

Katherine Taunton

Call: 2017

E: Katherine.Taunton@11kbw.com

T: +44 (0)20 7632 8500



Katherine's practice covers chambers' specialisms, with a particular focus on employment, commercial, information and data protection, and public law.

She is described in the legal directories as *"a brilliant talent", having "judgment decades beyond her call", "an excellent advocate who presents complex issues in a very clear way", "strategically very savvy", "extremely hard-working", "great with clients and witnesses alike" and "always a pleasure to work with".*

Katherine has acted in cases before a wide range of courts and tribunals, up to and including the Supreme Court. Her core practice includes:

- Statutory employment – Katherine is frequently instructed in high-value and complex whistleblowing and discrimination cases, as well as claims of unfair and constructive dismissal, equal pay, and matters involving TUPE.
- High Court commercial and business protection – Katherine has particular expertise in confidential information, restrictive covenants, and team move disputes.



***Judgment well
beyond her years***

LEGAL 500

- Data protection and information law – Katherine advises on and acts in cases concerning the UK GDPR / DPA 2018, both in civil proceedings and actions involving the Information Commissioner's Office, as well as Freedom of Information cases.

Expertise

Information and Data Protection

Katherine's practice encompasses all aspects of information and data protection, both civil and regulatory.

Katherine has extensive experience of data protection claims in the civil courts. This includes major data breach litigation, including group litigation and cybersecurity cases. As sole counsel, she is regularly instructed in data breach claims, and can offer strategic advice on handling such claims from an early stage.

Katherine is also regularly instructed by the Information Commissioner, public authorities, corporate entities and by individuals and other bodies in respect of regulatory appeals concerning the Freedom of Information Act and data protection legislation before the Information Rights tribunal.

Current and previous instructions include:

- **Arnold Clark cyber attack:** Acting for Arnold Clark (led by Anya Poops KC and Rupert Paines) in its defence of mass claims in relation to a cyber attack in 2022.
- **Webster v HMRC:** Acting for HMRC (led by Julian Milford KC and Rupert Paines) in high-profile data protection proceedings in the Media and Communications Tribunal. The claim was brought by a former US citizen challenging the bulk transfer of financial information to the US Internal Revenue Service pursuant to treaties between the UK and US governments.
- **Forstater v Information Commissioner, MOJ, and Judicial College [2023] UKUT 303 (AAC):** Acting (unled) for the ICO in this appeal about whether the Judicial College is a 'public authority' under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 even though it is not listed in Schedule 1 to that Act.
- **Ofqual v Information Commissioner [2023] UKUT 253 (AAC):** Acting (unled) for the ICO in this appeal about (i) the timing of a public authority's public interest assessment, and (ii) the tribunal's approach to assessment of evidence from public authorities.



Katherine is very hard-working. She really rolls her sleeves up. Her written work and pleadings are very good, and she is very smooth with clients.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

Achievements

Education

London School of Economics, BSc Government and History First Class)

City University, Graduate Diploma in Law Distinction)

City University, Bar Professional Training Course (Outstanding) (Everard Ver Heyden Foundation Prize)

Awards

Major Scholarship (Inner Temple, 2016 and 2017)

Everard Ver Heyden Foundation Prize (City University, 2017)

City Law School Postgraduate Scholarship (City University, 2016 and 2017)

Other

Before coming to the Bar, Katherine was a consultant at a leading public relations firm, where she advised major companies on corporate-level communications strategies and media relations, particularly in the financial services sector.