

Anna Dannreuther

CALL: 2019

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Overview

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Anna has a broad cross-disciplinary practice in group litigation, employment and equality, commercial and public law. Anna is ranked as a Rising Star in Legal 500 UK and as 'Up and Coming' in Chambers & Partners for Group Litigation. She was appointed in the first year of eligibility to the Attorney General's C Panel of Counsel.

Anna is developing significant expertise in group litigation, having been instructed in the 'unprecedented' Dieselgate Emissions litigation for the past three years. She is adept at and enjoys handling a wide range of areas of law and has recently advised on or acted in proceedings involving issues of confidentiality, and various procedural issues.

Recent cases of interest include:

- *Wragg & Ors v Opel Automobile GmbH & Ors* [2024] EWHC 1909 (KB) – acting for Claimants who owned or acquired Vauxhall-branded vehicles in Part 11 Applications brought by German Defendants.
- *Various Claimants v Nissan Motor Co Ltd & Ors* [2024] EWHC 208 (KB) – counsel in the 'six GLO' hearing, in which GLOs were granted in against six sets of car manufacturers and authorised dealers in the NOx emissions litigation.
- *R (Kent County Council) v Secretary of State for the Home Department* [2023] EWHC 3030 (Admin) – acted for the Home Office in the 'ECPAT' litigation challenging the use of hotels for accommodating unaccompanied asylum -seeking children who had been unaccommodated by their local authority.
- *Rodgers v Leeds Laser Cutting Ltd* [2022] EWCA Civ 1659 – counsel in the first appellate case concerning health and safety dismissals in the Covid-19 era.

The British Council v Beldica – counsel before the Employment Appeal Tribunal in a case concerning the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the Equality Act 2010 and the Employment Rights Act 2010 and Article 1 and Article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

Before coming to the bar, Anna qualified as a solicitor and a New York State attorney and worked in international courts. She is particularly interested in disputes involving cross-border elements and developing areas of law. As sole counsel, she has acted in the High Court and Employment Appeal Tribunal; as junior counsel, she has appeared in courts up to the Court of Appeal.

Anna is a member of the Employment Lawyers Association's International Committee, having previously been a member of its Legislative & Policy Committee.

Anna is fluent in Spanish and competent in French. She is able to take instructions in Spanish.

Expertise

- Administrative & Public Law
- Commercial Law
- Court of Protection (CoP)
- Employment & Discrimination
- General Civil Litigation
- Investigations
- Public Law

Recommendations

"Anna is a very strong barrister. She is really good on the law, has excellent judgement and is very commercial." "The level of service she has provided has been extremely positive. Anna is a pleasure to work with." Chambers & Partners 2024

"Anna is a skilled technical lawyer blessed with great judgement and an appetite for hard work." The Legal 500 2024

"They have good coverage at all levels, meaning you can always find the right barrister for the case in question." Chambers & Partners

Key contacts

Joe Kallas

Team Leader

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Junior Team Leader Assistant

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Lee Jennings

Team Leader

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Employment

Anna represents claimants and respondents at all stages in proceedings including preliminary hearings, judicial mediations, final hearings, and appeals.

She appeared (led) in the Court of Appeal in the first appellate case concerning health and safety dismissals in the Covid-19 era.

Recent instructions include:

- Junior counsel in group litigation representing more than one thousand Uber drivers claiming holiday pay and national minimum wage.
- Counsel for successful claimant in complex two-week Employment Tribunal proceedings involving claims of unfair dismissal, direct discrimination, whistleblowing, and victimisation.
- Representing successful claimant in a two-day trial in an unfair constructive dismissal claim concerning the respondent's imposition of a 10% pay cut.
- Representing two whistleblowing van drivers who were successful in establishing (i) worker status (ii) the respondent's liability for automatically unfair dismissal, and (iii) costs of over £6,000 for the respondent's unreasonable conduct.
- Representing the respondent school in a 2-week trial concerning alleged disability discrimination, sexual harassment, and unfair dismissal.

Anna is regularly instructed to draft statements of case and has acted and advised in cases involving unfair dismissal, discrimination, and equal pay claims, amongst others.

