Christopher Knight KC



Silk: 2026 Call: 2008 England & Wales

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Christopher was appointed King's Counsel in 2026. He has a broad public law practice and a particular specialism in media and privacy law, the devolution settlement and in Brexit-related matters. He has appeared in the most significant constitutional law cases of the last few years, including the Article 50 Brexit case, the Scottish independence referendum reference and the challenge to the prorogation of Parliament. He has acted as sole advocate before the High Court, Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court and the Court of Justice of the EU. He is a leading expert in information and data protection law. Christopher is also a highly regarded academic writer, publishing widely in journals and is the co-author of the leading textbook Bradley, Ewing & Knight on *Constitutional and Administrative Law* (2022, Pearson). He is an editor of the *White Book* and a member of the Editorial Committee of *Public Law*.

In 2025, Christopher achieved the unusual distinction of being named Public Law junior of the year in both the Chambers & Partners and Legal 500 Bar Awards. He previously won the Legal 500 award in the same category in 2022, and has been nominated for both awards on various other occasions. He is ranked as the sole Star Individual for Administrative and Public Law, and a Star Individual for Data Protection by Chambers & Partners.

> ***He is an engaging and charming lawyer who can make data protection interesting and understandable***
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> **CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, 2021**

Christopher is a member of the Attorney General's Panel of Counsel. The directories have recently described him as: the "*king of data rights*" (Legal 500, 2021), "*utterly first class*" (Legal 500, 2020), "*a superstar of the data and privacy world*" (Legal 500, 2024) and having "*a brain the size of a planet, and is very impressive and calm and collected in court*" (Chambers & Partners, 2021). Clients have commented that: "*Chris is an extraordinarily brilliant lawyer. He is steeped in public law, his drafting is so precise and beautifully written and his judgement is absolutely spot on*" (Chambers & Partners, 2024), that "*His contributions to a case are transformative*" (Chambers & Partners, 2025) and that "*Christopher is probably the best barrister I have ever instructed*" (Chambers & Partners, 2025)

Expertise

Cases

R (ARC Time Freehold & ors) v Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government
[2025] EWHC 2751 (Admin)
Junior to Monica Carss-Frisk KC; major A1P1 challenge to the Leasehold and Freehold Reform Act 2024 and its impact on freeholders through changes to the valuation mechanisms in enfranchisement procedures (instructed by Mishcon de Reya)

Hora v United Kingdom
[2025] ECHR 207
Junior to Sir James Eadie KC; first finding in favour of UK in relation to ban on prisoners voting since the Grand Chamber decision in Hirst v UK (No2) in 2004 (instructed by FCDO Legal)

The Information Commissioner v Clearview AI Incorporated
[2025] UKUT 319 (AAC)
Junior to Anya Proops KC; leading authority on the material and territorial scope of the UK GDPR (Articles 2 and 3) in relation to a US facial recognition software service (instructed by Jenner & Block)

Farley & Ors v Paymaster (1836) Ltd (t/a Equiniti)
[2025] EWCA Civ 1117
Leading authority on the approach to compensation for breach of UK GDPR, holding that there is no de minimis threshold, and confirming the proper interpretation of the concept of processing of personal data (instructed by the Information Commissioner's Office)

R (Tortoise Media Ltd) v Conservative and Unionist Party
[2025] EWCA Civ 673; [2025] 1 WLR 4186
Amenability of a political party to judicial review and the Human Rights Act 1998 in relation to the selection of a Prime Minister, and the scope of Article 10 ECHR in domestic law on the right to request information (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

Bradshaw v United Kingdom
[2025] ECHR 188
Junior to Sir James Eadie KC; novel claim alleging a breach of a positive obligation on the UK to inquire into and remedy legal frameworks re Russian attempts at electoral interference, contrary to A3P1 (instructed by FCDO Legal)

Department for Business and Trade v The Information Commissioner & Montague
[2025] UKSC 27; [2025] 1 WLR 3456; [2023] EWCA Civ 1378; [2022] UKUT 104 (AAC)
Supreme Court judgment determining issues of principle concerning the permissibility of the aggregation of exemptions under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The UT decision on the point at which the public interest test is assessed was not appealed (instructed by Leigh Day)

R (Duke of Sussex) v Secretary of State for the Home Department
[2025] EWCA Civ 548; [2025] 4 WLR 66; [2024] EWHC 418 (Admin)
Junior to Sir James Eadie KC; unique and high-profile challenge by Prince Harry to the changes made to his protective security arrangements following his stepping back from acting as a working member of the Royal Family (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

R (All-Party Parliamentary Group on Fair Banking) v Financial Conduct Authority
[2025] EWHC 525 (Admin)
Junior to Richard Coleman KC; judicial review of FCA's decision not to implement a recommendation of the independent Swift Review into the Interest Rate Hedging Product Redress Scheme to compensate those excluded from Scheme (instructed by Dentons & FCA)

R (GB News) v Ofcom
[2025] EWHC 460 (Admin), [2025] 1 WLR 3164
Junior to Tom Hickman KC; first ever successful challenge to findings by Ofcom of breach of the Broadcasting Code, relating to politician TV presenters referring to breaking news items (instructed by Brown Rudnick)

RTM v Bonne Terre Ltd & Hestview Ltd
[2025] EWHC 111 (KB)
High-profile challenge to the lawfulness of use of data by Sky Betting & Gaming to profile a customer with vulnerability to gambling, now the leading judgment on the principle of consent in data protection law (instructed by AWO)

Meagher v University of Cambridge
[2025] EWHC 30 (KB)
Appeal upholding strike-out of discrimination claims against individual defendants in the application of the Jameel principle, breaking new ground (instructed by Shakespeare Martineau)

R (Knot Builders Ltd) v Construction Industry Training Board
[2025] EWCA Civ 6; [2024] EWHC 115 (Admin)
Novel challenge to the dismissal of a construction industry grant application, raising issues of fettering, policy interpretation, legitimate expectations, consistency and relief (instructed by Fieldfisher)

R (IAB & others) v Secretary of State for the Home Department
[2024] EWCA Civ 66; [2024] 1 WLR 1916
Junior to Laura Dubinsky KC; significant judgment on the scope of the duty of candour in judicial review, rejecting the approach of Government to the redaction of the names of junior civil servants (instructed by Duncan Lewis)

R (the3million) v Secretary of State for the Home Department
[2023] EWCA Civ 1474; [2024] 1 WLR 3567; [2023] EWHC 713 (Admin), [2023] 1 WLR 3011
Challenge to the legality of the amended immigration exemption within the Data Protection Act 2018 following earlier litigation, in which the High Court and Court of Appeal largely accepted the submissions of the Information Commissioner as intervener (instructed by the Information Commissioner's Office)

R (AAA & ors) v Secretary of State for the Home Department
[2023] UKSC 42; [2023] 1 WLR 4433; [2023] EWCA Civ 745; [2023] 1 WLR 3103; [2022] EWHC 3230 (Admin); [2022] EWHC 2191 (Admin)
Junior to Raza Husain KC; successful major challenge to the Rwanda deportation policy under domestic law, the ECHR and the Refugee Convention; acted as sole counsel at a preliminary hearing on a PII application (instructed by Duncan Lewis)

R (Cabinet Office) v Chair of the UK Covid-19 Inquiry
[2023] EWHC 1702 (Admin); [2024] KB 319
Junior to Sir James Eadie KC; challenge to the issue and terms of a coercive notice issued by the Covid-19 Inquiry requiring the provision of certain WhatsApp message threads (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

