Jane Oldham



Call: 1985

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Jane Oldham specialises in public, local government, information and education law. She has appeared at all appellate levels. The directories have for many years ranked Jane consistently as a leading junior in public and administrative, local government and education law, saying that "she has a fine track record of handling sophisticated public, information and education law matters". Jane is Chambers UK 2026's top-ranked local government junior at the London Bar.

> ***immensely sensible, thorough and driven***
>
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Expertise

Media & Privacy

Jane has been instructed extensively for and against public authorities and for the Information Commissioner on GDPR, DPA, Freedom of Information Act and EIR issues. She has acted in both Information Tribunal (over 30 cases, see selection below) and High Court matters. She has a strong record on behalf of her clients of responding to ICO investigations effectively.

Recent work includes:

- GDPR issues.
- Controversial subject access requests.
- Protection of commercial interests in the FOIA and EIR fields. Scope of duties in respect of a data breach (student personal data).
- DPA duties in the context of disciplinary action by professional regulatory bodies. Disputes about release of reports in the regulatory sphere.

She has been on the Information Commissioner's List of Counsel and has contributed to the Information Law Reports.

Jane has also advised and appeared in collateral interventions in proceedings in which disclosure issues have been raised. For example the challenge to the lawfulness of the government's policy concerning the detention of children of unsuccessful asylum-seekers pending their deportation, in which she intervened successfully for a Local Children's Safeguarding Board concerning the disclosure of a Serious Case Review about detained children
(*Suppiah v Sec State for Home Dept and Others* [2011] EWHC 2 (Admin)).

Achievements

Education

MA (Cantab). (Law, Trinity College, Cambridge.)

Other

Languages, scholarships, memberships:

Jane was called to the Bar in 1985 and was awarded prizes and scholarships by Trinity College, Cambridge, where she read law, and Middle Temple. She is a member of the Administrative Law Bar Association, the Commercial Bar Association, the Procurement Lawyers' Association and (in relation to her local government practice) the Planning and Environmental Law Bar Association. Jane practised part-time between 1992 and 2010, plus various periods of family leave during that time, and returned to full-time practice at the end of 2010.

> ***Jane Oldham also covers a wide canvas but is particularly known for the work she does relating to local authorities and their business relations with the private sector***
>
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> ***barrister of choice in commercial matters***
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> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

> ***immensely sensible, thorough and driven***
>
> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

> ***With bucket loads of experience and calm approach to advocacy that never fails to impress***
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> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

> ***Interviewees praised Jane Oldham for her "genius and sheer hard work"***
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> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

> ***Her client care is also highlighted as a particular strength***
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> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

> ***Jane Oldham is perceived as "a feisty lawyer who goes from strength to strength"***
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> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

Jane Oldham is "on the ball straight away" and handles complex cases well. She is further considered an advocate who "understands the law, works well with clients, and possesses intellectual weight"

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She handles everything from pre-dispute advisory work to judicial review, and has experience of the Supreme Court disputes.

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