



Barrister

GEETA KOSKA

Email: gko@onepumpcourt.co.uk

Call: 2018



Specialist in
Housing & Community Care
Public Law
Civil Law
Modern Slavery & Trafficking Team

Experience

Geeta has a multi-disciplinary practice, with a focus on housing, civil actions against public authorities, equality and international law. She is recognised for her thoughtful and creative approach and is exceptionally committed to her clients.

Drawing on her experience across multiple practice areas, she is adept at developing innovative legal strategies in pursuit of her clients' rights. As such, Geeta is often instructed as sole counsel against more senior opponents in complex and challenging cases.

Housing & Community Care

Geeta provides advice and representation across all aspects of housing and homelessness law, and is committed to representing legally aided clients.

Much of Geeta's housing work concerns discrimination and complex claims under the Equality Act 2010. She has particular expertise representing people with disabilities and takes pride in her clear and sensitive approach to such cases.

Geeta is also a freelance trainer for Shelter, Britain's leading housing and homelessness charity
Civil Actions against Public Authorities

Geeta is adept at identifying and pursuing novel legal arguments to secure redress for those who have suffered abuse from state bodies and private entities.

She has extensive experience representing claimants for false imprisonment, assault, misfeasance in public office and claims under the Human Rights Act 1998, the Equality Act 2010, data protection legislation and privacy law.

Geeta has a particular interest in representing women. She has been involved in extensive litigation challenging the treatment of female prisoners, and has represented claimants regarding the police's failure to investigate child sexual abuse.

Public Law

Geeta receives instructions across public law, specialising in housing, human rights and discrimination law.

Geeta represented the claimant in R (on the application of Peiris) v First Tier Tribunal and others [2023] EWCA Civ 1527, [2024] All ER (D) 18, a significant judicial review claim challenging the eligibility criteria of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme 2012 under Article 14 ECHR read together with Article 1 of Protocol 1.

Modern Slavery and Trafficking

Geeta's international experience encompasses litigation, consultancy work, training and research with a focus on business and human rights. She has in-depth knowledge of how to use international and regional mechanisms to protect and promote human rights, and can advise clients on legal matters that touch on international and foreign law.

She is currently engaged in a collaborative project to improve labour conditions in the sandstone mining industry in Rajasthan, India. This has required designing and overseeing fact-finding missions in Rajasthan, researching and drafting reports and engaging with various stakeholders to develop innovative strategies to increase transparency and access to remedies across the supply chain.

Education

City Law School, BPTC

Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Master in International Law

University of York, First class degree in Law

Memberships

Police Action Lawyers Group

Human Rights Lawyers Association

Housing Law Practitioners' Association

Languages

English

Italian

Awards

Shelford Scholarship (2018)

Rosie Keane Memorial Prize (2016)

Lord Denning Scholarship (2016)

Lalive Scholarship (2013)

CASES

Peiris v First-Tier Tribunal, Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority and the Secretary of State for Justice

Challenge of the eligibility criteria of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme 2012 under Article 14 ECHR read together with Article 1 of Protocol 1. The appeal concerned the refusal of a bereavement payment and funeral expenses to the appellant, following the tragic murder of his son in the UK. Led by Nicola Braganza KC, it was argued that difference of treatment, on grounds of the applicant's residence and nationality, was not objectively justifiable. The Court of Appeal clarified that funeral expenses are not subject to the eligibility criteria under the Scheme.

Area of Law:

Prison Law, Judicial Review

Related Barristers:

[Geeta Koska](#)

WLHA v AA

Application for anti-social behaviour injunction dismissed. Instructed part way through proceedings, Geeta raised concerns in regards to the client's capacity and secured an adjournment to obtain an updated psychiatric report. In this sensitive case, Geeta was able to draw on her knowledge of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and the evolving case law on fluctuating capacity to resist the application brought on behalf of a housing association.