R (Good Law Project) v Prime Minister & ors
[2022] EWCA Civ 1580; [2022] EWHC 960 (Admin); [2022] 1 WLR 3748
Junior to Sir James Eadie KC; wide-ranging challenge in connection with the use by Minister and officials of non-corporate communications channels, addressing the interpretation of the Public Records Act 1958 and the enforceability of policy documents (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

Reference by the Lord Advocate of Devolution Issues under the Scotland Act 1998
[2022] UKSC 31; [2022] 1 WLR 5435
Junior to Sir James Eadie KC; unprecedented devolution reference under Schedule 6 to the Scotland Act 1998 of the question of whether the Scottish Parliament has legislative competence to legislate for a second independence referendum (instructed by the Office of the Advocate General for Scotland)

R (Kellogg Company) v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care
[2022] EWHC 1710 (Admin); [2022] HRLR 17
Junior to Tom Hickman KC; judicial review of food promotion restrictions applicable to breakfast cereals, giving rise to issues of vires, Henry VIII powers, incorporation of extraneous documents, relevancy of considerations and proportionality (instructed by DLA Piper)

Montague v Information Commissioner & Department for International Trade
[2022] UKUT 104 (AAC)
Three judge panel determining issues of principle concerning the permissibility of the aggregation of exemptions and the point at which the public interest test is assessed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (instructed by Leigh Day)

SMO (a child) v TikTok Inc & others
[2022] EWHC 489 (QB)
Junior to Anya Proops KC; consideration of an application to serve out of the jurisdiction in the context of a representative claim for breach of the UK GDPR against the social media giant, TikTok, on behalf of a class of all child users in the EU (instructed by Hogan Lovells)

R (Counsel General for Wales) v Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy [2022] EWCA Civ 118; [2021] EWHC 950 (Admin)
Junior to Sir James Eadie KC; novel challenge brought by the Welsh Government to the terms of the United Kingdom Internal Market Act 2020, raising issues of prematurity and the proper approach to statutes which interact with the devolution settlement (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

R (FDA) v Prime Minister
[2021] EWHC 3279 (Admin); [2022] 4 WLR 5
Junior to Sir James Eadie KC; claim seeking relief in relation to the interpretation of the Ministerial Code in connection with the complaints made against the Home Secretary (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

Google LLC v Lloyd
[2021] UKSC 50; [2022] AC 1217
Acting for an intervener in a major appeal concerning the recoverability of compensation for loss of control (or mere contravention) under the DPA 1998, and the role of representative actions in such claims; the only unled junior counsel in the appeal (instructed by Linklaters)

Re the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill & anr
[2021] UKSC 42; [2021] 1 WLR 5106
Junior to Sir James Eadie KC; reference brought by the UK Law Officers against two Bills of the Scottish Parliament as inconsistent with the continuing sovereignty of the Westminster Parliament, and in relation to the interpretative principles (instructed by the Office of the Advocate General)

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office v Information Commissioner & Williams, Wickham-Jones & Lownie [2021] UKUT 248 (AAC)
Three-judge panel finding that it is permissible to cite sections 23(1) and 24(1) FOIA in the alternative to protect national security, and summarising the applicable principles to both exemptions (instructed by the Information Commissioner)

R (A) v Secretary of State for the Home Department
[2021] UKSC 37; [2021] 1 WLR 3931
Junior to Jonathan Moffett KC; challenge to the Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme Guidance, in which the Supreme Court significantly revisited and revised the proper approach to judicial reviews of policies and the 'unacceptable risk' line of authority (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

R (Open Rights Group & 3Million Ltd) v Secretary of State for the Home Department
[2021] EWCA Civ 800; [2021] 1 WLR 3611; [2021] EWCA Civ 1573
Major challenge to the insertion into the Data Protection Act 2018 of a new exemption in Schedule 2 concerning prejudice to immigration control, found to be contrary to the GDPR, and with a consequential judgment on the appropriate relief against primary legislation incompatible with retained EU law (instructed by the Information Commissioner)

Professional Standards Authority v General Medical Council & Hanson
[2021] EWHC 1288 (Admin)
Judgment on the proper approach to costs against the GMC, where it has not sought to defend a decision of the Medical Practitioners Tribunal on an appeal brought by the PSA (instructed by the General Medical Council)

Case C-505/19 WS v Bundesrepublik Deutschland
(EU:C:2021:376) [2021] 3 CMLR 26
CJEU consideration of Interpol red notices, their relation with the European Arrest Warrant, the principle of double jeopardy and the compatibility of transfers of personal data to and from Interpol with Directive 2016/680 (the Law Enforcement Directive) (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

M.C. v. United Kingdom
ECtHR, App. No. 51220/13, 30 March 2021
Junior to Jonathan Moffett KC; European Court of Human Rights decision dismissing claim that the criminal records disclosure scheme was incompatible with Article 8 ECHR (instructed by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office)

R (Good Law Project Ltd & others) v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care
[2021] EWHC 505 (Admin); [2021] PTSR 1251
Junior to Jason Coppel KC; challenge to the Secretary of State's failure to comply with legal and policy duties to publish procurement transparency notices within specified time periods, and the proper approach to relief and standing (instructed by Deighton Pierce Glynn)

R (QSA & others) v National Police Chiefs' Council & Secretary of State for the Home Department [2021] EWHC 272 (Admin); [2021] 1 WLR 2962
Junior to Kate Gallafent KC; challenge to the NPCC policy of retaining convictions for recordable offences on the Police National Computer until the offender was aged 100 as incompatible with Article 8 ECHR (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

R (3Million Ltd & others) v Minister for the Cabinet Office
[2021] EWHC 245 (Admin)
Junior to Clive Sheldon KC; challenge to the preparation for and conduct of the 2019 European Parliamentary election, and the registration requirements imposed on EU citizens, as incompatible with EU law and Article 3 of the First Protocol ECHR (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

Case C-619/19 Land Baden-Württemberg v DR
(EU:C:2021:35); [2021] PTSR 1038
Leading CJEU judgment on the internal communications exemption in Directive 2003/4/EC, domestically implemented in the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, including concerning whether scope of the exemption is time-limited (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

Case C-746/18 HK v Prokuratuur
[2021] 1 WLR 4587
CJEU judgment concerning access of electronic communications by law enforcement agencies and the e-Privacy Directive (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

Leave.EU & Eldon Insurance Services v Information Commissioner
[2021] UKUT 26 (AAC)
Significant Upper Tribunal judgment against penalty notices, enforcement notices and assessment notices for breaches of email marketing laws which arose from the context of the EU referendum, along with a discussion of the relevance of procedural complaints about the ICO's decision-making (instructed by the Information Commissioner)

Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis v Information Commissioner & Rosenbaum
[2021] UKUT 5 (AAC)
Judgment of the Upper Tribunal authoritatively collating the principles applicable to cases raising the national security exemptions under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (instructed by the Information Commissioner)

R (MP) v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care
[2020] EWCA Civ 1634; [2021] PTSR 1122
Junior to Jason Coppel KC; challenge to changes to NHS overseas visitor charging regulations on consultation and legitimate expectation grounds (instructed by Deighton Pierce Glynn)

R (Francis) v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care
[2020] EWHC 3287 (Admin); [2021] PTSR 921
Junior to James Eadie KC; challenge to the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (Self-Isolation) (England) Regulations 2020 as ultra vires, raising issues of whether the self-isolation requirements amounted to quarantine or detention at common law (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

R (R) v National Police Chiefs' Council; Secretary of State for Justice
[2020] EWCA Civ 1346; [2017] EWHC 2586 (Admin); [2018] 1 WLR 1651
Junior to Kate Gallafent KC; an Article 8 challenge to the provision of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act that all convictions and cautions be self-disclosed when applying for the office of police constable (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

