

Leo Davidson

Call: 2015

E: Leo.Davidson@11KBW.com

T: +44 (0)20 7632 8500



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.



He is forensic and gets into the detail and history of matters, particularly where they concern technical legal points or matters of statutory interpretation

LEGAL 500, 2023

Expertise

Information, Technology & Media

Leo has extensive experience of matters ranging from freedom of information, data protection and privacy and electronic communications, both domestically and in an EU context. He is regularly instructed in data protection claims in the High Court and County Court, as well as freedom of information cases and appeals against monetary penalty notices in the First-tier Tribunal and Upper Tribunal. He has also been instructed by the Information Commissioner in High Court challenges to the Commissioner's exercise of discretion under the Complaints procedure provided for in the Data Protection Act 2018. He frequently advises on commercial issues relating to the UK and EU GDPRs, such as third-country data transfers and indemnities.

Leo is currently co-writing a book titled *A Practical Guide to Data Protection, Privacy and Information Law*, to be published by the Law Society in early 2024.

- Advising Facebook and Whatsapp in connection with various data protection enforcement actions.
- Advising the Information Commissioner regarding potential enforcement action against a public body regarding its processing of data, and possible use of automatic decision-making, during the coronavirus pandemic.
- Acting for a high street building society in the High Court in an application to strike out a claim relating to its registration of a marker on the Credit Industry Fraud Avoidance System database.
- Acting for a sports governing body in a High Court claim relating to safeguarding procedures, defending allegations of misuse of private information, breach of contract, breach of confidence, unlawful processing of personal data and failure to comply with a data subject access request.
- Acting for a credit reference agency in the County Court defending serial claims relating to alleged processing of a former identity and refusal to erase data.



Leo is very thorough, and he is a good advocate. He works hard and is well-liked by clients.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

Davies v Information Commissioner and Thurrock Council

[2022] UKFTT 375 (GRC)

Successfully representing the Bureau of Investigative Journalism in challenging Thurrock Council's refusal to disclose information relating to its borrowing and investments, which have now led to the council being subjected to Government intervention.

Gordon v Information Commissioner

[2020] UKUT 92 (AAC)

Representing the Information Commissioner in successfully resisting this appeal, relating to the interpretation of the FOIA and the Commissioners of Revenue and Customs Act 2005.

Barrett v Information Commissioner

(UT, 2023)

On behalf of the Information Commissioner, in relation to closed material procedure and gisting in the context of paper hearings.

Shaw v Arts Council England

(FTT, 2020; UT, 2021)

Representing the Arts Council in successfully defending this FOIA appeal relating to the provenance of a celebrated portrait, and successfully resisting the appeal.

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