



Ruth Keating

Year of call: 2017

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Ruth Keating has a broad practice across all areas of chambers' specialisms, with a particular interest in energy and construction disputes, commercial, environmental and public law.

She has acted as junior counsel in the High Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court and appears regularly as sole counsel in the High Court and County Court. In addition, she undertakes pleading and advisory work.

Ruth was a judicial assistant to Lady Arden and Lord Kitchin at the Supreme Court. During this time, she assisted on cases of the United Kingdom Supreme Court and the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

Before coming to the Bar, Ruth was a research assistant at the Law Commission of England and Wales. Prior to her time at the Law Commission, she was an associate at Ci, a company which organises global technology conferences.

Ruth has been called to the Bar of England and Wales (2017) and the Bar of Ireland (2019).

Areas of expertise

Environment

Construction, Energy and Natural Resources

Administrative and Public

Commercial

Administrative and Public

Ruth regularly appears as both sole and junior counsel in judicial review challenges.

Cases of note

Her experience includes:

- Junior counsel, led by Andrew Tabachnik KC, representing the Solicitors Regulation Authority (intervening) in the Supreme Court appeal in *Competition and Markets Authority (Respondent) v Flynn Pharma Ltd and another (Appellants)* [2022] UKSC 14.
- Acted as junior counsel in several judicial review challenges concerning the COVID-19 vaccination programme, including: the priority groups for COVID-19 vaccination and vaccination for under-18s (led by Catherine Dobson and Ewan West). See for example *R(on the application of AB (a child*

by her mother and litigation friend)) v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care [2022] EWHC 1996 (Admin).

- *SM v Lord Chancellor* [2021] EWHC 418 (Admin), acting as junior counsel, led by Catherine Dobson, in a case concerning access to legal advice under the Detained Duty Advice Scheme for immigration detainees held in prison.
- Acting as junior counsel, led by Victoria Butler-Cole KC and Steve Broach, in a proposed challenge to the lack of a national framework for treatment prioritisation during the Covid-19 pandemic, if demand for life-sustaining treatment outstripped available resources.
- Acting as junior counsel in judicial review proceedings regarding restrictions in the prison estate during the COVID-19 lockdowns.
- Junior counsel in a judicial review claim concerning the remedies available for children making a discrimination claim in the First-tier Tribunal.
- Instructed as junior counsel by a core participant in the Grenfell Tower Inquiry.
- While at the Supreme Court as a Judicial Assistant Ruth assisted with several cases relating to public law: In the matter of *D (A Child)* [2019] UKSC 42; *KV (Sri Lanka) Secretary of State for the Home Department* [2019] UKSC 10; *Konecny v District Court in Brno-Venkov, Czech Republic* [2019] UKSC 8; *AM (Zimbabwe) v Secretary of State for the Home Department* [2020] UKSC 17; *R (on the application of Hemmati and others) (AP) v Secretary of State for the Home Department* [2019] UKSC 56; *RR (AP) v Secretary of State for Work and Pensions* [2019] UKSC 52 and *Patel v Secretary of State for the Home Department* [2019] UKSC 59.

Qualifications

- Called to the Bar of Ireland, King's Inn (2019)
- Called to the Bar of England and Wales (2017)
- LLB, Trinity College Dublin (2014) (First Class)

Prizes

- Megarry Scholarship – Lincoln's Inn
- Advocacy Scholar – BPTC, University of Law
- Lord Denning Scholarship and Residential Scholarship – Lincoln's Inn
- Hardwicke Entrance Award – Lincoln's Inn
- Entrance Exhibitioner Award – Trinity College Dublin
- At university, Ruth was a keen debater on both a national and international level winning the Best Speaker Gold Medal and captained the winning teams against Harvard and Yale in the Student Economic Review debates. During her time at Lincoln's Inn she was the Debating Secretary for the Inn.

Additional Information

- Ruth is an editor of the Sweet & Maxwell Environmental Law Bulletins.
- Ruth has co-authored, with Nigel Pleming KC, the chapter on Climate Change Litigation in the UK in 'Climate Change Litigation: Global Perspectives' (edited by Ivano Alogna, Christine Bakker and Jean-Pierre Gauci) and to the current edition of Wilmot-Smith on Construction Contracts (4th edition, May 2021).
- While a Judicial Assistant Ruth worked on the Supreme Court's publication 'Public International Law

in the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom' (London Conference on International Law, October 2019) (co-authored with Lord Lloyd-Jones, Lady Arden and Courtney Grafton).

- She has also been a contributing author to several international journals and online sources including the BCDR International Arbitration Review, Judicial Review, the Trinity College Law Review and the King's Inns Law Review, Oxford Business Law Blog, the Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers Bulletin and the UK Constitutional Law Blog.

Previous Employment

- Judicial assistant to Lady Arden and Lord Kitchin at the UK Supreme Court.
- Research assistant at the Law Commission of England and Wales – commercial and common law team.
- Associate at Ci – Web Summit, Collision, RISE, SURGE, MoneyConf and f.ounders.

Pro bono

Ruth is happy to consider pro bono instructions.

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