



## Nicola Greaney KC

Year of call: 1999 | Silk: 2023

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*"She's very astute and gets to the crux of even the most complicated matters."* Chambers and Partners 2024

*"She is intelligent, bright and brilliant with clients."* Chambers and Partners 2024

Nicola is a versatile advocate with a diverse and multi-disciplinary practice encompassing clinical negligence, Court of Protection (COP), public and regulatory law, personal injury, costs and litigation funding and sports law.

She is instructed in high-value, legally and procedurally complicated cases which often have a high degree of sensitivity or novelty, and generate press and public interest.

Nicola is instructed by the NHS, central government, private health care providers, individuals, corporate bodies, regulators and other public authorities. She is frequently instructed in cases raising public and private law issues which cross-over a number of her practice areas.

Before taking silk, she served on all three Attorney General panels.

She is an experienced advocate in a variety of courts including the Court of Appeal and the High Court and has appeared before a range of regulatory tribunals.

She is experienced in group litigation, specialist group litigation costs and litigation funding.

She has an expertise in safeguarding arising from her work with vulnerable adults in the COP and in sexual abuse claims in the civil context. She sits as an arbitrator on Sports Resolution's Safeguarding Panel and has acted for governing bodies and individuals in safeguarding cases in sport.

## Areas of expertise

Clinical Negligence

Personal Injury

Healthcare

Court of Protection and Medical Treatment

Civil Liberties and Human Rights

Administrative and Public

Regulatory and Disciplinary  
Costs and Litigation Funding  
Sport  
Information and Media

## Healthcare

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Nicola acts for individuals, the NHS and private healthcare and social care providers and local authorities in a wide range of healthcare disputes involving public and private law issues. These claims frequently involve novel and complex issues of law and are heard in the Administrative Court or in High Court or County Court. The cases often involve public and private cross-over issues including NHS contract and service reconfiguration disputes. Nicola is a specialist in restitution claims in the health and social care sector and acts for individuals, deputies and public authorities. She has acted in a wide range of cases involving human rights, illegality and misuse of private information in the health care field. Current cases include alleged mismanagement of a child with anorexia and duty of care issues in relation to donor gametes.

*"Nicola is very legally and technically accomplished." "Nicola has very good attention to detail and gets straight to the heart of the issue". Chambers and Partners, 2023*

### Cases of note:

- ***Numerous claimants v Maidstone & Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust [Ongoing]*** - Acting for the NHS in intimate claims brought by family members of deceased victims of David Fuller who sexually abused their bodies in a hospital mortuary. Complex liability issues and Nicola is instructed in respect of the compensation scheme.
- ***R (on the application of Megan Bacon-Evans, Whitney Bacon-Evans v NHS Frimley Clinical Commissioning Group [Ongoing]*** - Acted for the CCG in discrimination/ECHR judicial review challenge to the criteria adopted by the CCG for same-sex couples accessing NHS funded IVF treatment. Wide press coverage.
- ***Brennan and ors v City of Bradford and Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust [2021] 1 WLUK 429*** - Acted for NHS in claims brought under Article 8 ECHR (A8) by family members in novel claim about decomposition of deceased's body in hospital mortuary. Wide press coverage.
- ***Disabilities Trust v Slough Borough Council, North Lincolnshire Borough Council [2021]*** - Represented care services provider in claim for breach of contract and restitution against local authorities for non-payment of care home fees. Claim successfully settled at mediation for substantial sum.
- ***Bart's Health NHS Trust v Yvonne Goodright [2021]*** - Represented NHS trust in claim in the Chancery Division for a declaration that it was lawful to make arrangements for the cremation of a body in the hospital's mortuary in circumstances where the personal representatives had failed to do so.
- ***Inquest touching on the death of ME [2021]*** - Represented family at three-day inquest arising from a tragic suicide against a background of failings in mental health care where there was a disputed issue as to engagement of Article 2 and breach of the systemic duty.
- ***Dewhirst v South Tees Hospital NHFT [2019]*** - Consultation challenge to hospital re-configuration and cessation of core services at local hospital. Acted for claimant, led by Fenella Morris QC. Permission granted, contested costs hearing.
- ***Brenda Grant v George Eliot Hospital NHS Trust [2017]*** - Represented NHS in first damages claim brought for failure to follow an advance directive under the Mental Capacity Act stating that the patient did not wish to be artificially fed. Settlement agreed out of court at £45,000. Against QC. Press coverage.