Group Litigation

Anna is acting in various high-profile group litigation claims, including:

- Emissions litigation - acting on claims against multiple vehicle manufacturers, finance companies and car dealerships in claims related to the so-called Dieselgate scandal. The claims allege that vehicles contain unlawful defeat devices within the meaning of Article 5(2) of EC Regulation 2007/715.
- Uber Drivers - representing over one thousand Uber Drivers in their claims for national minimum wage and holiday pay.

Commercial

Anna has advised on various commercial disputes, including partnership, restraint of trade, and contractual disputes.

While training as a solicitor at an international law firm in London, she worked on a range of commercial disputes (including international arbitrations), contentious insolvency, banking, and planning and environment law cases. These covered the oil and gas, financial, and hospitality sectors. Anna was seconded to Goldman Sachs for six months where she gained experience in their private lending team.

Public Law

Judicial Review: Anna acted as junior counsel on *R (Dolan) v Secretary of State for Health and Social Care* [2020] EWHC 3857 (Admin), a judicial review challenging the lawfulness of the lockdown regulations imposed in England as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Anna regularly acts for and advises local authorities regarding their duties under the Children Act 1989, challenges to care packages and adult social care charging policies, amongst others.

Anna was a Public Law Tutor at Queen Mary University of London School of Law for the academic year 2021 - 2022.

Court of Protection: Anna has a busy Court of Protection practice. She regularly acts in s.21A MCA challenges and in health and welfare, at both interim and final hearings. She has experience of cases concerning deprivation of liberty,

residence, social and health care, and appointing deputies, amongst others. She regularly acts for local authorities and the Official Solicitor.

Human rights & pro bono: Anna regularly advises on human rights issues. Before coming to the bar, Anna was a founding volunteer and Co-Editor-in-Chief of human rights information website RightsInfo (now EachOther), created by barrister Adam Wagner.

Anna takes on pro bono work, and is particularly keen to do so in her areas of interest.

She is a member of Advocate (the bar's pro bono charity).

Further Information

Languages

French

Spanish

Education

Bar Transfer Test (BPP) (2019)

(Columbia Law School) (2018)

Legal Practice Course (University of Law) (2014)

Graduate Diploma in Law (City University) (2013)

BA Modern and Medieval Languages, French & Spanish (University of Cambridge) (2012) (Double First) (converted to MA in 2017)

Career

2014 - 2015: Worked in European Court of Human Rights, Court of Justice of the European Union, Inter-American Court of Human Rights

2015 - 2017: Training contract at Berwin Leighton Paisner (now Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner)

2017 - 2018: LLM at Columbia Law School

2018 - 2019: Public Interest Fellow at the Legal Aid Society of New York

Awards

Postgraduate Public Interest Fellowship, Columbia Law School (2018)

Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar, Columbia Law School (2018)

Debbie Phillips Award, Insolvency Law Association (2017)

Entrance Scholarship, Columbia Law School (2017)

Stan Marsh Scholarship, Association of Law Teachers (2016)

First Prize, Junior Lawyers Division Essay Competition, Law Society of England and Wales (2015)

Second Prize, Graham Turnbull Human Rights Essay Competition, Law Society of England and Wales (2015)

First Prize, European Human Rights Moot Court Competition, European Law Students Association (2014)

Lord Haldane Scholarship, Lincoln's Inn (2012)

College Prize for First-Class examination results, Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge (2012)

Hunter Senior Scholarship for First Class examination results, Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge (2010)

Memberships and associations

Employment Lawyers Association - International Committee Member

Court of Protection Bar Association

Administrative Law Bar Association

Appointments

August 2023: appointed Junior Counsel to the Crown (C Panel)

July 2023: appointed to Employment Lawyers Association's International Committee

May 2022: appointed as UK rapporteur for Journal Mass Claims

March 2021: appointed to the Employment Lawyers Association's Legislative & Policy Committee. As part of this role, she has chaired numerous responses to Government consultations including the Low Pay Commission's consultation on 2022 National Minimum Wage rate, the Government's Bill of Rights consultation, and the ICO's call for views on employment practices.

Professional Recommendations



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The Legal 500 2024