

Zoe Gannon

Call: 2014

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Zoe specialises in public, human rights, regulatory, education, data protection and information law.

She is ranked as a leading junior in Chambers and Partners and Legal 500 and was shortlisted for the Legal 500 Public Services and Charities Junior of the Year in 2025. She is on both the Equality and Human Rights Commission's Panel of Counsel (B Panel) and the Attorney General's "A" Panel of Counsel.

She is described in the directories as: "a fantastic public law barrister"; "destined to take silk"; "a real expert, especially in education and human rights"; "extremely bright"; "an excellent legal brain"; "a very creative barrister who thinks outside the box"; "clear, concise, technically strong and an all-round pleasure to work with"; "brilliant at making her point"; "pragmatic and fiercely intelligent".

Zoe regularly appears in the High Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court in high profile and test cases. This has recently included some of the most high profile cases in the Supreme Court in: *For Women Scotland v Scottish Ministers* [2025] UKSC 16, *R (oao Jwanczuk) v Secretary of State for Work and Pensions* [2025] UKSC 42, and *AG Reference* [2026] UKSC 16.



She is excellent on her feet, a great drafter and clients really like her. She is patient and brilliant at making her point.

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS 2025

Expertise

Data and Information

Zoe has experience acting both for and against the Information Commissioner in relation to high value and high-profile Monetary Penalty Notices involving IT related data breach cases.

Zoe also has experience in the context of group action challenges to the recording of personal data.

Her information law experience includes substantial work for the Information Commissioner and for public bodies on FOIA/EIR appeals in the First-tier and Upper Tribunals, frequently as sole counsel against silks and senior juniors.

Page v ICO and the School of Sexuality Education

[2023] UKFTT 476 (GRC)

High profile challenge by a parent seeking information from a school on sex education provided by a third party provider. Sole counsel for the appellant requestor in the First Tier Tribunal and led by Jonathan Moss in the Upper Tribunal (2025).

Department of Health and Social Care v Information Commissioner

[2020] UKUT 299 (AAC)

Upper Tribunal decision on section 35(1(a) FOIA exemption 'chilling effect' and 'safe space'. Sole counsel for the Information Commissioner.

Keighley v Information Commissioner and the BBC

[2023] UKUT 228 (AAC)

Upper Tribunal decision on BBC right to refuse requests where the information requested concerned the impartiality of the BBC and complaints regarding allegations of bias. Sole counsel for the Information Commissioner

O'Hanlon v Information Commission Office

[2019] UKUT 34 (AAC)

Upper Tribunal consideration of the legal professional privilege exemption in the context of an allegation of bad faith. Sole counsel for the Information Commissioner.

Achievements

Education

Zoe was awarded a First Class Honours Degree from Warwick University in 2007 and was later graded Outstanding in the Bar Professional Training Course ("BPTC"). She achieved the highest grade in her year in opinion writing.

Other

Zoe has won a number of awards and prizes including:

- Phoenica Scholar (Bar European Group)
- The Holt Scholarship for the BPTC from Gray's Inn (Major Scholarship) Norman Tapp Memorial Prize for Mooting from Gray's Inn
- Finalist Gray's Inn Moot Competition 2013
- Finalist Times/Herbert Smith Advocacy Competition 2009

Prior to commencing pupillage Zoe worked for a range of NGOs. Her experience gives her a valuable insight into the political process and the demands that unions, public and third sector organisations face.



Zoe Gannon offers first-class client service

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS 2026



Zoe's drafting and judgement is excellent.

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS 2026



Zoe is a fantastic public law barrister. She is objective, very smart, fast, reliable, amazingly well organised, and proactive.

LEGAL 500 2026

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Zoe is a real expert, especially in education and human rights. She is excellent on the nuts and bolts of a matter. She's very good at giving balanced and objective perspectives, which is very useful.

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS 2026

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Zoe is incredibly hardworking and proactive. Her ability to strike the right tone in client communications is second-to-none. You know you will be properly looked after if Zoe is working for you.

LEGAL 500 2024

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She is excellent on her feet, a great drafter and clients really like her. She is patient and brilliant at making her point.

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS 2025

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Hugely knowledgeable and skilled in local government matters. She has built up a fantastic reputation as a go-to barrister for the more complex social care and education judicial reviews.

LEGAL 500 2024

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She is very good, extremely bright and hard-working.

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS 2025

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She has an excellent legal brain.

CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS 2024