temple garden chambers



Stephen Tawiah

Call 2014

clerks@tgchambers.com

+44 (0)20 7583 1315

Stephen Tawiah has developed a practice across the full breadth of public law. Stephen is equally experienced acting for and against public bodies, having represented individuals, government departments, local authorities and other public agencies. Stephen was appointed to the Attorney General's C Panel in September 2025.

Stephen has particular expertise in human rights law, immigration law, national security, prison law, information rights, and regulatory law. He also acts and advises in damages claims against public bodies.

Expertise

Public Law

Stephen's public law practice primarily straddles national security, immigration and asylum, unlawful detention and prison law. He is regularly instructed in complex judicial review claims at all levels.

Immigration, Asylum and Unlawful Detention

Stephen acts in all areas of immigration and asylum, and he regularly appears in the Upper Tribunal and High Court on matters relating to deportation; asylum; human rights; and citizenship. Stephen is also experienced in unlawful detention claims

A significant part of Stephen's practice lies at the intersection of immigration and asylum and public law. Stephen regularly acts in judicial review challenges to age assessment disputes and judicial review claims concerning asylum accommodation and support.

Some of Stephen's recent cases include:

- *R (on the application of NXP and NAN) v Secretary of State for the Home Department* [2026] UKUT 00192: Stephen appeared for the SSHD in this reported Upper Tribunal decision addressing two issues of general importance arising from challenges to age assessments conducted under the National Age Assessment Board. The Tribunal determined that challenges to age assessment decisions made by a "designated person" under sections 50 and 51 of the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 must be

London Office:
1 Harcourt Buildings
Temple
London EC4Y 9DA

T: +44 (0)20 7583 1315
E: clerks@tgchambers.com
DX: 382 London Chancery Lane

The Hague Office:
Lange Voorhout 82
2514 EJ The Hague
Netherlands

T: +44 (0)20 7583 1315
E: clerks@tgchambers.com

brought in the Upper Tribunal rather than the Administrative Court, and that the appropriate respondent to any such challenge is the Secretary of State rather than NAAB or any alternative nomenclature.
- *R (on the application of Maha Zahid) v Secretary of State for the Home Department* [2026] JR-2025-LON-001902: Stephen appeared for the Secretary of State in this judicial review before the Upper Tribunal concerning the operation of section 3C of the Immigration Act 1971 in the context of fee waiver applications. The Tribunal dismissed the claim on all grounds, accepting the SSHD's submissions that the temporary protection afforded by a fee waiver request is nullified where an applicant subsequently makes a paid application under a different route, and that the SSHD's fee waiver guidance was neither misleading nor unlawful.

Prison Law

Stephen regularly appears on behalf of Claimants in prison law challenges in the High Court against the Parole Board and/or Secretary of State for Justice. His prison law practice includes challenges to categorisation and refusals to grant oral hearings. Stephen has also represented Claimants in the County Court in Equality Act and/or human rights challenges against the prison service.

Notable cases include:

- *Ahmad Shah, R (on the application of) v Secretary of State for Justice [2024] EWHC 682 (Admin):* challenging the Secretary of State for Justice's decision to conclude a Category A review without conducting an oral hearing, on the basis that the decision did not comply with published policy and was procedurally unfair.
- *Ivan Catley, R (on the application of) v Secretary of State for Justice [2025] EWHC 1507 (Admin): challenging the* Secretary of State for Justice's rejection of the Parole Board's recommendation that the Claimant should be transferred to an open prison on the basis that the decision was inadequately reasoned and irrational.

National Security

Stephen is also developing a specialism in cases involving national security. He has recently been instructed in a case before the Investigatory Powers Tribunal which raises issues as to the Secretary of State's powers to make Technical Capability Notices under the Investigatory Powers Act 2016. Stephen has also been instructed in litigation relating to TPIMs and claims for damages in connection with alleged torture.

Inquiries

Stephen has substantial experience in high-profile public inquiries and has experience working on behalf of inquiry legal teams and core participants. Stephen is currently instructed on the Independent Inquiry into Afghanistan on behalf of the Royal Military Police.

He was previously instructed as Junior Counsel for the Department of Health and Social Care on the Infected Blood Inquiry. He was also instructed as junior counsel for the Inquiry Legal Team on the Undercover Policing Inquiry and Post Office Horizon Inquiry.

London Office:
1 Harcourt Buildings
Temple
London EC4Y 9DA

T: +44 (0)20 7583 1315
E: clerks@tgchambers.com
DX: 382 London Chancery Lane

The Hague Office:
Lange Voorhout 82
2514 EJ The Hague
Netherlands

T: +44 (0)20 7583 1315
E: clerks@tgchambers.com

Professional Discipline

Stephen has an interest in all matters relating to regulatory and disciplinary law. Stephen acts for both regulatory bodies and regulated professionals.

Stephen continues to be instructed by numerous regulators, including the Health and Care Professions Council ('HCPC'), the Nursing and Midwifery Council ('NMC') and General Pharmaceutical Council ('GPC'). Stephen has extensive experience of interim order hearings, review hearings, and multi-day substantive hearings. Stephen also has experience in the handling of vulnerable witnesses.

Stephen's recent cases include:

- Acting for a healthcare professional in claim for Judicial Review against her regulator.
- Acting for a regulator in allegations of sexual misconduct against the registrant.
- Acting for a regulator in allegations of racial misconduct against the registrant

Appointments

- Attorney General's Panel – C panel

Education

- **LLM Public Law (Distinction), University College London (2020)**
- BPTC (Very Competent), City Law School (2014)
- LLB Law, Coventry University (2013)

Memberships

- Administrative Law Bar Association (ALBA)
- Immigration Law Practitioners' Association (ILPA)

Publications

A Practical Guide to Asylum Support and Judicial Review (Law Brief Publishing, 2025)

London Office:
1 Harcourt Buildings
Temple
London EC4Y 9DA

T: +44 (0)20 7583 1315
E: clerks@tgchambers.com
DX: 382 London Chancery Lane

The Hague Office:
Lange Voorhout 82
2514 EJ The Hague
Netherlands

T: +44 (0)20 7583 1315
E: clerks@tgchambers.com