



‘She is friendly, efficient and an expert in her field’

Chambers & Partners 2020

‘Her knowledge is excellent and she is very easy to work with’

Chambers & Partners 2020

‘She’ll cut to the chase and she’s very good at explaining quite complex issues to .’

Chambers & Partners 2020

‘Hard working, thorough and dependable. Effective advocate. Excellent with clients.’

The Legal 500 2020

‘She’s very efficient and has a commercial acumen that isn’t always present in juniors’

Chambers & Partners 2018

‘She is fluid in her addresses to court and has an exceptional writing ability.’

Chambers & Partners 2018

‘Already considered one of the most capable juniors in the market to represent developers, individual objectors and local authorities’

Chambers & Partners 2017

Victoria has a busy practice with a particular specialism in, planning, environmental and energy law. She is the co-author of ‘Planning Policy’ (Bloomsbury 2018 with Richard Harwood QC) and is currently ranked as one of the top junior barristers at the planning bar and also in the under 35 category (Planning Magazine 2018). Victoria was included in the Planner’s list of women of influence for 2020.

Victoria has extensive advocacy experience which includes appearing in a number of substantive appeals before the Court of Appeal in her own right. She also appears regularly in the High Court, at inquiries and informal hearings.

Victoria graduated from Oxford University with an MA in Modern History before completing her law conversion course and bar exams. She then went on to be graded outstanding in her LLM in public international law from the London School of Economics.

She is also a qualified mediator (ADR Group) and is able to mediate between parties on any dispute which is suitable for such.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Planning
- Construction
- Arbitration
- Public Law

SECTORS

- Energy
- Infrastructure

PRACTICE AREAS

BARRISTERS · ARBITRATORS · MEDIATORS

PLANNING
RECENT WORK
RESIDENTIAL

- Advising in respect of an appropriate reserved matters strategy relating to a large strategic site
- Acting on behalf of a large strategic exception site (West of Luton) at the Central Bedford Local Plan Examination (junior to Peter Village QC)
- Acting for developers in relation to flatted schemes in London.
- Acting for appellant in upcoming appeal for 32 homes in Wiltshire
- Acting for successful appellant in relation to new homes in Takeley, Uttlesford
- Inquiry into 700 homes in Wealden District Council (successful defence of Council's refusal)
- Aspley House, Owen's Farm inquiry into 700 homes
- Advising various clients on proposals for student accommodation.
- Dunsfold Aerodrome, Waverley, Representing POW at this inquiry into 1,800 homes (junior to Paul Stinchcombe QC)
- Cala Homes, Barkham Road, Wokingham (junior to Andrew Tabachnik QC)

INFRASTRUCTURE, ENERGY AND WASTE

- Hinckley Point C, acting on behalf of the developer (as junior to Stephen Tromans QC) in relation to an appeal against the refusal of a permit variation
- Stonehenge Tunnel DCO, advising and acting for group of archeologists during the DCO examination. Representing SSWHS in the High Court proceedings.
- Acting for Gravis LLP in relation to a judicial review brought against Ofgem (junior to Duncan Sinclair)
- Advising and acting for a landowner in relation to a JR of a decision to grant hazardous substances consent to a liquid natural gas facility
- Advising and acting for the Mayor of London in relation to the making of directions relating to his waste strategy
- M4 Corridor around Newport Inquiry – representing Natural Resources Wales during the 5 month inquiry (with Richard Wald QC)
- Hazardous Substances Consent – advising as to the lawful approach to be taken on a decision in relation to a hazardous substances consent, including the lawful approach for the HSE to take with regards to a risk assessment.
- Silvertown Tunnel DCO – advising and representing objector (junior to James Strachan QC)
- Energy from Waste Facility, Sussex – advising and representing two parish councils in both enforcement and planning appeal proceedings
- IBA (Incinerator Bottom Ash) Facility – advising and representing resident in a challenge to grant of permission by Vale of Glamorgan District Council
- Advising major UK Port operator regarding the development of a new lorry park facility (junior to

Stephen Tromans QC)