Case C-623/17 Privacy International (EU:C:2020:790); [2021] 1 WLR 4421
Cases C-511, 512, 520/18 La Quadrature du Net & ors (EU:C:2020:791); [2021] 1 WLR 4457
Junior to Gerry Facenna KC; highly significant judgments on the compatibility of powers of intelligence agencies of Member States to gather bulk communications data from communications service providers with the Charter of Fundamental Rights and the e-Privacy Directive (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

R (Elgizouli) v Secretary of State for the Home Department (No.2)
[2020] EWHC 2516 (Admin); [2021] 3 All ER 247
Junior to James Eadie KC; challenge on data protection grounds to the transfer of data to the USA under a mutual legal assistance request for the purpose of prosecuting in the US alleged members of the so-called 'ISIS Beatles' (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

Case C-311/18 Data Protection Commissioner v Facebook Ireland Ltd & Schrems
(EU:C:2020:559)
Junior to Josh Holmes KC for the written observations, unled at the oral hearing; highly significant CJEU decision on the compatibility of standard contract clauses as a mechanism for international transfers of personal data, and the EU-US Privacy Shield (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

Moss v Information Commissioner & Cabinet Office
[2020] UKUT 242 (AAC)
Junior to Timothy Pitt-Payne KC; consideration of the role of Article 10 ECHR in freedom of information cases in the light of Kennedy v Charity Commission and Magyar Helsinki v Hungary (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

Sarkar v General Medical Council & Professional Standards Authority
[2020] EWHC 1896 (Admin)
Consideration of approach to costs where an appeal was allowed by consent against the Medical Practitioners Tribunal, and the extent to which the GMC should be liable for costs when it does not seek to defend the decision (instructed by the General Medical Council)

R (Hussain) v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care
[2020] EWHC 1392 (Admin)
Junior to James Eadie KC; judicial review and application for interim relief brought by a mosque against the coronavirus lockdown restrictions closing places of worship as a breach of Article 9 ECHR (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

School Facilities Management Ltd & others v Governing Body of Christ the King College & Isle of Wight Council
[2020] EWHC 1118 (Comm); [2020] EWHC 1477 (Comm)
Junior to Peter Oldham KC; two week Commercial Court trial as to whether a school had acted ultra vires in entering into a 15 year lease for a sixth form building, along with extensive restitution issues (instructed by Stone King)

Hudson Contract Services v Construction Industry Training Board
[2020] EWCA Civ 328; [2020] ICR 1344; [2019] EWHC 45 (Admin); [2019] ICR 1001
Construction industry levy appeal worth £8 million; junior to Sam Grodzinski KC on the successful appeal, having been successful unled before the Employment Tribunal and the High Court (instructed by Fieldfisher)

R (Adamson) v Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council
[2020] EWCA Civ 154; [2020] 2 P&CR 9; [2019] EWHC 1129 (Admin)
Appeal concerning the meaning of statutory appropriation of land for allotment purposes, where alleged appropriation was historic, overturning first instance judgment (instructed by Kirklees MBC)

R (QSA & others) v Secretary of State for the Home Department
[2020] EWCA Civ 130; [2020] 1 WLR 2062; [2018] EWHC 407 (Admin); [2018] 1 WLR 4279
Junior to Kate Gallafent KC; a challenge to the criminalisation of street prostitution as contrary to Article 14 ECHR as indirectly gender discriminatory (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

R (Good Law Project) v HM Revenue & Customs (Uber London Ltd as interested party)
[2019] EWHC 3125 (Admin); [2020] STC 145
Analysis of the power of HMRC to disclose taxpayer information consistently with section 18 of the Commissioners for Customs and Revenue Act 2005 and open justice in response to a public interest judicial review of HMRC's decision-making (instructed by Rook Irwin Sweeney)

R (Liberty) v Prime Minister
[2019] EWCA Civ 1761; [2020] 1 WLR 1193
Junior to James Eadie KC; high-profile claim concerning the effect of, and compliance with, the European Union (Withdrawal) (No.2) Act 2019 and raising issues of case management where the same matters are before the courts of the different jurisdictions of the United Kingdom (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

R (Miller) (No.2) v Prime Minister
[2019] UKSC 41; [2020] AC 373 and [2019] EWHC 2381 (QB)
Junior to James Eadie KC; unprecedented challenge to the exercise of the prerogative power to advise HM The Queen to prorogue Parliament, and the scope and effect of the principle of non-justiciability (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

Case C-136/17 GC v CNIL
EU:C:2019:773
Significant reference determined by the CJEU concerning the effect of the right to be forgotten in the context of sensitive personal data available online through internet search engines, balancing privacy and free expression rights (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

Maharaj v Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago Ltd
[2019] UKPC 21
Junior to Richard Clayton KC; the first substantive consideration by the Privy Counsel of the Trinidad and Tobago Freedom of Information Act, overturning a refusal of permission to bring a judicial review for breach

R (P, G & W) v Secretary of State for the Home Department
[2019] UKSC 3; [2020] AC 185
Junior to James Eadie KC; a major Article 8 challenge to the legislative scheme for the disclosure of criminal conviction records, as revised following the earlier case of T (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

UKIP v Information Commissioner
[2019] UKUT 62 (AAC)
First appeal to the Upper Tribunal against an Information Notice issued under the DPA 1998, in the context of the data analytics in political campaigning investigation (instructed by the Information Commissioner)

BBC v Independent Office for Police Conduct
(EA/2018/0163) (First-tier Tribunal)
First appeal against an Information Notice issued by the IOPC under the Police Reform Act 2002, raising Article 10 ECHR issues where the recipient was the BBC (instructed by the IOPC)

Re the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Legal Continuity) (Scotland) Bill
[2018] UKSC 64; [2019] AC 1022
Junior to HM Advocate General; the first ever reference by the UK Law Officers of a Bill of the Scottish Parliament, concerning the retention of EU law in Scots law after Brexit, and constituting the most significant devolution case since AXA (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

R (AIRE Centre) v Secretary of State for the Home Department; Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis
[2018] EWCA Civ 2837; [2019] 1 WLR 3002
Junior to Jonathan Swift KC; a challenge to Operation Nexus – under which persons arrested are asked questions to establish their immigration status – as a breach of the Citizens Directive and outwith police powers (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

R (EU Lotto Ltd and others) v Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport [2018] EWHC 3111 (Admin); [2019] 1 CMLR 41
Junior to Jonathan Moffett KC; an Article 56 TFEU challenge to a ban imposed by secondary legislation on betting on the outcome of the EuroMillions lottery draw (instructed by the Gambling Commission)

Case C-207/16 Ministerio Fiscal
EU:C:2018:78; [2019] 1 WLR 3121
Junior to Gerry Facenna KC; consideration of the restrictions on access to communications data under the e-Privacy Directive (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

R (AR) v Chief Constable of Greater Manchester Police & Secretary of State for the Home Department
[2018] UKSC 47; [2018] 1 WLR 4079
Junior to Jonathan Moffett KC; an Article 8 challenge to the disclosure of rape acquittal information in an enhanced criminal records check which also raised issues of principle as to the approach to proportionality on appeal (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

Greene King Brewing and Retailing Ltd v Gambling Commission
[2017] EWCA Civ 372; [2017] 1 WLR 3611
Junior to Philip Kolvin KC; the first Court of Appeal case concerning the Gambling Act 2005, involving consideration of the refusal of licence applications and the scope of the regulator's powers under the statutory scheme (instructed by the Gambling Commission)

