Heather Emmerson



Call: 2009

E: Heather.Emmerson@11kbw.com
T: +44 (0)20 7632 8500

Heather Emmerson practises in the areas of public law, regulatory law, professional discipline, data protection and information law.

Heather has over 15 years' experience advising and acting in litigation spanning all areas of her practice. She is regularly instructed in high profile and complex litigation and has appeared before a wide range of courts and tribunals including the High Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court. Heather has considerable advocacy experience including multi-day trials, judicial review claims and appellate litigation. Heather is also frequently instructed to advise on ground-breaking and novel points of law. Heather acts for a wide range of clients from private individuals to multi-national companies, regulatory bodies to local authorities, and charitable organisations to governmental bodies.

She is ranked as a leading junior in Chambers and Partners and Legal 500 across all main areas of her practice and described in the directories as "*truly excellent in the field*", "*an accomplished junior who is the all-round package*", and "*an extremely good advocate*". Clients have commented that Heather is "*all over the detail, incredibly thorough and technically excellent*", "*has an encyclopedic understanding of the law*" and is "*supremely intelligent and also very practical, approachable and easy to deal with*".

> ***Unfailingly industrious. She is undoubtedly one of the best juniors working in the human rights arena.***
>
> LEGAL 500

Expertise

Professional Discipline & Regulatory

Heather has extensive experience in the field of regulatory law and professional discipline and she acts for both regulatory bodies and regulated individuals and firms. Her experience includes advising on regulatory investigations, enforcement action, prosecuting and defending allegations of professional misconduct in disciplinary tribunals and acting in judicial review claims and statutory appeals both challenging and defending regulatory decisions. Heather has deep sector-specific expertise in relation to professionals providing services in the legal, financial and healthcare spheres and also has a wide range of experience of cases involving industry regulators including bodies such as the Information Commissioner and the Gambling Commission.

> ***She appears in the most high-profile SDT cases.***
>
> LEGAL 500

Heather has particular expertise in legal regulation and is a highly sought after junior in this field. She has extensive experience of acting for both professional disciplinary bodies and regulated individuals and entities. Heather is frequently instructed on behalf of regulated entities and individuals in relation to regulatory investigations and has acted for many individuals (both solicitors and barristers) and l law firms in responding to investigations and appearing in disciplinary proceedings. Heather has also prosecuted disciplinary cases for the SRA and BSB. Heather frequently appears in multi-day hearings before professional disciplinary tribunals and was instructed in the longest trial ever heard by the SDT (*SRA v Day and others*). Heather's expertise in the legal sector covers a wide range of regulatory issues and whilst most of her work is confidential, her recent cases have involved issues ranging from breach of anti-money laundering regulations to breach of client account rules, to sexual misconduct allegations, to litigation conduct and and dishonesty allegations. In addition to disciplinary proceedings, Heather is instructed in relation to a wide range of issues including decisions concerning authorisation, admission, conditions of practice as well as broader compliance issues.

Heather is ranked as a leading junior in Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners in the sphere of professional discipline and described as "hardworking, intelligent and charming to work with", "incredibly bright, practical and user-friendly, "a wonderful advocate" and "a genuine rising star, she is a consummate professional in terms of application, preparation and presentation." Her clients have commented that "she appears in the most high-profile SDT cases" and described her as "very personable, committed and thorough, and has a nice advocacy style. Courts like her and she is a very fair prosecutor."

Whitestone Chambers v BSB

Acting for the BSB in a judicial review claim seeking to challenge their refusal to grant AETO status to a barristers Chambers.

BSB v Sufian

Acting for the BSB in prosecuting a barrister for dishonesty and misleading the Court which resulted in disbarment.

SRA v a Firm

Acting for a global law firm in proceedings before the SDT relating to breach of anti-money laundering obligations.

Bar Standards Board v X

Acting for a barrister charged with allegations of sexual harassment in the Bar Disciplinary Tribunal.

Cook v GMC

[2024] EWHC 1663 (ADMIN)

Acting for the GMC in a claim challenging the imposition of conditions on a doctor following criminal charges relating to child sex offences and publication of obscene material.

MXM v General Medical Council

[2022] EWHC 817 (ADMIN)

Acting for the GMC in defending a challenge to an interim suspension order following allegations relating to undertaking sexual activity in a clinical setting.

Solicitors Regulation Authority v Day and others

[2018] EWHC 2726 (ADMIN)

Acting for the SRA in the longest ever trial before the SDT concerning the conduct of solicitors in relation to the Al-Sweady Inquiry. Instructed by the SRA. Led by Timothy Dutton CBE KC and Andrew Tabachnik KC.

Solicitors Regulation Authority v James

[2018] EWHC 3058 (ADMIN)

Acting for the SRA in a ground-breaking case relating to the test for exceptional circumstances where dishonesty has been proven against a solicitor. Led by Chloe Carpenter KC.

Achievements

Education

Before coming to the Bar, Heather graduated from St Catharine's College, Cambridge University with a first class degree in Law.

Appointments

Attorney General's A Panel and Welsh Government A Panel.

Other

Heather is a member of the Administrative Law Bar Association and the Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers.

She is really excellent to work with. She is all over the detail, incredibly thorough and technically excellent.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

She provides an excellent level of client service. She is responsive, personable and can cut through to issues in a clear and concise manner.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

Heather Emmerson is very strategic and clever when coming up with points on procedure or substance that are exceptionally helpful to clients. She has a pre-planning brain, is a team player and is brilliant on paper.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

an impressive individual involved in some big litigation.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

a very strong barrister technically and in formulating case strategies. Her drafting is excellent, and she has an impressive ability to absorb large quantities of evidence and identify the key issues.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

She radiates assurance.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS

Truly excellent in the field. A star of the future if not the present.

LEGAL 500

An accomplished junior who is the all-round package.

LEGAL 500

The full package. She is meticulous in her grasp of the facts and law, and also responsive to the needs of her client and other stakeholders in the litigation.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS