



Natalie Pratt

Call: 2018

Barrister

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Natalie has a broad chancery practice spanning all of Chambers' core practice areas, and has also developed particular experience in injunction proceedings against persons unknown, including as junior counsel in *London Borough of Barking and Dagenham & Ors v Persons Unknown & Ors* [2022] EWCA Civ 13. Natalie has appeared in the Court of Appeal, High Court, County Court and First-tier Tribunal.

Before joining the Bar, Natalie lectured the law of property and trusts. Natalie has published several articles relating to land and planning law matters, and was awarded a PhD for a thesis titled 'The Real Tragedy of the Commons: The Absence of Suitable Institutions in English Law to Secure Mutual Self-Interest Commons'.

COMMERCIAL

Natalie is instructed regularly in commercial claims concerning contractual disputes. Her recent work includes:

- Drafting proceedings in a high value claim in which the contract is governed by foreign law
- Drafting various claims, defences, counterclaims and replies in contractual disputes
- Advising on contractual disputes arising from the economic effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on the contracting parties

Natalie also gained experience of a broad range of commercial matters during her pupillage, including:

- Assisting with particulars of claim in a matter concerning the breach of a loan agreement and various related company law matters
- Assisting in an expert determination relating to breaches of a joint venture agreement
- Assisting with an application for a Norwich Pharmacal order
- Assisting with a breach of contract advice, with specific regard to the application of the Commercial Agents (Council Directive) Regulations 1993 and the governing law and jurisdiction of the contract

- Assisting with particulars of claim for breach of trust, dishonest assistance and knowing receipt

PRIVATE CLIENT

Natalie is instructed regularly in wills, trusts and estate matters. Natalie's recent work includes:

- Drafting part 7 proceedings for the revocation of a grant of probate
- Advising on the creation and validity of testamentary trusts
- Drafting part 8 proceedings seeking vesting orders, directions as to the administration of an estate and the removal of an executor

Natalie also gained experience in a broad range of wills, trusts and estates matters during her pupillage, including:

- Assisting with various part 8 claims for the construction of wills
- Assisting in a claim for the removal of executors
- Assisting in a part 8 claim for the disclosure of documents relating to the management of an unincorporated association
- Shadowing counsel in a mediation concerning a claim brought under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act 1975
- Drafting a deed of variation of the beneficial entitlements under a will

INSOLVENCY AND COMPANY

Natalie has appeared in the High Court and County Court on bankruptcy and winding up petitions, and other insolvency related matters. Natalie's recent work includes:

- A trial of a preference, transaction at undervalue and misfeasance claim
- A trial concerning the enforcement of a personal guarantee
- Applications for the extension of administrations
- Application to re-use a company name
- Application for the removal of a trustee in bankruptcy
- Applications to set aside statutory demands

Natalie also gained experience in insolvency related matters during her pupillage, including:

- Assisting with an advice relating to the potential insolvency of a company and the application of the Corporate Insolvency and Governance Act 2020
- Preparing a skeleton argument for a hearing to obtain a validation order

PROPERTY

Natalie is instructed regularly in property related matters. Natalie's recent work includes:

- Advising on service charge disputes
- Application to appoint a property manager
- Various possession hearings

Natalie also gained experience in other property related matters during her pupillage, including:

- Assisting with an advice on the forfeiture of a commercial lease, the relevant provisions of the Coronavirus Act 2020 and dilapidations
- Drafting an advice regarding an alleged easement for the supply of water

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PLANNING

Natalie was instructed as junior counsel to Caroline Bolton in:

- *London Borough of Barking and Dagenham & Ors v Persons Unknown & Ors*

[2022] EWCA Civ 13

- *London Borough of Havering & Ors v Stokes & Ors* [2021] EWCA Civ 1129
- *London Borough of Barking and Dagenham & Ors v Persons Unknown & Ors* [2021] EWHC 1201 (QB)
- *London Borough of Havering & Ors v Persons Unknown & Ors* [2021] EWHC 2648 (QB)

Broadly, these proceedings concern the lawfulness of borough-wide and de facto borough-wide injunctions against persons unknown (including those granted pursuant to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, s187B and the Local Government Act 1972, s222), and various incidental matters.

Natalie was also instructed to assist Caroline Bolton in drafting committal proceedings relating to the breach of a Town and Country Planning Act, s187B injunction.

