

Rhian Mitchell

+447871 835679 | rhianmitchell242@hotmail.co.uk | <http://uk.linkedin.com/in/rhianmitchell242>

Profile

Qualified solicitor with 5 years' experience handling complex criminal law cases. Currently completing Master's in Public Administration at the London School of Economics (graduating 2026). Seeking a public policy role leveraging legal expertise and policy training to influence UK government policy, particularly in criminal justice, social welfare, and equality.

Education

The London School of Economics & Political Science

2024 - 2026

Master's in Public Administration (Expected Distinction)

- Two-year programme developing professional-level policy-making skills
- Specialised in social policy, focusing on understanding social disadvantage, gender equality and European welfare states
- Second year courses covered advanced analysis of public and social welfare policy
- 10,000-word dissertation: Comparative analysis of European welfare state models
- 'Capstone' project working with Serco to deliver recommendations for £34M extension of HMP Thameside to ensure inmate welfare and transition to meaningful employment on release

BPP University

2018 - 2019

Legal Practice Course (Pass); Professional Skills Course (Pass)

The University of Warwick

2015 - 2018

LLB (Law) - First Class Honours

Work History

Kingsley Napley, London

2021 - 2024

Criminal Associate/Solicitor

- Promoted from Solicitor to Associate in 2023

Bindmans LLP, London

2019 - 2021

Trainee Solicitor

- Rotated around various practice areas to complete training period. Specialised in criminal cases from 2020

Key Skills

Analytical Skills

Academic:

- Analysed data relating to the 'Healthy Prison Tests' as part of Serco capstone project, evaluating performance metrics across four key areas: safety, respect, purposeful activity and rehabilitation
- Dissertation involved extensive literature review of over 30 white papers, parliamentary bills and peer-reviewed journal articles on European welfare systems

Employment:

- Reviewed case histories and legal precedents for all cases at Bindmans and Kingsley Napley
- Successfully researched history of civil claims for compensation for prisoners subject to unlawful acts, including several cases of discrimination. Research used in major case *Davis v HMP Wandsworth* resulting in successful £20,000 compensation claim

Project Management & Delivering Results

Academic:

- Delivered research report and set of 15 policy recommendations ahead of scheduled deadline to assist Serco with £34M extension of HMP Thameside as part of LSE capstone project
- Managed research timeline and coordinated with team members to ensure all deliverables met client specifications

Employment:

- Engaged in end-to-end autonomous case management at both Kingsley Napley and Bindmans, managing multiple complex cases simultaneously
- Collaborated with team of 3 other solicitors at Bindmans to represent group of prisoners with applications at the European Court of Human Rights arising from their ban on voting in general elections

Problem Solving

Academic:

- Overcame loss of team member during capstone project by suggesting new division of team's tasks. Resulted in project delivered ahead of schedule

Employment:

- Resolved complex legal issues with numerous clients' cases at Bindmans and Kingsley Napley
- Supervised team of 5 paralegals at Kingsley Napley acting in high-profile judicial review (*Peters v HMP Ashfield*), a complex case requiring careful decision-making at each stage

Working in a Fast-Paced Environment

Employment:

- As solicitor at Kingsley Napley, often ran over 50 matters simultaneously, developing strong time-management and prioritisation skills
- Notable case: *Roberts v HMP Whitemoor* at Kingsley Napley where I acted for client to challenge unlawful prison policies. Case involved frequent court appearances and required quick thinking to ensure all parties had correct documentation

Communication & Influence

Academic:

- Liaised with Serco clients as part of LSE capstone project. Presented recommendations to senior managers, resulting in prize for best MPA project
- Developed policy briefings and presentations for diverse audiences including academics and practitioners

Employment:

- Advised clients in professional, sensitive and confidential manner on complex legal matters
- Guided journalist facing legal action as part of phone hacking litigation. Parties settled shortly before trial

Technical Skills

- Proficient in all Microsoft Office programmes: Access, Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook
- Experienced user of SPSS and Stata for quantitative data analysis
- Competent user of legal document review programmes and HarveyAI
- Full United Kingdom driving licence

References

Available on request.