



Kate Grange KC

Year of call: 1998 | Silk: 2017

Email: kate.grange@39essex.com

Phone: +44 (0)20 7832 1111

"She is hugely impressive, able to comprehend enormous amount of technical detail and her cross-examination style is effective, thorough and forensic." Chambers and Partners 2022

Kate has a broad practice which combines both public and commercial law. She is one of the lead counsel on the Grenfell Tower Inquiry and has taken a principal role in all construction and technical aspects of the inquiry's work. She is a former member of the Attorney General's A-Panel of Counsel and appears on behalf of central government in high-profile public law proceedings with particular emphasis on national security, human rights, terrorism, prisons and immigration law. Her practice also includes substantial and complex litigation, arbitrations or mediations arising out of large-scale commercial, construction and engineering, insurance and professional negligence disputes. The nature of her practice means that she has particular experience of advising on the interface between public and commercial law issues.

Kate was appointed a deputy High Court judge in 2019.

Areas of expertise

Construction

Commercial

Administrative and Public Law

Damages Claims Against Public Authorities

Inquiries and Investigations

Inquiries and Investigations

"She has an encyclopedic knowledge of the issues and she is fantastic to work with." Chambers and Partners 2022

Kate was appointed one of the lead counsel to the Grenfell Tower Inquiry in July 2017 and her performance in questioning witnesses has attracted considerable praise from commentators and from the victims of the fire. Her examination is featured in the 'Value Engineering' play (edited by Richard Norton-Taylor and directed by Nicholas Kent), which ran in theatres in late 2021. She has been praised for her meticulous grasp of detail, her incisive questioning and also her humanity and compassionate approach with victims

and vulnerable witnesses.

Kate also has extensive experience of challenges to inquiries and investigations. She was heavily involved in the Rosemary Nelson Inquiry and advised the Chilcot Inquiry and has appeared in significant judicial reviews relating to the state's duty of investigation under the ECHR.

She also appeared in several major challenges in the Investigatory Powers Tribunal following the Edward Snowden allegations and has defended the security and intelligence agencies in a number of high-profile cases:

- ***Al-Saadoon v Secretary of State for Defence* [2016] 1 WLR 3625** – Advising and acting for the MOD in relation to the Iraq Fatality Inquiries.
- ***Ali Zaki Mousa v Secretary of State for Defence* [2012] HRLR 6, [2013] HRLR 32, [2013] Inquest LR 122** – Various challenges to refusal to hold a public inquiry into abuses by British soldiers in Iraq.
- Extensive involvement in the Rosemary Nelson Inquiry, advising and acting for the inquiry on all relevant aspects of public law and successfully defending the inquiry in three separate judicial review challenges in the Northern Irish courts.
- ***Belhaj v Security Service* IPT/13/132-9/H** – Challenge to the regime governing the interception of communications attracting legal professional privilege.
- ***Lucas v Security Service* [2015] UKIPTrib 14_79-CH** – “Wilson Doctrine”, i.e. whether the agencies had broken a former prime minister's promise to parliament that MPs' communications would not be intercepted.
- ***Privacy International & Greennet* [2016] UKIP Trib 14_85-CH** – Challenge to GCHQ's 'computer hacking' activities in which the tribunal upheld the lawfulness of the domestic legal regime.
- ***Human Rights Watch v Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs* [2016] UKIPTrib15_165-CH** – Investigatory Powers Tribunal (IPT) ruled on whether it should entertain the complaints of hundreds of parties who had expressed a belief that their communications had been intercepted by the UK intelligence services and that they may have been subject to the sharing of intelligence between the US and UK authorities.

Recommendations

*“Kate is just excellent in everything she does.”*The Legal 500 2021

*“She carries out an extremely thorough, effective and forensic examination of key witnesses in a calm and unflappable way.”*The Legal 500 2021

*“Balanced, sensible and extremely capable opponent, with a strong sense of fairness.”*The Legal 500 2021

*“She shows an excellent and in-depth understanding of the technical issues.”*Chambers and Partners 2021

*“She’s a totally reliable and amazingly supportive person to work with and is immensely popular with the judges.” “She’s very clever, and has a common-sense grounding and approach to cases and works very hard at them.” “An extremely sensible and pragmatic lawyer with a good balance in terms of knowing how far to push things.”*Chambers and Partners 2020

*“She shows an excellent and in-depth understanding of the technical issues.”*Chambers and Partners 2020

*“A superb team player, she maintains her cool even under the most intense pressure.”*The Legal 500 2019

"Incredibly lucid, with an unerring ability to identify and distill the key points." The Legal 500 2019

Memberships

- Technology & Construction Bar Association (TECBAR)
- Administrative Law Bar Association (ALBA)
- Commercial Law Bar Association (COMBAR)

Qualifications

Education

Queens' College, Cambridge LLB: 1994-1997

Scholarships and Prizes

Diplock Scholar Middle Temple

Additional information

Kate was nominated for Barrister of the Year in 2022 by The Lawyer magazine.

She acts as a maternity mentor for a number of women at the Bar and she is also Chair of Governors of a North London state primary school.

Appointments

- Attorney General's A-panel (2012)
- Silk (2017)
- Deputy High Court Judge (2019)

London

81 Chancery Lane,
London
WC2A 1DD
Tel: +44 (0)20 7832 1111
DX: London/Chancery Lane 298
Fax: +44 (0)20 7353 3978

MANCHESTER

82 King Street,
Manchester
M2 4WQ
Tel: +44 (0)16 1870 0333
Fax: +44 (0)20 7353 3978

SINGAPORE

Maxwell Chambers,
28 Maxwell Road,
WC2A 1DD
04-03 & 04-04, Maxwell Chamber
Suites
Singapore 069120
Tel: +65 6320 9272

KUALA LUMPUR

#02-9, Bangunan Sulaiman
Jalan Sultan Hishamuddin,
50000 Kuala Lumpur,
Malaysia
Tel: +60 32 271 1085

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clerks@39essex.com • DX: 298 London/Chancery Lane • 39essex.com