Andrew Dymond

Year of Call: 1991

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Practice Summary

Andrew's practice consists of housing, local government, landlord and tenant and general property law. He has been recognised by Chambers and Partners as a leading junior in social housing law in every year since the category was first introduced and is also ranked in the Legal 500 for his social housing work. He acts for landlords, local authorities, tenants and the homeless on all aspects of housing law, including possession claims, local government finance, housing standards, HMOs, homelessness and allocations. His property work includes leasehold enfranchisement, all aspects of service charges, restrictive covenants, easements business tenancies and non-domestic rates. He is Deputy General Editor of the Housing Law Reports, an editor of Arden and Partington's Housing Law and co-author of the Manual of Housing Law. He was part of the legal team which represented the bereaved, survivors and residents in Phase 2 of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry.

Andrew regularly acts for both applicants and local authorities in homelessness cases. He has advised many authorities on homelessness at a policy level and has provided training and seminars on homelessness law. He has also advised numerous local authorities on revisions to their allocation schemes. His cases include *R. (Edwards) v Birmingham CC* [2016] EWHC 173 (Admin); [2016] H.L.R. 11, in which he was part of the legal team which successfully opposed a challenge to the lawfulness of the authority's procedures for discharging its duties under Pt 7.

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Notable cases include:

Islington LBC v Unite Group Plc [2013] EWHC 508 (Admin); [2013] PTSR 1078; [2013] H.L.R. 33 (HMO licensing and student accommodation)

Rochdale MBC v Dixon [2011] EWCA Civ 1173; [2012] PTSR 1336; [2012] H.L.R. 6 (water charges and local authority powers)

Swindon BC v Redpath [2009] EWCA Civ 493; [2009] L.&T.R. 1; [2010] H.L.R. 13 (anti-social behaviour and housing management functions)

Kilby v Basildon DC [2007] EWCA Civ 479; [2007] H.L.R. 39 (variation of secure tenancies and local government powers)

Andrew is part of the legal team representing the bereaved, survivors and relatives in Phase 2 of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry, with particular emphasis on the following modules: the primary refurbishment (Module 1); active and passive fire safety measures internal to the building, management of building, compliance with RRO 2005, fire risk assessment, including complaints and communication with residents (Module 2); and, aftermath (Module 4).

Although Andrew's local government practice primarily focuses on housing law, as he regularly advises authorities on policy issues, he has a wider local government practice, particularly with regard to local government powers, constitution and finance. He regularly advises authorities at a policy level in respect of proposed housing developments, property management, allocation schemes and discharge of duties to the homeless.

Recommendations

> Considered an extremely powerful practitioner in technically complex cases. His written advice wins particular praise, as does his insight into matters concerning proposed housing schemes and statutory compliance. He also authors and edits key housing law commentary. In court, he impresses as being both authoritative and a decent opponent.
>
> "First-choice counsel for difficult housing law issues." "A great choice for cases with technical or complex issues. He provides clear, decisive advice." Chambers and Partners 2019
>
> 'Lightning fast and unflappable in the courtroom.' Legal 500 2019
>
> "Considered an extremely powerful practitioner in technically complex cases. His written advocacy wins particular praise, as does his insight into matters concerning proposed housing schemes and their statutory compliance. He also authors and edits key housing law commentary. Strengths: 'Extremely good on his feet and hugely robust.' 'He is extremely bright and beautifully analytical.'" Chambers and Partners 2018
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> "Respected housing specialist with an excellent reputation for handling technical disputes between landlords and tenants. He is increasingly noted for providing critical policy advice to social landlords. … Strengths: 'He's strong and consistent on a broad range of social housing matters.' He's excellent technically, thorough and clear in his advice and very approachable.' Chambers and Partners 2017
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> "Technically fantastic" Legal 500 2016

“He provides clear and concise advice on difficult technical areas of law, particularly landlord and tenant matters.” Legal 500 2016

“A star individual who is lauded for his advocacy skills, the quality of his written work and his knowledge of the sector. Identified as ‘phenomenal’, he is a favourite amongst both peers and instructing solicitors”. Chambers and Partners 2016

“He’s great for technical issues and is academically one of the strongest”. Chambers and Partners 2015

“He has excellent skills in court and is fantastic at cross-examination”. Chambers and Partners 2014

