



## Victoria Hutton

Year of call: 2011

Email: victoria.hutton@39essex.com

Phone: +44 (0)20 7832 1111

*"One of her real strengths is to understand and advise clients, she cuts through the issue and provides excellent advice. She's developed a huge expertise....." Chambers and Partners 2023*

Victoria is consistently rated as one of the leading juniors at the planning and environmental bar. She has been shortlisted as planning and environment junior barrister of the year by Chambers and Partners (2021) and was included in the Planner's Women of Influence list for 2020. Victoria is the co-author of 'Planning Policy' (Bloomsbury 2018 with Richard Harwood QC). She has extensive advocacy experience which includes appearing in a number of substantive appeals before the Court of Appeal in her own right. Victoria also appears regularly in the High Court, inquiries, informal hearings and local plan examinations. Victoria's work spans both England and Wales.

## Areas of expertise

Planning

Environment

Energy and Natural Resources

## Energy and Natural Resources

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Victoria has developed a specialism of acting for the promoters of large energy projects in various planning and environmental processes.

### Cases of note:

- **Promotion of Sizewell C Development Consent Order**- Victoria represented the promoter of a development consent order for a new nuclear power station at Sizewell C. Victoria's particular focus was on environmental issues including habitats regulation assessment. The decision is awaited.
- **Hinkley Point C, Appeal against Environment Agency's Failure to determine a permit variation** - Victoria and Stephen Tromans QC represented NNB, the developer of Hinkley Point C, in a two-week inquiry into NNB's appeal against the Environment Agency's failure to determine its application for a permit variation. The case concerned whether the variation of the permit would cause an adverse effect on the integrity of various protected sites. In particular, through its impact upon various fish species. The decision is awaited.

- **R (Tarian Hafren Severn Shield Cyf) v Marine Management Organisation [2022] EWHC 683 (Admin)** - Victoria represented (as junior to James Strachan QC) NNB Ltd (the developer of Hinkley Point C (HPC)) in this successful defence to a judicial review of a grant of a marine licence by the Marine Management Authority. The case raised issues of: statutory construction, habitats, the waste framework directive and the water framework directive.
- **Energy from Waste Projects** - Victoria has appeared for and against the development of energy from waste projects. Victoria successfully represented two parish councils during a long running appeal relating to a proposal for a biogas facility in Sussex.
- **Quarries** – Victoria has advised a number of Quarry operators on various environmental and planning issues arising out of quarrying activity.

## Recommendations

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- *"One of the rising stars of the Bar, her knowledge and expertise in environmental law is second to none and her work is always of high quality."* Legal 500 2023
- *"Victoria's knowledge and expertise in planning law is probably unrivalled by those of her age and experience."* Legal 500 2023
- *"Victoria is excellent. Incredibly bright, always thorough and prepared, and a delight to work with."* Chambers and Partners 2023
- *"One of her real strengths is to understand and advise clients, she cuts through the issue and provides excellent advice. She's developed a huge expertise in planning law, but is still very good value."* Chambers and Partners 2023
- *"She is a rising star of the Planning Bar. Excellent."* Chambers and Partners 2023
- *"She is very responsive, clear in the advice she gives and pragmatic."* Chambers and Partners 2022
- *"Victoria is well liked by clients for her commercial advice and technical knowledge."* Chambers and Partners 2022
- *"She is friendly, efficient and an expert in her field."* Chambers and Partners UK 2020
- *"She'll cut to the chase and she's very good at explaining quite complex issues to"* Chambers and Partners UK 2020
- *"Hard working, thorough and dependable. Effective advocate. Excellent with clients."* The Legal 500 2020
- *"She's very efficient and has a commercial acumen that isn't always present in juniors."* Chambers and Partners UK 2020
- *"Able to command the facts and deploy knowledge to convey the importance of the issues."* The Legal 500 2020
- *"She is fluid in her addresses to court and has an exceptional writing ability."* Chambers and Partners UK 2018

## Memberships

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- Planning and Environmental Bar Association (PEBA)

- United Kingdom Environmental Law Association (UKELA)

## Qualifications

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### Education

- Oxford University, Brasenose College, Modern History MA (Hons)
- BPP Law School, Graduate Diploma in Law
- London School of Economics, LLM Public International Law (Distinction)
- BPP Law School, Bar Vocational Course (Outstanding)

### Scholarships and Prizes

- Lord Haldane Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn
- Proxime Beit Prize, Oxford University
- Academic Exhibition, Brasenose College, Oxford University

## Additional Information

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### Appointments

- Treasurer of the Planning and Environmental Bar Association
- Committee Member of the Joint Oxford Law Planning Conference

### Languages

- French (Rusty)

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#### 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