



## Richard Honey KC

Call: 2003 KC: 2021 [Public Access](#)

### Practice areas:

**Public Law, Environment, Major Infrastructure Projects, Compulsory Purchase and Compensation, Highways, Commons and Open Spaces, Planning, ADR, Rating, Council Tax and CIL, Rating**



## Practice Profile

Richard Honey KC practises as a barrister in the broad fields of public law and environmental law, with particular specialisms in judicial review and similar statutory challenges, infrastructure projects, compulsory purchase and compensation, the community infrastructure levy, and climate change and ESG litigation. He is called to the Bars of England and Wales and Northern Ireland. Richard appears most frequently in the Administrative / Planning Court and in the Upper Tribunal Lands Chamber. He is also an experienced appellate advocate, having appeared in the Court of Appeal 22 times, including 17 appearances as lead/sole counsel, and in the Supreme Court five times. Until he took Silk, he was a member of the Attorney General's A Panel of junior counsel to the Crown, having spent some 12 years on the AG's panels in total. Richard was The Times 'Lawyer of the Week' in May 2025, for his work on the Dartmoor wild camping case. He is the chair of the Administrative Law Bar Association.

Richard is ranked as a leading barrister in five separate fields in the Chambers UK Bar Guide: environment; local government; planning; rating and valuation; and, agriculture and rural affairs. He is also ranked as a leading barrister by Legal 500 in four fields: administrative law and human rights; planning; agriculture; and, valuation and rating.

Richard was the environment/planning junior barrister of the year at the Chambers UK Bar Awards in 2018 (nominated in 2016 also) and was nominated for planning and land use Silk of 2023 in the Legal 500 Bar awards. He was first ranked as a leading barrister in environmental law by both Chambers and Legal 500 in 2010.

In planning law, Richard has been ranked as a leading barrister by both Chambers (since 2012) and Legal 500 (since 2008). Prior to taking Silk, he was regularly ranked in the top 10 highest rated planning junior barristers in the Planning magazine survey and was ranked top of Band 1 in Chambers Bar Guide 2020 and the 2021 Legal 500. As a Silk, Richard is now ranked in the top 30 highest rated planning Silks by Planning magazine. He was also ranked by Planning magazine in 2023 as a leading barrister for infrastructure planning.

## Experience

Richard Honey KC's experience is summarised in the following sections:

- Public Law
- Environment
- Major Infrastructure Projects
- Compulsory Purchase and Compensation
- Highways, Commons and Open Spaces
- Planning
- ADR
- Northern Ireland

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## Public Law

Richard regularly advises on, and appears in, cases involving public and administrative law issues including judicial reviews. Richard has substantial experience of public law challenges to planning and environmental decisions, as well as other areas of public law, including regulatory judicial review and local government law. Prior to taking Silk in 2021, he was a member of the Attorney General's A Panel of junior counsel to the Crown. Richard has appeared in the Administrative Court in London, Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds and Manchester, and the Judicial Review Court in Belfast. He has dealt with cases involving the law of consultation, legitimate expectation, human rights, equalities, mistake of fact, statutory and policy interpretation, procedural fairness, apparent bias, Tameside duty of sufficient inquiry, Parliamentary privilege, and all the traditional grounds of judicial review. He has also frequently dealt with procedural issues such as standing, delay, costs protection, injunctions and the duty of candour. Richard is the chair of the Administrative Law Bar Association.

Recent and appellate cases include:

- R (Luck) v Bracknell Forest BC [2025] EWHC 2984 (Admin) – statutory interpretation; community infrastructure levy; duty to collect tax
- Darwall v Dartmoor NPA [2025] AC 1292 (SC), [2024] Ch 107 (CA) – statutory interpretation; recreational rights
- Natural England v Cooper [2025] 1 WLR 2384 (CA) – statutory interpretation; powers of public bodies; injunctions; environmental impact assessment
- Friends of the Earth & SLACC v SSLUHC & West Cumbria Mining [2025] Env LR 14 – climate change; environmental impact assessment
- Derry City & Strabane DC v Department for the Economy [2024] NIKB 84 – consultation; habitats assessment
- R (Newham LBC) v HM Revenue & Customs [2024] EWHC 2321 (Admin) – statutory interpretation; community infrastructure levy
- R (Parkes) v Dorset Council & Ors [2024] 1 WLR 4337 – statutory interpretation; Crown land; environmental impact assessment
- R (Clarke-Holland) v SSHD & SSLUHC [2024] PTSR 617 – environmental impact assessment
- Friends of the Earth v SSLUHC & West Cumbria Mining [2024] JPL 567 – duty of candour; disclosure; climate change
- R (Friends of the Earth) v Secretary of State for International Trade & HM Treasury [2023] 1 WLR 2011 (CA), [2022] EWHC 568 (Admin) (Div Ct) – international treaties; foreign act of state doctrine; climate change; environmental assessment; Tameside duty
- DB Symmetry Ltd v Swindon BC [2023] 1 WLR 198 (SC), [2021] PTSR 432 (CA) – statutory powers;

