

Richard Grimshaw

Inquests, Public Inquiries
and Coronial Law



Year of Call: 2010

Email Clerks: clerks@no5.com

Richard has a busy clinical negligence and inquest practice, predominantly instructed in inquests arising out of deaths in the healthcare and prison settings but also road traffic deaths, military related deaths and deaths at work. Richard has extensive experience of representing bereaved families and organisations/professionals involved in the care of those who have died. He has considerable experience of representing clients at Article 2 and jury inquests. He has gained substantial experience of questioning clinicians and an understanding of a variety of medical techniques and conditions.

Richard is regularly instructed on complex and sensitive matters and his thorough preparation and attention for detail is regularly commended by his clients. Richard prides himself on providing friendly, pragmatic and plain-speaking advice, as well as being approachable at all times. Richard is particularly aware of and sensitive to the emotional nature of the inquest process and is adept at assisting clients through the same.

Richard was appointed as Senior Junior Counsel to the UK Covid 19 Public Inquiry in 2022.

Example Cases

Healthcare related inquests:

- Inquest into the death of a child who did not receive a diagnosis of Addison's Disease leading to extensive media coverage
- Article 2 jury inquest into the death of a patient who died in hospital after developing post-operative delirium
- Jury inquest concerning injuries sustained by a patient dropped from a hoist
- Inquest arising out of the failure to diagnose a bowel obstruction

- Article 2 inquest into the death of a voluntary psychiatric patient who hanged herself on the psychiatric unit
- Inquest into the death of a patient who died following neurosurgery
- Inquest into the death of a patient who died following an overdose of chemotherapy
- Representing a care home at an inquest into the death of a resident
- Inquest into the death of a patient who died following a head injury that went undiagnosed in A and E
- Jury inquest concerning a patient who was PEG fed who aspirated after the feed was provided inappropriately
- Representing the family of a baby who died following injuries caused during his delivery by forceps

Prison related inquests:

- Regularly instructed on behalf of prison and probation authorities arising out of deaths in custody, including:
 - Self-inflicted deaths
 - Accidental deaths
 - Healthcare related deaths
 - Deaths arising out of the illicit use of substances
- Represented the family of a prisoner who hanged himself in his prison cell

Further information

Richard is happy to undertake work on a conditional fee agreement basis where appropriate.

He has also given a number of talks and seminars about various aspects of civil procedure, clinical negligence, personal injury and inquest work.

Recommendations

“Richard is a very sharp advocate and an inscrutably fair opponent. He is an all-around impressive lawyer.” **Legal 500 2024 Tier 1 (Inquests and Inquiries) – Midlands**

“Richard Grimshaw is an impressive barrister who has a strong command of Article 2 inquests involving prisons, or those examining the quality of medical care.” **Chambers and Partners 2024 (Inquests and Public Inquiries)**

“Richard’s attention to detail and tenacity are key strengths. His involvement in a case always adds value. He is a trusted legal advisor and persuasive advocate.” **Legal 500 2024 Tier 1 (Clinical Negligence) – Midlands**

“An impressive analytical mind, with insightful and timely strategic advice resulting in great results for clients.” **Legal 500 2024 (Clinical Negligence) – London**

“Richard Grimshaw is an impressive junior who can boast notable experience in inquest work. He acts for both claimants and defendants in a range of complex clinical negligence cases, including those alleging failures in diagnoses and surgical errors” **Chambers and Partners 2024 (Clinical Negligence)**

“Richard is very hardworking and committed. He is extremely helpful and provides excellent advice throughout the inquest, always willing to go the extra mile and ensure the client understands what is happening.” **Legal 500 2023 Tier 1 (Inquests and Inquiries)**

“An impressive barrister who has a strong command of Article 2 inquests involving prisons, or those examining the quality of medical care. He’s really pleasant to work with, very friendly and open and also has a very tactile manner in court. He is incredibly impressive and has such attention to detail.” **Chambers UK 2022 (Inquests and Public Inquiries)**

“Meticulous, exceptionally analytical and well prepared. He provides superb tactical and pragmatic advice whilst also being precise and persuasive in written and oral argument.” **Legal 500 2022 (Inquests and Inquiries)**

“An impressive junior who can boast notable experience in inquest work. He acts for both claimants and defendants in a range of complex clinical negligence cases, including those alleging failures in diagnoses and surgical errors. He has a very good eye for detail, is empathetic, and always goes out of his way to help.” **Chambers UK 2022 (Clinical Negligence)**

“Meticulous, exceptionally analytical and well prepared. He provides superb tactical and pragmatic advice whilst also being precise and persuasive in written and oral argument.” **Legal 500 2022 (Clinical Negligence)**

“He was well prepared, approached the matter very well and had an impressive style on his feet.” **Chambers UK 2021 (Inquest and Inquiries)**

“Articulate and succinct in both written and oral advocacy, he quickly earns the respect of those he appears before.” **Legal 500 2021 (Inquest and Inquiries)**

“He is technically extremely capable and is very meticulous in the work he does. His client care skills are also excellent, and he is always easy to get hold of.” “Very client-focused and attentive.” “A thorough advocate with an eye for detail.” **Chambers UK 2021 (Clinical Negligence)**

“Pragmatic and exceptionally analytical, with excellent strategic judgement and in-depth knowledge.” **Legal 500 2021 (Clinical Negligence)**



Reported Cases

Atkinson v South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust [2014] EWHC 1590 (QB); [2014] All ER (D) 199 (May)

Appointments

Recorder (Civil and Crime)

Deputy Master (King’s Bench Division, High Court)

Assistant Coroner (2017-2021) for Birmingham and Solihull

Attorney General’s Panel of Junior Counsel to the Crown (Regional ‘B’ Panel)

Contributing Editor – ‘Civil Procedure (The White Book)’ since 2022

Senior Junior Counsel to the Inquiry – UK Covid-19 Public Inquiry

Awards

Inner Temple Prize for 'Outstanding' Bar Vocational Course Result (2010)
College of Law Prize for Top Overall Bar Vocational Course Result (2009/10)
College of Law Prize for Top Advocacy Assessment Results (2009/10)
Inner Temple Exhibition Award (2009)

Memberships

Midland Circuit
Inner Temple (Exhibitioner, 2009)
PIBA
AvMA

Qualifications

BA (Hons) Law with Business Studies, University of Warwick (First Class Honours)
Bar Vocational Course, College of Law (Outstanding, ranked overall 1st in year)