



ROSS BEATON

Year of call
2013

Ross Beaton specialises in personal injury, clinical negligence and inquests.

Ross also acts in commercial matters and in employment disputes. In addition to his busy paperwork practice, he is regularly instructed to act in trials and applications in Courts across England.

He has experience of working on large scale matters as part of a team. In 2019, he was instructed as a junior on the Undercover Policing Inquiry for the Metropolitan Police.

Outside his work in chambers, Ross is a trustee of the Brixton Advice Centre. Since becoming a barrister, Ross has been committed to pro bono work with various charities and third sector organisations and to using his legal skills to help disadvantaged people

LEGAL EXPERTISE

Clinical Negligence

Ross is an experienced clinical negligence practitioner, having been practising in this area since pupillage and having undertaken a period of secondment with a specialist solicitor, working on claims worth over £1 million. He now has a busy Court and paperwork practice and mainly acts for Claimants.

Ross has a particular interest in Fatal Accident claims, including those arising out of his inquest practice where he frequently acts for bereaved families.

Recent instructions include a number of matters concerning inadequate care provided to elderly people resulting in premature death, delayed diagnosis of cancer, mismanagement of complex urological conditions, negligent orthopaedic surgery, lack of consent in cosmetic surgery, and mismanagement of complex psychiatric conditions leading to suicide.

Selected Cases

Settling a dependency claim for family members following a suicide in a mental health unit, where he had also acted during the inquest.

Drafting Particulars and advising on quantum for a Claimant who had suffered the consequences of incompetent placement of a feeding tube.

Drafting Particulars for a Claimant who had suffered life-changing injuries as a result of poor setting of a fracture.

Drafting Particulars for Claimants suffering the consequences of delayed diagnosis of cancer.

Assisting with the drafting of Schedules of Loss in high value adult brain injury and cerebral palsy cases (on secondment as in house counsel).

Personal Injury

Ross has experience of a broad range of personal injury matters, acting for both Claimants and Defendants. His experience ranges from regular appearances in fast track trials and at case management conferences to multi-day trials on the multi-track. He is available to draft statements of case and advise on the merits and quantum of claims at all levels. He accepts instructions on a CFA basis in appropriate cases.

Ross is regularly instructed in fast-track trials as well as in interim applications and case management matters. He has been appearing on a regular basis for Claimants and Defendants in road traffic matters since 2014, and has successfully represented Claimants faced with allegations of fraud and fundamental dishonesty on numerous occasions.

His work covers a wide variety of personal injury matters, including road traffic accidents, Highways Act claims, fatal accident claims, and employers' and public liability claims.

Inquests & Inquiries

Ross has appeared as counsel, in most cases for the family of the deceased, at numerous inquests across the country. He also has experience of assisting, in a junior capacity, with larger scale inquests running over a number of weeks and attracting public attention.

Selected Cases

Inquest into the death of SS (2017)

2 day inquest into the death of a mental health patient being looked after in the community, resulting in the Coroner making a Report to Prevent Future Deaths.

Inquest into the death of Scott Dobson (2015)

A two week jury inquest into the death of a safety supervisor undertaking work on a railway line. Ross was sole counsel for the family. This matter received extensive press coverage.

Inquest into the death of AL (2014)

2 day Article 2 inquest into the death of a psychiatric patient in a mental health unit.

Court of Protection

Ross is a specialist in clinical negligence and personal injury, with experience of acting for family members of deceased psychiatric patients in Coroners' inquests. He has experience of dealing with complex expert evidence in brain injury cases involving both adults and children where the claimants lacked capacity. He has also previously represented parents in SEN appeals before the First Tier Tribunal.

Consumer Contract Work

Ross has been instructed in a number of consumer claims arising out of the installation of cavity wall insulation material in homes where this was unsuitable.

He has also been involved in disputes between students and universities, for Claimants and Defendants, concerning withdrawal from courses, unpaid fees, and complex complaints by overseas students concerning their universities' obligations to support their UK visa status. He has also represented parents in disputes about their obligation to pay independent school fees and the allegedly inadequate quality of the education provided.

Employment

Ross mainly acts in claims involving inadequate support for employees suffering from stress at work. He has also acted in a number of cases involving claims under the Protection from Harassment Act 1997 for sexual harassment in the workplace. Where such claims are brought in the civil Courts, Ross is willing to consider acting under a CFA in appropriate cases.

Memberships

- ALBA
- APIL
- INQUEST
- PIBA
- Inner Temple