



Ned Helme

Year of call: 2006

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"Ned Helme is exceptionally diligent and thinks carefully around all the angles of a problem." Chambers and Partners 2024

Ned is a leading junior specialising in planning, environment, energy, administrative and public law and associated areas. He acts for developers, landowners, local government and other public bodies, individuals and interest groups. He has been recommended in the directories for a number of years and is currently ranked as a leading junior in The Legal 500 for both planning and environment and in Chambers and Partners for planning. He has extensive court experience, including in the Supreme Court, Court of Appeal and High Court and he also appears regularly in inquiries, hearings and local plan examinations. He has a background in the biosciences and is particularly interested in cases involving scientific, environmental and other technical issues, including those relating to climate change, biodiversity and habitats, environmental assessment, energy and natural resources and strategic infrastructure. He is on the Board of the *Journal of Environmental Law* and is a General Editor of the *Sweet & Maxwell Environmental Law Bulletin*.

Areas of expertise

Planning

- Art and Cultural Property
- Aviation and Aerospace
- Compulsory Purchase and Compensation
- Development Consent Orders and Infrastructure
- High Court Planning Challenges
- Planning Policymaking
- Planning Applications
- Planning Appeals, Hearings and Inquiries
- Planning Enforcement
- Village Greens and Commons

Environment

- Biodiversity and Habitats
- Climate Change

-- High Court Planning Challenges

Ned has a busy court practice and has acted in a number of the leading planning cases in the High Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court.

Cases of note

- **R (Samuel Smith Old Brewery) v North Yorkshire CC [2020] UKSC 3** - Junior to Peter Village KC and James Strachan KC for the claimant in the High Court, Court of Appeal, and Supreme Court in a judicial review concerning the scope of Green Belt policy in the context of large-scale mineral extraction.
[Judgment](#)
- **City & Country Bramshill Ltd v SSHCLG [2021] 1 WLR 5761** - Junior to James Strachan KC in the High Court and Court of Appeal for the claimant/appellant in multiple challenges to decisions on a series of conjoined appeals concerning Bramshill House, a Grade I listed Jacobean mansion set within a Grade I registered park and garden.
[Judgment](#)
- **CEG Land Promotions II Ltd v SSHCLG [2018] EWHC 1799 (Admin)** - Junior to James Strachan KC for the claimant in proceedings under section 288 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 concerning the proper approach to “valued landscapes” under the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).
[Judgment](#)
- **Hallam Land Management v SSCLG and Eastleigh Borough Council [2018] EWCA Civ 1808** - Junior to Paul Stinchcombe KC for the council in both the High Court and Court of Appeal in proceedings under section 288 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 concerning the proper approach to calculating housing land supply.
[Judgment](#)
- **R (Lee Valley Regional Park Authority) v Epping Forest DC and Valley Grown Nurseries Ltd [2016] EWCA Civ 404** - Junior to Peter Village KC for the interested party in both the High Court and Court of Appeal in this judicial review of a decision to grant planning permission for a 92,000 square metre glasshouse on green belt, environmental impact assessment (EIA), habitats and other grounds.
[Judgment](#)
- **R (Burridge) v Breckland District Council [2013] EWCA Civ 228** - Junior to John Hobson KC for the District Council in this judicial review of planning permissions for a renewable energy facility. The Court of Appeal’s judgment is of importance on issues of project splitting in the context of EIA and the exercise of judicial discretion in cases involving European law.
[Judgment](#)
- **Hunston Properties v SSCLG [2013] EWCA Civ 1610** - Junior to Paul Stinchcombe KC for the claimant in both the High Court and Court of Appeal in this seminal case on objectively assessed housing needs.
[Judgment](#)

Recommendations

Ned has been recommended regularly in the directories for a number of years and is currently ranked as a leading junior in The Legal 500 for both planning (Tier 3) and environment (Tier 3) and in Chambers and Partners for planning (Band 5).

- *"Ned Helme is exceptionally diligent and thinks carefully around all the angles of a problem. He is very approachable with very swift turnaround in terms of getting documents out. He is easy to work with and is excellent at drafting."* Chambers and Partners (2024)
- *"Very approachable, careful and thorough. His advice is presented in a very logical and clear way, and he is very good with clients."* The Legal 500 (2022)
- *"Has a diverse planning practice and acts for clients in all manner of sectors. His broad areas of expertise encompass environmental, financial regulatory and public law, making him very knowledgeable on cross-disciplinary matters. He frequently acts for clients in inquiries and judicial reviews."* Chambers and Partners (2020)
- *"Bright and quick to grasp the important points."* Chambers and Partners (2020)
- *"He is responsive and punchy, and very concise and clear."* Chambers and Partners (2020)
- *"Undoubtedly a future star in the planning world"* Chambers and Partners (2019)
- *"A delightful junior and a pleasure to work alongside."* The Legal 500 (2019)

Memberships

- UK Environmental Law Association (UKELA)
- Planning & Environment Bar Association (PEBA)
- National Infrastructure Planning Association (NIPA)
- Administrative Law Bar Association (ALBA)
- South Eastern Circuit

Qualifications

Education

- 2005-2006: Inns of Court School of Law, Bar Vocational Course
- 2004-2005: City University, Graduate Diploma in Law
- 2000-2003: University of Oxford, Magdalen College, BA in Biological Sciences, First Class

Scholarships and prizes

- 2005: Lincoln's Inn, Lord Mansfield Scholarship
- 2004: Lincoln's Inn, Lord Bowen Scholarship and Hardwicke Entrance Scholarship
- 2003: University of Oxford, Gibbs Prize in Biological Sciences

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