

# Public Sector Legal Services Framework

REF: CPC/DU/LS/03

## Birketts Public Sector Team

**Our Public Sector team lawyers understand that those working in the Public Sector are subject to increasing levels of scrutiny and pressure to ensure their decisions and actions are defensible, procedurally compliant and in conformity with current policy.**

The Public Sector has experienced significant change in recent years, additional regulation (both national and European), greater transparency and accountability and has developed new partnerships for service delivery. In tough financial times, the drive towards greater efficiency and effectiveness within available funding is ever more critical.

## Our approach

Birketts Public Sector team comprises lawyers with specific sector knowledge who deliver practical, commercial and clear advice within the context of the political and regulatory environment in which our clients operate. We aim to be innovative and find the flexibility for our clients to achieve their objectives within the constraints in their field. A number of our team have worked within the Public Sector previously and, therefore, appreciate the particular support that in-house counsel and instructing officers need.

## Our work and our clients

Birketts acts for clients across the entirety of the Public Sector (as well as for companies contracting with those in the sector). We offer complete legal support to our clients including:



## Profile On:

### Our Public Law Litigation and Advisory Group

Public bodies or increasingly, private sector organisations performing public functions, are obliged to act in accordance with high standards of public administration and any departure from such standard could be unlawful as a matter of public law.

Birketts Public Law Litigation and Advisory Group advises both public bodies on disputes and private companies on their interactions with public bodies when a potential breach of public law principles has been called into question. Our lawyers advise on:

- Public law advice and representation in the context of Judicial Reviews for Claimants, Defendants or Intervening Third Parties;
- Judicial challenges to planning decisions;
- Advising on procurement procedures and how to bring, or avoid statutory challenges;
- General Public Law Advisory and Regulatory work.

We advise in all areas but our specialist sectors include:

- Health;
- Planning and Environmental;
- Procurement;
- Education;
- Transport;
- Local and Central Government.

For a discussion as to how we can help you and your organisation, please contact:

## Key Contact



**Erika Clarke**  
**Head of Public Sector**

+44 (0)1603 756525  
erika-clarke@birketts.co.uk

Erika, a senior commercial lawyer, heads our Public Sector team. She is a specialist in public procurement, major projects (including accommodation based PPPs and ICT procurements), outsourcings, joint ventures and significant commercial contracts across a range of sectors, acting for both private providers and public bodies. Erika has acted for central government departments and agencies, and many local authorities. She is a specialist in the Health sector having acted for commissioners and providers in the NHS (including CCGs, acute trusts, mental health trusts and primary care providers). Erika also is experienced in advising HE and FE institutions, academies and schools.