



Richard Wald KC

Year of call: 1997 | Silk: 2020

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"Richard is a superb barrister. He exudes a style which is measured, considered, exactly on the point and very persuasive. One of the most effective advocates, but most particularly in the High Court where his intellectual brilliance and gifted advocacy make him stand out as a true star" The Legal 500 2022

Richard Wald KC is a leading environmental, planning and public law silk. He has been ranked by Chambers and Partners and The Legal 500 in the categories of Environmental Law, Planning Law, Aviation Law, Administrative and Public Law and Energy Law. Prior to taking silk he was rated by Planning Magazine Legal Survey as amongst the UK's top planning juniors for over a decade and nominated by Chambers and Partners as Planning and Environment Junior of the Year.

Areas of expertise

Administrative and Public

Administrative and Public (including Local Government and Human Rights)

Planning

-- Aviation and Aerospace

-- Compulsory Purchase and Compensation

-- Development Consent Orders and Infrastructure

-- High Court Planning Challenges

-- Planning Appeals, Hearings and Inquiries

-- Planning Enforcement

Environmental

Energy

-- Planning Enforcement

Richard advises on all aspects of planning enforcement and frequently appears in both enforcement notice appeals and related High Court challenges.

Notable cases

Asylum Accommodation Cases – Richard has acted for local planning authorities in a number of recent injunction claims based on an apprehended breach of planning control due to the proposed material change of use from hotel to hostel. Some of these claims are ongoing. A recent example of a reported such case is *Gt Yarmouth BC v Al-Abdin & Ors*. [2022] EWHC 3476 (KB).

Barry Biomass Energy from Waste Plant- Richard acted for the owner and operator of one of the UK's largest energy from waste incinerators in Barry, Vale of Glamorgan, Wales. The Vale of Glamorgan Council has recently served Aviva with an enforcement notice requiring the total demolition of the plant. Aviva has appealed against the notice on various grounds. A major enforcement appeal is due to be heard in 2023.

Brentwood v Carver - In 2018 Richard acted for Brentwood Borough Council and then the Crown in enforcement proceedings brought in relation to the 17 alleged breaches of planning control and then offences under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, involving what was described by the Council's heritage expert as "probably the worst and most comprehensive gutting of a large listed building I have personally encountered in a professional career spanning 40 years".

Surrey Heath BC v Hook LTL 31/10/14 - Richard acted for the LPA in various enforcement appeals and a high court injunction sought to restrain breaches of planning control involving the concealed development of a dwelling house within an agricultural barn.

Recommendations

Environment

"Tenacious and inventive - one of the pre-eminent environmental silks in London, and far and away the most skilled and persuasive." The Legal 500 2022

"Measured, confident, persuasive, he is a superb barrister who is good on paper but truly excellent when in court on his feet." Legal 500 2021

Planning

"Richard is an outstanding High Court advocate: clear, insightful and effective on his feet. He has got a brilliantly inventive mind."

"He is an excellent advocate, who is very approachable and easy to work with."

"He is very knowledgeable and very helpful."

"An excellent advocate, who is very approachable and easy to work with."

"Richard is a proper specialist in this area." Chambers and Partners 2023

Energy

"A breadth of knowledge across the many areas of nuclear regulation" The Legal 500 2015

Administrative and Public Law

"He has incredible skill and inventiveness in creating very attractive arguments." *"He is fantastic with clients who are very sophisticated and familiar with the process, but also very wonderful at holding clients' hands through their first judicial review."* Chamber and Partner 2020

"He's very bright and he packages his arguments and opinions in a way that the clients can understand."

"He puts everyone at ease and he gets to what really matters."

"Conscientious and diligent." *"An amazing advocate."* Chambers and Partners 2021

Aviation and Aerospace

"Richard has a very good grasp of the details relating to aviation regulation and control. He is good on

papers but excellent in court. He is measured, confident, on the point and very persuasive. "The Legal 500 2023

"An up-and-coming new silk" The Legal 500 2022 (Tier 1, Silks in Aviation Category)

Memberships and Appointments

- Planning & Environment Bar Association (PEBA)
- Administrative Law Bar Association (ALBA)
- Chair of Environmental Law Foundation
- Member and former trustee of United Kingdom Environmental Law Foundation
- National Infrastructure Planning Association
- Assistant Commissioner to the Boundary Commission for England (2016)
- General Editor of Sweet & Maxwell Thomson Reuter's Encyclopaedia of Environmental Law (2005-2015)
- Attorney General's B Panel of Counsel to the Crown (2009)
- Attorney General's C Panel of Prosecution Counsel to the Crown (2003)
- University of Brighton Visiting Lecturer (MSc Environmental Policy and Law)
- Judicial Assistant in the Court of Appeal (Assistant to Konrad Schiemann LJ)
- Legal and Administrative Trainee at UN Office of Legal Affairs and DG1A (External Relations) of the European Commission

Qualifications, Scholarships and Prizes

- MA Hon. Spanish & European History, First Class with Distinction (finished 1st in year), University of Edinburgh: 1990-1994
- Erasmus Scholar (Coimbra Group) – University of Granada (Medieval History)
- Brown University – Special Student Scholarship – American Literature and History
- Inns of Court School of Law – Bar Finals
- Diplomas in Law (City University) and EC Law (King's College, London): 1996
- Gray's Inn Prince of Wales Scholar 1998
- Inner Temple Pegasus Scholar (Judicial Assistant to Chief Justice of Israel) 2000
- Trained and accredited Mediator and Pupil Supervisor

Additional Information

- General Editor of Thomson Reuters' Encyclopedia of Environmental Law 2004-2015
- Co-editor of Sweet & Maxwell Thomson Reuter's Environmental Law Bulletin
- Contributor to Tromans on Nuclear Law 3rd Edition (Hart Publishing, forthcoming)
- Contributor to Tromans on Environmental Impact Assessment: Law and Practice 2nd Edition (Bloomsbury, 2012)
- Co-Author of Butterworths/LexisNexis' Highways Law and Practice 2002

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