

Ronnie Dennis

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Ronnie is ranked as a leading junior in employment law. He has extensive experience in all areas of employment litigation, with a particular focus on discrimination and whistleblowing claims. He is regularly instructed in complex, high-profile and high-value claims, and frequently conducts lengthy hearings in the Employment Tribunal on behalf of both claimants and respondents. He also specialises in employee competition claims and has acted in a number of confidential information, restrictive covenant and team move cases.

Ronnie's public law practice encompasses all areas of judicial review. He has acted in several high-profile judicial review claims on behalf of private companies, local authorities and central government. Recent cases include acting for a private hire app defending a challenge to its licence to operate in the High Court and Court of Appeal: *R. (United Trade Action Group Ltd) v Transopco* [2023] 1 WLR 367.



He is a safe pair of hands, he pays great attention to detail, he is hard-working and he can cut through the case

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Expertise

Public

Ronnie's public law practice encompasses all areas of judicial review. He has acted in a number of high-profile judicial review claims on behalf of private companies, local authorities and central government.

R. (United Trade Action Group Ltd) v Transopco

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

A black cab drivers' Union challenged the defendant's licence to operate the FreeNow app in London. They argued drivers using the app were 'plying for hire' and therefore acting unlawfully unless they also held hackney carriage licences. The Court of Appeal upheld the Divisional Court's judgment dismissing the claim. Ronnie acted for the successful defendant at first instance and on appeal, led by Philip Kolvin KC. [Read more about the case here.](#)

R. (Williams) v Caerphilly County Borough Council

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

The Court of Appeal dismissed a challenge to the Council's decision to adopt a 10-year leisure strategy. The strategy was not a relevant arrangement within the scope of the Welsh improvement duty (akin to best value in England); or contrary to the Council's budget, so that the decision could properly be taken by Cabinet. Ronnie acted for the Council, led by James Goudie KC. [Read more about the case here.](#)

R. (City of Wolverhampton Council) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

Seven local authorities in the West Midlands challenged the Home Secretary's policy for the dispersal of asylum seekers in the UK. They argued the policy was irrational and unfair for relying on areas to volunteer, but not allowing volunteers to withdraw their consent. Shortly before the hearing the policy was changed, and the claim was withdrawn. In this judgment, Fordham J made no order as to costs. Ronnie acted for the local authorities, led by Peter Oldham KC.

R. (L) v Buckinghamshire CC

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

Supperstone J rejected the claimant's application for interim relief to prevent the council from taking any further steps to implement a decision to repurpose 19 of its 35 children's centres. Ronnie acted for the Council.

R. (Independent Workers Union of Great Britain) v Central Arbitration Committee

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

Supperstone J rejected claims that workers have a right to compulsory collective bargaining with a third party who is not their employer under Art. 11 ECHR. Ronnie acted for the University of London, led by Christopher Jeans KC.

R (Hussain) v Sandwell Metropolitan BC

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

An elected member of the council sought judicial review of on-going investigations into allegations against him. Green J dismissed the claim, ruling that the Council had the power to investigate under s. 28 of the Localism Act 2011, and that the process had not been tainted by actual or apparent bias. Ronnie acted for the Council, led by James Goudie KC. [Read more about the case here.](#)

R. (British Medical Association) v Secretary of State for Health

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

The BMA sought to challenge the Health Secretary's decision to approve a new contract for junior doctors in the NHS in England, arguing that he had failed to comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty. Ronnie acted for the Health Secretary, led by Clive Sheldon KC.

R. (Mas Group Holdings Ltd) v Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

The claimant challenged the defendant's policy of refusing to allow animal exporters to use a route via Ireland unless a shorter route via the Channel was unavailable. The claimant argued the policy constituted a disproportionate restraint on trade contrary to the EU Regulation for the protection of animals during transport and Art. 35 TFEU. Ronnie acted for the claimant, led by Conor Quigley KC.

R. (Justice for Health Ltd) v Secretary of State for Health

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

Green J dismissed claims that the Health Secretary's decision to approve a new contract for junior doctors in the NHS in England was unlawful. The Judge found that the decision was within the scope of his powers, complied with his duty of transparency and was not irrational. Ronnie acted for the the Health Secretary, led by Clive Sheldon KC. [Read more about the case here.](#)

R (O'Neill) v Lambeth LBC

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

Lang J dismissed a challenge to the Council's decision to vary a lease on the South Bank of the River Thames as part of the Garden Bridge project. The Judge found that the decision was within the Council's powers, did not involve any disposal of land under the LGA 1972, and that Reg. 13(1) of the Asset of Community Value (England) Regulations 2012 was intra vires. Ronnie acted for the Council, led by Clive Sheldon KC.

R (Logan) v Havering LBC

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

Blake J ruled that a Council Tax Reduction Scheme, under which all taxpayers paid some council tax except in cases of exceptional hardship, was not discriminatory on grounds of age or disability. Ronnie acted for the Council, led by Clive Sheldon KC.

R (Sky Blue Sports and Leisure Ltd) v Coventry City Council

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

Hickinbottom J ruled that the Council had not acted irrationally or failed to take account of relevant considerations when it made a loan of £14.4m to the company that manages the Ricoh Arena in Coventry. Ronnie acted for the Council, led by James Goudie KC.

Sky Blue Sports & Leisure Ltd v Coventry City Council

2008 EWHC 1583 (QB)

The claimant applied for specific disclosure between its application for permission to seek judicial review having been refused, and the oral renewal hearing. Silber J refused the application. Ronnie acted for the Council, led by James Goudie KC.

Achievements

Education

University of Oxford, Bachelor of Civil Law, Distinction & Law Faculty Prize

University College London, Law LLB, First Class

“

He gets on top of complex facts and law, he works incredibly quickly, he works well with the client, and his analysis is superb in drilling down into what really matters to advance the best possible case

CHAMBERS UK

“

He adopts a collaborative approach and has the ability to get to the crux of a case quickly

LEGAL 500

“

He is laser-focused, client-friendly and a relentless cross-examiner

LEGAL 500

“

An immensely valuable junior

LEGAL 500

“

A tower of strength with incredible capacity for work and someone you would always want on your team

LEGAL 500

“

He's very bright, very helpful and has a very quick turnaround of work

CHAMBERS UK

“

Keeps things simple and to the point, effectively manages the litigation, and makes the key points heard

CHAMBERS UK

“

He's an excellent all-round barrister; he's very commercial, gives a pragmatic view and is very impressive on his feet

CHAMBERS UK

“

Very smart and diligent. Very good with numbers

LEGAL 500