human rights; proportionality; rationality; validity principle

- R (Hardcastle) v Buckinghamshire Council [2023] Env LR 18 – legitimate expectation; delegation; policy interpretation; environmental impact assessment
- R (Bellway) v Kent CC & van den Broek [2023] JPL 406 – statutory interpretation; development plan policy; village greens
- R (Friends of the Earth, Client Earth & Good Law Project) v Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy [2023] 1 WLR 225, [2022] HRLR 18 – statutory interpretation; climate change
- R (Gardiner) v Hertsmere BC & SSLUHC [2022] PTSR 1883 (CA) – statutory interpretation; community infrastructure levy
- R (Hough) v Secretary of State for the Home Department [2022] EWHC 1635 (Admin) – consultation; Tameside duty; equalities; environmental impact assessment; statutory construction; improper purpose; secondary legislation
- R (Heronlea) v SSLUHC [2022] EWHC 96 (Admin) – statutory interpretation; community infrastructure levy
- R (G) v Thanet DC [2022] JPL 434 – apparent bias; unlawful delegation; Tameside duty; habitats assessment
- R (Plan B) v Prime Minister & HM Treasury [2021] EWHC 3469 (Admin) – human rights; international treaties; climate change; statutory interpretation
- R (Elliott-Smith) v Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy [2021] PTSR 1795 – international treaties; climate change; material considerations; statutory interpretation; improper purpose
- Gladman v SSHCLG & Corby BC & Uttlesford DC [2021] PTSR 1450 (CA), [2020] PTSR 993 (HC) – policy interpretation; statutory duties; reasons
- Peel Investments v SSHCLG & Salford CC [2021] 2 All ER 581 (CA), [2020] PTSR 503 (HC) – policy interpretation; statutory duties; reasons
- Compton PC v Guildford BC [2020] JPL 661 – policy interpretation; reasons; rationality; habitats assessment
- Gladman v SSHCLG & Medway Council [2020] Env LR 7 – consultation; policy interpretation; procedural fairness; reasons; habitats assessment
- Burgos & Amayo v SSHCLG & Haringey LBC [2019] EWHC 2792 (Admin) – human rights; equalities; reasons
- R (Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust) v SSfT [2019] EWHC 1786 (Admin) – consultation; environmental/habitats assessment
- Wavendon Properties v SSHCLG [2019] PTSR 2077 – procedural fairness; policy interpretation; disclosure; reasons
- Reference by the Attorney General for Northern Ireland (No 2) [2019] UKSC 1 – devolution; statutory interpretation; governmental powers
- St Modwen Developments v SSCLG [2018] PTSR 746 (CA) – policy interpretation; mistake of fact; rationality; reasons
- Suffolk Coastal DC v SSCLG & Hopkins Homes [2017] 1 WLR 1865 (SC), [2017] 1 All ER 1011 (CA) – governmental powers; statutory interpretation; policy interpretation
- Old Hunstanton PC v SSCLG [2017] JPL 205 (CA) – policy interpretation; reasons
- Broadview Energy Developments v SSCLG [2016] JPL 1207 (CA), [2015] JPL 1355 (HC) – bias; apparent bias; procedural fairness
- R (Dillner) v Sheffield CC & Amey [2016] EWCA Civ 977 (CA), [2016] Env LR 31 (HC) – consultation; legitimate expectation; procedural fairness; statutory interpretation; local government powers; environmental assessment
- Howell v SSCLG [2015] EWCA Civ 1189 (CA), [2014] EWHC 3627 (Admin) – statutory interpretation; statutory duties; policy interpretation; reasons
- Koumis v SSCLG [2015] JPL 682 (CA), [2013] JPL 215 (HC) – statutory interpretation; reasons; nullity

- Manchester Ship Canal v United Utilities [2014] 1 WLR 2576 (SC) – statutory interpretation
  - R (Eaton) v Natural England [2013] Env LR 37 (CA) – Aarhus Convention; costs protection; injunction; biodiversity
  - Harris v Registrar of Approved Driving Instructors [2011] RTR 1 (CA) – procedural fairness; statutory interpretation; rationality
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## Environment

Richard Honey KC's experience as a barrister in the field of environmental law and regulation includes climate change, emissions trading, habitats and protected species, air quality, clean air zones, statutory nuisance, waste, contaminated land, pesticides, chemicals, nuclear installations, drinking water, watercourses, riparian rights, environmental permitting, packaging waste, nuisance, civil liability for pollution, environmental crime, environmental information and environmental taxation.

