



Nicola Greaney KC

Year of call: 1999 | Silk: 2023

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"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

Administrative and Public

Nicola acts for individuals, health and social care providers, local authorities and central government in a wide range of public law disputes. She has particular expertise in healthcare cases concerning NHS procurement, NHS contract disputes (or partnership arrangements), restitution/vires claims, healthcare reconfiguration, commissioning disputes (including experimental treatments) and data protection/misuse of private information. She is instructed by a range of public bodies in cases involving vires issues, breaches of ECHR, the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED), misfeasance in public office and misuse of private information/data protection breaches. She has acted in a number of challenges to elections conducted by public bodies. She has acted in a range of commercial public law cases in the transport and telecommunications sector.

"Nicola is an excellent advisory lawyer (both orally and in writing), quickly establishes the trust of clients (even when they are sceptical of authority figures as a result of other experiences) and is a highly skilled advocate too." The Legal 500, 2022

Cases of note:

- ***R (on the application of Sarah Leadbetter) v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care and NHS England* [2023]** - Acting for NHS England in a challenge alleging an alleged failure to make reasonable adjustments in the communications inviting eligible persons for Covid booster vaccinations.
- ***R (on the application of Hamilton) v Greater Manchester Mental Health NHSFT* [2023]** - Acted for claimants in judicial review challenge to reorganisation of mental health services.
- ***R (on the application of Megan Bacon-Evans, Whitney Bacon-Evans v NHS Frimley Clinical Commissioning Group* [Ongoing]** - Acted for CCG in discrimination/ECHR judicial review challenge to the criteria adopted by the CCG for same-sex couples accessing NHS funded IVF treatment. Wide press coverage. Case withdrawn by claimants in light of CCG's policy review.
- ***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 in mediation against QC for IPCC.
- ***Phillips v Secretary of State for Transport* [2020]** - Acted for the Secretary of State in a claim about revocation of vehicle licence plate numbers and breach of Article 1 of the First Protocol ECHR. Strike out hearing.
- ***R (on the application of Barking & Dagenham College) v Office for Students* [2019] EWHC 2667 (Admin)** - Higher education institution's challenge to regulator's algorithm-based decision.
- ***Dewhirst v South Tees Hospital NHFT* [2019]**- Consultation challenge to hospital re-configuration and cessation of core services at local hospital. Acted for claimant, led by Fenella Morris QC.
- ***R (on the application of Juttla & ors) v Hertfordshire Valleys Clinical Commissioning Group* [2018] EWHC 267 (Admin)** - Challenge to decision to cease commissioning a respite service for children
- ***RH v Secretary of State for Work and Pensions (DLA)* [2018]** UKUT 48 Upper Tribunal case

concerning the role of appointees and litigation friends in the Upper Tribunal.

- ***National Aids Trust v NHS Commissioning Board & Local Government Association & anr* [2016] EWHC 2005 (Admin), [2016] EWCA Civ 1100** - Powers of NHS England to fund PrEP, an antiretroviral drug to be used preventively to prevent individuals contracting HIV.
- ***South Staffordshire and Shropshire Healthcare NHS FT & anr v The Hospital Managers of St George's Hospital and AU* [2016] EWHC 1196** - An NHS Trust had the power to judicially review a discharge decision of its own hospital managers.
- ***R (Buckinghamshire CC) v Kingston upon Thames RBC* [2011] EWCA Civ 457** - Consideration of duty of consultation in a community care challenge.

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

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