Ittihadieh v 5-11 Cheyne Gardens RTM Co Ltd; Deer v University of Oxford
[2017] EWCA Civ 121; [2018] QB 256
Junior to Julian Milford; appeared for the Information Commissioner intervening in joined appeals determining a series of important issues under the Data Protection Act and subject access requests (instructed by the Information Commissioner's Office)

R (Miller & Dos Santos) v Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union
[2017] UKSC 5; [2018] AC 61 and [2016] EWHC 2768 (Admin); [2017] 1 All ER 158
Junior counsel for the Secretary of State in the most important and high-profile constitutional case of a generation. Heard by all 11 Justices of the Supreme Court, it considered prerogative powers, Parliamentary sovereignty, the status of EU law, the devolution legislation and the role of constitutional conventions (instructed by the Government Legal Department)

Magyar Helsinki Bizottság v Hungary
App. No. 18030/11, European Court of Human Rights, Grand Chamber
Junior to Richard Clayton KC; the Grand Chamber revisited contradictory authority to recognise, in part, a right of access to information under Article 10 EHCR (instructed by various NGO Interveners, including the Media Legal Defence Initiative, the Campaign for Freedom of Information and Article 19)

Keane v Information Commissioner, Home Office and Metropolitan Police Service
[2016] UKUT 461 (AAC)
A FOIA appeal concerning access to files concerning 19th century Irish informers, withheld on the grounds of national security (instructed by the Metropolitan Police Service)

Lin v Metropolitan Police Commissioner
[2015] EWHC 2484 (QB)
Junior to Anya Proops; high-profile subject access request by the individuals suspected of murdering Hannah Witheridge and David Miller in Thailand for a Metropolitan Police report into the Thai investigation which considered the scope of the section 29 law enforcement exemption in the Data Protection Act (instructed by the Metropolitan Police Commissioner)

Kennedy v Charity Commission
[2014] UKSC 20; [2014] 2 WLR 808
Junior to Richard Clayton KC; appeared for the Media Legal Defence Initiative and the Campaign for Freedom of Information, intervening on the application of Article 10 ECHR to a right of access to information and the interplay with FOIA (instructed by the Media Legal Defence Initiative)

Public

Christopher is a specialist public lawyer who regularly advises and appears on behalf of claimants, private companies and public authorities of different kinds. He has appeared in the most significant constitutional law cases of recent times, as well as many other high-profile matters. He has published widely on the area in the leading journals and co-authors one of the leading textbooks.

> ***Chris is commercially astute and has an unrivalled understanding of the manner in which the Government approaches public law cases***
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> CHAMBERS & PARTNERS, 2025

R (Sex Matters) v DPP

challenge to consistency of 'Deception as to Sex' CPS guidance with the criminal law because of conflation of sex and gender

R (ARC Time Freehold Investment Fund) v Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government

major A1P1 challenge to Leasehold and Freehold Reform Act 2024

R (GB News) v Ofcom

first successful challenge to a finding of breach of Broadcasting Code, relating to use of politicians as TV presenters

Hora v UK

first successful defence of UK prisoner voting ban

Bradshaw v UK

successful defence of A3P1 challenge in reliance on 'Russia Report' of the Intelligence and Security Committee re Russian electoral interference

R (IAB) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

Important judgment of the Court of Appeal clarifying that the duty of candour does not permit the general redaction of the names of junior civil servants disclosed in judicial review proceedings

Reference by the Lord Advocate

Devolution reference concerning the competence of the Scottish Parliament to legislate for a second independence referendum

R (Good Law Project) v Prime Minister & ors

Challenge to the legality of use by Ministers and officials of private email accounts and messaging services on Government business

R (Duke of Sussex) v Secretary of State for the Home Department (No.s 1 & 2)

Challenge brought by Prince Harry to the level of protective security provided to him following his withdrawal from acting as a working member of the Royal Family; and a second challenge to a decision not to support the use of private funding to pay for the provision of protective security by the police

R (Kellogg) v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

Challenge to the inclusion of breakfast cereals within food placement and promotion restrictions

R (FDA) v Prime Minister

Challenge to Prime Minister's decision that the Home Secretary had not breached the Ministerial Code

Re the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Bill

Devolution reference to the Supreme Court raising issues of the limits of the Scottish Parliament to afford the Scottish Courts powers to strike down provisions of Acts of Parliament

R (A) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

Leading judgment on the approach to judicial reviews of policies

R (A) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2021] UKSC 37, [2021] 1 WLR 3931 (SUPREME COURT)

Jonathan successfully represented the Home Office at all levels on this challenge to "Sarah's Law", the scheme for the disclosure of information about convicted child sex offenders, which alleged that the scheme was incompatible with Article 8 of the Convention.

R (A) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2021] UKSC 37, [2021] 1 WLR 3931 (SUPREME COURT)

Jonathan successfully represented the Home Office at all levels on this challenge to "Sarah's Law", the scheme for the disclosure of information about convicted child sex offenders.

R (A) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2021] UKSC 37, [2021] 1 WLR 3931 (SUPREME COURT)

Jonathan successfully represented the Home Office at all levels on this challenge to "Sarah's Law", the scheme for the disclosure of information about convicted child sex offenders. He persuaded the Supreme Court to overturn 20 years of Court of Appeal and High Court case law on the test to be applied when challenging the lawfulness of a policy.

R (A) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

[2022] EWHC 360 (ADMIN), ADMIN CT, FEBRUARY 18 2022, [2022] ACD 65

Acted for the Secretary of State in a challenge to the consultation leading up to the Nationality and Borders Bill, raising important issues about Parliamentary privilege and non-justiciability

R (3Million Ltd & Open Rights Group) v Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

Judicial review challenging the compatibility with EU law of the immigration exemption in Schedule 2 to the Data Protection Act 2018

R (3Million Ltd & Open Rights Group) v Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

Judicial review challenging the compatibility with EU law of the immigration exemption in Schedule 2 to the Data Protection Act 2018

R (3Million Ltd & Open Rights Group) v Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

Court of Appeal judgment considering the approach to relief where primary legislation has been found incompatible with retained EU law

R (Counsel General for Wales) v Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

[2022] EWCA CIV 118

On the legislative competence of the Senedd

R (Counsel General for Wales) v Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

Challenge by the Welsh Government to the terms of the UK Internal Market Act 2020 and its relationship with the devolution settlement

R (Good Law Project & others) v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

Challenge to failures to comply with legal and policy procurement transparency obligations, with important observations on standing and relief

R (MP) v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

Consultation and legitimate expectation by past practice challenge to NHS charging regulations

R (Francis) v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

Challenge to the Coronavirus Self-Isolation Regulations on vires grounds

R (Hussain) v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care

Challenge to coronavirus restrictions closing mosques on Article 9 ECHR grounds

R (R) v National Police Chiefs' Council & Secretary of State for Justice

Judicial review of the exception to the protections of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act when applying to become a police constable

R (QSA & others) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

Challenge to the criminalisation of street prostitution as indirectly gender discriminatory, and subsequently to the retention of convictions until the offender is aged 100

R (Liberty) v Prime Minister

Litigation concerning the meaning of and compliance with the European Union (Withdrawal) (No.2) Act 2019 ('the Benn Act')

R (Miller) (No.2) v Prime Minister

Unprecedented challenge to the prorogation of Parliament, heard by 11 Justices of the Supreme Court

R (ASK) v Secretary of State for the Home Department & NHS England

The provision of mental health care in immigration removal centres

R (P, G & W) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

Supreme Court appeal concerning the compatibility of the criminal record disclosure scheme with Article 8 ECHR

Re the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Legal Continuity) (Scotland) Bill

First reference to the Supreme Court made under section 33 of the Scotland Act 1998, concerning legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament to legislate for the retention of EU law after Brexit

Re the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Legal Continuity) (Scotland) Bill

First reference to the Supreme Court made under section 33 of the Scotland Act 1998, concerning legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament to legislate for the retention of EU law after Brexit

R (EU Lotto) v Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport

Article 56 TFEU challenge to regulations prohibiting betting on the Euromillions lottery draw

R (EU Lotto) v Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport

Article 56 TFEU challenge to regulations prohibiting betting on the Euromillions lottery draw

R (EU Lotto) v Secretary of State for Digital, Media and Sport

[2019] EWHC 3111 (ADMIN, [2019] 1 CMLR 41 (DIVISIONAL COURT)

Andrew successfully represented the Secretary of State in this judicial review of the ban on off shore gambling companies offering bets on the outcome of the EuroMillions draws.