Richard's clients have included: regulators such as Defra, Natural England, the Environment Agency and the Office for Nuclear Regulation; regulated operators such as Thames Water, Anglian Water and Severn Trent Water; and businesses and developers of various types. Richard has acted for Natural England in a number of judicial review challenges to species licences, including in relation to developments such as an energy-from-waste plant and an urban extension.

Linked to his wide-ranging environmental law practice, Richard has experience in advising on and litigating environmental, social and governance (ESG) disputes, including climate change, emissions trading, biodiversity, and business and human rights issues (including on compliance with the UN guiding principles on business and human rights). He has advised the UK government on international climate, environmental and biodiversity treaty obligations, and has advised funders on the environmental assessment of infrastructure projects in west and southern Africa and the Middle East.

Richard's experience of climate change legislation goes back to 2007–2008, when he undertook advisory and drafting work on the Climate Change Bill. He has particular experience of climate change risk assessment and climate litigation risk management, including in relation to implementing the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) recommendations and the Equator Principles (EP4). He has acted in a number of contentious climate change cases for BEIS/DESNZ, HM Treasury, UK Export Finance, DfT and MHCLG including:

- Friends of the Earth & SLACC v SSLUHC & West Cumbria Mining [2025] Env LR 14 – challenge to grant of planning permission for Cumbria coal mine (see also Friends of the Earth v SSLUHC & West Cumbria Mining [2024] JPL 567 on candour/disclosure)
- R (Friends of the Earth) v Secretary of State for International Trade & HM Treasury [2023] 1 WLR 2011 (CA), [2022] EWHC 568 (Admin) (Div Ct) – export finance in relation to a LNG project in Mozambique
- R (Friends of the Earth, Client Earth & Good Law Project) v Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy [2023] 1 WLR 225 – challenges to the Net Zero Strategy
- R (Plan B) v Prime Minister & HM Treasury [2021] EWHC 3469 (Admin) – climate change and human rights
- R (Elliott-Smith) v Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy [2021] PTSR 1795 – UK emissions trading scheme
- Bioabundance v South Oxon DC & SSHCLG [2021] EWHC 1188 (Admin) – climate change in local plan making

Richard has acted for defendants being sentenced under the Definitive Guideline for Environmental Offences in both Magistrates' and Crown Courts, and was instructed on the first appeal against sentence under the guideline to the Court of Appeal Criminal Division: *EA v Thames Water* [2015] 1 WLR 4411, [2015] Crim LR 739.

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## Major Infrastructure Projects

Richard's experience of major infrastructure projects includes schemes under the Planning Act, the Highways Act, the Transport and Works Act and the Electricity Act, and parliamentary hybrid Bill work, having been instructed for a number of HS2 and Crossrail petitioners, including multiple appearances before the select committees for both Bills, in both the Commons and the Lords. He is a member of the Parliamentary Bar Mess and was in the top 15 highest rated barristers for infrastructure work in Planning magazine's 2023 survey.

Richard has provided strategic advice on a variety of infrastructure schemes, including on road and rail schemes for DfT and on flood management schemes for the Environment Agency, including the Oxford flood alleviation scheme, the new Thames Barrier and the River Thames scheme. Richard successfully promoted the £100 million Boston flood barrier TWA Order for the Environment Agency at inquiry.

Richard advised Natural England on the DCO applications for Hinkley Point C nuclear power station, Able Marine Energy Park on the Humber, and North West Coast Connections. He has advised National Highways on issues arising from a number of DCO and TWAO schemes. Richard has also advised MHCLG and DfT on legal issues in relation to the acceptance, examination and determination of a number of DCO applications, as well as rights of entry for DCO schemes.

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## Compulsory Purchase and Compensation

Richard is the General Editor of the 'Compulsory Purchase & Compensation Service' (Bloomsbury Professional online) and 'The Law of Compulsory Purchase' (Bloomsbury Professional, 5th edition, 2025).

Richard has extensive experience of **compulsory purchase**, including defending and challenging compulsory purchase instruments in the High Court, and advising and representing numerous CPO promoters (including housing, planning and highway authorities and utilities companies), CPO objectors (including Transport for London and businesses) and CPO development partners. He has advised the Environment Agency on a number of compulsory purchase and rights matters, and various statutory undertakers on their works powers. In recent years, Richard successfully promoted housing, highways, planning, flood defence and utilities CPOs – often securing confirmation without the need for an inquiry. He successfully promoted the Elephant & Castle town centre CPO at inquiry in 2024.

Richard's compulsory purchase work has encompassed for example acquisition of rights over land, compulsory works orders, exercise of statutory works powers, powers of entry, omitted interests, vesting, material detriment, accommodation works, temporary possession, the Crichel Down rules, purchase notices and blight notices.

