

Louise became a tenant at Lincoln House in September 2011. She practices in criminal, regulatory and civil law, and has experience of personal injury law, clinical negligence and mental health/mental capacity law.

Prior to joining Lincoln House, Louise read Law at Cambridge University before going on to study for an MPhil and PhD in Criminology at the Institute of Criminology at Cambridge University.

Her PhD investigated how judges exercise discretion when sentencing mentally disordered individuals, and how psychiatrists and probation officers exercise discretion when preparing pre-sentence reports. She is consequently very familiar with mental health policy, legislation and case law. She studied the Bar Vocational Course at Manchester Metropolitan University, and was awarded a Commendation achieving the highest mark in the Criminal Litigation exam. She was also the Richard Isaacson Scholar in 2010.

Louise is also a Lecturer in Law at the University of Central Lancashire, and teaches criminal and civil litigation, criminal law and the law of evidence. She is assistant editor of the Archbold Magistrates Courts Criminal Practice publication, a role she has held since 2003, and is sentencing editor of the Archbold Review journal.

Criminal Law

Louise has conducted trials in the Magistrates and Crown Court on behalf of both the prosecution and defence. Shortly after finishing her pupillage, she completed a six-month secondment with the CPS in Manchester during which reviewed cases in preparation for trial and conducted trials in the Magistrates Court on an almost daily basis. She has also completed a secondment with the DWP in Liverpool, during which she reviewed benefit fraud cases to advise on appropriate charges.

Following the secondments Louise returned to Chambers and has been very busy in the Crown Court since then. She is a Category 2 prosecutor, and has successfully prosecuted cases involving serious violence, property offences and serious drug offences in the Crown Court. She has also successfully defended in a vast range of offence groups including cases involving violence, serious drug offences, sexual offences and theft, robbery and dishonesty. Louise also has extensive experience both prosecut-

Personal Injury

Louise regularly acts in claims arising out of road traffic accidents, and frequently represents claimants in fast track trials. She has conducted several interim application hearings and has extensive experience of infant approval hearings and stage 3 portal hearings.

Louise is currently being led by Simon Myerson QC and Bryan Cox QC on the Mau Mau litigation team [Eloise Mukami Kimathi and Others v The Foreign and Commonwealth Office]. The team represent thousands of Claimants, who are Kenyan Nationals bringing a claim for damages for trespasses to the person arising out of the actions of the British Colonial Administration against them during the State of Emergency declared in Kenya in 1952. Louise has spent time in Kenya training staff based there about civil procedure and carrying out research into the legal framework pertaining during the State of Emergency. Louise has also assisted senior Counsel with pleadings and research into complex and novel points of law and helped with the disclosure of over 100 files of evidence.

Mental Health and Mental Capacity Law

Louise's interest in mental health law stems from her PhD studies, which examined the treatment of mentally disordered offenders by the criminal courts.

She has a good understanding of mental health law and the work of the Court of Protection through completion of a work placement with Irwin Mitchell solicitors, during which she attended a trial in the Court of Protection concerning the treatment of a young man with autism. Louise facilitated the delivery of expert evidence in what is described as "a concurrent evidence day" in which 9 experts gave evidence together having been taken through an agreed agenda of issues for resolution. The case is reported at [2011] EWHC 1539 (Admin)

Clinical Negligence

Louise has a developing clinical negligence practice. She has advised on liability and quantum in several cases involving injuries sustained after surgery and has acted on behalf of claimants in case management hearings in the County Court.



CONTACT DETAILS

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PRACTICE AREAS

Civil Law
Criminal Law
Immigration & Asylum Law
Industrial Disease
Judicial Review Law
Licensing
Mental Health Law
Prison Law
Professional Discipline
Regulatory

EDUCATION

Cambridge University

MPhil & PhD in Criminology

Manchester Metropolitan University

Bar Vocational Course

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

The Richard Isaacson Memorial Scholarship

(Awarded for excellence in performance on the BVC)

The Bacon Award

(Gray's Inn BVC Scholarship)

Economic and Social Research Council

Studentship

Rebecca Flower Scholarship