CHARITIES

Natalie is experienced in charity litigation. In particular, she was instructed as sole counsel in:

- A four-day appeal to the First-tier Tribunal challenging the appointment of interim managers
- Judicial review proceedings, challenging the Charity Commission's use of its power at the Charities Act 2011, s337(4)(b), and in which permission was granted on two of the four grounds of challenge

Natalie also gained experience in other charity matters during her pupillage, including:

- Shadowing counsel in *Derby Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust & Ors v Derby City Council* [2019] EWHC 3436 (Ch) (a case concerning whether Foundation Trusts are charities and therefore entitled to mandatory rating relief)
- Drafting an advice concerning a fundraising appeal
- Assisting and shadowing counsel in various matters relating to charity governance

INJUNCTIONS

Natalie has developed particular experience injunction proceedings, especially against persons unknown. In particular, she was instructed as junior counsel to Caroline Bolton in:

- *London Borough of Barking and Dagenham & Ors v Persons Unknown & Ors* [2022] EWCA Civ 13
- *MBR Acres Ltd & Ors v Persons Unknown & Ors* [2021] EWHC 2996 (QB)
- *London Borough of Barking and Dagenham & Ors v Persons Unknown & Ors* [2021] EWHC 1201 (QB)

Further, Natalie has experience of other injunction matters, and recently obtained interim relief pursuant to the Torts (Interference with Goods) Act 1977, s4.

PENSIONS

Natalie has advised on the effect of pre-May 2000 bankruptcies on the historic bankrupt's pension entitlement.

Natalie also gained experience in pensions matters during her pupillage, including:

- Assisting Keith Rowley QC in *Univar UK Ltd v Smith & Ors* [2020] EWHC 1596 (Ch) (a claim for rectification of the governing documents of an occupational scheme)
- Assisting in the preparation of another claim for the rectification of a scheme's governing documentation

- Attending the Association of Pension Lawyers Beginners Course

QUALIFICATIONS

- 2014 – 2020 PhD, King’s College London
- 2016 – 2018 BPTC, BPP Law School (Outstanding)
- 2012 – 2013 BCL, University of Oxford (subject prize in Advanced Property and Trusts)
- 2009 – 2012 LLB Law (First Class Honours), University of Surrey

SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES

- 2018 Buchanan Prize, Lincoln’s Inn
- 2016 Lord Denning Scholarship, Lincoln’s Inn
- 2016 Hardwicke Entrance Award, Lincoln’s Inn
- 2014 Subject prize in Advanced Property and Trusts, University of Oxford

MEMBERSHIPS

- The Honourable Society of Lincoln’s Inn
- Chancery Bar Association
- Property Bar Association
- Charity Law Association

PUBLICATIONS

- ‘Recreation easements after Regency Villas Title Ltd and others v Diamond Resorts Ltd and others [2018] UKSC 57’ [2019] 7 *Journal of Planning and Environment Law* 638
- ‘Community property claims in the personhood perspective: part II’ (2018) 30(1) *Denning Law Journal* 85
- ‘A proprietary right to recreate’ [2017] 4 *Conveyancer and Property Lawyer* 312
- ‘Community property claims in the personhood perspective: part I’ (2017) 29 *Denning Law Journal* 17
- ‘Confrontation, contentious use, and a West Yorkshire chip shop’ [2016] 5 *Conveyancer and Property Lawyer* 414
- ‘A trap for unwary developers? The operation of section 62 Law of Property Act 1925 following *Wood v Waddington*’ [2015] 12 *Journal of Planning and Environment Law* 1341
- ‘The by right defence in village green registration’ (2015) 7(2) *International Journal of Law in the Built Environment* 96
- ‘Analysing conservation covenants’ [2014] 12 *Journal of Planning and Environment Law* 1310
- ‘The setting of the sun on the village green era?’ (2014) 26 *Denning Law Journal* 234
- ‘Conservation covenants: a proprietary analysis’ [2014] 78 *Conveyancer and Property Lawyer* 328
- ‘The application of the equitable doctrine of laches to the rectification of the town and village green register’ [2014] 6 *Journal of Planning and Environment Law* 588

POLICIES

Read Natalie’s [Privacy Notice](#), [Data Protection Policy](#) and [Disposal Policy](#).