# Andrew Warnock KC

Call: 1993 | Silk: 2012


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Andrew Warnock KC has represented clients in numerous high profile, sensitive and complex cases, over the course of his 30 years in practice.

He is often instructed in cases which raise a novel point of law, including in the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court. He has a particular expertise in duty of care issues, and his practice encompasses personal injury, professional liability, Human Rights Act claims and contractual issues.

He won the Legal 500 Personal Injury Silk of the Year Awards in 2026, he won the Chambers & Partners Personal Injury Silk of the Year in 2020 and was shortlisted for the Public Services and Charities Silk of the Year at the Legal 500 Bar Awards 2024. He is recognised as one of the top silks in both police and personal injury law in Best Lawyers United Kingdom 2025. He is a Governing Bencher of the Inner Temple and sits as a Recorder on the Midland Circuit.

## Areas of Expertise

### Personal Injury

Andrew has a particular specialism in cases involving duty of care issues. He is regularly instructed in cases which are sensitive, complex and high profile or involve catastrophic injuries. He is regularly instructed in claims involving non-recent child abuse and has represented a range of educational, religious, governmental and commercial organisations, including representing the BBC in the claims arising out of the Jimmy Savile affair. He is often instructed in cases which raise a novel point of law, including in the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court in cases in which he was not involved at first instance. Andrew was awarded the prestigious title of Chambers & Partners Personal Injury Silk of the Year in 2020. He is recognised as a leading personal injury silk in Best Lawyers United Kingdom (2025).

#### Notable Personal Injury cases

Lewis-Ranwell v G4S (2024, Court of Appeal, Supreme Court)




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Concerns the application of the illegality defence where the claimant killed 3 people but was acquitted of murder due to insanity. Andrew represents Devon County Council, who provided mental health services. The case is going to the Supreme Court.

Tindall v Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police (2024, Court of Appeal, Supreme Court)

Andrew represented the Chief Constable in this case, which concerns whether police officers who attended a road traffic accident caused by ice and assisted the victim owed a duty of care to future users of the road to make the road safe.

Various Claimants v Secretary of State for Health (2024)

Advised the Secretary of State for Health and negotiated a compensation Scheme in respect of multiple claims brought by former patients of a paediatric psychiatric unit.

Pawley v Petrie Tucker & Partners Ltd (2021)

Acted for a dental practice in a case concerning whether there was jurisdiction under the Civil Procedure Rules to join a defendant to a personal injury claim against the Claimant's will.

James-Bowen v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis [2018] Supreme Court

Successfully represented the Commissioner in the Supreme Court in this case concerning whether employers owe a duty of care to their employees in the way in which they conduct litigation.

Piepenbrock v London School of Economics (2018)

Defended the LSE in a £multi-million claim for occupational stress brought by a former lecturer, arising out of a harassment complaint.

## Police Law

Andrew is recognised as one of the leading police silks in the country in the Best Lawyers United Kingdom 2025. He regularly represents police forces in complex and sensitive claims, as demonstrated by the examples below.

### Notable Police Law cases

Tindall v Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police (2024, Court of Appeal, Supreme Court)



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Andrew represented the Chief Constable in this case, which concerns whether police officers who attended a road traffic accident caused by ice and assisted the victim owed a duty of care to future users of the road to make the road safe.

Archer v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis (2021 Court of Appeal)

Successfully defended a challenge under the Human Rights Act 1998 to the lawfulness of police powers to detain juveniles in custody under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984.

Hillsborough Victims Misfeasance Litigation (2021)

Represented the chief constables of South Yorkshire and West Midlands police in the negotiation of a settlement scheme for the resolution of 600 claims arising out the Hillsborough football stadium tragedy.

James-Bowen v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis [2018] Supreme Court

Successfully represented the Commissioner in the Supreme Court in this case concerning whether chief constables owe a duty of care not to settle litigation if doing so would affect the reputation of particular police officers.

## Professional Negligence

Andrew has acted in many cases involving alleged negligence or breach of duty by solicitors, surveyors and construction professionals over the course of his career.

### Notable Professional Negligence cases

Stoffel v Grondona (Supreme Court, 2020)

Successfully represented the Respondent client in a claim arising out of a negligently conducted conveyancing transaction where there had been mortgage fraud. The issue concerned the applicability of the illegality defence.

Miller v Irwin Mitchell (2024)

Successfully represented a leading personal injury law firm in the High Court and Court of Appeal in a claim concerning the existence and scope of a duty of care arising out of a call by a prospective client to a legal helpline.

