



SIX PUMP COURT

London Chambers
6 Pump Court
Temple
London, EC4Y 7AR
T 020 7797 8400
F 020 7797 8401
DX 293 LDE
E clerks@6PumpCourt.co.uk

Maidstone Annexe
6-8 Mill Street
Maidstone
Kent, ME15 6HX
T 01622 688094/5
F 01622 688096
DX 51967 Maidstone 2
E annexe@6PumpCourt.co.uk



Stephen Hockman QC

Year of Call: 1970
Year of Silk: 1990
Appointments: Deputy High Court Judge
Recommendations: Chambers and Partners (2009), Environmental Law

Practice groups

[Civil & Commercial Law](#)
[Criminal Law](#)
[Public, Planning & Environmental Law](#)
[Regulatory Law](#)

Education

MA (Cantab)

Memberships

Bar of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court

Profile

Stephen Hockman QC was born in Manchester in 1947. He was educated at Eltham College and Jesus College, Cambridge and called to the Bar by the Middle Temple in 1970. He took Silk in 1990, became Head of Chambers at 6 Pump Court in 1997, and was the Chairman of the Bar in 2006. He is also a Deputy High Court Judge, a Master of the Bench of the Middle Temple, and a Visiting Professor of Law at the City University.

He is a former member of the Council of English Nature, now Natural England, the statutory body charged with nature conservation. He is now a member of the Secretary of State for Defence's Advisory Group on the Environment."

In the voluntary sector, he is immediate past Chairman of the Environmental Law Foundation, and a trustee of ClientEarth and of Advocates for International Development.

Stephen Hockman QC's practice focuses on regulatory, environmental and health and safety law.

He led the challenge in the House of Lords, based on the European Convention on Human Rights, against the role of the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions in determining planning cases.

He appeared for the claimant in *Marcic v. Thames Water*, the leading case on the liability of public authorities for the tort of nuisance.

Other prominent cases have included:

- ⚡ Appeared for London Borough of Lambeth opposing a large multi use redevelopment opposite St Thomas' Hospital.
- ⚡ Appearing for the Conoco Philips in relation to the Humber Oil Refinery explosion.
- ⚡ Advising one of the world's leading oil companies on the regulatory consequences of the Buncefield Terminal explosion.
- ⚡ Advising and representing the defence in relation to charges arising out of fatalities at the workplace, eg railways, construction sites etc.
- ⚡ Appearing for various major industrial concerns in respect of operational requirements imposed by regulators.

❖ Challenging the adverse ecological impact of the grant of planning permission for housing – clarifying when under European law an appropriate environmental assessment is required.

❖ Challenging in the High Court of the British Virgin Islands (on grounds of predetermination) the grant of planning permission for the development of a major new leisure project.

❖ Challenging in the Hong Kong Supreme Court the designation of part of the New Territory for conservation purposes.

❖ Appearing for the successful complainants in the Alton Towers noise nuisance action.

He has made a special study of the law relating to climate change, on which he speaks regularly, and is working on a proposal for an International Court for the Environment (ICE).

Chambers' Guide to the Legal Profession (2009) confirms that he has "*... the firmest of grips on the tiller when handling his cases*" and is "*a very pleasant individual to deal with*". According to the Legal 500 Guide, he is "*quick at mastering complex briefs and has an acute perception of the mind of the court*".