



Gethin Thomas

Year of call: 2017

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Gethin Thomas has a multidisciplinary practice, encompassing public law & human rights, environment & energy, procurement, commercial, financial services, regulatory and planning law.

Reflecting the breadth of his practice, Gethin has acted as sole or junior counsel in proceedings in the Court of Appeal, and in the High Court (in the Administrative Court, Commercial Court, Queen's Bench Division, and Technology & Construction Court).

He is ranked as a 'rising star' in environmental law by the Legal 500.

Gethin is a member of the Attorney General's C Panel of Counsel, and of the Welsh Government's B Panel of Junior Counsel.

Gethin graduated from the University of Oxford with a First Class law degree. Before joining the bar, Gethin worked as a research assistant in public law at the Law Commission for two years. Latterly, Gethin interned at the human rights charity JUSTICE. He worked in the administrative justice team.

Gethin is a contributing editor to the Environmental Law Bulletin (published by Sweet & Maxwell). He has also contributed to the latest editions of *Wilmot-Smith on Construction Contracts* (4th edition, May 2021), and *Shackleton on the Law and Practice of Meetings* (15th Edition, November 2020).

Areas of expertise

Administrative and Public

Environment and Energy

Planning

Commercial

Financial Services, Banking and Pensions

Regulatory and Disciplinary

Procurement

Inquiries and Investigations

Procurement

Gethin acts in procurement claims on behalf of both economic operators and contracting authorities, across a broad range of sectors. His experience includes:

- ***Chigwell (London) Limited v Gateway Housing Association* [2022] EWHC 3391 (TCC):** As sole counsel, successfully obtaining summary judgment in a High Court claim brought seeking damages in respect of an abandonment of a procurement. Gethin acted on behalf of the contracting authority.
- **Procurement challenge in defence sector:** Assisted Parishil Patel KC in advising an economic operator. The claim concerned the application of the Defence and Security Public Contracts Regulations 2011 SI No 1848.
- **Procurement challenge in healthcare sector:** As sole counsel, advising an economic operator on the prospects of a challenge to the procurement of specialist led primary care orthodontic services, involving interpretation of the award criteria; equal treatment; non-discrimination; proportionality and transparency.
- **Procurement challenge in social care sector:** As sole counsel, advising the incumbent provider in respect of a challenge to the decision to award a contract to a newly established local authority trading company (relying on *Teckal* exemptions).

Memberships

- Administrative Law Bar Association
- UK Environmental Law Association
- Environmental Law Foundation
- Commercial Bar Association
- Procurement Lawyers Association
- Association of London Welsh Lawyers

Qualifications

- 2014, BA Jurisprudence, Harris Manchester College, University of Oxford – First Class
- 2017, BPTC, BPP University – Very Competent

Additional Information

Scholarships and Awards

- 2016, Lord Edmund-Davies Award, Gray's Inn
- 2016, Residential Scholarship, Gray's Inn
- 2016, Excellence Award, BPP University
- 2017, ALBA Conference Scholarship

Pro Bono and Other Voluntary Work

- Gethin is committed to pro bono work.
- Gethin was formerly a Trustee of the Lord Edmund-Davies Trust, which is an independent charity established in 2013 to serve young people living in Wales or having a connection with Wales who are interested in entering the legal profession.
- Gethin is a member of the Environmental Law Foundation, through which he provides pro bono advice.

- Gethin has volunteered with Free Representation Unit, acting for claimants in social security appeals. Further examples of Gethin's pro bono experience include volunteering as an adviser at Bethnal Green Legal Advice Centre and as a researcher with Citizens Advice Bureau.
- He was a human rights education trainer with Amnesty International.
- Gethin has been a mentor on the Vocalise programme, where he taught debating in prisons.
- Gethin has also volunteered with Big Voice, a social mobility and youth empowerment charity

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