

Richard Bottomley

Call Date: 2013



Richard has a busy and broad practice covering Business, Property and Public Law.

Before coming to the Bar, he worked in the corporate department of a magic circle law firm as well as in the public law department of a leading firm of solicitors. He also worked for the Texas Defender Service in Houston representing clients on Death Row. Richard undertook pupillage at a Chambers specialising in criminal law and has gained considerable courtroom experience.

Legal Services

Commercial

Richard is regularly instructed in commercial matters. Recent instructions have included:

- Multi-track matter in the TCC relating to defective building work;
- Multi-track trial concerning a hire purchase agreement;
- Multi-track trial for breach of contract for a basement installation;
- Multi-track matter relating to the defective installation of a pool;
- Multi-track trial relating to an electroplating factory renovation;
- Acting for a GP's surgery in relation to a telephone contract;
- Complex loan agreement; and
- Breach of contract for a defective sewage processor.

Property Litigation

Richard is frequently instructed in possession claims, boundary disputes, disrepair claims and Part 8 claims. Recent cases include:

- Two-day trial concerning forfeiture with a harassment counterclaim;
- Two-day trial in the FTT concerning a dispute over a change to the land register;
- Boundary dispute which successfully settled at an on-site mediation;
- Mediation in a nuisance claim;
- Trespass claim concerning service;

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- Service charge dispute;
- Surrender disrepair claim; and
- Disrepair claim concerning repudiatory breach.

Public, Administrative and Constitutional Law

Inquest and Inquires: Richard frequently appears at Inquests on behalf of police forces, public bodies as well as individuals and families. For example, Richard acted for the family of Gabriel Frapiccini at St Pancras Coroner's Court. The two-day inquest concerned a citizen's arrest which resulted in a fatality. More recently, he has drafted submissions for an Article 2 Inquest relating to a death following police contact. Richard volunteered at Inquest during pupillage and is happy to accept instructions pro bono in this area.

Richard is instructed on behalf of the Designated Lawyers in the Undercover Policing Inquiry which aims to investigate and report on undercover police operations conducted by English and Welsh police forces since 1968.

Police Law: Unusually, Richard acts for both Claimants and police forces which gives him a balanced understanding of the area. He is on the Metropolitan police panel of Counsel. Richard successfully acted in a claim against South Wales Police for unlawful imprisonment and assault. He also frequently appears on behalf of the MPS for example successfully obtaining an injunction after a three-day trial.

Public Law and Human Rights: Richard recently was instructed as sole Counsel in a two-day High Court claim concerning loss of a chance in relation to the failure of a Solicitor Advocate to exclude evidence during the course of a criminal trial.

Richard was instructed in a three-day trial acting for a mother who claimed damages under the Human Rights Act because her local authority unlawfully removed her child from the family home.

Richard was instructed to assist with the Mau Mau litigation which concerned a claim brought by Kenyans for assault between 1952 and 1959. He also has advised on a MOD claim concerning an injury at a base in Germany.

Local Government: Richard frequently acts for Local Authorities. He is currently instructed as sole Counsel in a High Court matter that concerns Housing Benefit. He also local authority on several matters including the legality of estate parking as well as nuisance claims.

Regulatory Law: Prior to joining Ely Place, Richard undertook a criminal law pupillage predominately prosecuting for the CPS. He frequently appears in proceedings for a major telecommunications company relating to street work offences. He has particular experience of the applicability of sentencing guidelines in relation to Streetworks offences. Further, he often appears in the Magistrates' Court in relation to business rates cases. He is instructed in relation to a Judicial Review in this regard.

Public Access

Richard is able to accept instructions directly from members of the public, companies and other entities through the public access scheme (also known as direct access). He is happy to accept instructions on a direct basis in appropriate cases. If you wish to instruct Richard on a direct basis, please speak to the clerks.

For more information on public access, please see the Bar Council [website](#).

Memberships

- Metropolitan Police Panel Counsel
- Property Bar Association
- Security cleared to Developed Vetted (DV)
- Direct Access Qualified
- Inquest Lawyers Group

Qualifications

- Law LL.B. (Hons), St Cuthbert's Society, Durham University
- BPTC, Kaplan Law School

Awards

- Ann Goddard Scholarship, Gray's Inn
- Overseas Scholarship, Gray's Inn
- Gray's Inn Bursary, Durham University
- Student Development Award, St Cuthbert's Society, Durham University

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