R (MP) v Secretary of State for Health

Judicial review of regulations imposing upfront charging for use of the NHS

R (MP) v Secretary of State for Health

[2021] PTSR 1122

Represented claimant challenging regulations extending charging of fees for NHS treatment to "overseas visitors".

R (Aire Centre) v Secretary of State for the Home Department & Metropolitan Police Commissioner

Challenge to Operation Nexus as contrary to the Citizens Directive and in breach of police powers

R (Aire Centre) v Secretary of State for the Home Department & Metropolitan Police Commissioner

Challenge to Operation Nexus as contrary to the Citizens Directive and in breach of police powers

Hudson Contract Services Ltd v Construction Industry Training Board

Industrial levy appeal raising various points of statutory construction and worth £8 million

R (AR) v Chief Constable of Greater Manchester Police & Secretary of State for the Home Department

Supreme Court appeal concerning disclosures of acquittal information in enhanced criminal records certificate

R (QSA) v Secretary of State for the Home Department

Challenge to the disclosure of historic convictions for prostitution offences as contrary to Article 8, a breach of trafficking obligations and as gender discrimination

R (LG) v Independent Monitor

An Article 8 challenge to the disclosure of a nurse's acquittal for theft from a patient on an enhanced criminal records check

R (Bucpapa) v Secretary of State for Justice

A challenge to a refusal to repatriate a prisoner back to Albania

R (Crompton) v South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner

A challenge to the dismissal of the chief constable by the PCC following the Hillsborough Inquests

R (Miller & Dos Santos) v Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union

The Article 50 Brexit litigation about the power to withdraw from the EU before 11 Justices of the Supreme Court

R (Miller & Dos Santos) v Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union

The Article 50 Brexit litigation about the power to withdraw from the EU

R (Justice for Health Ltd) v Secretary of State for Health

Judicial review by junior doctors of a purported imposition of the new contract following strike action

Magyar Helsinki Bizottság v Hungary

[2016] ECHR 975

Represented the UK Government intervening before the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights on the issue of whether Article 10 ECHR confers a right to freedom of information.

R (London Criminal Courts Solicitors Association) v Lord Chancellor

Judicial review challenge to the new criminal legal aid tender process

Kennedy v Charity Commission

Supreme Court decision finding a common law right of access to information, but rejecting a right under Article 10 ECHR

Noon v Matthews

Appeal by way of case stated by the Conservators of the River Cam concerning the power of delegation of prosecutorial decision-making

R (National Aids Trust) v NHS England

Court of Appeal decision on the powers of NHS England to fund HIV drugs and the boundary of public health

Magyar Helsinki Bizottság v Hungary

Grand Chamber decision finding, for the first time, a partial right of access to information within Article 10 ECHR

Magyar Helsinki Bizottság v Hungary

Grand Chamber decision finding, for the first time, a partial right of access to information within Article 10 ECHR

Kennedy v Charity Commission

Supreme Court decision finding a common law right of access to information, but rejecting a right under Article 10 ECHR

Noon v Matthews

Appeal by way of case stated by the Conservators of the River Cam concerning the power of delegation of prosecutorial decision-making

Media & Privacy

Christopher is an experienced practitioner in media and privacy work, with a particular specialism in data protection and data privacy cases, including regulatory investigations. He has experience of misuse of private information claims, breach of confidence cases, breaches of Article 8 ECHR and urgent injunctive relief claims. He is a leading specialist in the Data Protection Acts, working with individuals, private companies and public authorities, and regularly advises on some of the most sensitive and difficult policy areas. He is a regular contributor on the area on 11KBW's leading *Panopticon* blog.

> ***A superstar of the data and privacy world***
>
> LEGAL 500, 2024

Examples of his work in this field include:

- **Farley v Equiniti (t/a Paymaster)** – Court of Appeal judgment clarifying the law on whether a de minimis threshold of non-material damage applies under the UK GDPR
- **RTM v Bonne Terre** – leading case on consent in data protection law, addressing the profiling of customers by Sky Betting and Gaming to encourage gambling
- **R (3Million Ltd & Open Rights Group) v Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (No2)** – judicial review challenging the compatibility with EU law of the immigration exemption in Schedule 2 to the Data Protection Act 2018
- **FKJ v RVT** – significant WhatsApp hacking allegations and counterclaims for malicious prosecution
- **Google LLC v Lloyd** – leading Supreme Court decision on representative actions for data protection breaches, and the ability to claim damages for mere contravention under the Data Protection Act 1998
- **R (Elgizouli) v Secretary of State for the Home Department (No.2)** – challenge to the transfer of personal data relating to the ISIS Beatles in response to a US MLA request
- **Case C-623/17 Privacy International** – review of the compatibility of bulk data gathering regimes by national security bodies with the Charter and the e-Privacy Directive
- **Case C-311/18 Schrems II** – intervening for the UK in an important reference about compliance of standard contractual clauses with the EU Charter in the context of international data transfers
- **Case C-687/18 Stunt v Associated Newspapers** – intervening for the UK in a reference challenging the compatibility with Charter rights of the automatic stay mechanism in journalistic processing cases before it was withdrawn
- **BBC v Independent Office for Police Conduct** – first appeal against an Information Notice served by the IOPC, against the BBC, raising Article 10 issues

- **Case C-136/17 GC v CNIL** – intervening for the UK in an important reference about the right to be forgotten
- **R (AK) v Information Commissioner** – judicial review of the Commissioner rejecting a 'right to be forgotten' complaint
- **Ittihadieh v 5-11 Cheyne Gardens RTM Co / Deer v University of Oxford** – leading Court of Appeal judgment on a number of different elements of data protection law, including personal data, search obligations and the grant of relief
- **Holyoake v Candy & CPC** – a significant data protection case on the application of the legal professional privilege exemption in relation to private investigators, and the scope of the iniquity exception to privilege
- **Bangura v Loughborough University Authority** – provision of personal data by a University to the police in the course of a police investigation
- **Lin v Metropolitan Police Commissioner** – high-profile subject access request case concerning individuals accused of murdering British tourists in Thailand and facing the death penalty
- **Kololo v Metropolitan Police Commissioner** – consideration of whether a subject access request was contrary to the purposes of the legislation when made to obtain material used in foreign criminal proceedings

Farley v Equiniti (t/a Paymaster)

Court of Appeal judgment clarifying the law on whether a de minimis threshold of non-material damage applies under the UK GDPR

R (3Million Ltd & Open Rights Group) v Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (No2)

judicial review challenging the compatibility with EU law of the immigration exemption in Schedule 2 to the Data Protection Act 2018