Richard appeared for the successful respondent in *Anixter v SSfT*, in both the Tribunal ([2019] 1 P&CR 16)

and the Court of Appeal ([2020] 1 WLR 2547), concerning the general vesting declaration regime, expiring tenancies and material detriment. He successfully defended the CPO in the High Court in *Burgos & Amayo v SSHCLG & Haringey LBC* [2019] EWHC 2792 (Admin). He was also junior counsel for the successful claimant in *R (Manydown) v Basingstoke & Deane BC* [2012] JPL 1188 which concerned ss226 and 227 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Richard has very considerable experience of disputes relating to land valuation and compulsory purchase **compensation**. Richard has been instructed in Upper Tribunal Lands Chamber proceedings on behalf of HS2, NNB Generation Co, Network Rail, Crossrail, Transport for London, the London Development Agency, the Greater London Authority, Merseytravel, National Highways, the Welsh Ministers, the Environment Agency, the Secretary of State for Transport, National Grid, a port authority, county highway authorities, statutory undertakers and a variety of local authorities. Richard's work as sole barrister representing acquiring authorities has included matters where up to £70 million in compensation for compulsory purchase was in dispute.

Richard has also represented claimants in compensation cases, including businesses such as Bombardier/Alstom, Homebase, and JD Wetherspoon, as well as developers, investors, farmers, landowners and public authorities. He acted as junior counsel for the claimant in arbitration proceedings in Bermuda.

Richard's experience of compensation disputes includes the full range of issues such as valuation of land taken, severance, injurious affection (s7 and s10), acquisition of rights, rule 6 disturbance, business losses, business extinguishment, rule 3, rule 4, rule 5 equivalent reinstatement, planning assumptions, scheme disregards (statutory and Pointe Gourde), betterment, loss payments, taxation, fees/costs, and Part 1 claims. Richard has also worked on cases involving blight notices and purchase notices, highway stopping-up, planning decisions, flood defences, land drainage, utilities, wayleaves – and cases arising from compulsory purchase orders, DCOs, Transport and Works Act Orders and hybrid Acts.

Richard was the barrister who represented the acquiring authority in the first compensation claim to reach the Tribunal arising from the 2012 Olympics CPO, where some £2m was in dispute (*Singh v LDA* [2010] RVR 41). He also represented the acquiring authority in *Welford v Transport for London*, both in the Tribunal ([2010] RVR 200) and in the Court of Appeal ([2011] RVR 172).

Richard has appeared as sole counsel for the successful respondents in cases such as *Ramac v Kent CC* [2014] RVR 207, *Miller v NRIL* [2014] RVR 305, *Elitestone v National Grid* [2015] RVR 392, and *599 Developments v NNB Generation* [2020] RVR 64 on Hinkley Point C.

As a junior, Richard was instructed for a county highway authority defending a compensation claim of around £15m arising from a road scheme (see *Clemdell v Dorset CC* [2009] RVR 318), and the injurious affection cases of *Moto Hospitality v Secretary of State for Transport* [2008] 1 WLR 2822 and *Bourne Leisure v Great Yarmouth Port Authority* [2016] RVR 371. He was also junior in *William Hill v Crossrail* [2016] RVR 258.

Richard represented the Secretary of State in *Harringay Meat Traders v SSCLG* [2013] PTSR 436, a High Court challenge to a decision on a certificate of appropriate alternative development appeal.

Richard has also been instructed for defendants in professional negligence litigation arising from the conduct of Tribunal proceedings.

Richard has also been instructed by HMRC solicitors in High Court and tribunal rating and valuation cases, including *Listing Officer v Callear* [2013] RVR 34 and a number of Upper Tribunal cases concerning

the valuation of public houses for rating purposes.

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## Highways, Commons and Open Spaces

Richard also has considerable advocacy and advisory experience of the law in relation to **commons** and **village greens**. Richard was leading counsel for the Open Spaces Society in their successful intervention in the Court of Appeal in *Darwall v Dartmoor NPA & OSS* [2024] Ch 107, which dealt with the right of access to the Dartmoor commons for the purposes of open-air recreation. He then represented Dartmoor NPA as successful respondent in the subsequent appeal to the Supreme Court – *Darwall v Dartmoor NPA* [2025] AC 1292 – for which he was named The Times ‘Lawyer of the Week’ in May 2025.

As a barrister, Richard has successfully represented a number of landowners objecting to village green applications at inquiry. He has also acted in judicial review proceedings for and against registration authorities, and for applicants, and advised registration authorities and landowners. Richard has also sat as an inspector at village green inquiries on a number of occasions. He is co-editor of ‘Gadsden & Cousins on Commons and Greens’ (3rd edition, 2020) published by Sweet & Maxwell.

