



Brian Ash KC

Year of call: 1975 | Silk: 1990

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“An excellent advocate, particularly for CPO matters; his cross-examination is very effective.” The Legal 500 (2015)

Following a career in television journalism, Brian Ash KC was called to the bar in 1975 and took silk in 1990. The main area of his practice is within the broad ambit of Public Law, with a particular focus on Planning, Compulsory Purchase and Compensation, Highways and Local Government administration. The focus on his main area of expertise began in about 1977 and he has had a continuous, busy practice since that time with projects and hearings too numerous to cite in detail.

Areas of expertise

Planning

Compulsory Purchase and Compensation

Administrative and Public

Administrative and Public

Advising Greenwich Council as host borough for the 2012 Olympics Games at the O2 site at Greenwich Peninsula, the Royal Artillery Barracks, Woolwich Common and Greenwich Royal Park on the progress of planning applications and associated legal matters.

Advising and representing the Commission for Local Administration (Local Government Ombudsman) for a period of many years in respect of broad policy matters and defending legal challenges to decisions on complaints.

Cases of note

- ***R v LGO* [2013] EWHC 1335 (Admin)** - The first case in which the courts (first instance and Court of Appeal) considered the constraints upon a local commissioner's power to investigate under section 26(6) of the Local Government Act 1974 in the context of the expanded jurisdiction to investigate complaints of "service failures".

Recommendations

- *"Highly recommended for judicial reviews."* The Legal 500 (2018)
- *"His ability to grasp quite difficult technical issues, such as those relating to noise, daylight and air quality concerns, is impressive. He has a great way of undermining the other side's witnesses."* Chambers and Partners (2018)
- *"He spots the issues and delivers cases calmly and strongly – he is also very approachable."* Chambers and Partners, (2014)
- *"Exceptional advocate... he possesses fantastic people skills and attracts instructions as a consequence of his bright and inspector-friendly disposition"* (2009)

Qualifications

Education

1960-64 / New College, Oxford / BA (modern languages)

Scholarships and Prizes

1960/ Open Exhibition, New College, Oxford

Additional Information

Appointments

- 1986 / Chairman EIP Panel, Devon County Structure Plan, First Alteration

Languages

- French
- German
- Spanish (relatively basic)
- Italian (relatively basic)

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