- Herefordshire Council – advising on the application of Water Industry Act 1991 in relation to a housing development’s connection into Welsh Water’s drainage network.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS

- Tileyard Studios, representing the developer at their appeal against Islington Borough Council’s refusal of planning permission for a B1/B8 proposal.
- Harrow School sports facilities and science buildings – acting as junior counsel to John Steel QC at 3 week Inquiry in April 2019
- Dignity Ltd – acting as sole counsel in relation to an appeal against the refusal of planning permission for a crematorium in Huntingdon
- Dignity Ltd – acting as junior counsel to Peter Village QC in Dignity’s appeal against the refusal of permission for a new crematorium at combined inquiry
- Plaistow and Ifold Parish Councils – Representing the parish councils at hearing and inquiry into planning appeal, appeal against enforcement notice and appeal against refusal of CLUED application in relation to an energy from waste facility in Sussex.
- Riverene Centre Mosque with 9,000 capacity – acting as junior counsel to John Pugh-Smith appearing for a rule 6 party at a three week inquiry

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS AND ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE

- Advising councils in relation to multiple neighbourhood plans
- Appearing in the First-tier Tribunal (General Regulatory Chamber) on behalf of owners and operators of pubs in their appeals against listing
- Advising multiple owners of a pubs and green spaces during the review and appeal process subsequent to the buildings/spaces being added to various Councils’ List of Assets of Community Value
- Advising clients as to the merits of bringing challenges to neighbourhood plans and their likely impact upon proposed development.

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY AND TOWN AND VILLAGE GREENS

- Successfully opposing a footpath diversion order in Kent on behalf of a local landowner (2019)
- Shropshire County Council – promoting the Shropshire Council (Parish of Llanyblodwel) Modification Order 2010 (two footpaths and one bridleway)
- Shropshire County Council – promoting the Shropshire Council (Footpath Additions, Parish of Pontesbury) Modification Order 2013 (two footpaths)

TRAFFIC AND HIGHWAYS

- Stonehenge Tunnel DCO, advising and acting for group of archeologists . Representing SSWHS in High Court proceedings.

- M4 Corridor around Newport Inquiry – representing Natural Resources Wales at this upcoming 5 month inquiry (with Richard Wald)
- Silvertown Tunnel DCO – advising and representing objector (junior to James Strachan QC)
- Highways England – advising and representing Highways England in relation to a number of civil claims occurring out of incidents on the highway

ENVIRONMENTAL AND RURAL

- Acting for the developer of Hinkley Point C in relation to their appeal against the Environment Agency’s refusal of a permit variation (junior to Stephen Tromans Q.C.)
- Acting for the Government in a successful defence of a Judicial Review which alleged that the Government’s Air Quality Strategy should be reviewed in light of potential links between Covid-19 and Air Quality.
- Advising with regards to contaminated land issues arising out of the Grenfell Tower fire.
- Acting for appellant in an appeal against the revocation of two waste permits and against two enforcement notices (junior to Stephen Tromans Q.C.)
- Contaminated land – representing housebuilder in called-in part 2A inquiry following the service of a remediation notice by Walsall Borough Council (junior to Stephen Tromans)
- Advising numerous litigants on the merits of instigating environmental judicial review claims.
- Peak District – advising the local authority in bringing contempt of court proceedings.
- Defending the operator of an abattoir against a prosecution brought in response to the alleged emission of noxious smells.
- Staffordshire County Council – advising the local authority in preparation for proceedings before the Investigatory Powers Tribunal.

MINERALS

- CEMEX UK – advising and acting on a number of quarry-related matters
- Peak District National Park Authority – advising on bringing injunction proceedings against recalcitrant quarry owner.

WATER

- Advising developers in relation to their rights to connect into local sewers
- Advising Anglian Water with regards to a new water recycling facility
- Representing clients in a number of appeals/hearings where drainage is a main issue. Including the Stonehenge DCO and potential impacts upon Blick Mead.
- Herefordshire Council – advising on the application of Water Industry Act 1991 in relation to a housing development’s connection into Welsh Water’s drainage network.

