

Joseph Lavery

Call: 2023

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Joseph practises in all of Chambers' core areas including public law, employment law, information and data law, public procurement, education, and sport.

Current and recent highlights include:

- *Guy Carpenter & Company Limited v Willis Limited* [2026] EWHC 361 (KB): A 17-day High Court trial regarding a "team move" in the reinsurance industry involving allegations conspiracy.
- *Wikimedia Foundation and another v Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology* [2025] EWHC 2086 (Admin): Judicial review proceedings concerning the categorisation regulations made under the Online Safety Act.
- *NAA v An Independent Review Panel, London Borough of Haringey* [2025] EWHC 1845 (Admin): Judicial review proceedings concerning the interaction between the school exclusion process and Article 4 ECHR/the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

Prior to coming to the Bar, Joseph was the Judicial Assistant to Sir Geoffrey Vos, Master of the Rolls, in the Court of Appeal. In this role Joseph worked on notable and high-profile appeals spanning the breadth of civil law, including in the area of public law and human rights. Joseph has a LLM from Harvard Law School, where he studied comparative public law as a scholar of the Saint Andrew's Society of New York, and a BA in Jurisprudence from the University of Oxford.

Expertise

Public Law & Human Rights

Joseph accepts instructions from individuals, corporations, NGOs, local and central government, and a range of other public authorities in all aspects of public law.

Current and recent highlights include:

- *Wikimedia Foundation and another v Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology* [2025] EWHC 2086 (Admin): Judicial review proceedings concerning the categorisation regulations made under the Online Safety Act.
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- Judicial review proceedings concerning the Student Loan Company's powers to undertake investigations into suspected student loan fraud.
- Judicial review proceedings concerning a challenge to Birmingham City Council's decision to close adult day centres.
- Acting for Birmingham City Council in relation to decisions taken regarding the Maccabi Tel Aviv v Aston Villa football match.
- Acting for the Ministry of Defence on the Covid-19 inquiry in relation to Module 5: Procurement.

As a pupil Joseph worked on public law across the field, including both domestic and ECtHR proceedings, on issues consultation challenges, rationality, Convention challenges, jurisdictional issues, and statutory interpretation.

In his previous role as Judicial Assistant to the Master of the Rolls, Joseph worked on high profile public law cases including:

- *R (EOG) v Secretary of State for the Home Department* [2022] EWCA Civ 307 (on the compliance of the Secretary of State's policy on victims of human trafficking with international obligations).
- *R (Counsel General for Wales) v Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy* [2022] EWCA Civ 118 (on the legislative competence of the Senedd).
- *R (CN) v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care* [2022] EWCA Civ 86 (on the exclusion of hepatitis B sufferers from the Infected Blood Support Scheme).

Joseph has a particular interest in matters relating to devolution, having worked on devolution issues throughout his academic and professional career.

Wikimedia Foundation and another v Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology

[2025] EWHC 2086 (ADMIN)

Judicial review proceedings concerning the lawfulness of regulation 3 the Online Safety Act 2023 (Category 1, Category 2A and Category 2B Threshold Conditions) Regulations 2025.

NAA v An Independent Review Panel, London Borough of Haringey

[2025] EWHC 1845 (ADMIN)

Judicial review proceedings concerning the interaction between the school exclusion process and Article 4 ECHR/the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

Achievements

Awards

Lord Denning Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn (2022)

Residential Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn (2022)

Best Public Law Submission, Oxford University Undergraduate Law Journal (2020)

LLM Scholarship, St Andrew's Society of New York (2020)

College prizes for academic performance, Hertford College (2017-2020)

Publications

Rosalind Dixon & Joseph Lavery, *Commissioning Economic Equality? Lessons from Scotland*, 2023 FLR 315

Joseph Lavery, *Determining the Extent of Devolved Legislative Competence: A Comparative Analysis Between Scotland and Canada*, 2020 OUULJ 185

Education

University of Oxford, BA in Jurisprudence

Harvard Law School, LLM (Thesis: *The United Kingdom Internal Market Act: A Comparative Analysis*)