- *R v Bedford Primary Care Trust ex parte Watts* (QBD) 21 October 2003 [2003] EWHC 2401 (Admin) - A claim for a hip operation carried out in France on the basis of EU law.

## Recommendations

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- *"She is excellent in advisory work and on her feet, and can contend with complex facts with ease."* Chambers and Partners 2023
- *"She is very straightforward and clear in addressing judges."* Chambers and Partners 2023
- *"Nicola is incredibly diplomatic."* Chambers and Partners 2023
- *"She is able to break down complicated legal problems."* Chambers and Partners 2023
- *"She is empathetic and practical to the client's needs."* Chambers and Partners 2023
- *"Nicola is very legally and technically accomplished."* Chambers and Partners 2023
- *"Nicola has very good attention to detail and gets straight to the heart of the issue."* Chambers and Partners 2023
- *"A clever and insightful lawyer able to develop and articulate complex legal issues. A silk in waiting."* The Legal 500, 2022
- *"She is very thorough, experienced and incredible at drafting." "She is incredibly professional with an abundance of integrity."* Chambers and Partners, 2022
- *"Very personable and bright". "She's both good with clients and articulate on paper."* Chambers and Partners, 2022
- *"She has a really good calm manner that instils trust in the panel. Doesn't take points that are too high or impossible to back up." "Impressive, practical and very good with clients."* Chambers and Partners, 2022
- *"Her legal knowledge is fantastic, and she has the ability to frame submissions in an intelligent, yet easy to digest manner that the court loves."* The Legal 500, 2022
- *"A clever and insightful lawyer able to develop and articulate complex legal issues. A silk in waiting."* The Legal 500, 2022
- *"A terrific junior with good judgement, who is hard-working, knows her stuff and is good at meeting deadlines." "She is incredibly detailed in her approach – a spreadsheet queen."* Chambers and Partners UK 2021
- *"Extremely professional and knowledgeable. She is able to give exceptional yet compassionate advice in very complex cases." "She puts up a good fight for her clients."* Chambers and Partners UK 2021
- *"She is personable, calm and unflappable in court." "She is always extremely approachable. She gives robust and clear advice."* Chambers and Partners UK 2021
- *"Extremely bright, thorough and thoughtful."* Chambers and Partners UK 2020
- *"A robust advocate who is very down to earth. She provides very sound advice."* Chambers and Partners UK 2020

## Memberships

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- Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers (ARDL)
- Personal Injury Bar Association (PIBA)
- Court of Protection Bar Association (CPBA)
- Administrative Law Bar Association (ALBA)

- Professional Negligence Bar Association (PNBA)
- Liberty

## Qualifications

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### Education

- BA (Hons) Law, New Hall, Cambridge, 1998
- Bar Finals, Inns of Court School of Law (1999)
- King Edward VI Grammar School, Chelmsford, Essex
- Ursuline High School, Brentwood, Essex

### Scholarships and prizes

- Von Moltke Scholarship, Inns of Court
- Inner Temple Bursary (1998)
- Duke of Edinburgh Entrance Scholarship (1998)
- Cambridge European Studies Scholarship for Italian Studies in Italy (1998)

## Additional Information

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### Appointments

- Committee member of Cambridge Medico-Legal Conference (2021 to date)
- Sport Resolution's National Safeguarding Panel, Legal member (2021 to date)
- Member of Bar Council Remuneration Committee (2018 to date)
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Officer, 39 Essex Chambers

### Languages

- German
- French

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