

## SARAH CLOVER

Year of call: 1993

Clerked by: Gary Smith Mark Ronson Jake Brooke

AREAS OF EXPERTISE:

Administrative & Public Law Environment Licensing Local  
Government Planning



## Local Government

### Profile

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#### Licensing

Sarah is one of the leading barristers in the country in Licensing, acting for a wide range of clients. She has been involved in some of the most important cases in the last decade, and is a pioneer in this modern licensing regime. Sarah has been successfully involved in challenging the Home Office and Police forces to settle statutory interpretation of the Licensing Act 2003. She is nationally recognised as an expert in this field. Sarah is Chair of the West Midlands Region of the Institute of Licensing, and sits on the Board of Directors. Sarah Clover was the Specialist Adviser to the House of Lords Select Committee on the Licensing Act 2003 from June 2016 to March 2017.

#### Planning

In planning, Sarah has extensive experience of working with local authorities and developers in all development and enforcement cases. She regularly appears at planning inquiries, hearings, prosecutions and appeals, including the High Court. She has had notable successes, and is described as "feisty" and "a real fighter".

Sarah brings a particular edge in advocacy to her regulatory work, born of her long experience, prosecuting at Grade 4. She is a formidable advocate.

Sarah is a qualified and accredited Mediator.

Sarah has an established High Court practice, and is experienced in public law matters.

Sarah is a Public Access Barrister.

Sarah is instructed nationally by consultants, solicitors, private developers and local authorities, in all aspects of development and enforcement.

**Year of Call:** 1993

### Areas of Expertise

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Administrative & Public Law

Environment

Licensing

Local Government

Planning

## Memberships

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Institute of Licensing (Chair of West Midlands Region, and Board Member)

PEBA

Civil Mediation Council

## Qualifications

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1991 BA (hons) Jurisprudence, Merton College, Oxford

1992 Master's Degree LLM, University of Pennsylvania Law School, USA (Potts Scholar, Ivy League, USA)

1990 Hardwicke Entrance Scholarship

1991 Sir Thomas More Award

1993 Inns of Court Studentship

1993 Kennedy Scholarship

Sir Thomas More Award

Pupillage Award

Denning Society (Society of Scholars of Lincoln's Inn)

## Recommendations

Sarah Clover was the Specialist Adviser to the House of Lords Select Committee on the Licensing Act 2003 from June 2016 to March 2017

### Report Paragraph 12. Acknowledgements

"During the course of our inquiry we have been fortunate to have as our specialist adviser Sarah Clover. She is a barrister whose encyclopaedic knowledge of licensing, planning and regulatory law has been invaluable to us. We are most grateful to her for her exceptional contribution to our work."

### Chambers UK 2020

"She's just fantastic in every respect. She knows her stuff inside out. She's the guru of licensing." "Her breadth of knowledge is formidable. She is very user-friendly - always happy to help, easy to contact and clients are impressed by her."

"Very tenacious and a strong practitioner."

### Chambers UK 2019

"Approachable, knowledgeable and easy to work with."

"A very persuasive advocate. She has a very good manner with clients and puts them at ease."

"Eloquent, intelligent and experienced."

"Great on her feet and meticulous in her work."

"She is very good in an advocacy situation and she works well with clients."

### Legal 500 2019

"She has an incisive eye for detail and a persuasive manner."

### Chambers UK 2018

"She does her homework. She knows everything there is to know, so she doesn't miss a trick. She's in there like a flash." "First choice for high-profile and complex licensing challenges outside of London."

"Hard-working, diligent and a colourful advocate." "She gets straight to the point."

### Legal 500 2018

"An expert in licensing law."

"A fierce advocate, who is a pleasure to work with."

"Tenacious and never afraid to fight a client's corner."

### **Chambers UK 2017**

"An excellent advocate with a keen eye for detail, who is always willing to take on a challenge." "She is a formidable advocate and phenomenal at written work." "Very approachable, knowledgeable and easy to work with."

"Her sense of humour, professionalism, confidence and unquestionable planning expertise just shine through." "A very good team player who gets excellently with everyone. She is very organised and a very good advocate."

### **Legal 500 2017**

"A very able and hardworking barrister."

"Has a phenomenal reputation. She has serious attention to detail allied with thorough knowledge and a pragmatic approach."

"She has a phenomenal reputation and will fight to the end for a client."

### **Chambers UK 2016**

"She is tenacious, conscientious and down-to-earth, as well as being completely and utterly expert."

"Fantastic - she is proactive and user-friendly."

"She is experienced, conscientious, committed and pragmatic. She is a really safe pair of hands, and is prepared to fight the client's corner tooth and nail."

### **Chambers & Partners 15/16**

"She is tenacious, conscientious and down-to-earth, as well as being completely and utterly expert." "Fantastic - she is proactive and user-friendly."

"She is experienced, conscientious, committed and pragmatic. She is a really safe pair of hands, and is prepared to fight the client's corner tooth and nail."

### **Legal 500 15/16**

"The top licensing barrister outside of London, without a doubt."

"A real fighter."

"She has an excellent eye for detail."

She is Chair of the West Midlands Region, Institute of Licensing.

