

KATE BEATTIE

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OVERVIEW

Kate joins the Bar of New South Wales with over a decade's experience at the Bar of England and Wales, where her practice areas span public and private law, including civil litigation, administrative and public law, human rights, discrimination, public inquiries and inquests. She has been ranked as a leading junior in the legal directories in England and Wales. She is a tenant of Doughty Street Chambers in London.

Kate has previous law firm, policy and research experience, including work for a major commercial law firm in both Sydney and London.

Kate graduated from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Laws (First Class Honours) and Bachelor of Arts (First Class Honours and University Medal).

PROFESSIONAL ADMISSIONS

New South Wales Bar	2021
Bar of England and Wales	2007
Admission as solicitor, England and Wales	2006
Admission as legal practitioner, New South Wales	2004

QUALIFICATIONS

Graduate Diploma in Law, College of Law, New South Wales	2003
LLB (Hons Class I), University of Sydney	2002
BA (Hons Class I and University Medal), University of Sydney	1999

APPOINTMENTS

Equality and Human Rights Commission Panel of Counsel, England and Wales

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

The Inquest Casebook (Hart Publishing, 2016) – author and co-author of chapters on witnesses, conclusions, Article 2 inquests, medical inquests, Article 2 and local authorities

Michael Powers QC and Anthony Barton (eds), *Clinical Negligence* (5th ed., Bloomsbury Professional, 2015) – co-author of chapter on clinical negligence and human rights

Halsbury's Laws of England, Volume 88A, "Rights and Freedoms" (8th ed., 2013) – chapter on the right to life (Article 2 ECHR)

Human Rights Law and Practice (3rd ed., 2009, Butterworths LexisNexis) – co-author of chapters on retroactive punishment, freedom of assembly, education, free elections.

SELECTED MATTERS (New South Wales and ACT)

Masters in Building Training Pty Ltd v State of New South Wales [2022] NSWSC 499 – led by David Lloyd SC and Callan O’Neill – breach of contract claim.

Alrifai v Australian Capital Territory [2022] ACTSC 48 – led by Vanessa Thomas – medical negligence claim.

Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation – Public Hearing 18 (November 2021) and Public Hearing 23 (May 2022).

SELECTED MATTERS (England and Wales)

Civil litigation

Instructed as sole counsel in a range of civil litigation matters, including high value clinical negligence claims, human rights damages claims and group claims.

Extensive experience of procedural hearings, including costs and case management hearings and application hearings, and of round table negotiations and settlement meetings.

Inquests

Inquests concerning deaths in prisons, hospitals, care homes, community and other settings. Instructed for families of the deceased, private organisations and state bodies. Acting in civil claims following inquests.

Contributor to *The Inquest Casebook* (Hart Publishing, 2016) and to *Halsbury’s Laws of England* on the right to life.

Public inquiries (equivalent to Royal Commissions)

Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse

Junior counsel to the Inquiry for the Westminster investigation into allegations of child sexual abuse and exploitation involving people of public prominence associated with Westminster.

Dame Janet Smith Review into Jimmy Savile

Junior counsel to the Review, established by the BBC to review the culture and practices of the BBC during the years that Jimmy Savile worked there.

Mid-Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust Public Inquiry

Junior counsel for patients and relatives represented at inquiry into the role of NHS commissioning, supervisory and regulatory bodies in relation to Stafford hospital.

Baha Mousa Public Inquiry

Junior counsel for soldier witnesses before inquiry into the death of Baha Mousa, an Iraqi civilian who died in Iraq in September 2003.

Administrative and public law

Matters include:

R (A) v Haringey London Borough Council [2016] EWHC 3054 (Admin) – duty to accommodate children in need

R (Keep Wythenshawe Special) v NHS Central Manchester CCG and 11 others [2016] EWHC 17 (Admin) – consultation on reconfiguration of health services.

R (Whitston) v Lord Chancellor [2015] – challenge to enhanced fees for civil court users, in particular fees charged to mesothelioma sufferers bringing proceedings against employers.

Action against Medical Accidents (AvMA) v Secretary of State for Health [2015] – challenge to aspect of duty of candour regulations for the NHS, regarding threshold of harm.

R (Whitston) v Secretary of State for Justice [2014] EWHC 3044 (Admin) – statutory duty of review regarding court fee changes for mesothelioma sufferers.

R (Patel) v General Medical Council [2013] 1 WLR 2801 – legitimate expectation.

Human rights and discrimination law

Appointed to the Equality and Human Rights Commission Panel of Counsel, England and Wales.

Matters include:

R (A (A child by her litigation friend B) and B) v Secretary of State for Health [2017] 1 WLR 2492 – access to NHS abortion services – acting for intervener the British Humanist Association.

Winspear v City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust [2016] 2 WLR 1089 – rights regarding DNACPR order for adult lacking capacity.

R (Tracey) v (1) Cambridge University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (2) Secretary of State for Health [2015] QB 543 – rights regarding DNACPR orders.

X, Y and Z v UK (Application No. 32666/10, European Court of Human Rights) – rights and safeguarding of vulnerable adults – acting for intervener Mencap.

Professional discipline and regulatory matters

Experience of acting in professional discipline and regulatory matters, including before disciplinary tribunals.

The legal directories

Kate has been ranked as a leading junior in the legal directories *Chambers and Partners* (2014 to 2022) and *Legal 500* (2014 to 2019) in England and Wales.