Oliver Jackson



Call: 2019

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Oliver specialises in public law and human rights, employment, education, competition and EU relations, data protection, procurement, commercial, and public international law.

He is ranked as a leading junior by Chambers & Partners for administrative and public law and data protection; and by Legal 500 for administrative law and human rights, employment, data protection, and public procurement.

He has appeared in courts from Port Talbot and Great Yarmouth to the Supreme Court and the European Court of Human Rights. His clients range from individuals, journalists and NGOs to multinational businesses, government departments and foreign states.

> ***Oliver is really easy to deal with.***
>
> LEGAL 500, 2025

Oliver is regularly instructed in the most high-profile disputes. Recent cases include:

- The challenge to the Government's private school fees VAT policy.
- The challenge to the Michaela School's ban on prayer rituals.
- The constitutional law 'Volvo limitation' appeal on the status of CJEU judgments post-Brexit.

- The challenge to the registration of the first private provider of cross-sex hormones for 16-17 year old children.
- Whether employment claims by diplomatic staff are barred by state immunity.
- The leading Supreme Court appeal on mental health after-care services.

From 2020 to 2021 Oliver was a judicial assistant at the UK Supreme Court and the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, working on the most complex cases in the UK and from the Commonwealth. In 2024 he was elected to the Executive Committee of the Human Rights Lawyers Association.

He received a first-class degree in Natural Sciences from Cambridge University, where he graduated second in the year in his subject and won several scholarships and prizes. He has taught maths, physics and chemistry and enjoys cases that arise in a technical context.

Expertise

Data Protection and Information

Oliver is recognised as a leading junior for data protection in both the Legal 500 and Administrative and Public Law. He has been described in this area as *"an extremely good advocate"* and *"exceptionally user-friendly and very detail-focused"*.

Oliver's experience ranges from advising government departments on narrow points of law to assisting Supreme Court justices decide class action claims. He frequently acts for journalists, members of the public, businesses, public authorities and the Information Commissioner in the First-tier Tribunal and in the Upper Tribunal.

> ***He is exceptionally user-friendly and very detail-focused. He is able to turn things around quickly and produce high-quality output.***
>
> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

Bence v Cornwall Council & Information Commissioner

[2025] UKUT 420 (AAC)

landmark Upper Tribunal case involving the first finding in information law that a public authority was in contempt of court.

Amin v DEFRA

(ONGOING)

acting pro bono, freedom of information challenge seeking information from meetings between the DEFRA permanent secretary and the chair of Thames Water shortly before his resignation from Thames Water's parent company due to a conflict of interest.

Spiropoulos v Information Commissioner

[2025] UKUT 285 (AAC)

a first instance tribunal's reasons for resolving an evidential dispute can be inferred from the judgment as a whole.

Garrard v Cabinet Office

[2025] UKFTT 00343 (GRC)

acting pro bono, freedom of information challenge seeking briefing notes and readouts from meetings between Prime Minister Boris Johnson and Indian industrialist Gautam Adani.

Monetise Media Ltd v Information Commissioner

[2024] UKFTT 00959 (GC)

challenge to ICO decision to impose a £125,000 fine on a company for breach of Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations 2003.

Burton v Information Commissioner

[2024] UKUT 134 (AAC)

what is the extent of the First-tier Tribunal's jurisdiction to strike out an appeal on the basis that the grounds of appeal do not engaged the Tribunal's statutory jurisdiction.

Powell v Information Commissioner

[2023] UKUT 221 (AAC)

whether the First-tier Tribunal gave adequate reasons for finding that anonymised information was personal data.

Spotlight on Corruption v British Business Bank

(EA/2022/0014 & 0061)

defending the decision not to disclose the names of UK companies that received government-backed loans during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities v Information Commissioner

(EA/2022/0143 & 0144)

defending ICO decisions ordering the disclosure to journalists of information regarding the Government's Towns Fund on the basis that the information relates to the formulation or development of government policy.

Lin v Information Commissioner

[2023] UKUT 143 (AAC)

Upper Tribunal appeal concerning the jurisdiction of the FtT to strike out vexatious claims.

MO v Information Commissioner

(EA/2022/0071)

challenge to ICO decision withholding the disclosure of information relating to the licensing of sex entertainment venues in Bristol.

Lloyd v Google LLC

[2021] UKSC 50

class action claim against Google for alleged abuse of personal data.

Achievements

Articles and Publications

'Public law in the Supreme Court 2020-2021' [2023] 28 JR 129 (with Isabella Buono)

'Limiting an employer's right to dismiss on notice: *Aspden v Webbs Poultry* and *USDAW v Tesco*', UK Labour Law Blog, 22 February 2023 (freely available here)

'Unconscionability, uncertainty and lawful act duress' [2021] 8 JBL 701 (available here)

Education

- BA Natural Sciences, Cambridge University (First)
- Graduate Diploma in Law, City University (Distinction)
- Bar Professional Training Course, City University (Outstanding)

Awards

- Phoenicia Scholar (Bar European Group)
- Postgraduate Scholar (City Law School)
- Certificate of Honour (Middle Temple)
- JJ Powell Prize (Middle Temple)
- Queen Mother Scholarship (Middle Temple)
- Astbury Scholarship (Middle Temple)
- Simon Walker Prize in Natural Sciences (Christ's College, Cambridge)
- Graduate Scholar (Christ's College, Cambridge)
- Levy Plumb Bursary and Newton Trust Bursary (Christ's College, Cambridge)

Other

Before joining the Bar Oliver worked on the civil service fast-stream. He also advised on human rights issues at Liberty, advocated for the abolition of the death penalty at Reprieve, and volunteered as a caseworker at the Bar Pro Bono Unit. He has taken university courses on economic history and policy alongside his legal practice.

He is a trustee of Brass for Africa, an international development charity building resilience and life skills in refugee camps in Uganda, Liberia and Rwanda.

> ***Oliver is an extremely good advocate. He is very thorough and helpful throughout.***
>
> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, 2026

> ***He is a good advocate, who makes sensible points.***
>
> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, 2026

> ***Very responsive, always on top of his game, incisive and collaborative.***
>
> LEGAL 500, 2026

Oliver communicates very easily.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS 2025

Oliver has very good written advocacy.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS 2025

He provides very clear strategic objectives and tailors his advice to that.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS 2025

Oliver is really easy to deal with.

LEGAL 500, 2025

His written work is always very good.

LEGAL 500, 2025

An excellent advocate. He is diligent and able to robustly defend a case.

LEGAL 500, 2024