



Louise Hartley

Year of Call: 2008

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Professional Discipline and Regulatory Law

Louise Hartley has a busy professional discipline practice with a particular focus on healthcare and education. She has advised and represented professionals, organisations and regulators before a wide range of regulatory tribunals, including: the General Dental Council; the Healthcare Professions Council; the Nursing and Midwifery Council; the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales; the General Pharmaceutical Council; and the Farriers Registration Council. She appears regularly before the First Tier Tribunal (Care Standards) in Ofsted and CQC appeals.

Louise regularly advises childcare providers at risk of cancellation and suspension following serious allegations being raised against them.

Louise has a particular skill for managing complex cases, involving large volumes of evidence, and prides herself on her careful case preparation, impactful advocacy and approachable style.

Having spent four years in her earlier career seconded to and working as an in-house lawyer at the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC), Louise Hartley has a deep understanding of professional disciplinary work. She has appeared in countless hearings before panels, spanning a broad range of complex, multi-handed, and high profile cases. She appeared regularly in the High Court, defending statutory appeals as well as arguing for extensions of interim orders.

She was responsible at the NMC for a large caseload of complex, high profile and multi-handed matters. This involved making sound, legally supported judgments on case strategy and investigating deficiencies in cases. She routinely provided advice to the regulator to ensure effective consideration of cases and legally-sound decision making, as well as producing comprehensive written determinations.

While at the NMC, Louise regularly provided advice to senior management on the merits of appeals. This involved detailed analysis of panel decisions, extensive legal research, and when defending decisions, drafting appeal documents and skeleton arguments.

Louise is experienced in providing training on regulatory law and process, as well as advocacy skills coaching to new team members, trainees and pupils.

Reported cases include:

Watters v Nursing and Midwifery Council [2017] EWHC (Admin) 1888

Holder v Nursing and Midwifery Council [2017] EWHC 647 (Admin)

Nursing and Midwifery Council v Kendrick [2016] EWHC 2402 (Admin)

Nursing and Midwifery Council v Frangos [2017] EWHC (Admin) 1538

Recommendations

"In her time as Head of Legal at Sport England Louise has given detailed, appropriate, expert and timely advice both to me and the organisation more widely. She has acted as lead advisor internally whilst also managing a consortia of legal firms providing additional expert views on specific areas of our work.

In terms of focus areas, I would highlight Louise's commissioning and oversight of the Review into systematic abuse in Gymnastics led by Anne Whyte QC; advising at pace on regulatory and other contractual elements around the introduction of the Sport Survival Package during the CV19 pandemic; ensuring Sport England appropriately interprets its regulatory responsibilities and function in particular around complex complaints about National Governing Bodies of Sport; and advising on Sport England's role in the development of the Sports Councils' Guidance on Transgender Inclusion in Sport."

Tim Hollingsworth, Chief Executive, Sport England

Academic qualifications

- BVC, Very Competent, College of Law, London
- LLB (2:1), King's College London

Scholarships

- Harmsworth Scholarship, Middle Temple

Professional qualifications & appointments

- Member of the Sport Resolutions Panel of Arbitrators

Professional bodies

- Honourable Society of Middle Temple
- Association of Regulatory and Disciplinary Lawyers