Richard is familiar with the law of **highways** and has advised on a range of matters including public and private rights of way, street works, traffic management, traffic regulation, parking, roads orders, stopping-up and diversion orders, bridge orders and highways development. He has promoted stopping-up and diversion orders at inquiry and been instructed by the Secretary of State to defend High Court proceedings challenging public rights of way inspectors’ decisions on definitive map modification and stopping-up orders.

Richard has experience of **countryside law**, and has advised Natural England on a number of matters connected with national park and AONB designations. He was junior counsel for Natural England in the re-opened South Downs National Park inquiry, where the inspector was persuaded to change his recommendation, to support the confirmation of the park largely as designated by Natural England. He advised Natural England on the establishment of the South Downs National Park Authority and on a variety of national park and AONB designation and management issues. Richard represented Natural England at the inquiry which led to the successful confirmation of the orders to expand the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales National Parks.

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## Planning

Richard’s practice includes a significant element of planning law. Richard regularly advises on and appears in public law challenges to planning decisions in the Planning Court, for claimants, defendants and interested parties. This includes judicial reviews, challenges to planning appeal decisions under s288, and local plan challenges under s113. He has particular experience of litigation relating to the interpretation of the NPPF, housing land supply, and environmental and habitats assessment. Richard’s advisory work for MHCLG has included legislative reforms, special development orders, local plan intervention, propriety matters, and a wide variety of planning casework decision-making, including many of the most high profile decisions in the last decade.

Richard also has particular experience of Community Infrastructure Levy disputes, including acting for

HMRC/MHCLG in half a dozen judicial reviews of CIL appeal decisions, as well as acting for developers and collecting authorities in judicial reviews and advisory matters.

Richard's planning inquiry work often has an environmental aspect and has included wind farms and airports. Richard has worked at the appeal/inquiry stage successfully promoting wind energy developments (Scout Moor, Glyndebourne) and resisting wind turbines (Whinash, Helmdon, Catesby, Buckland), as well as advising on a variety of schemes at this stage. He has also appeared successfully in the High Court to defend wind energy permissions (Eaton; Pugh; Howell; Colman) and refusals of permission (North Cote; Broadview). Richard has also appeared at inquiries successfully resisting appeals for housing schemes involving housing land supply arguments and has advised and represented local planning authorities promoting local plans.

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## **ADR**

Richard has considerable experience of arbitration and mediation. He has been a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators since 2001 – having won the CI Arb President's Prize for award writing – and is available to act as arbitrator. He has advised on arbitration law and procedure in connection with Lands Tribunal and other domestic and international arbitration proceedings and has represented parties in both international and domestic arbitrations. Richard has been a member of the CI Arb Faculty and taught on a number of the CI Arb's domestic and international arbitration courses. He has also acted as a party representative in many successful mediations, especially disputes on compensation for compulsory purchase, for both claimants and respondents.

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## **Rating, Council Tax and CIL**

### **Rating**

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### **Northern Ireland**

Richard is a full member of the Bar Library in Belfast, having been called to the Bar of Northern Ireland in 2013. He is a member of the Senior Panel of counsel for the Government Legal Service for Northern Ireland and has advised a number of NI Departments on environmental and energy matters. He represents the Loughs Agency for the inquiry into the Dalradian gold mine proposals and the Department for the Economy in the judicial review brought by EP Kilroot on environmental permitting.

Richard has advised a number of local authorities on both development management and development plan matters, including Mid & East Antrim BC, Mid Ulster DC, Fermanagh & Omagh DC, Causeway Coast & Glens BC, and Derry City & Strabane DC. He has appeared before the Judicial Review Court and the Planning Appeals Commission.

Richard represented, with Greg Jones KC, Derry City & Strabane DC in their successful judicial review of three mineral prospecting licences granted by the Department for the Economy (see [2024] NIKB 84). He also represented DCSDC in the subsequent successful 2025 judicial review of further licences. Richard appeared for the applicant in the judicial review case of Re Sands [2018] NIQB 80 and represented Chris Murphy in his application for permission to appeal to the Supreme Court in relation to the construction of the A6. He also appeared for the Alternative A5 Alliance in their 2016 judicial review of the programme for government, the 2016 roads inquiry, the 2017–2018 High Court challenge, and their intervention in the Reference by the Attorney General for Northern Ireland (No 2) [2019] UKSC 1.

Richard is a member of the Northern Ireland Public Law Bar Association, the Northern Ireland Planning Bar Association and the Environmental and Planning Law Association of Northern Ireland.