FKJ v RVT

Significant WhatsApp hacking allegations and counterclaims for malicious prosecution

RTM v Bonne Terre

leading case on consent in data protection law, addressing the profiling of customers by Sky Betting and Gaming to encourage gambling

FKJ v RVT

a misuse of private information claim concerning allegations of unlawful access to a junior employee's WhatsApp account and counterclaims of malicious prosecution

Google LLC v Lloyd

Leading Supreme Court decision on representative actions for data protection breaches, and the ability to claim damages for mere contravention under the Data Protection Act 1998

R (Elgizouli) v Secretary of State for the Home Department (No.2)

Challenge to the transfer of personal data relating to the ISIS Beatles in response to a US MLA request

Case C-311/18 Schrems II

Intervening for the UK in an important reference about compliance of standard contractual clauses with the EU Charter in the context of international data transfers

Case C-687/18 Stunt v Associated Newspapers

Intervening for the UK in a reference challenging the compatibility with Charter rights of the automatic stay mechanism in journalistic processing cases before it was withdrawn

BBC v Independent Office for Police Conduct

First appeal against an Information Notice served by the IOPC, against the BBC, raising Article 10 issues

Case C-136/17 GC v CNIL

Intervening for the UK in an important reference about the right to be forgotten in data protection law

Case C-623/17 Privacy International

Review of the compatibility of bulk data gathering regimes by national security bodies with the Charter and the e-Privacy Directive

Case C-311/18 Schrems II

Intervening for the UK in an important reference about compliance of standard contractual clauses with the EU Charter in the context of international data transfers

Case C-687/18 Stunt v Associated Newspapers

Intervening for the UK in a reference challenging the compatibility with Charter rights of the automatic stay mechanism in journalistic processing cases before the reference was withdrawn

Case C-136/17 GC v CNIL

Intervening for the UK in an important reference about the right to be forgotten

R (AK) v Information Commissioner

Judicial review of the Commissioner rejecting a ‘right to be forgotten’ complaint

Ittihadieh v 5-11 Cheyne Gardens RTM Co / Deer v University of Oxford

Leading Court of Appeal judgment on a number of different elements of data protection law, including personal data, search obligations and the grant of relief

Holyoake v Candy & CPC

A significant data protection case on the application of the legal professional privilege exemption in relation to private investigators, and the scope of the iniquity exception to privilege

Bangura v Loughborough University Authority

Provision of personal data by a University to the police in the course of a police investigation

Lin v Metropolitan Police Commissioner

High-profile subject access request case concerning individuals accused of murdering British tourists in Thailand and facing the death penalty

Lin v Metropolitan Police Commissioner

Construction of the Data Protection Act against EU law principles and the underlying Directive

Kololo v Metropolitan Police Commissioner

Consideration of whether a subject access request was contrary to the purposes of the legislation when made to obtain material used in foreign criminal proceedings

Information, Technology & Media

Christopher is a leading specialist in all aspects of information law. He regularly appears in the Information Rights Tribunal in appeals under the Freedom of Information Act and the Environmental Information Regulations. He has extensive litigation and advisory experience of the Data Protection Act as well as other information governance regimes. In information law alone, Christopher has appeared at every level of the judicial system. He is a regular contributor on the area on 11KBW's leading *Panopticon* blog.

Christopher's data protection experience is set out under Media and Privacy.

> ***Unparalleled junior barrister in data protection and FOIA. His advocacy is advocacy that judges and tribunals trust***
>
> LEGAL 500, 2023

Clearview AI Inc v Information Commissioner

Appeal against Enforcement and Penalty Notices issued against a US facial recognition database provider

Montague v Information Commissioner & Department for International Trade

Court of Appeal judgment concerning the aggregation of public interests under FOIA

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office v Information Commissioner & Williams, Wickham-Jones & Lownie

Upper Tribunal appeal concerning whether a public authority can cite sections 23(1) and 24(1) FOIA in the alternative, to mask the applicable exemption

Experian v Information Commissioner

[2024] UKUT 105 (AAC)

regulatory action against marketing business

Case C-619/19 Land Baden-Wurttemberg

CJEU reference concerning the internal communications exemption in the Environmental Information Directive

Commissioner of the Police of the Metropolis v Information Commissioner & Rosenbaum

Upper Tribunal decision setting out authoritative principles on the national security exemptions in FOIA, adopting counsel's submissions

Maharaj v Petroleum Company of Trinidad & Tobago

First Privy Council appeal on the Trinidad & Tobago Freedom of Information Act

Experian v Information Commissioner

Major Tribunal appeal against a significant GDPR Enforcement Notice

EU & Eldon Insurance Service v Information Commissioner

Upper Tribunal appeal against penalty notices, enforcement notices and assessment notices issued for breach of PECR, and procedural complaints against the ICO

Case C-619/19 Land Baden-Wurttemberg

Reference concerning the internal communications exemption in the Environmental Information Directive

Moss v Information Commissioner & Cabinet Office

Upper Tribunal case reconsidering the role of Article 10 in FOIA cases following Magyar Helsinki

UKIP v Information Commissioner

First appeal to the Upper Tribunal concerning an Information Notice issued under the DPA 1998, arising in the context of the high-profile data analytics investigation

Department for Education v Information Commissioner & Whitmey

Appeal concerning the scope and weight of the convention of collective Ministerial responsibility under FOIA

Oxford Phoenix Innovation Ltd v Information Commissioner & MHRA

Appeal concerning the scope of the Tribunal to remit, vexatious requests and personal data

R (Good Law Project) v Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union

Judicial review seeking access to information at common law rather than via FOIA

Ahmed & Corderoy v Information Commissioner & Attorney General & Cabinet Office

Transferred appeal heard by the Upper Tribunal concerning the legal advice provided by the AG on lethal drone strikes against ISIL in Syria

Magyar Helsinki Bizottság v Hungary

Grand Chamber decision finding, for the first time, a partial right of access to information within Article 10 ECHR

Magyar Helsinki Bizottság v Hungary

[2016] ECHR 975

Represented the UK Government intervening before the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights on the issue of whether Article 10 ECHR confers a right to freedom of information.

Magyar Helsinki Bizottság v Hungary

Grand Chamber decision finding, for the first time, a partial right of access to information within Article 10 ECHR

Keane v Information Commissioner

Upper Tribunal consideration of the national security exemption in relation to the names of 19th century Irish informants

Parker v Information Commissioner

Upper Tribunal decision addressing the effect of appellate case law on the vexatiousness exemption

Haslam v Information Commissioner & Bolton Council

High-profile Upper Tribunal decision requiring the disclosure of names of councillors who had failed to pay their council tax

Haslam v Information Commissioner & Bolton Council

High-profile decision requiring the disclosure of names of councillors who had failed to pay their council tax

Kennedy v Charity Commission

Supreme Court decision finding a common law right of access to information, but rejecting a right under Article 10 ECHR

Kennedy v Charity Commission

Supreme Court decision finding a common law right of access to information, but rejecting a right under Article 10 ECHR

Goldsmith International Business School v Information Commissioner

Leading Upper Tribunal authority on the approach to the personal data exemption under FOIA, adopting the principles proposed by counsel

UCAS v Information Commissioner & Lord Lucas

Upper Tribunal decision on the application of FOIA to a partially designated public body

Local Government

Christopher has considerable litigation and advisory experience in relation to the broad scope of local government law, ranging from community care and pensions to setting up academy schools and special educational needs.

