



Lord Murray of Blidworth

Year of call: 2000

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Simon Murray (Lord Murray of Blidworth) is an experienced barrister sought after in public law and commercial matters. He attracts instructions in some of the most complex and highest profile cases. He also accepts instructions to act as Mediator.

He served as the Minister of Migration and Borders in the House of Lords 2022-2023. He has now returned to private practice.

In addition to his full-time practice at the Bar, Lord Murray continues to contribute to the work of the House of Lords, speaking in particular on issues relating to law, justice and migration. He is a member of Joint Committee on Human Rights, a Select Committee comprising members both Houses the United Kingdom Parliament.

He has also been called to the bar in the Republic of Ireland and like all lawyers in those jurisdictions, can appear before the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU).

Lord Murray also practices in other fields including data protection, commercial and other common law matters. He has particular expertise in claims against public bodies and regularly advises on legal issues crossing both public and private law. He has substantial experience in group litigation.

Additionally, he has long standing, niche experience of representing the Queen's (now King's) Proctor and intervening in family proceedings at the request of the court as Advocate to the Court.

Lord Murray has long been on the Attorney General's Panels of Counsel, first being appointed in 2005 and has lengthy experience of representing central and local government bodies at all levels. He is a member of the Attorney General's London A Panel.

Practice Areas:

- Administrative & Public
- Commercial
- Information and Media
- Regulatory and Disciplinary

Areas of expertise

Administrative and Public

Information and Media

Regulatory and Disciplinary & King's Proctor's cases

Clinical Negligence and Personal Injury

Inquiries and Investigations

Administrative and Public

Lord Murray undertakes general public law work, advising and representing claimants and government departments and other public bodies in a wide range of cases. He regularly advises and acts in matters concerning national security, human rights and discrimination (including issues of international law), immigration & asylum (including human trafficking), prisons and justice system, police, healthcare, energy, education and Defence.

He also regularly acts in private law claims raising public law issues.

Cases of note:

- ***R(AAA & Ors) v Secretary of State for the Home Department*** [2022] EWHC (Admin); [2023] H.R.L.R. 4
High profile challenge to the policy of removal of illegal migrants to Rwanda for the processing of their asylum applications.
- ***R. (British Medical Association) v Secretary of State for Defence*** [2022] EWHC 1262 (Admin); [2022] 1 W.L.R. 4831; [2022] A.C.D. 91
Challenge to the Secretary of State for Defence's refusal to implement the Employment Rights Act 1996 section 192, which would potentially enable service personnel to bring employment tribunal claims for unfair dismissal.
- ***R(SPM) v Secretary of State for the Home Department*** [2022] EWHC 2007 (Admin): [2022] 4 W.L.R. 92
Challenge to legal aid provision in Derwentside Immigration Removal Centre for vulnerable female detainees
- ***R. (Mujahid) v First Tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber)*** [2021] EWCA Civ 449 | [2021] 1 W.L.R. 3404
Application for ILR, grant of limited leave to remain gives rise to no right of appeal to FTT.
- ***R(GMB & 7 other unions) v Chancellor of the Exchequer*** (February 2021)
Challenge by trades unions to secondary legislation imposing a cap on public sector exit payments
- ***R(Ellerton) v Governor of HMP Birmingham & Secretary of State for Justice*** [2021] EWHC 3529 (Admin); [2022] EWCA Crim 194
Divisional Court challenge to detention pursuant to a hospital order, imposed otherwise than in accordance with statute, in lieu of a sentence of imprisonment in respect of counts of arson with intent to endanger life, heard by a composition also sitting as the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division).

Memberships

- Junior Counsel to the Crown A Panel (September 2016), reappointed (September 2022)
- Junior Counsel to the Crown B Panel (March 2012)
- Junior Counsel to the Crown C Panel (February 2006)
- Member ALBA (Constitutional & Administrative Law Bar Association),
- Member PNBA (Professional Negligence Bar Association)

Qualifications

Education

- 2020 Irish Barrister at Law degree, King's Inns, Dublin. Called to the Irish Bar
- 2000 Bar Vocational Course, Inns of Court School of Law, London
- 1999 CPE City, University of London
- 1998 MA(Hons) History, St Andrews

Scholarships and Prizes

- Sunley Prize winner, Inner Temple

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