Area of Law:

Housing & Community Care, Community Care, Homelessness & Allocations, Landlord & Tenant

Related Barristers:

[Geeta Koska](#)

MH v London Borough of Westminster

Successful appeal under section 204 of the Housing Act 1996. Drawing on her knowledge of the legal framework around human trafficking and child exploitation, Geeta successfully argued that the respondent had failed to take into account the risk of gang-related violence in determining intentionality. The decision was quashed and remitted.

Area of Law:

Housing & Community Care, Homelessness & Allocations

Related Barristers:

[Geeta Koska](#)

NP v Lewisham London Borough Council

Application for judicial review challenging the defendant's refusal to extend accommodation to the claimant, who was subject to "no recourse to public funds" in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic following R (Ncube) v Brighton and Hove City Council [2021] EWHC 578 (Admin). Interim relief was secured on behalf of the claimant on the basis of the imminent threat to his rights under Article 3 ECHR as a result of being made homeless.

Area of Law:

Housing & Community Care, Community Care, Prison Law, Judicial Review

Related Barristers:

[Geeta Koska](#)

JK and others v Ministry of Justice

Representing five women alleged to have been strip-searched unlawfully in custody. Instructed as sole counsel to represent a group of women in challenging litigation against the defendant, represented by KC. The cases involved complex issues on causation and quantum and were all settled successfully

with Geeta's expert analysis and tactical advice.

Area of Law:

Civil Law, Actions against the Police

Related Barristers:

[Geeta Koska](#)

NC v London Borough of Lambeth

Secured damages on behalf of her client arising from the Defendant's alleged failure to perform their functions under the Children Act 1989 and related legislation. The case involved novel legal arguments concerning the defendant's liability in negligence and for alleged breaches of the duties owed under Article 8, Article 6 ECHR and Article 2 Protocol No.1 ECHR.

Area of Law:

Civil Law, Actions against the Police, Negligence

Related Barristers:

[Geeta Koska](#)

AX and BX v Commissioner of Police for the Metropolis

Represented two claimants in a claim brought under Articles 3 and 8 ECHR arising from the police's alleged failure to investigate child sexual abuse. Geeta successfully defended the defendant's application for summary judgment against one of the claimants; leading to the settlement of the claims.

Area of Law:

Civil Law, Actions against the Police

Related Barristers:

[Geeta Koska](#)

PUBLICATIONS

Misrepresented: slavery and human trafficking in supply chains (conference paper)

The paper, delivered at "Transparency in Supply Chains Conference" at the Inner Temple, explored how consumer protection law could be used to promote accountability for "fair washing"

Area of Law:

Multidisciplinary Modern Slavery & Trafficking Team

Related Barristers:

[Geeta Koska](#)

The law of humanity: Covid-19 and beyond

This case note for Children and Young People Now comments on the case of R (W, A Child By His Litigation Friend J) v The Secretary of State for the Home Department & Another [2020] EWHC 1299 (Admin).

[Read the publication here.](#)

Area of Law:

Housing & Community Care
Community Care
Prison Law
Judicial Review

Related Barristers:

[Geeta Koska](#)

Tunisia: the price of economic reconciliation in the transitional justice process

In a contribution to Justice Info, Geeta argues that truth commissions are not an adequate response to address the link between the private sector, corruption and human rights violations during conflicts or a period of repression.

[Read the publication here.](#)

Area of Law:

Multidisciplinary
Modern Slavery & Trafficking Team

Related Barristers:

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Corporate accountability in times of transition: the role of restorative justice in the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission

In this peer-reviewed article, Geeta questions the extent to which truth commissions and restorative justice theory can serve the aims of corporate accountability in the context of transitional justice. To do this, the article examines the Business Hearings held by the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission, in particular focusing on the interactions between the Congress of South African Unions and Anglo American Corporation. The findings reveal how the rhetoric of restorative justice was used as a basis for reintegrating business into post-apartheid South Africa, whilst denying the need for reparations. The article concludes by addressing key lessons learnt, and warns against relying on truth commissions as a basis for delivering corporate accountability within transitional justice.

[Read the publication here.](#)

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