



Sir Wyn Williams FLSW

Year of call: 1974 | Silk: 1992

Phone: +44 (0)20 7832 1111

Sir Wyn Williams accepts appointments as an arbitrator and mediator for both domestic and international disputes.

Sir Wyn was appointed a Recorder of the Crown Court in 1992 and a Deputy High Court Judge in 1999. He took up a full time judicial appointment on 1 April 2004 when he was made a senior circuit judge and the specialist Chancery Judge for the Wales and Chester Circuit. In January 2007, Sir Wyn was appointed to the High Court and immediately upon appointment was authorised to sit in the Administrative Court. Between 1 January 2012 and December 2015, he was a presiding judge for Wales becoming the Senior Presiding Judge in January 2014. Although Sir Wyn has retired as a full time judge, he is authorised to sit as a Deputy High Court Judge. In December 2018, Sir Wyn was sworn in as a Court of Appeal Judge for Guernsey.

Between September 2012 and July 2016, Sir Wyn was the Deputy Chairman of the Boundary Commission for Wales, and between 2013 and his retirement in 2017 was the Chairman of the Wales Committee of the Judicial College. In 2013, Sir Wyn was elected to a fellowship of The Learned Society of Wales in recognition of his services to the law in Wales.

Prior to taking up a full time judicial career, Sir Wyn had a broad and highly successful practice at the Bar. He was called to the Bar in 1974 and practised from chambers in Cardiff until 1998. He took silk in 1992. In October 1998, he joined 39 Essex Chambers in London. In his later years as a silk, he practised principally in personal injury, clinical negligence, sports and public law but developed a particular interest in sporting disputes.

Areas of expertise

Sport

Administrative and Public

Common Law

Chancery

Administrative and Public

Sir Wyn has extensive experience over a wide range of public law. Examples of work in this area include:

As a QC:

Sir Wyn acted for private clients and planning authorities in a large number of planning cases. He was instructed at planning enquiries and appeals for and against promoters of road schemes, housing

developments and other major projects. He also acted for developers and planning authorities in legal challenges brought in the High Court relating to planning decisions made by planning authorities and inspectors on appeal.

Immediately prior to taking up the first of his full time judicial appointments, Sir Wyn acted as leading counsel for the Secretary of State for the Home Department in appeals brought before the Special Immigration Appeals Commission by persons who had been detained on suspicion of engaging in international terrorism. The legislation authorising detention was highly controversial and brought into force as one of a number of counter-terrorism measures in the aftermath of 9/11.

As a High Court judge:

Sir Wyn sat regularly in the Administrative Court throughout his career as a High Court judge and he was authorised to hear all the various types of cases litigated in that court. Upon the creation of the Planning Court, Sir Wyn became of judge of that court. Sir Wyn has presided over public law cases involving human rights, terrorism, extradition, immigration, planning, education, community care and mental health. Sir Wyn has also done a considerable amount of 'regulatory work' when sitting in the Administrative Court. He has presided over challenges/statutory appeals from bodies such as the Bar Standards Board, the Solicitors Regulation Authority, the General Medical Council, the Nursing and Midwifery Council, the Health Care Professional Council and the governing bodies of dentists, accountants and teachers.

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