

Leo Davidson

Call: 2015

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Leo accepts instructions in all areas of Chambers practice, with a particular focus on financial regulation, employment law, information law, regulatory law and public law.

He is ranked in Legal 500 2023 as a Tier 1 Rising Star in Local Government.



Leo is my go-to barrister for information tribunal matters. He is cool, calm and collected, equally great with the lay client and those instructing him, and a gentle but persuasive hand.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

Expertise

Recent cases

R (Ejiofor) v Local Government Ombudsman

[2022] EWHC 3174 (ADMIN)

Challenging a decision of the LGO to name the Leader of a council in connection with maladministration findings.

Davies v Information Commissioner and Thurrock Council

[2022] UKFTT 375 (GRC)

Successfully representing the Bureau of Investigative Journalism in challenging Thurrock Council's refusal to disclose information relating to its borrowing and investments, which have now led to the council being subjected to Government intervention.

R (Portal Financial Services LLP) v Financial Ombudsman Service

[2022] EWHC 710 (ADMIN)

Which concerned the extent to which an Ombudsman was obliged to apply common law principles.

Morgan v Buckinghamshire Council

[2022] EAT 160

Resisting five grounds of appeal against the dismissal of claims for unfair dismissal and discrimination arising from disability and pursuing two grounds against a finding of harassment

Bibi v Bar Standards Board

[2022] EWHC 921 (ADMIN), [2022] ACD 69

Successfully resisting an appeal against disbarment in the High Court (permission to appeal refused by the Court of Appeal in 2023)

Ralli v Stott

[2022] IRLR 148

Representing the Appellant in an appeal against the rejection of her claims of disability discrimination, on grounds that the ET judge had failed to make proper findings on the relevant issues.

Royal Mencap Society v Tomlinson-Blake

[2021] UKSC 8; [2021] ICR 758

Led by Sean Jones KC representing the Appellants, relating to the entitlement of sleep-in workers to national minimum wage.

Hertfordshire County Council & Ors v SSHCLG

[2021] EWHC 1093 (ADMIN) AND [2021] EWHC 1145 (ADMIN)

Led by Peter Oldham KC representing the Claimants in this test case seeking a declaration from the Divisional Court that local authority meetings could proceed virtually after the lapse of the specific enabling statutory power.

R (Shropshire And Wrekin Fire Authority) v SSHD

[2019] EWHC 1967 (ADMIN)

Led by Peter Oldham KC, representing the Claimants challenging decisions by the Secretary of State to transfer their functions to the local Police and Crime Commissioners.

Achievements

News, Articles & Publications

Co-author, A Practical Guide to Data Protection, Privacy and Information Law, Law Society (forthcoming in 2024)

Contributor, Conduct and Pay in the Financial Services Industry, Routledge

Contributor, Tolley's Employment Handbook, LexisNexis

Contributor, Education Law Handbook, LexisNexis

The Coronavirus lockdown does not breach human rights , UK Human Rights Blog, April 2020

R (Yew Tree Primary School) v Secretary of State for Education

[2021] EWHC 2084 (ADMIN)

Led by Jo Clement KC for the Claimant in the first successful challenge to a refusal to revoke an academy order.

Gordon v Information Commissioner

[2020] UKUT 92 (AAC)

Representing the Information Commissioner in successfully resisting this appeal, relating to the interpretation of the FOIA and the Commissioners of Revenue and Customs Act 2005.