R (Halton Borough Council) v Road User Charging Scheme Adjudicators

Novel challenge to the decision-making of the Traffic Penalty Tribunal concerning the scope of its jurisdiction and related public law issues

School Facilities Management Ltd & others v Governing Body of Christ the King College & Isle of Wight Council

Two week Commercial Court trial concerning whether a £15m contract for a sixth form building was ultra vires the school, with extensive additional issues concerning misrepresentation and restitution

School Facility Management Ltd v Governing Body of Christ the King College and Isle of Wight Council

[2020] EWHC 1118 (COMM), QBD (COMM), MAY 7 2020, [2020] PTSR 1913, [2020] 1WLR 4825

It was ultra vires for a college to enter into a contract for the construction and hire of a modular building and associated equipment

School Facility Management Ltd v Governing Body of Christ the King College and Isle of Wight Council

[2020] EWHC 1118 (COMM), QBD (COMM), MAY 7 2020, [2020] PTSR 1913, [2020] 1WLR 4825

It was ultra vires for a college to enter into a contract for the construction and hire of a modular building and associated equipment

School Facility Management Ltd v Governing Body of Christ the King College and Isle of Wight Council

[2020] EWHC 1118 (COMM), QBD (COMM), MAY 7 2020, [2020] PTSR 1913, [2020] 1WLR

It was ultra vires for a college to enter into a contract for the construction and hire of a modular building and associated equipment

R (Adamson) v Kirklees Council

Challenge before the Court of Appeal to the appropriation of allotment land arising from the interpretation of historic records

R (Hackney LBC, Waltham Forest LBC) v Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government

Challenge to directions issued preventing the authorities publishing their local newssheet

R (We Love Hackney) v Hackney LBC

Challenge to Hackney's licensing policy by local businesses for non-compliance with the PSED

R (Harvey) v Haringey LBC & Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government

Challenge to the Local Government Pension Scheme as discriminatory against unmarried partners

R (Moore) v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

A challenge to allotment disposals and the 'exceptional circumstances' provision

R (Harris) v Broads Authority

A challenge to brand the Norfolk and Suffolk Broads as a national park

Haslam v Information Commissioner & Bolton Council

High-profile Upper Tribunal decision requiring the disclosure of names of councillors who had failed to pay their council tax

Haslam v Information Commissioner & Bolton Council

High-profile decision requiring the disclosure of names of councillors who had failed to pay their council tax

Noon v Matthews

Appeal by way of case stated by the Conservators of the River Cam concerning the power of delegation of prosecutorial decision-making

Noon v Matthews

Appeal by way of case stated by the Conservators of the River Cam concerning the power of delegation of prosecutorial decision-making

London Borough of Tower Hamlets v London Borough of Bromley

The application of various historic pieces of local government legislation to determine the ownership of a Henry Moore sculpture

R (London Borough of Tower Hamlets) v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

A challenge to the imposition of external commissioners on a local authority

Professional Discipline & Regulatory

Christopher regularly acts for a wide array of regulators, including the Information Commissioner, the Gambling Commission, HM Inspectors of Constabulary and Ofqual. He has also appeared in a number of different professional disciplinary contexts, including the General Medical Council, the Solicitors Regulatory Authority and the Association of Certified Chartered Accountants.

R (Golding) v Financial Services Compensation Scheme

judicial review of FSCS approach to the calculation of limitation periods

R (APPG Fair Banking) v FCA

judicial review of non-implementation of a compensation recommendation by an independent review process

Ramaswamy v General Medical Council

Appeal from a non-compliance decision of the Medical Practitioners Tribunal

Professional Standards Authority v General Medical Council & Hanson

Costs judgment on the liability of the GMC to the PSA for errors of the Medical Practitioners Tribunal

Siddiqui v Information Commissioner

Appeal concerning the interpretation of the fixed penalty provisions in section 158 of the Data Protection Act 2018

Sarkar v General Medical Council & Professional Standards Authority; Professional Standards Authority v General Medical Council & Hilton

Costs judgments on the liability of the GMC to the PSA for errors of the Medical Practitioners Tribunal

Bhurawala v Solicitors Regulation Authority

Section 44E appeal in the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal concerning client accounts breaches

Greene King Brewing and Retailing v Gambling Commission

First appellate case to consider the scope of the Commission's licensing powers

White v Solicitors Regulation Authority

Section 44E appeal in the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal

Taylor v Solicitors Regulation Authority

Section 44E appeal in the Solicitors Disciplinary Tribunal

LAD Media v Information Commissioner

First appeal to give guidance on aggravating and mitigating factors concerning quantum of monetary penalty appeals

Shaikh v General Medical Council

Appeal against the erasure from the register of a doctor for a variety of impairments of her fitness to practice

Luxury Leisure v Gambling Commission

Important appeal concerning the regulation of gaming machines in betting shops

Reactiv Media v Information Commissioner

Appeal against a monetary penalty for cold- calling in which the Tribunal increased the penalty

R (Hollis) v ACCA

Challenge to the admissibility of a High Court judgment as evidence of misconduct

Investigations and Inquiries

Christopher has worked on some of the most sensitive and high-profile investigations, and has considerable experience in advising private sector, Government and public authority clients in relation to the work of statutory and non-statutory public inquiries.

R (Cabinet Office) v Chair of the UK Covid-19 Inquiry

The first judicial review of a notice issued under section 21 of the Inquiries Act 2005 compelling disclosure of documents, establishing the jurisdictional limits of that power

R (Cabinet Office) v Chair of the UK Covid-19 Inquiry

High-profile challenge to the issue of a notice requiring the disclosure to the Inquiry of WhatsApp messages unredacted for relevance

The Second Permanent Secretary's Investigation into Alleged Gatherings at No.10 Downing Street and the Cabinet Office

Junior counsel to Sue Gray's investigation into the various 'Partygate' allegations, assisting with the production of final investigation report

Special Commission on the Resignation of the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis

Lead counsel assisting Sir Thomas Winsor WS in his investigation into the procedure adopted by the Mayor of London leading to the resignation of Dame Cressida Dick as Metropolitan Police Commissioner

European Union

Christopher is an experienced practitioner of European Union law in relation both to domestic incorporation of EU law regimes and the impact of EU law on English public law. He has extensive experience of advising on matters related to and arising from Brexit, including the scope of powers under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018. He has acted as sole counsel before the Court of Justice of the EU.

> ***Christopher has a deep knowledge of EU law, especially in the elections field and writes with great clarity and***

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R (Dillon) v Secretary of State for Northern Ireland

Supreme Court appeal on the proper meaning of Article 2 of the Windsor Framework

R (3Million Ltd & Open Rights Group) v Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (Nos 1 and 2)

Court of Appeal judgment considering the approach to relief where primary legislation has been found incompatible with retained EU law

R (the3Million Limited & ors) v Minister for the Cabinet Office

[2021 EWHC 245 (ADMIN)]

acting for the Defendant in the judicial review brought by a campaign group into the widely-publicised problems associated with the May 2019 European Parliamentary elections and associated damages claim.

