Tom Tyson

Call 1995

"an excellent advocate with a very compelling style" Chambers & Partners

Expertise

- Social Housing
- Property
- Administrative & Public Law
- Civil Liberties & Human Rights

EXPERTISE

Housing Law

Tom's well established practice covers all areas of social housing litigation and landlord and tenant disputes. He regularly writes articles and gives seminars and lectures on all aspects of housing law and is called upon to advise social landlords including local authorities, on matters of policy including homelessness, allocation and registration of social housing providers. His many years' experience, clarity of advice and pragmatic approach is brought to bear in his particular areas of expertise.

Areas of expertise:

- Anti-social behaviour possession cases and injunctions
- Bringing and defending claims in housing cases where the tenant lacks capacity, including community care assessment and provision
- Claims arising out of the Human Rights Act and Equality Act
- Claims concerning unlawful eviction
- Claims for possession and demotion
- Commercial landlord and tenant disputes
- Disputes over the right to buy and succession claims
- Disrepair claims relating to residential premises
- Public law challenges concerning homelessness and allocation of housing, public law defences to possession claims, s. 204 appeals to the county court and applications for judicial review
- Service charge disputes and housing regulation maters before the Property Chamber of the First Tier Tribunal

PUBLICATIONS

- All proportionality defences are equal, but some are more equal than others - Ackerman-Livingstone v Aster Communities Ltd [2015] UKSC 15
- Magic beans for that cow? - Scott v Southern Pacific Mortgages [2014] UKSC 52
- Teather's Tether - Will the Tenancies (Reform) Bill be a sticker?
- Assistant Editor: "Tolley's claims to the Possession of Land" (5th Edn 2000-2003)

MEMBERSHIPS

- Administrative Law Bar Association
- Yorkshire Housing law Practitioners'Association

LECTURES & SEMINARS

Tom regularly lectures on housing law subjects and is known for his relaxed and amusing style of presentation. Tom is also happy to provide bespoke training to housing providers on areas of particular concern, recently including defending claims for disrepair. Please contact the clerks for further details.

EDUCATION

- Inns of Court School of Law
- LLB (Hons) Bristol University

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Tom is a liveryman of the Salters' Company, ECB level 2 cricket coach and an active writer, director and actor.

Clerking team

Paul McNab
Lead Housing, Personal Injury & Public Law Clerk
0113 3235 955

Steve Walker
Lead Business & Property Clerk
0191 245 9589

Aimee Cummings
Business & Property Clerk
0191 245 9556

Shannon Burns
Housing, Personal Injury & Public Law Clerk
0191 245 9543

Molly Sinnott
Employment Clerk
0191 3009 359

Chris Gibbin
Criminal & Family Clerk
01642 247 569

What Others Say

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"Tom is excellent; very calm and composed. He has excellent knowledge of the issues and takes time to explain the points of the claim. He is an excellent advocate, and he has a calming influence in court.Tom is a fantastic advocate who has fantastic knowledge and skills."
Social Housing, Chambers & Partners 2027

"Tom is an excellent advocate. Tom's many years of experience shows in his advice and advocacy. "
Social Housing, Chambers & Partners 2026

"Tom is confident in all areas of social housing law and in cross-examination." "Clients like him. He is able to pick up a trial brief and run with it, understanding the issues at hand, the approach taken to date and the client's objectives."
Social Housing, Chambers & Partners 2025

"Tom Tyson is a very safe pair of hands when it comes to property work." "Tom Tyson has great client manners and is very knowledgeable"
Social Housing, Chambers & Partners 2024

"Tom always gets to grips with things and understands the commercial needs of the client." "I found Tom very knowledgeable. He has a very good grasp of briefs "
Social Housing, Chambers UK 2023

"He is very approachable and a real expert in his field"
Chambers & Partners 2022

"An experienced social housing litigator who has developed a dynamic practice. He is proficient in dealing with a wide range of matters including unlawful eviction, landlord and tenant issues, and possession proceedings". “He is an excellent advocate with a very compelling style"
Chambers & Partners 2021

"An experienced social housing litigator who has developed a dynamic practice." "A good advocate who is very well prepared and polished." "An approachable and passionate advocate with an in-depth degree of knowledge of housing law."
Chambers & Partners 2020

Notable Cases

Incommunities v D (2014 unreported, High Court)

Appeal against committal order, sufficiency of evidence and relevance of coexisting criminal proceedings.

WDH v S (by his Litigation Friend the Official Solicitor)

Appeal involving the meaning of ‘as if they were civil partners’ in succession provisions; the scope of the proportionality review where the court has already found the defence to be ‘seriously arguable’. (2011 Permission granted by Court of Appeal, compromised before hearing).

WDH v D

Starter tenancy, public law defence, sufficiency of review and whether public law defence limited to Wednesbury unreasonableness. (2013 Permission granted by Court of Appeal for second appeal, compromised before hearing).

Wall v Sheffield CC and others [2010] EWCA Civ 922

Secure tenancy, succession claim, whether foster child a member of the family and entitled to succeed; effect of execution of possession order later set aside; validity of subsequent grant of secure tenancy to third parties.

Leeds CC v Price (Kay v Lambeth LBC) [2006] 2 AC 465

The scope of Article 8 ECHR as a defence to proceedings against trespassers; effect of Human Rights Act on doctrine of precedent.

Sheffield CC v Wall [2006] EWCA Civ 495

Secure tenancy succession, residence criterion.

Smart v Sheffield CC [2002] HLR 34

Non-secure tenant; impact of Articles 6 and 8 ECHR on proceedings for possession.

Sheffield CC v Hopkins [2002] HLR 12

Extent of court's discretion to suspend warrants of possession and impose terms; guidelines given for exercise of that discretion.

LB Tower Hamlets v Long (2000) 32 HLR 219

Anti-social; behaviour injunction; breach; sentencing.