



3 Pump Court,
Temple, London, EC4Y 7AJ

T: 020 7353 0711
F: 0845 259 3241
DX: 362 London, Chancery Lane

31 Southgate Street,
Winchester, SO23 9EB

T: 01962 868161
F: 0845 259 3240
DX: 2514 Winchester

5 Temple Chambers,
Temple Street, Swindon, SN1 1SQ

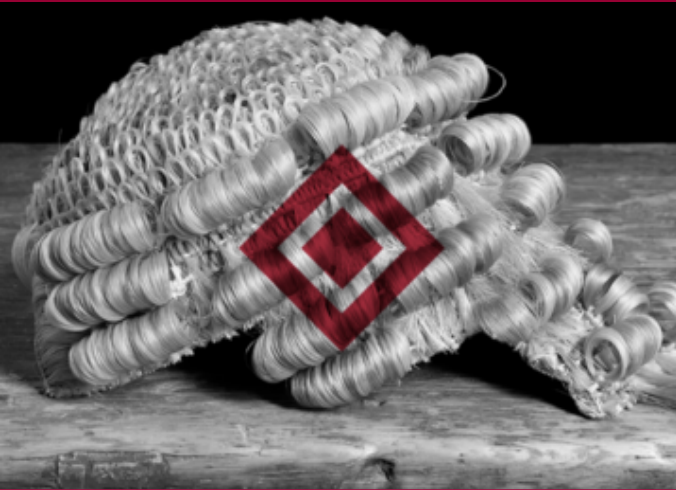
T: 01793 539899
F: 0845 259 3242
DX: 38639 Swindon 2

8 Vernon Place,
Canterbury, Kent, CT1 3HG

T: 01227 764 899
DX: 35342 Canterbury 1

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SHONA LOVE

“Shona is ferociously detailed and forensic. She is an absolute expert in her field. Her cross examination was outstanding. This is why the judge ordered 100% of our costs which is quite simply unheard of. Going forward she will be my first port of call.”

Head of Department, Instructing Solicitor

Call: 2017

For enquiries please call +44 (0)20 7353 0711 or email

Shona accepts instructions across a number of Chambers' practice areas and appears in a variety of courts and tribunals, including the High Court.

Before coming to the Bar, Shona spent several years as a lawyer at the BBC specialising in media and information law with expertise in privacy, data protection and freedom of information. Simultaneously, she sat as a Magistrate at HM Courts & Tribunals Service adjudicating public and private family law cases.

Prior to this, she gained experience in many other practice areas; human rights & refugee law at the United Nations, private international law at a global law firm in Shanghai and infrastructure & renewable energy at a leading law firm in New Delhi. Shona has also worked at the NHS where she managed clinical negligence & personal injury claims and appeared at inquests (including those engaging Article 2). Before this, she spent over two years in commercial and property law at a major UK law firm which included a secondment to work on Scots law transactions in Edinburgh.

Alongside the above, Shona volunteered at various charities. She supported victims of hate crimes, domestic and sexual abuse at Victim Support and clients on end-of-life care or recently bereaved at St Mungo's Palliative Care & Bereavement Service. In 2020, Shona was a recipient of the Marsh Charitable Trust 'Heroes of the Pandemic' Award for outstanding contribution, with the judging panel recognising her voluntary work as dedicated and exceptional.

She also represented appellants at social security tribunals on behalf of the Free Representation Unit, provided pro bono assistance at the Royal Courts of Justice Advice and acted as an Accredited Appropriate Adult in police stations across London (including a TACT suite).

Inquests & Inquiries

Shona accepts instructions to represent families and other interested persons at inquests. She previously assisted HM Senior Coroner with a number of complex inquests at London Inner South Coroner's Court and prior to coming to the Bar, worked in-house at the NHS where she appeared at Pre-Inquest Review Hearings and Inquests (including those engaging Article 2).