R (the3million & others) v Minister for the Cabinet Office

Challenge arising out of the conduct of the 2019 European Parliamentary election, alleging a breach of the Voting Rights Directive and making a Francovich damages claim

Case C-505/19 Bundesrepublik Deutschland

Reference concerning Interpol Red Notices, the double jeopardy principle and the Law Enforcement Data Protection Directive

Case C-619/19 Land Baden-Wurttemberg

CJEU reference concerning the internal communications exemption in the Environmental Information Directive

Case C-619/19 Land Baden-Wurttemberg

Reference concerning the internal communications exemption in the Environmental Information Directive

Case C-746/18 HK

Reference concerning access to retained communications data for the purposes of law enforcement

Case C-623/17 Privacy International v Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

Significant reference concerning the scope of Article 4(2) TEU and the competence of the EU in national security matters

Case C-687/18 Stunt v Associated Newspapers

Intervening for the UK in a reference challenging the compatibility with Charter rights of the automatic stay mechanism in journalistic processing cases before it was withdrawn

Case C-687/18 Stunt v Associated Newspapers

Intervening for the UK in a reference challenging the compatibility with Charter rights of the automatic stay mechanism in journalistic processing cases before the reference was withdrawn

Case C-311/18 Schrems II

Intervening for the UK in an important reference about compliance of standard contractual clauses with the EU Charter in the context of international data transfers

Case C-311/18 Schrems II

Intervening for the UK in an important reference about compliance of standard contractual clauses with the EU Charter in the context of international data transfers

Re the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Legal Continuity) (Scotland) Bill

First reference to the Supreme Court made under section 33 of the Scotland Act 1998, concerning legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament to legislate for the retention of EU law after Brexit

Re the UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Legal Continuity) (Scotland) Bill

First reference to the Supreme Court made under section 33 of the Scotland Act 1998, concerning legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament to legislate for the retention of EU law after Brexit

R (Aire Centre) v Secretary of State for the Home Department & Metropolitan Police Commissioner

Challenge to Operation Nexus as contrary to the Citizens Directive and in breach of police powers

R (Aire Centre) v Secretary of State for the Home Department & Metropolitan Police Commissioner

Challenge to Operation Nexus as contrary to the Citizens Directive and in breach of police powers

R (EU Lotto) v Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport

Article 56 TFEU challenge to regulations prohibiting betting on the Euromillions lottery draw

R (EU Lotto) v Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport

Article 56 TFEU challenge to regulations prohibiting betting on the Euromillions lottery draw

R (EU Lotto) v Secretary of State for Digital, Media and Sport

[2019] EWHC 3111 (ADMIN, [2019] 1 CMLR 41 (DIVISIONAL COURT)

Andrew successfully represented the Secretary of State in this judicial review of the ban on off shore gambling companies offering bets on the outcome of the EuroMillions draws.

Case C-136/17 GC v CNIL

Intervening for the UK in an important reference about the right to be forgotten

Case C-136/17 GC v CNIL

Intervening for the UK in an important reference about the right to be forgotten in data protection law

Case C-207/16 Ministerio Fiscal

Intervening for the UK in a reference about the meaning of ‘serious crime’ for the purposes of retention of communications data

R (Miller & Dos Santos) v Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union

The Article 50 Brexit litigation about the power to withdraw from the EU before 11 Justices of the Supreme Court

R (Miller & Dos Santos) v Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union

The Article 50 Brexit litigation about the power to withdraw from the EU

R (King) v Secretary of State for Environment Food and Rural Affairs

The abuse of right principle under the Common Agricultural Policy

Lin v Metropolitan Police Commissioner

High-profile subject access request case concerning individuals accused of murdering British tourists in Thailand and facing the death penalty

Lin v Metropolitan Police Commissioner

Construction of the Data Protection Act against EU law principles and the underlying Directive

Achievements

Appointments

Editorial Committee member, and Deputy Editor, of *Public Law*

Judicial Assistant to the Justices of the Supreme Court, 2009-2010.

He has previously worked as a College Lecturer in Law at Christ Church, Oxford teaching Administrative Law, and a Constitutional Law supervisor at St Edmund's College, Cambridge.

Articles & Publications

Books:

A.W. Bradley, K.D. Ewing & C.J.S. Knight, Constitutional and Administrative Law (19th ed., 2026, Pearson, forthcoming)
R. Blakeley, C. Knight & S. Love, The New Tribunals Handbook (2011, Bloomsbury Professional)
'Procedural Rules and Consultation' in H. Fenwick (ed.), Supperstone, Goudie & Walker, Judicial Review (6th ed., 2017) (and since 5th ed.)
'Pre-Empting Problems – Choice of Court and Choice of Law' in D. Oudkerk KC & A. Rogers (ed.s), International Employment Law (2019, LexisNexis)
Contributor to C. Lewis, Judicial Remedies in Public Law (6th ed., 2021)
Contributor to Civil Practice ('the White Book') since 2014 edition
Contributor to Tolley's Employment Handbook since 25th edition (2011)

Articles:

‘Public Law in the Supreme Court 2018-2019’ [2020] 25 J.R. 241 (with T. Cross)
‘Automated Decision-Making and Judicial Review’ [2020] 25 J.R. 21
‘Public Law in the Supreme Court 2017-2018’ [2019] 24 J.R. 40 (with T. Cross)
‘Clarifying the Opacity of the Duty of Transparency’ [2018] P.L. 201
‘Public Law in the Supreme Court 2015-2016’ [2017] 22 J.R. 215 (with T. Cross)
‘Public Law in the Supreme Court 2014-2015’ [2016] 21 J.R. 1 (with T. Cross)
‘The Rule of Law, Parliamentary Sovereignty and the Veto’ (2015) 131 L.Q.R. 548
‘Public Law in the Supreme Court 2013-2014’ [2015] 20 J.R. 1 (with T. Cross)
‘The Veto in the Court of Appeal’ (2014) 130 L.Q.R. 552
‘Public Law in the Supreme Court 2012-2013’ [2014] 19 J.R. 9 (with T. Cross)
‘The Prince of Wales and a Constitutional Aberration’ (2014) 130 L.Q.R. 37
‘Article 10 and a Right of Access to Information’ [2013] P.L. 648
‘The Discretion Afforded to Statutory Regulators in Public Law’ [2013] 18 J.R. 116
‘Public Law in the Supreme Court 2011-2012’ [2012] 17 J.R.330 (with T. Cross)
‘The Supreme Court Gives Its Reasons’ (2012) 128 L.Q.R. 481
‘Doing (Linguistic) Violence to Prevent (Domestic) Violence? Yemshaw v Hounslow LBC in the Supreme Court’ [2012] C.F.L.Q. 1
‘Public Law in the Supreme Court 2010-2011’ [2011] 16 J.R. 348 (with T. Cross)
‘Exporting Lethal Injections: Zagorski and Blaze’ [2011] 16 J.R. 170
‘Second Appeals and the Requirement of Certification’ (2011) 127 L.Q.R. 188
‘Constitutionality and Misfeasance in Public Office: Contorting the Tort?’ [2011] 16 J.R. 49
‘Striking Down Legislation under Bi-Polar Sovereignty’ [2011] P.L. 89
‘Public Law in the Supreme Court 2009-2010’ [2010] 15 J.R. 299 (with T. Cross)
‘Renvoi and Moveable Property: Another Nail in the Coffin?’ [2010] 74 Conv. 62
‘Taking an AXA to Acts of the Scottish Parliament’ [2010] 15 J.R. 163
‘Towards a Codified Constitution’ (2010) Justice Journal 74 (co-author)
‘Procuring the End of the Promptness Requirement’ [2010] 29 C.J.Q. 297
‘Practice and Procedure in the New Supreme Court’ [2010] 15 J.R. 1
‘Anti-Suit Injunctions and Non-Exclusive Jurisdiction Clauses’ [2010] 69 C.L.J. 25
‘Contracting Out of Homelessness Functions’ [2009] 14 J.R. 333
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ALBA, ELBA, ELA, Liberty

Scholarships

ALBA Scholar – ALBA/BEG Conference, Athens, 2011

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Arts and Humanities Research Council Scholar – AHRC, 2006-2007

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Hughes Prize – Queens' College, Cambridge, 2005

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