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## Cases

- R (Luck) v Bracknell Forest BC [2025] EWHC 2984 (Admin)
- Darwall v Dartmoor NPA [2025] AC 1292 (SC), [2024] Ch 107 (CA)
- Natural England v Cooper [2025] 1 WLR 2384 (CA)
- Friends of the Earth & SLACC v SSLUHC & West Cumbria Mining [2025] Env LR 14
- Derry City & Strabane DC v Department for the Economy NI [2024] NIKB 84 (led by Greg Jones KC)
- R (Newham LBC) v HM Revenue & Customs [2024] EWHC 2321 (Admin)
- R (Parkes) v Dorset Council & Ors [2024] 1 WLR 4337
- Friends of the Earth v SSLUHC & West Cumbria Mining [2024] JPL 567
- R (Clarke-Holland) v SSHD & SSLUHC [2024] PTSR 617
- R (Friends of the Earth) v Secretary of State for International Trade & HM Treasury [2023] 1 WLR 2011 (CA), [2022] EWHC 568 (Admin) (Div Ct) (led by Sir James Eadie KC)
- DB Symmetry Ltd v Swindon BC [2023] 1 WLR 198 (SC), [2021] PTSR 432 (CA)
- R (Hardcastle) v Buckinghamshire Council [2023] Env LR 18
- R (Bellway) v Kent CC & van den Broek [2023] JPL 406
- R (Gardiner) v Hertsmere BC & SSLUHC [2022] PTSR 1883 (CA), [2023] JPL 219
- R (Friends of the Earth, Client Earth & Good Law Project) v Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy [2023] 1 WLR 225, [2022] HRLR 18, [2022] ACD 107
- R (Hough) v Secretary of State for the Home Department [2022] EWHC 1635 (Admin)
- R (Heronlea) v SSLUHC [2022] EWHC 96 (Admin)
- R (G) v Thanet DC [2022] JPL 434
- R (Plan B) v Prime Minister & HM Treasury [2021] EWHC 3469 (Admin)
- R (Friends of the Earth) v Secretary of State for International Trade & HM Treasury [2021] EWHC 2369 (Admin)
- R (Elliott-Smith) v Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy [2021] PTSR 1795
- Bioabundance v South Oxon DC & SSHCLG [2021] EWHC 1188 (Admin)
- Gladman v SSHCLG & Corby BC & Uttlesford DC [2020] PTSR 993 (HC), [2021] PTSR 1450 (CA)
- Peel Investments v SSHCLG & Salford CC [2020] PTSR 503 (HC), [2021] 2 All ER 581 (CA)
- Anixter v SSfT [2019] 1 P&CR 16 (LT), [2020] 1 WLR 2547 (CA)
- R (Swire) v SSHCLG & Ashford BC [2020] Env LR 29, [2021] JPL 86
- Compton PC v Guildford BC [2020] JPL 661
- Gladman v SSHCLG & Medway Council [2020] Env LR 7
- 599 Developments v NNB Generation Co [2020] RVR 64
- Burgos & Amayo v SSHCLG & Haringey LBC [2019] EWHC 2792 (Admin)