RETAIL

- Acting as sole counsel on behalf of a property investor and major UK retailer in respect of numerous appeals across the country

ENFORCEMENT

- Acting for the owner of a building subject to 14 enforcement notices and 3 listed building enforcement notices at a three day inquiry.
- Acting for the Secretary of State in responding to an application to the Court of Appeal concerning the jurisdiction of that Court to hear appeals against refusals of permission for section 289 applications by the High Court
- Temple Lounge, Canary Wharf –representing the owner of this restaurant in defending two enforcement notices and a listed building notice at a 4 day inquiry. Appeal successful with award of costs.
- Representing family of travelling show-people at 3-day enforcement and CLUED inquiry

HERITAGE

- Stonehenge Tunnel DCO – represented consortium of archaeologists and Blick Mead project team. Representations include submissions on the World Heritage Convention and the significance of Mesolithic, Neolithic and early Bronze Age remains. Now representing SSWHS in the High Court proceedings.
- Instructed by Adam Architecture on a number of projects proposing amendments to listed buildings
- King’s College London, Advising SAVE BRITAIN’S HERITAGE on their opposition to recent controversial development proposals at the university (junior to Richard Harwood QC)

S106 AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY WORK

- Advising both local authorities and developers on CIL payments.

PLAN-MAKING/CHALLENGES

- Central Bedfordshire Local Plan – representing large exception site (West of Luton) (junior to Peter Village QC)
- Rutland Local Plan – representing a Parish Council at reg.19 stage.
- Uttlesford Local Plan – representing Great Chesterford Parish Council at upcoming examination.
- Chippenham Local Plan – representing landowner at examination
- Canterbury Local Plan – representing landowner at examination
- University of Kent (instructed by Farrer & Co) acting as junior counsel in promoting the University’s interests at Canterbury’s Local Plan

INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

- Advising and acting for Jockey Club Ltd in relation to applications for interim and final injunctions at Cheltenham Racecourse (junior to John Steel QC)

- *South Downs National Park Authority v Deroubaix* – representing the authority in relation to an interim injunction application to prevent the introduction of caravans onto a site in the National Park.
- Victoria’s experience includes making out of hours applications for injunctions to prevent environmental damage and also urgent in hours applications. Most recently this has been to prevent the ploughing of a Local Wildlife Site in Warwickshire.

CPO

- Successful promotion of the London Borough of Sutton (Land at Beddington Lane) Order 2020.
- Advising tenants of an airfield on a number of matters including with regards to a CPO.
- Rugby Borough Council, advising generally as to Purchase Notices, amount of compensation and the likelihood of success of a CPO.
- West Northamptonshire Development Corporation (Avon Nunn Mills, Northampton) Compulsory Purchase Order Inquiry

GYPSEY, TRAVELLER AND TRAVELLING SHOWPEOPLE WORK

- Representing a family of travelling showpeople at their enforcement appeal against Windsor and Maidenhead Borough Council
- Dover Borough Council –advising the council with regards to two gypsy and traveler sites in their area.
- Leicester City Council – advising the council in dealing with two large planning applications for traveller sites

ECCLESIASTICAL LAW

- Objecting to development on a Church Tower in Kensington.

RECENT HIGH COURT/COURT OF APPEAL WORK

- *R(oao Good Law Project) v Secretary of State for the Environment* successfully represented the Secretary of State in this High Court permission hearing concerning air quality and Covid-19.
- *R(oao Easter) v Mid-Suffolk District Council* [2020] EWCA Civ 1378 (Admin) sole counsel successfully defending an award of costs arising out of a planning judicial review
- *Mayor of London v SSHCLG* [2020] EWHC 1176 (Admin) – junior to John Steel Q.C. in successful grant of planning permission for new sports and science facilities at Harrow School.
- *R(oao Bates) v Maldon DC* [2019] EWCA Civ 1272 (sole counsel in case involving the principle of consistency in decision making)
- *Binning Property Corp Ltd v SSHCLG* [2019] EWCA Civ 250 – acted for successful Secretary of State in appeal concerning the Court of Appeal’s jurisdiction in relation to appeals under s289 TCPA 1990
- *Jockey Club Racecourses Ltd v Persons Unknown* [2019] EWHC 1026 (Ch) – acted for successful applicant for final injunction to restrain ticket touting at Cheltenham racecourse (junior to John Steel QC)
- *Jockey Club Racecourses Ltd v Persons Unknown* [2018] EWHC 3234 (Ch) – acted for successful

