

Andrew Sharland KC

Silk: 2018 Call: 1996

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Andrew specializes in public law, public inquiries and investigations, public procurement and information law. Andrew has a broad public law practice with a particular emphasis on the fields of human rights, health and community care law, local government, planning and environmental law, professional discipline and regulatory law and education law. Andrew acts for individuals, charities, companies, NGOs, central and local government bodies and foreign governments in domestic and European courts. Until he took Silk in 2018, Andrew was a long-standing member of the Attorney General's A panel of junior counsel, representing government bodies on some of their most important and difficult cases.

Andrew is ranked by the legal directories as a leading Silk in administrative and public law, local government law, public inquiries and inquests, education, community care, and information law. In 2020, Andrew was nominated for 'Public Law Silk of the year' by The Legal 500.

Andrew is a co-author of the leading practitioners' textbook, *Judicial Review: Principles and Procedure* (OUP, 2013) (2nd edn forthcoming in 2025)



***Andrew Sharland KC
is very effective.***

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

Andrew is also a contributor to R McManus KC, Education and the Courts, P Coppel KC, Information Rights and Atkins Court Forms on Human Rights. Andrew sits part-time as a recorder in the Crown Court.

Expertise

Information, Technology & Media

Andrew has an extensive data protection and information law practice. He regularly acts for public authorities (including both central and local government), individuals and companies including, in particular, media organisations such as the Times Newspapers. He is a member of the Attorney General's A panel of counsel and his freedom of information panel. Legal 500, stated that "His knowledge of privacy and data protection law is outstanding" and that "He displays a mastery of freedom of information cases" 2017. Andrew contributed to Information Rights (P Coppel KC, editor), the leading information law textbook.



A hardworking barrister with strong technical knowledge of data protection.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

CR and 450 other claimants v Equiniti

(2022) (HIGH COURT, COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA LIST)

Andrew acts for the defendant, with Hannah Ready, in this class action data breach claim alleging a breach of the UK GDPR and misuse of private information. The matter is listed for a strike out application in early 2023.

R (Bridges) v Chief Constable South Wales Police and others

[2020] EWCA CIV 1058, CA, AUGUST 21 2020, [2019] EWHC 2341 (ADMIN) (DIVISIONAL COURT)

Andrew acted for the Surveillance Camera Commissioner in the first case on the legality of the use of automatic face recognition technology in the UK. The challenge was brought by a privacy campaigner against the South Wales Police's use of facial recognition technology to identify criminals at public events. This case raises novel and complex issues about the legality of such use under the GDPR and Article 8 ECHR.

Hussain v Secretary of State for Justice

[2017] 1 WLR 761 (COURT OF APPEAL)

Andrew acted for the Secretary of State for Justice successfully resisting a Data Protection Act 1998 claim brought by way of judicial review.

Kennedy v Charity Commission and Ministry of Justice

[2015] 1 AC 455 (SUPREME COURT)

Andrew acted for Mr Kennedy, an investigative journalist in this landmark case concerning the relationship between Article 10 ECHR (the right to freedom of expression) and the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Department of Work and Pensions v Information Commissioner

[2016] EWCA CIV 758

Appeal by DWP against UT decision requiring the Department to disclose details of organisations providing mandatory work programmes. The information sought concerned very controversial programmes designed to get the long term unemployed back to work

McInerney v Information Commissioner and Department for Education

[2015] UKUT 47 (AAC)

Andrew acted for the Department for Education in a challenge to refusal to disclose Free School applications. UT decision established the right to rely upon late procedural exemptions.

Keane v Information Commissioner and the Home Office

[2016] UKUT 461 (AAC)

Andrew acted for the Secretary of State for the Home Department in a case concerning whether information held by the MOD detailing paid informants in Irish Secret Societies between 1890-1910 was exempt from disclosure on national security grounds.

Achievements

Education

Andrew graduated with a first in law from Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London. He obtained an LLM from the College of William and Mary, Virginia and the BCL from Worcester College, Oxford. He also has a post-graduate diploma in Public Procurement law from Nottingham University.

Other

Andrew was a visiting fellow of constitutional law at Brunel University. He recently acted as a guest lecturer on the Public Procurement LLM at Nottingham University. He was also a Pegasus Scholar at the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

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Brilliant with clients and very bright.

LEGAL 500

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He has brilliant client-handling skills and is a pleasure to work with

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

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He is very down-to-earth, bright and incisive. He gives comprehensive and pragmatic advice...

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

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He is tactically astute and aggressive in court when you need him to be

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

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An excellent legal brain

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

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An excellent lawyer and a pleasant opponent

LEGAL 500

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He has a very personable manner and is also very responsive. Underneath his mild exterior lies a tenacious advocate...

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Judges really like him as he is clear and precise

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

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Bright, responsive and highly commercial

LEGAL 500