



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

-- Planning Appeals, Hearings and Inquiries

Ned acts frequently in inquiries, hearings and written representations appeals for appellants, councils and other parties.

Cases of note

- **Hobbyhorse Lane Inquiry (2023)** - Acting for Vale of White Horse District Council in an inquiry for up to 175 dwellings.
- **Saltersford Lane Inquiry (2023)** - Acting for Wiltshire Council in an inquiry for up to 70 dwellings.
- **Fareham Inquiries (2021-2022)** - Acting for Fareham Borough Council in a series of multiday planning inquiries for residential schemes.
- **Bramshill House and Park (2017-2021)** - Acting as junior to James Strachan KC in a 26-day inquiry and as sole counsel in a further four-day inquiry into proposals concerning substantial residential development and heritage works at the Grade I listed Bramhill House and Park.
- **St Osyth's Priory (2015-2016)** - Acting (as junior to Peter Village KC) for the appellants in a case concerning enabling development to secure the future of St Osyth's Priory in Essex, one of the most important collections of historical buildings in the country.
- **A21 Tonbridge to Pembury Dualling Public Inquiry (May 2013)** - Acting on behalf of the Hadlow Estate, the major landowner affected by the proposed scheme, at concurrent highways and compulsory purchase order inquiries into the proposed dualling of the A21 between Tonbridge and Pembury.
- **Radlett, near St Albans** - Acting for the Rule 6 party at a four-week inquiry into a proposed Strategic Rail Freight Interchange and at a four-week Eco-Town inquiry (both as junior to Paul Stinchcombe KC).

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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