applicant for interim injunction to restrain ticket touting at Cheltenham racecourse (junior to John Steel QC)

- *Scunthorpe United Football Club v Greater Lincolnshire LEP* – 2 day substantive JR appearing as sole counsel on behalf of the successful Interested Party resisting JR to grant of funding for a new road in Lincolnshire.
- *Bates v Maldon District Council* [2018] – 1 day substantive JR appearing as sole counsel on behalf of the Claimant
- *Broad v Rochford District Council* [2018] – 1 day substantive JR appearing as sole counsel on behalf of the Claimant
- *Protect Our Waverley Campaign v Waverley BC and others* [2018] – two day high court case as junior to Paul Stinchcombe QC (appeal due to be heard by Court of Appeal in 2019)
- *Newark and Sherwood District Council v SSHCLG* [2018] EWHC B16 (QB) – sole counsel on behalf of the Secretary of State
- *South Downs National Park Authority v Deroubaix* [2018] (unreported) – sole counsel on behalf of the Park Authority
- *Denbighshire County Council v Welsh Ministers* [2017] EWHC 3219 – sole counsel on behalf of the Secretary of State
- *Ricki Shasha et al v Westminster City Council* [2016] EWHC 3283 (Admin); [2017] P.T.S.R.306; [2017] J.P.L. 539 – sole counsel for Claimant
- *Roden v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government* [2016] EWHC 2701 (Admin) – sole counsel for the Secretary of State
- *R(oao Surringer) v Vale of Glamorgan Council* [2016] EWHC 494 (admin); [2016] Env L.R. 25– Sole counsel in a challenge to planning permission for an IBA processing plant

PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS

Victoria is co-author (with Richard Harwood Q.C.) of 'Planning Policy' published by Bloomsbury 2018.

CONSTRUCTION

Victoria acts in a wide range of energy disputes. She is developing a particular expertise in the oil and gas sector as well as renewable energy projects. Her experience includes: representing a major oil company, advising on issues surrounding a hazardous substances consent at a liquid natural gas facility, acting for and against promoters of anaerobic digestion facilities and advising with regards to the installation of solar panels and wind turbines.

ARBITRATION

Victoria is developing a strong arbitration practice. She has particular experience in disputes in the energy field and is developing a particular expertise in the oil and gas sector as well as renewable energy projects. Her experience includes: representing a major oil company, advising on issues surrounding a hazardous substances consent at a liquid natural gas facility, acting for and against promoters of anaerobic digestion facilities and advising with regards to the installation of solar panels and wind turbines.

PUBLIC LAW

Victoria acts in a wide range of public law disputes. She acts for both claimants and defendants and is a member of the Attorney General's C Panel of counsel.

Her work includes:

- Judicial review challenges
- Planning statutory challenges
- Upper Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber)
- First-Tier Tribunal (General Regulatory Chamber)
- Human Rights and Civil Liberties
- Costs
- EC Law

