

Rebecca Harrington

Call: 2004

'Rebecca is knowledgeable, authoritative and particularly good with difficult litigants in person.'

Legal 500 2026



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Rebecca Harrington's expertise includes Family Finance, Community Care, and Court of Protection work. She is widely respected for her clarity, precision, and balanced, client-focused, advice.

Rebecca heads the Court of Protection team at 30 Park Place and is regularly instructed by public bodies, protected parties, and family members in complex health and welfare proceedings. Her practice spans serious medical treatment cases, capacity challenges, deprivation of liberty applications and contact disputes. She also deals with property and affairs matters, including contested deputyships and cases where financial and welfare issues intersect.

Rebecca's public and administrative law practice centres on advising local authorities and health boards, particularly in the areas of community care, healthcare provision, and policy development and implementation. She is frequently called upon to advise on matters involving the interaction between English and Welsh legislation, ordinary residence disputes, and local authority charging powers.

In family finance, Rebecca acts in high-value and complex asset cases, including those involving business interests, non-disclosure, or personal injury awards. She also handles cohabitee disputes, especially those involving multiple properties or third-party claims. With a background in mathematics, she brings a clear and analytical approach to financial litigation and is skilled at identifying the gaps in the evidence.

Her practice also includes contentious probate work, including Inheritance Act claims and disputes involving undue influence or will validity.

She provides regular training to professionals in all areas of her expertise.

Expertise

Business, Property & Chancery

Rebecca advises and acts in contentious probate matters, including both Inheritance Act claims and disputes over the validity or interpretation of wills. She is experienced in cases involving undue influence, duress, and complex family dynamics. Her chancery work often overlaps with her family finance and Court of Protection expertise and she is skilled in utilising ADR to resolve disputes outside the court arena.

Cohabitee & Matrimonial Finance

Rebecca handles a wide range of family finance disputes, from high-value matrimonial claims to complex cohabitee disputes involving businesses and multiple properties. She uses her mathematics background to analyse financial detail and supports clients in reaching practical, proportionate outcomes, often through ADR.

Rebecca is also available to act as the 'judge' in private FDR's calling her extensive judicial experience.

Court of Protection & Community Care

As Head of the Court of Protection team, Rebecca undertakes complex health and welfare cases, including medical treatment, contested capacity, and deprivation of liberty. She also handles property and affairs disputes, often those that overlap with welfare matters.

Her cross-disciplinary expertise includes community care, and funding disputes and she has dealt with several cases which have proceeded simultaneously as judicial review and Court of Protection proceedings.

Public & Administrative Law

Rebecca advises local authorities and health boards on community care and healthcare provision with particular expertise in ordinary residence and funding disputes, including those with cross-border elements.

She acts in judicial review claims but is also frequently instructed to advise generally at an institutional level to allow public bodies to develop policies consistent with the legislative frameworks.

Her practical, accurate advice helps public bodies navigate complex statutory duties, avoid unlawful decision-making and resolve disputes proportionately.

Appointments

- Recorder (Civil)

Education

- BVC (Outstanding), Cardiff University (2004)
- PgDip Law, UWE (2003)
- PGCE, Nottingham University (2001)
- BSc (Hons) Mathematics (2:1), Warwick University (2000)

Memberships

- Family Law Bar Association
- Court of Protection Bar Association

Notable and reported cases

- Acted for a public body in an emergency out of hours application, listed simultaneously in the High Court and the Court of Protection, due to a jurisdictional impasse between clinicians as to whether the Mental Health Act, or the Mental Capacity Act, was the applicable statutory framework. Rebecca's meticulous analysis of the statutory regime allowed her to craft a solution which was accepted by the Court, breaking the impasse.
- Acted for the Wife in a long-running matrimonial finance case where the Husband's behaviour combined wanton dissipation of the assets and deliberate non-disclosure and attempts to mislead the Court. Rebecca's forensic analysis of the documents, and documents available in the public domain, allowed her to prove the Husband's behaviour, obtain injunctive relief and to obtain for her client all remaining assets.
- Advised a Welsh local authority in relation to an ordinary residence dispute with an English authority where the claim value exceeded £1,000,000. The dispute spanned more than 20 years, encompassing multiple placement moves. Rebecca advised as to the legal framework in place at each stage, the gaps in the record keeping and tactics for defending the claim and, ultimately, succeeded in resolving matters without her client making any substantive payment.

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