

# 12

King's Bench Walk

## Kate Boakes

Call: 2014

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### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

International & Travel, Industrial Disease, Abuse, Aviation, Environment, Personal Injury, Inquests

Kate acts in all of 12KBW's core areas, with an emphasis on cross-border group actions, industrial disease, and claims arising out of intentional physical or sexual abuse.

She has considerable advocacy experience, having acted as sole counsel at multi-day trials and appeared in front of a jury. She is equally comfortable working on large-scale litigation as part of a team, and is regularly brought into complex cases by the pre-eminent silks in her fields of work.

She is presently instructed in several private international law claims brought by groups of foreign nationals against multinational corporations, including cases which arise out of mass environmental damage, workplace sexual abuse, and mistreatment by private security forces.

She regularly acts in cases involving the application of foreign law under Rome I and Rome II, and issues of jurisdiction.

She has a particular specialism in claims arising out of asbestos exposure. She is junior counsel for the claimant in *Head v Culver Heating*, which is due to be heard by the Court of Appeal in December 2020.

### Abuse

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Kate regularly acts in sexual abuse cases, in the context of civil actions as well as claims under the Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority scheme.

She has been instructed in claims against institutions including schools, children's homes, local authorities, and youth organisations, as well as against individual defendants. She has experience of acting in group cases and cross-border cases involving issues of jurisdiction and applicable law.

Cases include:

- *GDH & PAB v Secretary of State for the Department of Health*: acting for two individuals who were migrated to Southern Rhodesia and Australia in the 1950s pursuant to the UK Government's policy of permitting the migration of unaccompanied child migrants from the UK to commonwealth countries after the Second World War. They allegedly suffered sexual abuse and general mistreatment in the institutions to which they were migrated.
- historic sexual abuse claims brought by multiple claimants arising out of abuse by the same schoolteacher;

- historic sexual abuse claims against the Sea Cadets;
- appeal of the CICA's damages award of £9,500 in an historic abuse case, in which the applicant was ultimately awarded over £100k;
- claim brought by a police officer arising out of repeated sexual assaults by a senior colleague;
- claim brought by a victim of a serious and prolonged campaign of voyeurism which led to epileptic and psychiatric symptoms;
- appeal of the CICA's rejection of a childhood sexual abuse victim's claim which was brought more than 20 years out of time;
- appeal of the CICA's rejection of a claim brought by a victim of marital rape.

## Qualifications

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2012-2014: GDL & BPTC, City University Law School

2006-2010: BA (Hons) Modern Languages, Oxford University