NOTABLE CASES

- *R(oao Good Law Project) v Secretary of State for the Environment* successfully represented the Secretary of State in this High Court permission hearing concerning air quality and Covid-19.
- *R(oao Easter) v Mid-Suffolk District Council* [2020] EWCA Civ 1378 (Admin) sole counsel successfully defending an award of costs arising out of a planning judicial review
- *Mayor of London v SSHCLG* [2020] EWHC 1176 (Admin) – junior to John Steel Q.C. in successful grant of planning permission for new sports and science facilities at Harrow School.
- *R(oao Bates) v Maldon DC* [2019] EWCA Civ 1272 (sole counsel in case involving the principle of consistency in decision making)
- *Binning Property Corp Ltd v SSHCLG* [2019] EWCA Civ 250 – acted for successful Secretary of State in appeal concerning the Court of Appeal's jurisdiction in relation to appeals under s289 TCPA 1990
- *Jockey Club Racecourses Ltd v Persons Unknown* [2019] EWHC 1026 (Ch) – acted for successful applicant for final injunction to restrain ticket touting at Cheltenham racecourse (junior to John Steel QC)
- *Jockey Club Racecourses Ltd v Persons Unknown* [2018] EWHC 3234 (Ch) – acted for successful applicant for interim injunction to restrain ticket touting at Cheltenham racecourse (junior to John Steel QC)
- *Scunthorpe United Football Club v Greater Lincolnshire LEP* –2 day substantive JR appearing as sole counsel on behalf of the successful Interested Party resisting JR to grant of funding for a new road in Lincolnshire.
- *Denbighshire County Council v Welsh Ministers* [2017] EWHC 3219
- *Ricki Shasha et al v Westminster City Council* [2016] EWHC 3283 (Admin); [2017] P.T.S.R.306;[2017] J.P.L. 539
- *Roden v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government* [2016] EWHC 2701 (Admin)
- *R(oao Surringer) v Vale of Glamorgan Council* [2016] EWHC 494 (admin); [2016] Env L.R. 25

- *JZ(Zambia) v SSHD* [2016] EWCA Civ 116 (sole counsel)
 - *LO(Somalia) v SSHD* (Upper Tribunal)
 - *MSM(Somalia) v SSHD* [2015] UKUT 413 (IAC)
 - *CB(India) and SB(India) v SSHD* [2016] EWCA Civ 451; [2016] 4 W.L.R. 103
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SECTORS

ENERGY

Victoria has a wide-ranging energy practice. She has advised and represented clients in relation to a number of pieces of energy infrastructure including: solar, wind, energy from waste, anaerobic digestion, and nuclear. Victoria has also acted for clients in claims relating to energy schemes such as: the Renewables Obligation Order 2015.

Experience includes:

- Currently acting for an energy fund in a commercial judicial review against Ofgem following Ofgem's decision to remove accreditation and to withdraw renewables obligations certificates under the RO scheme.
- Acting for a landowner in a judicial review by decision to grant hazardous substances consent for liquid natural gas facility.
- Advising in relation to hazardous substances consents.
- Acting in a judicial review to an incinerator bottom ash facility.
- Representing clients in relation to planning matters (including appeals) in relation to:
 - a biogas facility
 - a proposed new nuclear facility
 - offshore wind turbines
 - onshore wind turbines
 - solar panels

INFRASTRUCTURE

A significant part of Victoria's practice comprises large infrastructure projects. She is regularly instructed to advise and represent clients in relation to planning permission and other consents.

Victoria's experience includes:

Development Consent Orders

- Advising a local authority in relation to a number of energy projects due to be examined through the DCO process.
- Stonehenge Tunnel DCO, advising and acting for group of archeologists.

- Silvertown Tunnel DCO – advising and representing objector (junior to James Strachan Q.C.)

Transport infrastructure

- M4 Corridor around Newport Inquiry – representing Natural Resources Wales at this 5 month inquiry (with Richard Wald)
- Silvertown Tunnel DCO – advising and representing objector (junior to James Strachan Q.C.)
- Advising major UK Port operator regarding the development of a new lorry park facility (junior to Stephen Tromans Q.C.)
- Stonehenge Tunnel DCO, advising and acting for group of archeologists
- Highways England – advising and representing Highways England in relation to a number of civil claims occurring out of incidents on the highway
- Leicester City Council – advising and representing the council at an inquiry into a proposed Traffic Regulation Order pedestrianizing part of the city.

