

Dervla Simm

Senior Associate

London

Biography

Dervla Simm typically acts for companies operating in heavily-regulated industries where the private and public law worlds interact.

Dervla recognizes that her clients have to find a way to operate profitably in the face of increasingly burdensome regulation and works with them in their engagement with government and regulators to shape policy and regulation to assist their businesses.

As a starting point, Dervla provides her clients with pragmatic legal advice on issues such as UK and EU legislation, commercial human rights, and information rights. But this is just one part of her role. She knows that getting the best for her clients often means combining quality legal advice with smart, timely discussions with governmental and regulatory bodies. By engaging early in this way, her clients are often able to head off issues before they become problems, avoiding the time and costs associated with litigation.

Dervla also guides her clients on how to use their interactions with public bodies to tee-up legal arguments when it looks like litigation is likely to be the best or only option. Where litigation is part of a client's strategy, Dervla has experience in acting on a range of contentious matters, including in commercial judicial reviews and information rights appeals. In addition, she



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Languages

English

Practices

Administrative and Public Law

Government Relations and Public Affairs

Litigation Services

Industries

Automotive and Mobility

Consumer

Energy and Natural Resources

Financial Institutions

is passionate about pro bono and has been heavily involved in pro bono work throughout her time at the firm. Her biggest achievements include successfully obtaining hundreds of thousands of pounds from the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme for the victim of a violent assault and winning a strategically important judicial review claim for a victim of human trafficking.

Dervla recognizes the importance of human rights as a way to protect the interests of both her commercial and pro bono clients and is an active member of the executive committee of the Human Rights Lawyers Association.

Representative experience

Acting for Uber London in its successful (and strategically important) appeal against the decision by TfL not to renew its licence to operate in London.

Advising The Crown Estate on a range of public law and policy issues of strategic importance and on the scope of its statutory powers.

Acting for National Air Traffic Services in a dispute with Ryanair regarding the interpretation of EU rules on charges payable for London air traffic control services.

Representing Uber in its 2016 judicial review (both in the High Court and on appeal) of new regulations introduced by TfL for operators and drivers.

Advising British American Tobacco on regulatory and public law issues, in particular relating to the 2016 Tobacco Products Directive and introduction of plain packaging.

Advising The Crown Estate on aspects of the devolution of the management of The Crown Estate after the Scottish independence referendum.

Representing Uber in the 2015 Part 8 claim brought by Transport for London on whether the Uber app

Insurance

Life Sciences and Health Care

TMT

Areas of focus

Aviation Legislation and Policy

Brexit

Judicial Review

Legislation

Political Law Compliance

UK Administrative Law

UK Parliamentary Affairs

Education and admissions

Education

B.A. (Jurisprudence), University of Oxford

Legal Practice Course, BPP University Law School

Memberships

Executive Committee Member, Human Rights Lawyers Association

Member, Administrative Law Bar Association

Bar admissions and qualifications

Solicitor, England and Wales

constituted an unlawful taximeter.

Advising Uber on key regulatory issues relevant to its UK operations, inside and outside London, including plying for hire, acceptance of bookings and cross-border hiring.

Acting for UK oil and gas sector clients in a judicial review challenge to primary legislation.

Representing a group of families in inquests into the deaths of their relatives in Welsh care homes in circumstances suggestive of abuse and neglect.

Acting for the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Extraordinary Rendition in relation to an information rights case before the Upper Tribunal.

Latest thinking and events

- Press Releases
 - Hogan Lovells promotes 31 to senior associates in UK
- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - Antitrust, Competition and Economic Regulation Quarterly Newsletter – Spring 2018
- Blog Post
 - "Just because." The High Court rejects a common law duty to give reasons
- Blog Post
 - Explain yourself! The Court of Appeal considers the duty to give reasons
- Blog Post
 - Freedom of Information Act 2000 is "generally working well": The Independent Commission on Freedom of Information reports positive change in public sector culture
- Blog Post
 - Private bodies and public law: When is a private body amenable to judicial review?

Solicitor, Republic of Ireland

Accolades

"The team is an incredibly efficient and commercial operation which provides a wonderful service for clients."

Chambers 2018, Administrative & Public Law (Band 1)
