

Timothy Pitt-Payne KC

Silk: 2010 Call: 1989

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Tim practices in information law, public law, local government law, and employment law.

Information law is a fast-moving area of the law, where legal principles often struggle to catch up with technological and social change. Personal information is both a valuable asset and an essential tool when delivering public services; but its effective exploitation is a legal minefield. Tim has extensive experience in this field in which he is widely recognised to be a leading expert. Tim's knowledge and experience mean that he is ideally placed to advise organisations of all kinds, both in the private and public sector, about novel and complex problems relating to their use of information.

Tim combines his work in information law with a wider practice in public and employment law, having practised in both of these areas throughout his time at the Bar.



***Timothy Pitt-Payne
KC is a subject matter
expert, and
deservedly
recognised as such.***

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Expertise

Employment

Tim has practised in employment law throughout his career, and is equally at home arguing a short point of law in the Court of Appeal or conducting a fact-heavy Tribunal case about discrimination or whistleblowing. He has a particular interest in the law about employment vetting and monitoring, and was involved in the leading Supreme Court case about CRB disclosure.

Recent work includes:

- Acting for a University in a discrimination claim brought by a current employee
- Advising and acting for a public authority in a multi-party case under the Transfer of Undertakings Regulations
- Dealing with litigation arising out of the maintenance of an alleged industry blacklist

Information, Technology & Media

Tim's information law practice covers areas such as data protection, freedom of information, access to environmental information, RIPA, human rights issues, privacy, and breach of confidence. His clients include commercial organisations, the Information Commissioner, numerous regulators, NHS bodies, local authorities, Universities, and private individuals. His freedom of information cases have considered the disclosure of Cabinet Minutes about the Iraq War, MPs' expenses, abortion statistics, and the risk register relating to the Government's NHS reforms. He has extensive advocacy experience in information law, at all levels from the First-tier Tribunal to the Supreme Court. He has advised a wide range of commercial organisations (e.g in the banking, insurance, healthcare and outsourcing sectors) about their use of customer and other personal information, and about the implications of sharing confidential business information with public authorities.



***Outstanding data
privacy and FOIA
specialist***

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Public

In recent years Tim's wider public law and local government practice has covered issues about public sector pensions, the powers and duties of regulatory bodies, and local authority vires. He has acted for an against regulatory bodies in judicial review claims arising out of the exercise of their statutory powers.

Mediation

Blank

Achievements

News, Articles & Publications

Tim has contributed chapters to Computer Law (OUP, 2011), Media Law and Practice (OUP, 2009) and Judicial Review (Butterworths, 2010).

Education

Tim studied law at Oxford University (BA 1985, BCL 1986).

He was Vinerian Scholar in 1986.

Other

Tim was Visiting Professor of Information Law at Northumbria University (2007-2013).



Outstanding intellectually and highly effective.

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS



Excellent client service, whether paid or pro bono

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Recommended for matters involving data protection; he knows that area of law back to front

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Persuasive and easy to work with

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS



First choice for 'bet-the-ranch' work

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS



A true expert and leading authority

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS



Encyclopaedic knowledge

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS



Always provides responsive and practical advice

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS



Outstanding data privacy and FOIA specialist

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