

## Michael Bedford



called: 1985

clerk: Martin Hart

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Michael was called to the Bar in 1985.

His practice covers all areas of town and country planning, local government law, judicial review, environmental law, highways and compulsory purchase.

He acts for developers, land owners and public sector clients, including via direct access.

Recent clients include residential, retail and commercial developers, landowners, local authorities, and private clients.

He has a substantial Inquiry-based practice, covering a diverse range of development projects (from crèches to cemeteries, via castles and tank farms, together with housing, retail, and employment schemes). He has promoted a large number of development plans and is currently engaged in several LDF matters.

He also appears in the Courts, both challenging and defending decisions by local and central government on a wide range of planning, environmental, and highways matters.

His practice embraces large-scale infrastructure projects (including promoting several new roads) and smaller developments in sensitive areas with heritage or environmental constraints.

He is experienced in managing and co-ordinating large teams of expert witnesses and in cross-examining on

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a wide range of professional disciplines.

He also lectures on a variety of planning and related issues to lawyers and other professionals. He is a Committee member of the Planning & Environment Bar Association.

He has repeatedly been ranked as one of the Highest Rated Juniors by **Planning Magazine**. He is recognised by both the **Legal 500** and **Chambers and Partners** for his expertise in Planning. **Chambers 2012**: He "*is regularly seen in the most challenging matters*" and praised for his "*tenacity in court*". He was shortlisted for the Chambers Bar Awards 2011 as **Environment/Planning Junior of the Year**.

## Property

Michael Bedford has experience in a wide range of property issues relating to the development of land, including restrictive covenants, rights of way and other easements. He has advised on a variety of issues relating to the enforceability and removal of restrictive covenants and relating to the acquisition of easements.

Recent instructions include:

- Advising on restrictive covenants and Village Green claims in relation to a major urban extension for the landowning local authority.
- Advising on restrictive covenants inhibiting residential development.
- Advising on easements and ransom strips in relation to residential development.
- Advising on the use of s.123 Local Government Act 1972 powers in connection with land disposals and site assembly.

Michael successfully resolved a long-running rights of way dispute through the use of mediation to enable residential development to proceed.

## Publications

### Gambling for Local Authorities

Contributor to Kolvin's *Gambling for Local Authorities* (June 2010)

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### Burnett-Hall on Environmental Law

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Contributor to *Burnett-Hall on Environmental Law* (December 2008)

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## Associations

- Planning and Environment Bar Association (PEBA)