“Recognised for his academic and technical strength and cross-examination skills”. Legal 500 2014

“Well known for his superb written work, and feted because ‘he loves to get his nose into something and get to the bottom of problems’. He ‘gives clear and concise advice on difficult, technical areas’.” Chambers and Partners 2013

“… ‘technically excellent’. … ‘he doesn’t sit on the fence, and is invaluable as he often uncovers things that we have missed.’” Chambers and Partners 2012

“He is renowned for having ‘a brain the size of a planet’ so it is not particularly surprising that instructing solicitors turn to him for ‘particularly thorny matters’.” Chambers and Partners 2011

” … has such a broad and detailed knowledge of housing law that ‘he’s never out of his depth’. ‘A barrister who is headed to the very top of his profession’ he offers a combination of ‘flair and professionalism’.” Chambers and Partners 2010

“… ‘excellent drafting skills’ and ‘intellectually rigorous approach to advocacy’.” Chambers and Partners 2009

Noteworthy Cases

R (Edwards) v Birmingham CC [2016] EWHC 173 (Admin); [2016] HLR 11 – homelessness – applications – temporary accommodation – judicial review

Elysian Fields Management Company Ltd v Nixon [2015] UKUT 427 (LC); [2016] L& TR 4 – service charges – construction of lease

Islington LBC v Unite Group Plc [2013] EWHC 508 (Admin); [2013] PTSR 1078; [2013] HLR 33 – HMO licensing – student accommodation

MacGregor v BM Samuels Finance Group Plc [2013] UKUT 471 (LC) – service charges – effect of determination on payability

Rochdale MBC v Dixon [2011] EWCA Civ 1173; [2012] PTSR 1336; [2012] HLR 6 – water charges – local authority powers

Southwark LBC v Leaseholders of Southwark LBC [2011] UKUT 438 (LC) – service charges – QLTAs – dispensation from consultation requirements

Swindon BC v Redpath [2009] EWCA Civ 493; [2009] L&TR; 1; [2010] HLR 13 – anti-social behaviour – housing management functions

Kilby v Basildon DC [2007] EWCA Civ 479; [2007] HLR 39 – variation of secure tenancies – local government powers

Lambeth LBC v Bigden [2001] 33 HLR 43, CA – adverse possession

Lambeth LBC v Archangel [2001] 33 HLR 44, CA – adverse possession

Lambeth LBC v Blackburn [2001] 33 HLR 74, CA – adverse possession

R v Islington LBC, ex p Bibi (1996) 29 HLR 498, QBD – intentional homelessness

Westminster CC v Haywood [1998] Ch 377, ChD – ombudsman's powers

Legal Publications

Co-author

Manual of Housing Law (8th & 9th Eds) Sweet and Maxwell (with Andrew Arden QC)

Arden & Partington's Quiet Enjoyment (5th & 6th Eds), Legal Action Group (with Andrew Arden QC and Martin Partington QC and other members of Chambers)

Leasehold Valuation Tribunals – A Practical Guide, Sweet & Maxwell (with other members of Chambers)

Private Sector Housing – Regulating Conditions, Sweet & Maxwell (with Caroline Hunter)

Westlaw UK Insight – member of Chambers' team providing the articles on housing topics

Author

Security of Tenure (1st & 2nd Eds), Arden's Housing Library, Lemos & Crane

Presenting Possession Proceedings, Arden's Housing Library, Lemos & Crane

Houses in Multiple Occupation, Arden's Housing Library, Lemos & Crane

Annotations

Current Law Statutes on the Housing and Regeneration Act 2008 (Co-author)

Current Law Statutes on the Housing Act 2004 (Co-author)

Editor

Housing Law Reports (Deputy General Editor), Sweet & Maxwell

Arden & Partington’s Housing Law (an editor), Sweet & Maxwell

Journal of Housing Law (member of editorial board), Sweet & Maxwell

Articles

Direct Access

- Yes

Memberships

- Housing Law Practitioners’ Associations
- Social Housing Law Association
- Property Bar Association

Areas of Expertise

- Administrative Public Law
- Human Rights Equalities
- Commercial
- Homelessness
- Housing
- Inquiries And Inquests
- Investigations And Resolutions
- Local Government
- Property