



Stephanie David

Year of call: 2016

Email: stephanie.david@39essex.com

Phone: +44 (0)20 7832 1111

"Stephanie has a brilliant legal brain: she is able to see problems and work them through before arriving at the best answer." The Legal 500 2024

"An engaging, courageous advocate." The Legal 500 2024

Steph has a multi-disciplinary practice focussing on matters affecting health, sport and the environment. She is ranked as a "rising star" in administrative law and human rights, as well as Court of Protection, and a "leading junior" in environmental law by The Legal 500. Her experience spans a wide range of work, from public interest judicial reviews, regulatory work to private law claims and commercial claims.

She holds degrees from the University of Cambridge and the London School of Economics, where she was awarded the prize for the best mark in the LLM in Human Rights (2014).

Steph is a regular contributor to the Journal of Environmental Law, LawInSport and Sport Resolutions. She has peer reviewed for the Australian and New Zealand Sports Law Journal.. She has also contributed to the latest edition of Wilmot-Smith on Construction Contracts (4th edition, May 2021),

Areas of expertise

Administrative and Public

Commercial

Civil Liberties and Human Rights

Healthcare

Environment and Planning

Sport

Court of Protection and Medical Treatment

Environment and Planning

"A brilliant lawyer with a real ability to find the kernel that is likely to win a case, she is going to be a star of the environmental Bar." The

"She has an impressively diverse environmental law practice and she is a popular and hardworking member of the team." The Legal 500 2022

Steph has a strong environmental law practice and is ranked as a "leading junior" by The Legal 500. She was instructed junior counsel in the high-profile litigation regarding the third runway at *Heathrow in the High Court and Court of Appeal* ([2019] EWHC 1070 (Admin) and [2020] EWCA Civ 214). She is involved in cutting-edge climate change litigation; and has experience in regulatory and private law disputes affecting the environment. Her work in this area includes advice on litigation on: the environmental permitting regime (in respect of water discharge activities, waste and air pollution), habitats, biodiversity, waste, statutory and private nuisance claims, enforcement notices, and planning appeals. She has a keen interest in energy regulation, including in respect of nuclear and hydrogen power, as well as renewable energy.

Notable recent instructions include:

- ***R (Possible (The 10:10 Foundation)) v (1) Secretary of State for Transport (2) Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy* (case no. CO/3830/2022)** – As junior counsel to David Wolfe KC, Steph challenge to the Defendants' Jet Zero Strategy ("JZS") within which the Government sets out how aviation will achieve net zero by 2050, following the case of *R (Friends of the Earth Ltd) v Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy* [2022] EWHC 1841 (Admin) ("Net Zero Strategy Case")
- ***R (Global Feedback Ltd) v Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs* (case no. CO/3078/2022)** – As junior counsel to David Wolfe KC, acting on behalf of Global Feedback in their challenge to the Government's food strategy.
- ***R (Martin) v Folkestone and Hythe District Council* [2020] EWHC 1614 (Admin)** - As junior counsel to Richard Harwood KC, in successfully defended a judicial review challenge to a large development on the coast, raising issues of flooding and interpretation of planning policy.
- ***R (Walker) v London Borough of Redbridge* (case no CO/2471/2022)** - As junior counsel for the Claimant, the claim concerned the disproportionate impact of poor air quality on children and vulnerable people.
- ***R (Wasik) v Wealden District Council* (case no. CO/4578/2020)** - As junior counsel in this challenge relating to the impact of nitrogen oxides on the Ashdown Forest Special Area of Conservation and the correct interpretation of the CJEU decision in the Dutch Nitrogen Cases (cases C-293-17 and C-294-17). Junior counsel to Stephen Tromans KC advising a Scandinavian company on water pollution offences under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and related regulations; and the approach under English law to sentencing of environmental offences, in the context of pollution of the sea.
- Junior counsel to Daniel Stedman-Jones in successfully defending the decision of Milton Keynes Council to refuse planning permission for up to 250 houses at Linford Lakes in the open countryside, in an area rich in biodiversity and hosting a local nature reserve (APP/Y0435/W/17/3175391).
- As sole counsel, she advised on a judicial review challenge to a reserved matters decision on the grounds inter alia of the local planning authority's failure to properly assess the air quality impacts of the development, particularly on an air quality management area.
- As junior counsel to Daniel Stedman-Jones advising a local authority on the merits of a fly-tipping prosecution, as well as on practice and procedure.
- As sole counsel, she successfully resisted an application for judicial review brought on the ground inter alia of an alleged breach of Article 15 of the Town and Country Planning (Development

Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015.

- Advising on an appeal of an enforcement notice in relation to alleged breaches of condition at a wood waste recycling plant.

Memberships

- Administrative Law Bar Association ("ALBA")
- Women in Sports Law ("WiSL")
- Court of Protection Bar Association ("CPBA")
- UK Environmental Law Association ("UKELA")

Qualifications

Education

- 2018, Asian International Arbitration Centre, Certificate in Sports Arbitration
- 2014-2016, City Law School, Bar Professional Training Course
- 2012-2014, Master of Laws, London School of Economics and Political Science ("LSE"), Distinction
- 2011-2012, City Law School, Graduate Diploma in Law, Distinction
- 2008-2011, Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge, Human, Social and Political Sciences, MA Hons (Cantab)

Scholarships and Prizes

- 2014 – Prize for best mark in LLM in Human Rights at the London School of Economics and Political Science
- 2013 – UK Semi-Finalist in the Jessup Public International Law Moot
- 2012 – Lord Denning Scholarship, Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn
- 2009, 2010 – Senior Exhibition at Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge
- 2008 – Prime Minister's Global Fellowship

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