



## Katherine Barnes

Year of call: 2014

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*"Katherine is a brilliant advocate."* Chambers and Partners

*"Katherine is an excellent barrister and a pleasure to work with. She is dedicated and works hard. She is responsive, insightful, and you can trust her to get the best possible results."* Legal 500

Katherine is a public law specialist. She has an exceptionally diverse practice which ranges from commercial regulatory work (including planning, environment and procurement) to public interest and human rights matters.

She is recognised by Chambers and Partners and/or Legal 500 in the fields of public law, civil liberties & human rights, planning, environment, community care and education.

Katherine graduated from Queens' College, Cambridge with a first class degree in French and Spanish before converting to law. She then obtained an LLM with distinction in public law and human rights from the London School of Economics.

She has appeared as sole counsel in the Court of Appeal, High Court, Upper Tribunal, Court of Protection, County Court, Crown Court and Magistrates Courts.

As former co-chair of Young Legal Aid Lawyers, Katherine is committed to access to justice and legal aid work. She is also a member of the Equality and Human Rights Commission's panel of counsel.

## Areas of expertise

Planning

Environment

Energy and Natural Resources (including nuclear)

Administrative and Public

Education

Community Care and Mental Health

Healthcare

Regulatory, Disciplinary and Licensing

## Energy and Natural Resources (including nuclear)

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Katherine has a particular interest in energy regulation and water (including nuclear licensing). Recent work in this area includes:

- Advising on licensing options in relation to novel electricity generation projects
- Acting for a renewable energy company in a judicial review of Ofgem's refusal to continue paying subsidies for one of its schemes (R (Wood Boilers) v Gas and Electricity Markets Authority [2020] EWHC 1578 (Admin))
- Advising in respect of applications for planning permission regarding solar energy
- Advising a water company on its water resources management plan (including advice on the Water Framework Directive and the Habitats Directive)
- Advising on environmental permitting obligations in the context of contaminated water emissions from a former tar works

Katherine has experience of the regulatory frameworks governing a variety of energy and related schemes in the UK having completed a six month secondment with Ofgem's legal department. These include the Domestic and Non-Domestic Renewable Heat Incentive Schemes, the Green Gas Support Scheme, the various Energy Company Obligations Schemes and the Boiler Upgrade Scheme.

## Recommendations

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Katherine is listed by Chambers and Partners and The Legal 500 in public law, civil liberties & human rights, planning, environment, community care and education:

*"She gives strategic advice, is very pleasant to work with and is very helpful with the client."* Chambers and Partners 2022.

*"She is extremely thorough, has great attention to detail and an exceptional understanding of the core issues in her cases. She is also a pleasure to work with."* Chambers and Partners 2022.

*"Her strengths are clarity of advice, willingness to think outside of the box, and her ability to resolve an issue expediently."* The Legal 500 2022.

*"Katherine is an excellent barrister and a pleasure to work with. She is dedicated and works hard. She is responsive, insightful, and you can trust her to get the best possible results."* The Legal 500 2021.

## Memberships

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- Administrative Law Bar Association (ALBA) (committee member)
- Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers (ARDL)
- Education Law Association (ELAS)
- Human Rights Law Association (HRLA)
- Planning and Environmental Bar Association (PEBA)
- United Kingdom Environmental Law Association (UKELA)
- Young Legal Aid Lawyers (YLAL) (former co-chair)

## Qualifications

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## Education

- Queens' College, University of Cambridge, BA(Hons) French and Spanish (First Class) (2010)
- City University, GDL (2012)
- The London School of Economics, LLM Public Law and Human Rights (Distinction) (2013)
- BPP University, BPTC (2014)

## Scholarships and prizes

- Foundation Scholarship, Queens' College, University of Cambridge (2010)
- Lord Haldane Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn (2011)
- Hardwicke Award, Lincoln's Inn (2012)
- Lord Mansfield Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn (2013)

## Additional Information

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In her free time, Katherine enjoys travel, theatre and reading novels. She also sings with Voce Chamber Choir, whose concerts have ranged from Tallis to Poulenc to singing with the Rolling Stones at Glastonbury.

## Languages

- French (fluent)
- Spanish (fluent)

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