

Maurice O'Carroll



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Maurice has been recognised in recent editions of Legal 500 for his expertise in employment law: *'[he is] well regarded for his expertise in handling a wide range of employment disputes'* (Legal 500, 2016); and as a leading junior *'very experienced in employment disputes'* (Legal 500, 2017).

Previous editions have also recognised him for his work in planning appeals.

Biography

Maurice called to the Bar in 1995 and has developed a varied and successful practice with particular emphasis on Planning, Employment, Public and Administrative Law, Professional Negligence and Commercial Law as well as general reparation. He has conducted planning inquiries for developers, objectors and local authorities and has appeared on many occasions in the Employment Tribunal and Employment Appeal Tribunal. Maurice is also a Legal Associate to the Royal Town Planning Institute, and was Standing Junior Counsel to the Scottish Government between 2003 and 2012. In addition to his extensive experience conducting civil actions within the Court of Session (both at appeal at first instance), Maurice has experience of appearing in the Sheriff Courts, the Land Court and the Lands Tribunal for Scotland. Maurice has also gained jury trial experience in his capacity as an ad hoc advocate depute for the Crown Office, a position he has held since 2002.

In 1998 he was admitted as a Legal Associate of the Royal Town Planning Institute (LARTPI) having successfully passed that body's professional examinations. In January 2016, Maurice was admitted as a Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (MCIArb) having passed their exams in relation to International Arbitration. In addition, in December 2015 he successfully completed the Scottish Community Mediation Centre's SCQF level 6 course in Mediation Skills. He is a member of the Faculty of Advocates' Dispute Resolution Service (FDRS). Prior to coming to the Bar, Maurice O'Carroll worked in Brussels for three years, initially with the European Commission and then with a commercial law firm specialising in international trade.

Appointments

Legal Associate of the Royal Town Planning Institute

Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

Member of the Faculty of Advocates' Dispute Resolution Service (FDRS)

Legal Member and Chair of the First-tier Tribunal, Housing and Property Chamber (formerly Legal Chair to the Homeowner Housing Panel and Private Rented Housing Panel prior to 2016)

Legal Chairman and Commissioner of the Scottish Legal Complaints Commission (April 2011 to April 2016)
Standing Junior Counsel to the Scottish Government: 2003 to 2012
Ad hoc Advocate Depute since 2002
Vice-Chairman of Scottish Planning, Local Government and Environmental Bar Group (SPLGEBG)
Secretary and founding member of Faculty of Advocates Employment Law Group since March 2010

Publications

Scottish Planning Factbook (chapter 6 - appeals)
Articles in Scottish Property and Environmental Law Journal
Monthly contribution to Scottish Property Federation newsletter

Recent Articles and Events

Planning Law Update
Trump offshore windfarm challenge - the end of the road?
Protective Expenses Orders
Spotlight on Planning Law When Does a Development Begin?

Recent Cases

Community Wind Power v East Ayrshire Council, Outer and Inner House, for petitioner
Park of Keir Public Local Inquiry (Judy Murray Tennis Academy), for objectors
Creggan and Blary Hill wind farms Public Local Inquiry, for local authority
Henderson v RBS, Employment Tribunal via FLSU for claimant
Singh v Glasgow City Council, judicial review for petitioner
Forbes v FM Developments (in Administration), Commercial Court
Turner v Grosvenor Casinos, Employment Tribunal, for respondent