



Rachel Sullivan

Year of call: 2015

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Rachel has a broad public law practice, with a particular interest in education and healthcare law. She also has a busy inquiries practice, and is currently instructed as junior counsel to the Grenfell Tower Inquiry. She also practises planning and environmental law. She regularly appears in the High Court, Court of Protection and County Courts as well as the appellate courts, on behalf of individuals, central and local government, NHS bodies and companies.

Rachel is on the Attorney General's C Panel of counsel.

Prior to joining chambers, Rachel worked at the Free Representation Unit and continues to undertake pro bono work on a regular basis, through Advocate and others.

Areas of expertise

Administrative and Public
Court of Protection and Medical Treatment
Inquiries and Investigations
Planning and Property
Regulatory and Disciplinary

Planning and Property

Rachel has substantial advisory experience in planning and environmental matters on behalf of both prospective claimants and local planning authorities (LPAs), including land classes and use of land orders, hazardous substance consents, variations to planning conditions and challenges to the grant of planning permission on environmental, landscape, heritage and flooding grounds, proposed s288 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 challenges.

She has acted as sole counsel in a village green inquiry and also has experience of enforcement matters.

Cases of note

- ***Miskin Village Green Inquiry*** - Instructed by local community action group (through the Environmental Law Foundation) in relation to land at Cefn Yr Hendy.
- **Proposed challenge to grant of permission** - Instructed by the Secretary of State in relation to a proposed challenge on ecology/interpretation of policy/alternative use grounds to the grant of

permission for 72 dwellings in Sheffield.

- **Enforcement matter** - (with Celina Colquhoun) Instructed in relation to an enforcement raising issues concerning mental capacity.
- **Proposed consultation challenge** - (With James Eadie QC) Instructed by MHCLG in relation to a proposed challenge to a consultation on changes to the private parking regime.

Memberships

- Administrative Law Bar Association (ALBA)
- Court of Protection Bar Association
- UK Environmental Law Association (UKELA)
- Environmental Law Foundation

Qualifications

Education

- 2014-15 City University London BPTC (Outstanding)
- 2013-14 Oxford Brookes University Graduate Diploma in Law (Distinction)
- 2012-13 University of Oxford English 650-1550 MSt (Distinction)
- 2009-12 University of Oxford English Language and Literature (BA) Hons (First class)

Scholarships and Prizes

- 2014 Stephen Chapman scholarship, Inner Temple
- 2014 OUP Prize (jointly), Oxford Brookes University
- 2014 Academic Prize (jointly), Oxford Brookes University
- 2013 Scholarship, Oxford Brookes University
- 2012 Jeremy Griffiths Memorial Studentship, Oxford University
- 2012 Fung Scholarship, Oxford University
- 2010 Gibbs Prize, Oxford University
- 2010 Academic scholar, New College Oxford

Additional information

Rachel regularly undertakes pro bono work through Advocate. Until 2019, she was the chair of the Free Representation Unit, a charity which provides free legal representation in employment and welfare benefit cases, and where she worked as a legal officer prior to pupillage. She also has experience volunteering as an Appropriate Adult (2014-16) and on suicide helplines.

She is currently sits on the Ethics Committee of the British Psychoanalytic Society.

Rachel is a member of chambers' management board and one of the equality and diversity officers for chambers.

Appointments

- 2020-2025 – Attorney General's C Panel
- 2020-2024 – Management Board

- 2020 – EDI Officer

Languages

- Spanish (conversational)
- French (basic)

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