Alexander House (High Court)



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Represented a housing association in litigation against contractors and construction professionals arising out of cladding.

## Inquests & Inquiries

Andrew has often represented police and local authority clients at inquests over his career, bringing to bear his expertise on public sector duties and his huge experience in handling sensitive cases. Most recently he has been representing clients at two high profile public inquiries.

### Notable Inquests & Inquiries cases

#### Manchester Arena Inquiry

Represented and advised the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service. The inquiry examined the emergency response on the night of the terrorist bombing which killed 22 members of the public.

#### The Grenfell Tower Inquiry

Representing and advising the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police in the inquiry into the disaster in which 72 people died in the tower block fire.

## Public Sector & Human Rights

Andrew has a particular specialism in cases involving duty of care and human rights issues. He is regularly instructed in cases which are sensitive, complex and high profile. He is frequently instructed in claims involving non-recent child abuse and has represented a range of educational, religious, commercial and governmental bodies, including the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care. He has particular experience of claims involving education, social services, highway authorities and police forces, including claims for alleged misfeasance. He is often instructed in cases which raise a novel point of law, including in the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court in cases in which he was not involved at first instance.

### Notable Public Sector & Human Rights cases

#### Lewis-Ranwell v G4S (2024, Court of Appeal, Supreme Court)

Concerns the application of the illegality defence where the claimant killed 3 people but was acquitted of murder due to insanity. Andrew represents Devon County Council, who provided mental health services. The case is going to the Supreme Court.

#### Tindall v Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police (2024, Court of Appeal, Supreme Court)



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Archer v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis (2021)

Successfully defended a challenge under the Human Rights Act 1998 to the lawfulness of police powers to detain juveniles in custody under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984.

Sumner v Colborne [2018] EWCA Civ 1006

Successfully represented the highway authority in this case which considered whether owners of property abutting the highway owe a duty of care to road users to maintain vegetation so as to preserve highway sight-lines.

James-Bowen v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis [2018] Supreme Court

Successfully represented the Commissioner in the Supreme Court in this novel case concerning whether a chief constable owes a duty of care to police officers for whom she is vicariously liable when settling litigation involving allegations against them.

Lugano Ltd v Northumberland County Council (2019)

Successfully defended two councillors and a chief executive in a claim for alleged misfeasance in public office brought by a property development company. This was a very high profile claim locally, arising out of the developer's controversial desire to build a new garden village in Green Belt land. The developer alleged that councillors and officials had misused their powers to prevent the development. going ahead, an allegation which was hotly denied. The claim was for over £10 million. The Claimant discontinued after service of a strike out application

## Appointments

- Recorder (part time judge), Midland Circuit, civil
- Governing Bencher of the Inner Temple

## Education

- Inns of Court School of Law, London
- Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge University



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- Cookstown High School, Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland

## Notable Cases

- Tindall v Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police (2024, Court of Appeal, Supreme Court). Represented the Chief Constable in this case, which concerns whether police officers who attended a road traffic accident caused by ice and assisted the victim owed a duty of care to future users of the road to make the road safe.
- Archer v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis (Court of Appeal, 2021). Successfully defended a challenge under the Human Rights Act 1998 to the lawfulness of police powers to detain juveniles in custody under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984.
- Stoffel v Grondona (Supreme Court, 2020). Successfully represented a solicitor's client in a claim arising out of a negligently conducted conveyancing transaction where there had been mortgage fraud. The issue concerned the applicability of the illegality defence.
- Wells v Devani (Supreme Court, 2019). Successfully represented an estate agent in a claim concerning contractual certainty, formation and interpretation of contracts and implied terms.
- Summer Colborne (Court of Appeal, 2019). Successfully represented a highway authority in an appeal concerning whether owners of land abutting a highway owe a duty of care to road users to maintain vegetation so as to preserve sight lines.
- National Westminster Bank v Lucas (Court of Appeal, 2014). Representing the BBC in negotiating a scheme to settle claims of sexual abuse by Jimmy Savile and in related court proceedings.
- Edwards v London Borough of Sutton (Court of Appeal, 2014). A leading authority on the duty of occupiers', arising out a claim where a man fell off an ornamental bridge and suffered spinal injuries.
- Manchester Arena Inquiry. Represented and advised the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service at the public inquiry into the terrorist bombing at the Manchester Arena in which 22 people died.

## Awards

- Shortlisted for Public Services and Charities Silk of the Year at the Legal 500 Bar Awards 2024
- Chambers & Partners Personal Injury Barrister of the Year 2020



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