Shona has also expanded her practice into the public inquiry space. She was instructed on behalf of a core participant (led by King's Counsel) in the Post Office Horizon IT Inquiry and assisted in Phases 5 and 6 which examined issues related to redress, access to justice, responses to the scandal and governance.

Privacy, Data Protection and Freedom of Information

Shona has a strong background in privacy, data protection and freedom of information law and advises clients in cases engaging the UK GDPR/Data Protection Act 2018, Privacy and Electronic Communications Regulations 2003, Freedom of Information Act 2000 and Human Rights Act 1998. Shona equally has experience of advising on privacy related tort claims; misuse of private information and equitable causes of action; breach of confidence and appears in the King's Bench Division of the High Court in relation to such claims.

She also has experience of delivering training to public organisations and has recently presented to various divisions of the UK Government Legal Department.

In her previous role as in-house counsel at the BBC, Shona advised and assisted in a broad range of cases which included investigating and responding to complaints, requests, conducting internal reviews, preparing legal submissions in response to regulators, and in appeals before the information rights tribunal.

Administrative & Public Law

Shona has a keen interest in Administrative & Public Law and welcomes instructions across this area of practice. Before coming to the Bar, Shona assisted in applications for Judicial Review and in cases involving Action Against Public Authorities at the Royal Courts of Justice Advice.

Family

Shona's family law practice primarily focuses on private children law and Family Law Act proceedings.

Shona has expertise in cases involving serious allegations of domestic and sexual abuse and has appeared for both applicants and respondents at all stages of proceedings including complex cases involving international jurisdiction issues (removal of children to non-Hague countries). She equally has experience of matters which cross over into public children law and has previously represented clients in matrimonial finance disputes on divorce.

Selected Cases

M v P (2024)

Represented the applicant mother at an urgent hearing, successfully obtaining an order for the immediate return of the children who were unilaterally removed from her care by the respondent father and also persuaded the court to make a Prohibited Steps Order.

O v E (2024)

Represented the respondent in a case involving high risk sexual and domestic abuse allegations and successfully resisted an application to dismiss an existing Non-Molestation Order.

M v M (2023)

Represented the respondent mother before a Circuit Judge in a complex case involving serious honour-based domestic abuse and child abduction allegations. Shona successfully secured the dismissal of an existing Prohibited Steps Order which sought to prevent the mother from temporarily removing the children from the jurisdiction to non-Hague Convention countries.

F v F (2023)

Represented the respondent at a final hearing and successfully secured the dismissal of a Non-Molestation Order. Following Shona's cross-examination of the applicant where significant inconsistencies came to light, the Recorder found the applicant's evidence unreliable and dismissed the application.

M v M (2023)

Represented the applicant at a final hearing and successfully secured an occupation order having satisfied the District Judge the applicant and children were likely to suffer significant harm if the order was not made.

Criminal

Shona both prosecutes and defends, appearing in the Magistrates', Youth and Crown Courts. She has defended at all stages of proceedings including making bail applications in cases involving serious violence; attempted GBH (s.18), intentional strangulation and knife related crimes. She has also represented clients charged with sexual offences, robbery, assisting an offender (death by reckless driving), theft, assault and driving whilst under the influence of drugs.

Shona's CPS work sees her prosecuting a range of offences similar to those listed above.

Qualifications

- Barrister-at-Law, Ireland
- MSc (Psychology)
- LLM
- BPTC
- LLB (Hons)

Languages:

- Chinese (HSK2)
- French (CEFR A2)

Professional associations

- Advocate
- CPS Panel
- Human Rights Watch
- Centre For Women's Justice, Legal Panel
- The Honorable Society of King's Inns
- The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn
- GMBPsS, The British Psychological Society

Publications

Domestic Abuse tactics in the Family Court – how do we achieve cultural change in 2024?

Years of missed opportunities and intrusion of privacy: The Undercover Policing Inquiry Interim Report

Should those convicted of serious offences be compelled to face their victim's family?