Waste

- Advising and acting for the Mayor of London in relation to the making of directions relating to his waste strategy
- Energy from Waste Facility, Sussex – advising and representing two parish councils in both enforcement and planning appeal proceedings (10 day inquiry)
- IBA (Incinerator Bottom Ash) Facility – advising and representing resident in a challenge to grant of permission by Vale of Glamorgan District Council
- Enclosed Composting Facility – advising a developer in preparation for their planning appeal.

Energy

- Advising a local authority in relation to a proposal for a new nuclear facility
- Wind turbine – advising the developer in the throes of a JR challenge to their permission for a wind turbine and representing them in the Court of Appeal.
- Advising local resident on objection to an application for a single wind turbine near Leeds.
- Representing a renewable energy fund in a challenge against Ofgem for the removal of accreditation under the Renewables Obligations Order

Utilities

- Advising Anglian Water with regards to a new water recycling facility
- Herefordshire Council – advising on the application of Water Industry Act 1991 in relation to a housing development's connection into Welsh Water's drainage network.

Environmental consents

- Advising and acting for a landowner in relation to a JR of a decision to grant hazardous substances consent to a liquid natural gas facility.
- Hazardous Substances Consent – advising as to the lawful approach to be taken on a decision in relation to a hazardous substances consent, including the lawful approach for the HSE to take with regards to a risk assessment.
- Advising and representing numerous clients with regards to environmental permits.

Community infrastructure

- Harrow School sports facilities and science buildings – acting as junior counsel to John Steel Q.C. at 3 week Inquiry in April 2019
- Dignity Ltd – acting as sole counsel in relation to an appeal against the refusal of planning permission for a crematorium in Huntingdon.
- Dignity Ltd – acting as junior counsel to Peter Village Q.C. in Dignity's appeal against the refusal of permission for a new crematorium at combined inquiry in January 2018.
- Advising and representing a client in numerous appeals relating to retail development.

RECOMMENDATIONS

"She is excellent and very committed" Chambers UK 2020

"Able to command the facts and deploy knowledge to convey the importance of the issues" Legal 500 2020

"She impressed when tackling legal conundrums." Chambers UK 2018

"She is fluid in her addresses to court and has an exceptional writing ability." Chambers UK 2018

"She's very efficient and has a commercial acumen that isn't always present in juniors." Chambers UK 2018

"She has a good eye for detail and a grasp of the commercial goals." Chambers UK 2018

"Already considered one of the most capable juniors in the market to represent developers, individual objectors and local authorities" Chambers UK 2017

MEMBERSHIPS

ATLEP

UKELA

ALBA

BIICL

Lincoln's Inn

BARRISTERS · ARBITRATORS · MEDIATORS

QUALIFICATIONS

MA Modern History (Hons), University of Oxford (Brasenose College)
GDL (Very Competent), BPP
BPTC (Outstanding), BPP
LLM (Outstanding), London School of Economics

AWARDS

Academic Exhibition, Brasenose College Oxford
Proxime Beit Prize for Undergraduate Thesis, Oxford University
LLB Scholarship, BPP
Cassel Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn
Lord Haldane Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn
Buchanan Prize, Lincoln's Inn

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

During 2009, Victoria spent 3 months as a legal intern with the International Justice Mission ('IJM') in Washington D.C. While there, Victoria completed a comparative research project into the effectiveness of world wide anti-slavery legislation. She also completed a number of country-specific research projects for teams from IJM out in the field. This experience gave her an understanding of worldwide anti-trafficking issues. She is keen to apply this knowledge in her asylum / immigration practice.

In 2010, Victoria completed a stage at the European Court of Justice in the cabinet of Sir Konrad Schiemann. Her time in Luxembourg gave her a good grounding in the principles of European Law and an intimate understanding of the workings of the court. Victoria is particularly well placed to advise on European Law matters as a result.

Victoria's LLM focused on a wide range of international human rights issues. She studied Refugee Law under the tutelage of Dr Chaloka Beyani (the UN's Special Rapporteur for Internally Displaced Persons). She also studied Women's Human Rights taught by Professor Christine Chinkin. Her experience at the LSE gave Victoria a strong academic grounding in international refugee and human rights law, which has stood her in good stead for her practice as a barrister.

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