

Vilma Vodanovic

Call 2002

"She is an excellent advocate and exudes determination."
Chambers & Partners

EXPERTISE

Housing

Vilma is a recognised specialist in Housing Law in the North East and across the North, with a client base that includes most major housing associations and local authorities. She also acts for tenants and private landlords in housing related matters.

Vilma's housing practice is varied including:

- possession claims
- Anti-Social Behaviour injunctions against both adults and minors
- Closure Orders
- succession claims
- right to buy
- homelessness
- allocation
- unlawful eviction
- disrepair
- tenancy fraud
- assignment
- committals

In relation to possession claims, Vilma has a particular specialism in cases involving discrimination under the Equality Act 2010, public law defences (including human rights) and capacity issues.

In addition to this, Vilma has extensive experience in dealing with matters in the First-Tier Tribunal in relation to appeals against Civil Penalty Notices, Improvement and Prohibition Notices, and other enforcement measures under the Housing Act 2004 and the Housing and Planning Act 2016. She also deals with claims arising out of the Land Compensation Act 1973.

Where housing matters give rise to judicial review challenges or appeals to the Administrative Court, Vilma has been able to provide her clients with representation in these areas too.

Business & Property

Vilma regularly appears in the Business and Property Courts in the North East dealing with the following:



Expertise

Social Housing

Property

Business & Commercial
Litigation

Personal Injury & Clinical
Negligence

Civil Liberties & Human Rights

Costs

Insolvency & Restructuring

- contractual disputes
- business tenancies
- landlord and tenant (commercial and residential)
- covenants and easements
- rights of way
- boundary disputes
- nuisance
- trespass
- real property matters

Personal Injury

Vilma's personal injury practice is solely centered on high-value multi-track cases arising out of road traffic accidents, accidents at work, public and occupier's liability. She also specialises in industrial injuries and fatal accidents. She acts equally for Claimants and Defendants and is happy to accept work on a CFA basis.

Over the years, Vilma has gained a wealth of experience in dealing with complex medical conditions including fibromyalgia, chronic regional pain syndrome, spinal and brain injuries, as well as injuries arising out of asbestos exposure. Vilma regularly advises in conference with clients on the best settlement proposals, deals with medical experts and complex causation issues, as well as drafting clear and concise Schedules of Loss, and ultimately provides representation at Court.

Vilma also has experience in dealing with CICA claims.

APPOINTMENTS

- 2021 - appointed as a Deputy District Judge on the North Eastern Circuit.
- 2019 - appointed to the First-Tier Tribunal as a Fee-paid Tribunal Judge, deployed to the Social Entitlement Chamber.

LECTURES & SEMINARS

Vilma regularly lectures to solicitors and other professionals on all aspects of her practise areas. She provides, on request, tailored in-house seminars. Most recently, she provided a local authority team with bespoke training on the First-Tier Tribunal (Property Chamber) hearing of appeals concerning Improvement Notices and Civil Penalty Notices.

EDUCATION & AWARDS

- University of Leeds LLB Law
- Mars-Jones Award, Gray's Inn
- Start Cunningham Macaskie KC Award, Gray's Inn
- Prince of Wales Scholarship, Gray's Inn

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Vilma is Direct Access registered and happy to accept instructions from the public.

Clerking team



Paul McNab
Civil & Criminal Silks'
Clerk (Leeds)
0113 3235 955



Steve Walker
Lead Civil Clerk
0191 245 9589



Josh Stewart-Tilling
Lead Employment Clerk
& Civil Clerk
0191 300 9359



Aimee Bloxham
Civil Clerk
0191 245 9556



Chris Gibbin
Clerk (Middlesbrough)
01642 247 569



What Others Say



"A go-to counsel for complex housing litigation. Exceptionally efficient and knowledgeable, she is an asset to have in any defence team"

Chambers & Partners 2022

"A razor-sharp advocate"

Legal 500 2021

"An expert in disability and public law issues arising in housing cases. Her work includes possession and disrepair claims, as well as disputes relating to HMOs". "She is an excellent advocate and exudes determination"

Chambers & Partners 2021

"The service she provides is exemplary and she is great to deal with"

Chambers & Partners 2020

"She has formidable advocacy skills and comprehensive legal knowledge"

Legal 500 2018