cornwall Council* [2020] EWCA Civ 508) which considered whether conflict with a single policy in a local plan renders planning permission incompatible with the local plan as a whole.
- *Alison Hook v Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government and Surrey Heath Borough Council* [2020] EWCA Civ 486 which considered whether an agricultural occupancy condition attached to an application for planning permission was sufficient to ensure a dwelling was not "inappropriate development" in the Green Belt.

As a pupil, Georgie gained experience of and assisted with a wide range of planning matters, including:

- Attending and assisting with planning inquiries including the 55 West inquiry, a 100% affordable 144-flat scheme in West Ealing.
 - Drafting summary grounds of defence in several planning Judicial Reviews.
 - Assisting with preparation for cross examination of planning witnesses in planning inquiries.
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Property Law

While a pupil, Georgie gained experience of and assisted with a wide range of property matters, including:

- Advising on a variety of property law issues including the prospect of obtaining summary judgment against a tenant for non-payment of rent during the COVID-19 pandemic, the enforceability of positive covenants, ancillary use of easements and the process for rectification of boundaries by the Land Registry.
 - Drafting a defence and counterclaim challenging the validity of a section 146 notice, a skeleton argument for summary judgment challenging eviction from premises by forfeiture, and a particulars of claim seeking payment of rent and service charge arrears.
 - Assisting with research into right to light issues and cost recovery by local authorities through the Building Safety Fund for buildings with cladding identified as a fire risk post-Grenfell.
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Qualifications

The University of Law - Bar Professional Training Course (Very Competent)

University of Law - Graduate Diploma in Law (Distinction)

University of Durham (Collingwood College) - BA in English Literature (First)

Awards

2019: Resolution of Disputes out of Court Prize, The University of Law

2018: The Lord Justice Holker Scholarship for the BPTC, Gray's Inn

2016: Honorary Life Membership Award from Collingwood College, Durham University

Professional Associations

Administrative Law Bar Association

Immigration Law Practitioners' Association

Planning and Environmental Bar Association

Publications

22 Nov 2021	Practice and procedure update (including Aarhus costs)
22 Nov 2021	Part 3 - Planning High Court Challenges - webinar series
19 Nov 2021	High Court rules that patients with capacity receiving care and treatment in the community will not suffer the distress of hospital detention if such detention would breach their Article 5 rights
