



John Bates



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Profile

John mainly practices in environmental law, being one of the first members of the Bar to specialise in the area. He has written extensively on this broad and specialist subject; His first book was 'UK Marine Environmental Law' which was followed by 'UK Waste Law' and the loose leaf work 'Water and Drainage Law', he is also co-author of 'Liability for Environmental Harm' (along with former members of Old Square Chambers, Charles Pugh and William Birtles).

John compiled the Fact Sheets on Environmental Access to Justice Rules in the EU Member States for the European e-Justice Portal.

□ John is experienced in civil litigation in the Technology and Construction Court as well as more generally. He does some criminal work - both prosecution and defence - and judicial review.

John advises on Town and Country Planning matters and is a member of the Planning and Environment Bar Association and he was Chairman of the UK Environmental Law Association 1991-3.

John Bates has **"a fantastic command of domestic environmental law,"** and maintains a particularly good track record in matters concerning water law, waste management, air contamination and pollution issues. His recent work has included acting in *Dobson v. Thames Water*, a group litigation concerning 1,000 plus residents who have brought an odour nuisance claim against Thames Water in connection with a sewage treatment works - *Chambers & Partners* 2012.

John Bates is **"very thorough and unrivalled in his attention to detail"**, according to one client. He has an impressive grasp of water law, air contamination issues, waste management and pollution. Recent work highlights include his representation of more than 1,000 residents in London claiming for odour and mosquito nuisance from a sewage treatment works - *Chambers & Partners* 2010.

John Bates is deemed **"highly learned"** in the water law field, and clients especially value his in-depth written opinions. He recently acted for the Mayor of London over a waste management strategy challenge. A **"well-rounded barrister"**, his areas of expertise also extend to contaminated land, nature conservation issues and nuisance claims - *Chambers & Partners* 2009

John Bates is **'first choice'** for complex water law issues, where he is considered **'a true expert in his field'** - *Legal 500* 2012

Old Square Chambers houses leading junior John Bates, who provides **'advice that is practical and of the highest quality'** - *Legal 500* 2009