- Wavendon Properties v SSHCLG [2019] PTSR 2077
- R (Berks, Bucks & Oxon Wildlife Trust) v SSfT [2019] EWHC 1786 (Admin) (led by Andrew Tait QC)
- South Glos DC v SSHCLG & Welbeck [2019] EWHC 181 (Admin)
- Reference by the Attorney General for Northern Ireland (No 2) [2019] UKSC 1, [2020] NI 793 (led by Gregory Jones QC)
- Swale BC v SSHCLG & Maughan [2019] JPL 574
- Highways England v Information Commissioner [2018] UKUT 423 (AAC)
- Cheshire East BC v SSHCLG & Kirkham [2018] EWHC 2906 (Admin)
- Re Sands' Application for Judicial Review [2018] NIQB 80
- St Modwen Developments v SSCLG [2016] EWHC 968 (Admin) (HC), [2018] PTSR 746 (CA)
- Suffolk Coastal DC v SSCLG & Hopkins Homes [2017] 1 All ER 1011 (CA), [2017] 1 WLR 1865 (SC) (led by Hereward Phillipot QC)
- Barker Mill Estates v SSCLG & Test Valley BC [2017] PTSR 408
- Old Hunstanton PC v SSCLG [2015] EWHC 1958 (Admin) (HC), [2017] JPL 205 (CA)
- Stevens v SSCLG [2016] EWHC 3737 (Admin)
- Bovis & Miller v SSCLG [2016] EWHC 2952 (Admin)
- Suffolk Coastal DC v SSCLG & Christchurch [2016] EWHC 2553 (Admin)
- Harper v SSEFRA [2016] EWHC 1902 (Admin)
- R (Stryjak) v Hounslow LBC & EFA [2016] EWHC 1897 (Admin)
- Broadview Energy Developments v SSCLG [2015] JPL 1355 (HC), [2016] JPL 1207 (CA)
- William Hill v Crossrail [2016] RVR 258 (led by Richard Glover QC)
- R (Dillner) v Sheffield CC & Amey [2016] Env LR 31 (HC), [2016] EWCA Civ 977 (CA)
- Catesby Estates v SSCLG [2016] EWHC 593 (Admin)
- Cheshire East BC v SSCLG & Harlequin [2016] EWHC 694 (Admin)
- Cheshire East BC v SSCLG & Renew [2016] JPL 909, [2016] PTSR 1052
- Bourne Leisure v Great Yarmouth Port Authority [2016] RVR 371 (led by Gregory Jones QC)
- Howell v SSCLG [2014] EWHC 3627 (Admin), [2015] EWCA Civ 1189, [2016] JPL 296 (CA)
- Athlone House Ltd v SSCLG [2015] EWHC 3524 (Admin)
- Villages Action Group v SSCLG [2015] EWHC 2729 (Admin), [2016] JPL 293
- Elitestone v National Grid Gas [2015] RVR 392
- Stroud DC v SSCLG [2015] EWHC 1940 (Admin)
- Milwood Land v SSCLG [2015] EWHC 1836 (Admin)
- Bellway Homes v SSCLG [2015] EWHC 4263 (Admin)
- EA v Thames Water [2015] EWCA Crim 960, [2015] 1 WLR 4411, [2015] Crim LR 739
- Woodcock Holdings v SSCLG [2015] JPL 1151
- Calverton PC v Nottingham CC [2015] EWHC 1078 (Admin)
- Cheshire East BC v SSCLG [2015] JPL 860
- North Cote Farms v SSCLG [2015] EWHC 292 (Admin)
- Pugh v SSCLG [2015] EWHC 3 (Admin)
- Dartford BC v SSCLG [2015] 1 P&CR 2
- Koumis v SSCLG [2013] JPL 215 (HC), [2015] JPL 682 (CA)
- Hiam v SSCLG [2015] JPL 607
- Alderson v SSCLG (Admin Court, 25 November 2014)
- Arsenal FC v SSCLG [2014] EWHC 2620 (Admin)
- Miller v NRIL [2014] RVR 305
- Manchester Ship Canal v United Utilities [2014] UKSC 40, [2014] 1 WLR 2576 (led by Douglas Edwards QC)
- Ramac v Kent CC [2014] RVR 207
- R (Eaton) v Natural England [2013] Env LR 37 (CA)
- Colman v SSCLG [2013] JPL 1351

- Mata v SSCLG [2013] JPL 545
- Listing Officer v Callear [2013] RVR 34
- Harringay Meat Traders v SSCLG [2013] PTSR 436
- R (Manydown) v Basingstoke & Deane BC [2012] JPL 1188 (led by Gregory Jones QC)
- Zihni v SSCLG [2012] EWHC 1617 (Admin)
- R (Rathakrishnan) v SSHD [2011] EWHC 1406 (Admin)
- Harris v Registrar of Approved Driving Instructors [2011] RTR 1 (CA)
- Welford v Transport for London [2010] RVR 200 (LC), [2011] RVR 172 (CA)
- R (Young) v Oxford CC [2010] EWHC 3337 (Admin)
- R (Rathakrishnan) v SSHD [2010] EWHC 3822 (Admin)
- Ortona v SSCLG [2009] JPL 1033 (HC), [2010] 1 P&CR 15 (CA) (led by Paul Brown QC)
- R (El Gazzaz) v SSHD [2010] EWHC 3755 (Admin)
- Singh v London Development Agency [2010] RVR 41
- Mid Beds Model Aircraft Club v SSCLG [2009] EWHC 681 (Admin)
- Bleaklow v SSCLG [2009] 2 P&CR 21 (CA) (led by Craig Howell Williams QC)
- Leeds CC v SSCLG [2009] EWHC 1014 (Admin)
- Amber Valley BC v SSCLG [2009] EWHC 80 (Admin)
- McCleave v SSCLG [2009] EWHC 1644 (Admin)
- Bradwell v SSCLG [2009] EWHC 1413 (Admin)
- Clemdell v Dorset CC [2009] RVR 318 (led by Andrew Tait QC)
- MMC v HMRC [2008] V&DR 176; [2009] EWHC 683 (Ch), [2009] STC 1969 (led by Craig Howell Williams QC)
- Moto Hospitality v SSfT [2008] 1 WLR 2822 (CA) (led by Craig Howell Williams QC)
- Cooper v Attorney General [2008] 3 CMLR 45 (led by Philip Sales QC and James Maurici QC)

