

LEO CHARALAMBIDES

Year of call: 1998

Clerked by: Gary Smith Mark Ronson Jake Brooke

AREAS OF EXPERTISE:

Licensing Planning Real Estate Litigation



Planning

His expertise in local government licensing has seen Leo increasingly involved with associated areas of local government, planning, property and land law, and environmental law, statutory nuisance and EU Law. For example his specialist licensing practice and planning work dovetailed in an inquiry concerning the development of a public house and the issue of its value as an asset of community importance. He has a particular focus upon the law of assets of community value.

His multi-discipline experience is most notable in his recent work arising from concerns raised by "fracking" which involves the government licensing regime under the Petroleum Act 1988 (Petroleum Exploration and Development Licence, PEDL) and the Planning regime. Other areas of cross-section include his advisory practice in respect of the licensing and planning of and for high street betting shops.

Leo has advised in cases involving: Tree preservation orders, Contaminated land, The Habitats Directive, Aarhus Convention, Listed Buildings, Assets of Community Value, Planning Enforcement and Village Greens / Public Open Spaces

Environment & Statutory Nuisance

Leo holds a Masters in International Environmental Law. He has a particular interest in nature conservation and has previously advised the WWF, the Bat Conservation Trust and the Herpetological Society on the Habitats Directive. Leo is frequently asked to advise and represent clients in respect of Statutory Nuisance in particular noisy pubs, bars and night-clubs. Leo has a particular interest in the law concerning the impact of non-native species. Leo has advised in cases involving: Tree preservation orders, Contaminated land and the Habitats Directive.

Water resources and management. Leo is instructed by Thames Water Utilities, as part of a team from Chambers led by Suzanne Ornsby QC, in connection with the preparation of their Water Resources Management Plan 2019. This involves advising on all aspects of water resources planning and management law as well as connected areas of environmental regulation. He is familiar with the technical matters underlying water resources planning. He is fast becoming an expert in this field and is particularly interested to undertake more work within it.

Profile

Complementing his established licensing practice Leo also accepts instructions in associated areas of Local Government, Planning, Property and Land Law, Environmental and Statutory Nuisance Law.

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Recommendations

Legal 500, 2021

"His relaxed manner and commercial awareness make him easy to work with, while his cross-examination skills really get to the heart of a matter."

Legal 500, 2020

"His knowledge of licencing is excellent."

Chambers & Partners 2016

"He has detailed knowledge of the law and its application in commercial situations."

Chambers & Partners 2015

"He is very calm, meticulous and precise in all he does; he thinks outside of the box."

Legal 500 2014

"Bright and tenacious."

Chambers & Partners 2014

"Very personable, very likeable and very clever"

Chambers & Partners 2013

"Earnest knowledgeable and has seen a lot. He does a great job"

Legal 500 2013

"[He is] one to watch"

Membership

Vice-Chair of the London Region of the Institute of Licensing.

Fellow of the Institute of Licensing (2012) in recognition of his work on the Journal of Licensing, his contribution to the London Region and his wider contribution to the world of licensing.

Publications / Lectures

Leo is a contributor to Halsbury's Laws of England, Vol 69, Local Government (5th edition, Butterworths, 2009).

Leo has been closely involved in the development and publication of the Institute of Licensing: Journal of Licensing. The first issue of the Journal was published in November 2011, Leo has been the Editor of the Journal since the first issue, the Journal of Licensing is published by the IoL three times a year.

Leo has also contributed a number of Westlaw Insight Articles: Sex Cinemas; Sex Shops; Hostess Bars; Sex Encounter Establishments and Sexual Entertainment Venues.

Leo is well known for lecturing and training on all aspects of licensing law.

