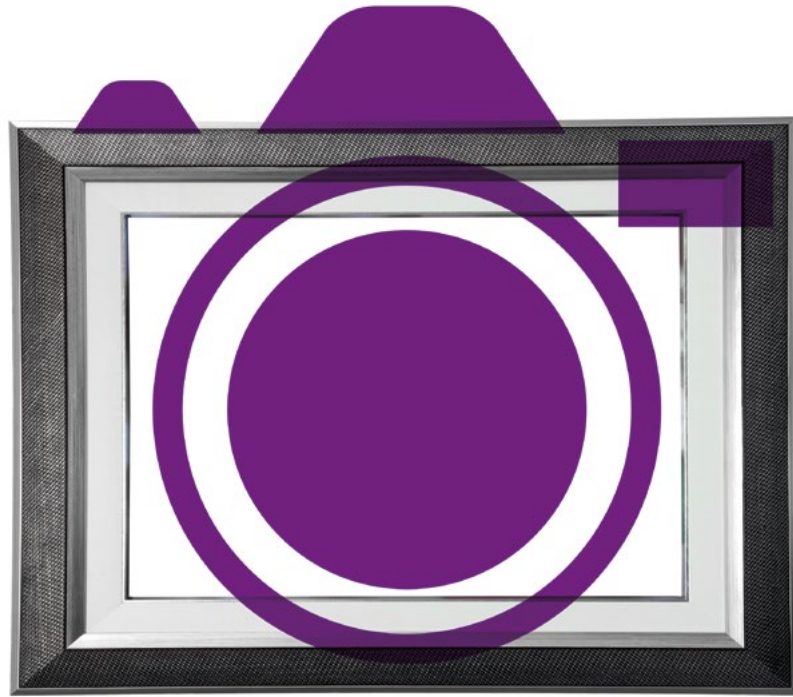


EVERSHEDS
SUTHERLAND



**Helping you see
the bigger picture**

Our Inquiries and
Investigations team

Helping you see the bigger picture
Our Inquiries and Investigations team

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How we can help

We are a dedicated team of lawyers, experienced in managing all aspects of high profile and sensitive inquiries and investigations on a day-to-day basis, from start to finish. We are proud to be the longest established Inquiries and Investigations team in the UK and part of international law firm Eversheds Sutherland, voted Law Firm of the Year at the Legal Business Awards 2020.

The Eversheds Sutherland Inquiries and Investigations team (the "I&I team") was established in the 1990s to undertake both statutory and non-statutory inquiry related work. Eversheds Sutherland was the first and only law firm to establish a dedicated team of this kind in the UK. The I&I team has been involved in inquiry work ever since and provided input and evidence on the drafting of the Inquiries Act 2005 and the Inquiry Rules 2006. We have acted for a number of high profile public inquiries, by providing Solicitors to the Inquiry, providing a team answerable to a Solicitor to an Inquiry, or by acting for Core Participants.

Our past roles have included undertaking all aspects of an inquiry's work from the outset, in establishing an inquiry, to the end, including archiving and concluding the inquiry's terms of reference and making the eventual report public.

Our work for Core Participants to inquiries also includes conducting internal reviews or investigations in preparation for an inquiry. Our experience from 'both sides' of an inquiry has proved to be hugely beneficial to our work; we are able to anticipate in advance the challenges that might

arise, understand the key drivers for an approach that a Core Participant may be taking, and develop strategies for dealing with potential issues to ensure they do not escalate into a more significant problem.

Our Inquiries and Investigations team can mobilise dedicated resource on a scale to suit your needs (small or large) and at speed. The team will undertake all aspects of an inquiry's work to include document collation, review and analysis; witness interviews and preparing witness statements; and project management.

Our investigations experience includes conducting and supporting independent internal investigations into issues of a sensitive nature for public authorities, corporate entities and health bodies. Our lawyers have worked on investigations on topics ranging from financial overspend, abuse of power, to policing and child abuse.

We are easily able to work in a COVID-secure manner, with remote working in place and excellent technological solutions.



Our experience

We have been appointed to act on a number of high profile inquiries and investigations, either as Solicitors to the Inquiry or acting on behalf of Core Participants. Our experience includes:

**Click to reveal
experience**





Why work with us?



A wealth of experience in public inquiries and investigations into any subject matter – we know the pitfalls, issues and concerns of being involved or implicated in an inquiry.



Market leading – authors of **“The Practical Guide to Public Inquiries”** which provides guidance to legal practitioners, participants, witnesses and all those with an interest in public inquiries.



Managing sensitive information – experienced in dealing with sensitive (and even classified) information, as well as navigating data protection, freedom of information and confidentiality issues, including the procedures for redaction and associated pitfalls.



Managing reputations – experienced in managing media and communications strategies when acting on behalf of the inquiry or Core Participants and managing and influencing press attention.



Delivering value – our considerable experience means that we have encountered most problems before, and therefore hope to deal with any challenges that arise economically. Our fees have been regularly tested in tenders.



Technology – we have in house document review platforms, case management solutions and collaboration platforms that assist in progressing work and at speed. We also have experience of working on most document review platforms in the market. The team uses technology to conduct remote witness interviews.



Project management – we have significant experience in preparing and managing complex project plans and associated budgets and resourcing to ensure that whatever the size of the investigation, it progresses smoothly and with a transparent budget.



Flexible Resource – we are an experienced team who are well versed in working flexibly, whether that is working remotely or onsite at client premises or in the locality of where an incident occurred.



What our clients say



The Eversheds Sutherland Public Inquiry team, now led by the outstanding Sarah Jones, with formidable support from Isabelle Mitchell, Angharad Hurle and Anna Senter, is the leading firm in their field. Their range of depth of experience is unrivalled and their current involvement in all of the main inquiries of the day, including IICSA and Grenfell Tower, amply bears this out.

Legal 500, 2020



Peter Jones is widely viewed as a “doyen of public inquiries” by sources because “he is probably the most experienced practitioner in the field in the UK. He’s eloquent and passionate about the subject and he’s a walking encyclopaedia.

Chambers and Partners 2019



Sarah Jones is very bright, very strategic and has a clear sense of direction. She has the ability to project and to inspire confidence in clients, fellow professionals and the public alike.

Legal 500, 2020



Eversheds Sutherland possess unrivalled knowledge, expertise and experience when it comes to advising on local government issues. They get to grips with the issues so quickly and effectively, and always provide helpful and practical solutions.

Legal 500, 2020



Helping you see the bigger picture
Our Inquiries and Investigations team

The team



Please click any head shot to learn more



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