

Leo Davidson

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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 Davidson has great legal knowledge, his writing skills are good, and he makes himself available.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

Expertise

Public

Leo has appeared in several high profile cases in the Administrative Court, including challenges by local authorities to Government decisions. These cases have exposed him to the full range of duties on public bodies under statute, the Human Rights Act, EU law and principles of administrative law, including the duty to consult.

He also regularly advises public authorities, ranging from local authorities to regulators on their statutory powers and duties. He also frequently advises local authorities on disciplinary matters relating to elected members and officers.

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.

R (Portal Financial Services LLP) v Financial Ombudsman Service

[2022] EWHC 710 (ADMIN)

Led by Stephen Kosmin for the Defendant, successfully resisting a renewed application for permission to judicially review 27 decisions, which had found the Claimant liable for 100% of losses caused by their lack of due diligence into the investments to be held within a SIPP wrapper.

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

[2021] EWHC 2084 (ADMIN), ADMIN CT, JULY 23 2021, [2021] ACD 104

Secretary of State's refusal to revoke academy order made in relation to a maintained school had been irrational

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

[2021] EWHC 2084 (ADMIN); [2021] ELR 809

Successful challenge to Secretary of State's refusal to revoke an Academy order on grounds that it was irrational. Leading counsel for the Governing Body

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.

R (AA) v LGSCO

(High Court, 2021), representing the Local Government Ombudsman in defending a challenge to its decision not to investigate certain complaints on the grounds that they were out of time.

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.

R (Gate Capital Group Ltd) v FOS

(High Court, refused permission in 2021), with Stephen Kosmin, resisting challenge to FOS' decision to require compensation to be paid.

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.

R (Thomson) v SSHSC and NHS Commissioning Board

(refused permission by High Court and Court of Appeal, 2021), led by Jonathan Moffett KC representing NHS England in defending this claim alleging that it was under a duty to draw up a rationing scheme governing the allocation of intensive care beds should demand outstrip supply during the coronavirus pandemic.

R (Sadaf) v LGSCO

(refused permission by High Court, 2021), representing the Local Government Ombudsman in defending a challenge to its final decision.

R (Gate Capital Group Ltd) v FOS

(High Court, refused permission in 2021), with Stephen Kosmin, resisting challenge to FOS' decision to require compensation to be paid.

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