

Victoria Heyworth

Year of call 2003

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Victoria Heyworth acts for both sides of the litigation process in the full range of clinical negligence and personal injury cases.

Victoria is well known for her forensic approach, client friendly service and robust litigation skills.

Expertise

Clinical Negligence & Healthcare

Victoria has experience in a wide spectrum of clinical negligence work including cases involving midwives, surgeons, optometrists, dentists, general practitioners, nurses and care workers.

She has acted for a very wide range of clients, on both sides of the litigation process including private individuals, NHS Trusts, medical defence organisations and private medical and related institutions.

Recent cases include allegations relating to:

- Cerebral palsy
- Cauda Equina Syndrome
- Spinal myelopathy
- Failure to diagnose brain tumours
- Failure to appropriately manage pregnancy and birth including Erb's palsy and still birth
- Failure to diagnose joint conditions, including in children Eg congenital hip dysplasia, SUFE
- Delayed diagnosis of infection, Eg leading to meningitis and brain injury or osteomyelitis
- Delayed treatment of eye conditions including genetic eye conditions, chemical burns and diabetic eye disease leading to blindness / partial sight
- A wide variety of complications arising from laser eye surgery
- Failure to diagnose / delay in diagnosis of cancer including to the breast, colon, kidney, oral cavity and skin
- Failure or delay in diagnosis of various fractures
- Failed cosmetic procedures, especially to the face and including, topical, surgical and laser treatment
- Failure to adequately manage or treat bowel conditions such as appendicitis, polyps, Crohn's disease
- Failed cosmetic dental treatment
- Delayed treatment of periodontitis and other dental conditions
- Treatment in the prison setting
- Failed surgical treatment resulting in issues such as chronic pain, internal bleeding and peritonitis

- Systemic failures in administration and procedures at hospitals and clinics leading to delays
- Failed management of mental health patients
- Injuries sustained in care homes
- Prescription errors including steroids leading to Cushing's Syndrome, Addison's Disease etc
- Failure to obtain informed consent
- Failure to comply with data protection legislation

Personal Injury

Victoria's personal injury practice has a focus on complex liability, causation and quantum disputes including issues such as pain disorders, functional neurological disorders, brain injury and loss of capacity.

Appearing on behalf of Claimants and Defendants, Victoria is well known for her forensic approach, client friendly service and robust litigation skills.

Memberships

- Northern Circuit
- PIBA
- Manchester Medico-legal society

Qualifications

- Leeds University – Law with French and French Law 2:1
- Deug II en droit

Recommendations

Legal 500

- 2023: "Victoria is highly personable, approachable, very thorough and a good negotiator."
- 2022: "Great attention to detail, doesn't miss a thing – complete mastery of the papers. Robust drafting style and a strong advocate. Always well prepared. Won a trial for me with great attention to the papers and a robust yet sensible advocacy style."
- 2021: "She's a calm and measured advocate and works in a collaborative way with her instructing solicitor so that it feels like a team effort throughout."
- 2020: "Thorough in review and compassionate with clients."
- 2019: "A safe pair of hands for clinical negligence matters."

Chambers and Partners

- 2023: "She is determined and has achieved some fantastic results. She is always tactically spot on." "Victoria possesses wonderful attention to detail. She is hard-working, responsive and user-friendly." "She is a persuasive and effective advocate."
- 2022: "Her written work is really good, she has a forensic approach, she is good on details, and her drafting is robust and thorough. She is helpful, responsive, easygoing, and sympathetic and helpful to the client. She is good on her feet at hearings and always well prepared. She's thorough, forensic, and has a really good advocacy style that commands the respect of the court."
- 2021: "She is hard-working, pragmatic, efficient and flexible. She has a good understanding of the clients' needs and is very friendly and easy to work with." "Her pleadings are clear, robust and sensible, and she's very good on her feet."
- 2020: "Highly personable and great at looking after clients from all walks of life when dealing with sensitive issues. She will always go the extra mile to get

papers returned speedily when the pressure is on and she prepares very high-quality pleadings.”

Accreditations

