

Shona Love

Call: 2017 | 2022: Ireland | 2025: USA (New York)

"We cannot recommend Shona Love highly enough. She represented us on more than one occasion and took the time to really understand us. She was compassionate, professional, and incredibly reassuring throughout what was an emotionally difficult process. Her preparation, clarity, and advocacy gave us confidence, and we genuinely felt heard and supported at every stage."

CLIENT



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Shona Love 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).

Expertise

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 & 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.

Cases

GB v CH Ltd [2025]

Successfully represented the Defendant (a Forest School) at trial in a claim alleging multiple breaches of the Data Protection Act 2018. Shona successfully argued that the sections of the Act relied on by the Claimant were not engaged, leading the Judge to find in favour of the Defendant and dismiss the claim. The Judge found the Claimant's evidence inconsistent and unconvincing, concluding that even if the court had found the claim could have proceeded on another basis, it would still have been dismissed.

Administrative & Public Law

Shona has a keen interest in Administrative and Public Law and is developing her practice in this area. She was recently instructed on behalf of an Assistant Coroner in judicial review proceedings following a high-profile and sensitive inquest.

Prior to coming to the Bar, she assisted with judicial review applications and claims involving actions against public authorities at the Royal Courts of Justice.

Cases

NMC v JPH [2026]

Shona successfully represented a trade union member, a mental health nurse with 20 years' experience and an unblemished record in long-running, complex Fitness to Practise proceedings before the Nursing and Midwifery Council's regulatory panel.

The case concerned 13 charges arising from events during the Covid-19 lockdown in early 2020, including serious allegations of dishonesty. Proceedings spanned multiple weeks of hearings in 2025 and 2026, with the regulator seeking the most serious sanction available within its disciplinary jurisdiction: a striking-off order.

Shona advanced a number of technical and procedural challenges. At the outset, she successfully resisted parts of an application to admit hearsay evidence and succeeded on a submission of no case to answer under Rule 24(7) in relation to 8 of the 13 charges, including the most serious allegations. An abuse of process application was also pursued.

Shona's final submission of no case to answer under Rule 24(8) in respect of the 5 remaining charges proved persuasive and succeeded in full. The Panel determined there was no realistic prospect of finding that the Registrant's alleged actions amounted to misconduct and impairment. This brought the proceedings, relating to matters some six years ago, to a final and decisive end.

Shona was instructed by the Royal College of Nursing.

Family

Shona's family law practice primarily focuses on protective injunctions under the Family Law Act and private children law 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), and has appeared in the High Court in international child abduction proceedings. She equally has experience of matters which cross over into public children law and has previously represented clients in matrimonial finance disputes on divorce.

Cases

[X v Y \[2025\] EWFC 237 \(B\)](#)

Shona was successful in what appears to be the first reported case of its kind in Family Law Act proceedings, securing disclosure to the relevant regulatory authorities for police conduct of serious judicial findings that the Applicant, a serving police officer, knowingly set out matters they knew not to be true in their application for the extension of a Non-Molestation Order and lied on oath before a Recorder by asserting that a police investigation into the Respondent was continuing when they knew it was not. The Judge concluded that the Applicant had procured the extension of the order by "deception."

She was equally successful in persuading the court to grant disclosure for a secondary purpose, allowing the Respondent to pursue complaints against the Police concerning their failure to comply with disclosure obligations throughout the proceedings and their treatment of the Respondent.

Shona further advanced detailed submissions in support of publication of the judgment, which was opposed, relying on *Tooley v Tooley* [2025], which referred to *Allan v Clibbery* [2002], *Re Guardian News and Media Ltd* [2010], and *Xanthopoulos v Aleksandrova* [2022] together with the President's guidance on transparency. Shona's submissions emphasised that, given the novel circumstances of the case and the gravity of the findings, the balance should fall firmly in favour of Article 10, relying on the principle of open justice, the strong presumption of transparency, and the reduced expectation of privacy where the conduct concerned both a serving police officer in a public service role and a public authority, the Police, such that publication was in the public interest.

The court conducted a balancing exercise between Articles 8 and 10, coming down in favour of publication but ultimately refusing to lift anonymisation. The decision attracted the interest of the Transparency Project, which reported on the case and the judgment is also available on BAILII.

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

- Attorney, New York, USA
- Barrister-at-Law, Ireland
- MSc (Psychology)

- LLM
- BPTC
- LLB (Hons)

Languages:

- Chinese (HSK2)
- French (CEFR A2)

Professional Associations

- Advocate
- CPS Panel
- Human Rights Watch
- INQUEST Lawyers Group (ILG)
- New York State Bar Association (NYSBA)
- 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?](#)