



Nicola Greaney KC

Year of call: 1999 | Silk: 2023

Email: nicola.greaney@39essex.com

Phone: +44 (0)20 7832 1111

"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

Personal Injury

Nicola acts for claimants and defendants in high value catastrophic personal injury claims including traumatic brain injury (TBI), spinal injury, functional disorders and complex psychiatric injury. She is particularly valued for her COP expertise in cases raising difficult capacity or deputyship issues. She is known for her empathy and sensitivity to clients, combined with a forensic and rigorous approach to the law and fact heavy cases. She is extremely experienced in high-value quantum disputes. She is adept at dealing with technical expert evidence from a wide range of disciplines. She is experienced in sexual and physical abuse claims, often involving health or social care settings and is often instructed in unusual injury cases arising from deliberate torts or other public law wrongs (including human rights claims).

*"Nicola is exceptional. Her standout qualities are her clear, logical and analytical mind and her dedication to the job"*The Legal 500, 2023

Cases of note:

- ***PAA v Daralyn Williams [2022]***- Acted for claimant in high-value TBI claim arising from road traffic accident. Contributory negligence and quantum in dispute. Dispute over 2:1 v 1:1 care and family as carers. Led by Stuart McKechnie QC, appeared alone at approval hearings. Settled for multi-million lump sum plus periodical payments order (PPO).
- ***Adoo-Kissi-Debrah and ors v Department for Environment and ors [Ongoing]*** - Acting for Transport for London and the Mayor of London in a claim for damages for breach of an EC Directive and the ECHR by the estate and family of a child who suffered a fatal asthma attack alleged to have been caused by unlawful levels of air pollutants in London.
- ***PIV v Ministry of Defence [Ongoing]***-Acting for defendant in sexual abuse claim brought by former RAF cadet against flying instructor. Vicarious liability and causation issue as to whether fibromyalgia triggered by sexual abuse.
- ***W v Ministry of Defence [Ongoing]*** - Instructed by defendant in TBI claim caused by helicopter accident in Afghanistan. High-value quantum dispute involving complex issues about accommodation (claim for two homes) and care regime.
- ***Gatland & ors v Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) [2022]*** - Acted for six police officers in claims for misfeasance in public office/breaches of ECHR against IPCC arising from police misconduct investigations causing psychiatric injury. Complex statutory regime, facts and law. Negotiated substantial settlements at mediation against QC for IPCC.
- ***A v Cygnet Health Care [Ongoing]*** - Representing claimant in claim for abuse and resulting personal injury from treatment she suffered while a resident of Whorlton Hall care home, which was exposed in a Panorama documentary.
- ***AXB (by his litigation friend, AXC) v Thera South Midlands [2021]*** - Acted for learning disabled adult in claim for Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) caused by negligent care and treatment by a residential care provider. Settled out of court and approved.
- ***Phillips v Natural England [2021]*** - Acted for Natural England in stress at work claim arising from a high-profile investigation.

Recommendations

- *"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

- 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

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