## Qualifications & Appointments

- Called to the Bar of England and Wales (2003; Silk 2021)
- Called to the Bar of Northern Ireland (2013)
- Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (2001)
- Honorary Professor of Law at the University of Sussex (2026-2028)
- Barrister Governing Bencher of the Inner Temple (2021)
- Chair of the Administrative Law Bar Association (2025-2027)
- Member of the Planning Court Users' Group
- Member of the Upper Tribunal Lands Chamber Users' Group
- Member of the Attorney General's International Rule of Law Committee
- Former member of the Attorney General's Panel of Junior Counsel to the Crown (A Panel 2016-2021; B Panel 2014-2016; C Panel 2008-2013)
- Former Chairman of the Compulsory Purchase Association (2012-2013)
- Former Member of the Bar Council (2022-2024)
- Inner Temple advocacy trainer (teacher trainer level) and member of the Inner Temple Advocacy Training Committee
- Co-director of the civil course on the South Eastern Circuit Keble Dutton international advanced advocacy course
- Governor, and member of the International Committee, of the Inns of Court College of Advocacy
- Chairman of the steering group of the UK Sierra Leone Pro Bono Network

Although he is clerked exclusively through FTB, Richard holds an associate tenancy at KBW Chambers in Leeds, to assist his work for clients in the north and north-east of England. Richard is a member of the Northern Ireland Bar Library in Belfast.

Richard is a member of the Administrative Law Bar Association, the Planning and Environment Bar Association, the Parliamentary Bar Mess, the Northern Ireland Public Law Bar Association, the Northern Ireland Planning Bar Association, the Environmental and Planning Law Association of Northern Ireland, the Compulsory Purchase Association, the National Infrastructure Planning Association and the UK Environmental Law Association.

Richard is the General Editor of the 'Compulsory Purchase & Compensation Service' (Bloomsbury Professional online) and 'The Law of Compulsory Purchase' (Bloomsbury Professional, 4th edition, 2022 and 5th edition, 2025). He is co-editor of 'Gadsden & Cousins on Commons and Greens' (Sweet & Maxwell, 2nd edition, 2012 and 3rd edition, 2020). He also contributed to the 'National Infrastructure Planning Handbook' (Bloomsbury Professional, 1st to 4th editions, 2015-2022), 'Burnett-Hall on Environmental Law' (Sweet & Maxwell, 3rd edition, 2012) and 'The Law of Regulatory Enforcement and Sanctions' (OUP, 1st edition, 2011).

Richard was the planning decisions editor of the Journal of Planning & Environmental Law from 2009 to 2016 and an editor of the Planning Appeal Decisions from 2004 to 2012, both published by Sweet & Maxwell.

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## Quotes

*"Richard Honey KC is a cooperative and collaborative silk with superb judgement and experience of advocacy before the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal"*

Chambers UK Bar Guide, 2026

*"Richard is an excellent advocate; he is well-prepared and effective", "Richard's advocacy is sharp and to-the-point"*

Legal 500, 2025

*"Richard has exceptional attention to detail and is an eminent thought leader in CPO and compensation. He is hugely knowledgeable, and he will leave no stone unturned to get the best result for clients"*

Legal 500, 2025

*"Richard is clear, concise and well regarded. The courts trust him"*

Chambers UK Bar Guide, 2025

*"Richard is an excellent advocate"*

Chambers UK Bar Guide, 2025

*"Richard doesn't pull his punches and gives advice with real integrity"*

Chambers and Partners, 2025

*"His commanding cross-examination of the other side's witnesses is outstanding"*

Legal 500, 2024

*"His advocacy is polished and delivered with exceptional flair"*

Legal 500, 2023

*"a very good defendant barrister in public law matters"; "He is a very good advocate who makes his points very forcefully and has a lot of credibility with the courts"; "He is brilliant, I think he's the best in the High Court. He has a great brain and is good in High Court advocacy, that's his forte"*

Chambers UK Bar Guide, 2023

*"Calm and confident, he is a very strong advocate and he offers succinct advice"; "A tenacious and detailed practitioner who leaves no stone unturned. Always willing to roll sleeves up as part of the project team"*

Legal 500, 2022

*Tenacious litigator and excellent advocate"*

Legal 500, 2021

*"Brilliant." "He's very thorough and won't beat around the bush if he thinks something is wrong or unnecessary"*

Chambers and Partners, 2020

*"His broad practice also covers local government, environment and general public law matters. He is noted for his in-depth expertise in protected habitats and species preservation issues. Strengths: "He is clear, concise and tactically aware." "He is very good; he puts a tremendous amount of effort into his work and is well organised."*

Chambers and Partners, 2020

*"Very much a member of the modern Bar. He's very accessible, very commercial, easy to deal with and his advocacy is great." "He has a real eye for detail and is very commercially aware. He has practised as a surveyor, and you can see that shining through in the nature of his advice and strategic approach he takes."*

Chambers and Partners, 2019

*"He gets to grips with a huge amount of information quickly and his grasp of the detail is really impressive" "Very clever"*

Chambers and Partners, 2019

*"His attention to detail is phenomenal and his advocacy, particularly in cross-examination, is subtle and equally impressive"*

Legal 500, 2018