

Jim Hirschmann

Year of Call: 2018
Email Address: Jim.Hirschmann@3pb.co.uk

Overview

Jim Hirschmann helps clients to navigate the law and resolve disputes. He often acts for families, public bodies and private institutions. He specialises in adult social care, child social care and education law. His caseload regularly concerns public law issues related to his core practice areas including judicial review proceedings and public inquiries.

Outside of busy work demands, Jim enjoys sport with a particular interest in rugby, running and hiking. He likes travelling and has an armchair interest in philosophy.

Jim is committed to protecting and respecting your privacy. Please contact him for a copy of his privacy notice which sets out the basis upon which any personal data he may collect about you, or that is provided to him, will be processed. He will provide a copy of this to you upon request.

Court of Protection

Jim Hirschmann has a busy practice handling both health and welfare and property and affairs cases. His experience in judicial review and family has contributed to making him a thoughtful and effective advocate who helps find acceptable solutions to parties' strongly held but conflicting views.

Between 2023 and 2026 Jim was an active member of Court of Protection Bar Association committee. He was involved in organising panel events and in responding to Law Commission consultations (including in relation to Contempt and Disabled Children's Social Care).

Health and Welfare

Jim has experience in health and welfare matters. He has worked on cases concerning:

- conflicting capacity evidence, including fluctuating capacity
- forced marriage protection orders
- capacity declarations and best interests decisions including issues relating to sexual relations, marriage, care, residence, medical treatment and alcohol consumption
- where a young adult with significant health needs should be educated

He is regularly instructed by private individuals and local authorities.

Property and Affairs

In the property and affairs context, Jim has experience of cases involving:

- conflicting capacity evidence
- applications to appoint a deputy
- disputes around enduring or lasting powers of attorney
- matters complicated by the involvement of trusts, alleged dissipation of assets, extent of a deputy's authority, disputed wills and complex business and land ownership arrangements

He has been instructed by private individuals, local authorities and by the Office of the Public Guardian.

Inherent Jurisdiction of the High Court, or Safeguarding of Vulnerable Adults and Children

Jim has been regularly instructed in cases involving the inherent jurisdiction of the high court often related to issues of deprivation of liberty in cases involving a young person's drug abuse, exploitation or involvement in organised crime.

With a Master of Laws (LLM) in public law, he is well placed to consider challenges against the decisions of local authorities (including judicial reviews and claims under the Human Rights Act 1998).

Medical Treatment

Jim is willing to accept instructions surrounding medical treatment. He has experience of best interests decision concerning addiction, rehabilitation and the way in which medication should be administered.

He is often instructed by local authorities.

Notable cases include:

Re AB & Ors [2025] EWCOP 27 (T3) – Mr Justice McKendrick gives practitioners guidance on how to approach wrongful removal from jurisdiction cases.Jim acted for the Local Authority in this cross-border case. It concerned wrongful removal of a vulnerable adult to Jamaica and non-compliance with court orders. His first involvement in this long running case was in March 2025. Since his involvement P was located using Court powers. This in turn enabled a welfare check to be conducted. P was not however returned to the jurisdiction of England and Wales. The matter was stayed for six months with the Judge noting "whether or not there is to be an application for contempt is one for the applicant and Official Solicitor".

Re A - a complicated case culminating in a 7-day final hearing. The case necessitated live evidence and cross examination of a variety of experts including from a neurodevelopmental disability psychiatrist, an independent social worker, a hepatologist, and a psychiatrist specialising in addiction. The Local Authority's care plan was accepted at a contested final hearing despite resistance from privately represented parties.

Re B - A section 21a challenge. It was complex in the sense that P had a diagnosis of bipolar affective disorder which had historically resulted in numerous hospital admissions but there were also periods where limited interventions were required. The issue before the Court was whether P should return to live at home with a package of care or whether she should reside in a residential care home. The Local Authority's position was that P's best interests required her to be cared for in the care home. This was accepted by the Judge at a contested final hearing.

A v Z - instructed by a local authority who sought a deprivation of liberty order. The case related to a young person who had run away from her care home and suffered significant harm after becoming involved with suspected members of a county lines network. The deprivation of liberty order was granted under the inherent jurisdiction of the high court.

B v C - represented a mother in a forced marriage protection case that raised issues of capacity to marry, capacity to consent to sexual relations and the jurisdiction of the family court.

E v F - acted for the Office of the Public Guardian in a matter concerning an invalid lasting power of attorney and cross-border assets. The registration of the lasting power of attorney was duly to be cancelled.

Recommendations

"Thorough drafting, courteous and considerate in court, very pleasant to deal with. Conscientious in his representation of clients."

Legal 500 2027/Court of Protection: health and welfare/Rising Stars

'Jim fights tooth and nail for his client's position with composure and professionalism. He is a persuasive advocate who exudes a gentle authority.'

Legal 500 2026/Court of protection and community care/ Rising Stars/London bar

'Jim is always well-prepared and engages thoughtfully and constructively with opponents outside the courtroom. He has a well-judged advocacy.'

Legal 500 2025/Court of protection and community care/ Rising Stars/London bar

Academic qualifications

- University of Law, BPTC: Very Competent
- University College London, LLM Public Law: Merit
- University of Westminster, LLB European Legal Studies: First Class Honours
- Erasmus, Free University of Berlin: First Class Equivalent (Averaged ECTS Grade A)

Scholarships

- University of Law, Performance Award for top mark in the Judicial Review Module (2018)
- University of Law, Master of Moots Advocacy Scholarship (2017)
- Lincoln’s Inn, Hardwicke Entrance Award (2017)

Professional bodies

- Court of Protection Bar Association (CPBA)
- Administrative Law Bar Association (ALBA)