



Nicola Greaney KC

Year of call: 1999 | Silk: 2023

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"She is dedicated, incredibly bright and empathetic." Chambers and Partners 2025

"Nicola is calm, highly intelligent, excellent with people and has super judgement." Legal 500 2025

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. Nicola has been instructed in a number of high profile cases involving individuals who have recently discovered that they were swapped at birth as babies and grew up with their non-biological parents. She is also instructed in litigation arising out of treatment provided by the GIDS service at the Tavistock clinic.

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
Inquiries and Investigations

Regulatory and Disciplinary

'Nicola is absolutely brilliant. She is dedicated, kind, empathetic and incredibly bright.' Chambers and Partners 2025

'Nicola is diligent, approachable, and provides well-researched and well-reasoned advice.' Legal 500 2025

Nicola's regulatory and disciplinary practice covers a wide field of regulation and discipline: health and social care professionals, arbitrators, financial service professionals, legal professionals, veterinary professionals and health, education and financial institutions. She represents individuals and regulators and often offers advice on difficult policy issues or unusual situations faced by regulators or those they regulate. She is regularly instructed in cases raising sexual misconduct and safeguarding issues. She appears before disciplinary tribunals and acts in High Court judicial review and appeal proceedings.

Cases of note:

- ***Gatland & ors v Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC)* [2022]** - Acted for six police officers in claims for breach of Article 6 ECHR for substantial delay by IPCC in police misconduct investigation. Complex statutory regime, facts and law. Negotiated substantial financial settlements in mediation against QC for IPCC.
- ***Professional Standards Authority v (1) Social Work England (2) Bennett* [2021] EWHC 3539 (Admin)** - Represented Social Work England (SWE) in the first statutory appeal brought against the regulator. Whether SWE was required to remove a social worker guilty of serious and persistent dishonesty in respect of immigration offences.
- ***Re LM* [2020]** - Represented a psychologist in proceedings before the Health and Care Professions Tribunal Service (HCPTS) brought by a former patient alleging an inappropriate sexual relationship, which gave rise to a complicated interlocutory application for exclusion of hearsay evidence.
- ***R (on the application of Barking & Dagenham College) v Office for Students* [2019] EWHC 2667 (Admin)** - Higher education institution's challenge to regulator's algorithm-based decision.
- ***Uwen v General Medical Council* [2018] EWHC 2484 (Admin)**- Whether practising without professional indemnity insurance justified an interim suspension order.
- ***HA v University of Wolverhampton & General Pharmaceutical Council* [2018] EWHC 144** - Represented General Pharmaceutical Council in case about whether a university was entitled to seek disclosure of a prospective student's criminal record.
- ***Professional Standards Authority v (1) General Dental Council (2) AB* [2016] EWHC 2154** - Represented General Dental Council in a statutory appeal brought by a dentist who had continued to practise while infected with hepatitis B.

Recommendations

- *"She is dedicated, incredibly bright and empathetic."* Chambers and Partners 2025

- *"Nicola is absolutely brilliant."* Chambers and Partners 2025
- *"Nicola understands the issues swiftly and provides sensible, commercially-aware advice."* Chambers and Partners 2025
- *"The advice was clear and concise, and she was very responsive."* Chambers and Partners 2025
- *"She's methodical in her approach and is always cautious in how she approaches funding questions, which is helpful from a claimant perspective."* Chambers and Partners 2025
- *"Nicola worked seamlessly with counsel on an issue we had."* Chambers and Partners 2025
- *"She is dedicated, kind, empathetic and incredibly bright."* Chambers and Partners 2025
- *"Nicola is absolutely brilliant."* Chambers and Partners 2025
- *"Nicola is a very reliable barrister with an ability to pick up complex facts really quickly, as well as to tease out often complex legal issues in a way that is readily understandable for the court and clients alike."* Legal 500 2025
- *"Nicola is extremely thorough and has an eye for detail. Her client care is exceptional."* Legal 500 2025
- *"Nicola is extremely thorough, highly intelligent and has excellent judgment. She is a quiet but highly effective advocate."* Legal 500 2025
- *"Nicola is a good communicator. She is quick to grasp complex instructions and deliver clear advice."* Legal 500 2025
- *"Nicola is calm, highly intelligent, excellent with people and has super judgement."* Legal 500 2025
- *"Nicola is diligent, approachable, and provides well-researched and well-reasoned advice."* Legal 500 2025
- *"An incredibly technical lawyer, who understands regulatory matters exceptionally well."* Chambers and Partners 2024
- *"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 has excellent technical knowledge and attention to detail."* Chambers and Partners 2024
- *"Nicola Greaney is a great opponent who always thinks deeply about her cases."* Chambers and Partners 2024
- *"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
- *"Nicola is a trusted adviser for complex and developing areas of law." "She is very good on tactics and strategy."* Chambers and Partners 2023
- *"Nicola is exceptional. Her standout qualities are her clear, logical and analytical mind and her dedication to the job"* The Legal 500, 2023
- *"Nicola is very level-headed, an effective advocate and a good communicator."* Chambers and Partners UK 2023
- *"Nicola is an excellent advisory lawyer (both orally and in writing), quickly establishes the trust of clients (even when they are sceptical of authority figures as a result of other experiences) and is a highly skilled advocate too."* 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
- *"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

- 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

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

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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