

Plenary 4 – Climate Litigation, the past, present and future – Speaker Biographies

Rt Hon Lord Justice Keith Lindblom was appointed Lord Justice of Appeal in November 2015. He became a High Court judge in October 2010. In January 2013 he was appointed President of the Upper Tribunal (Lands Chamber), and in April 2014 the first Planning Liaison Judge – the lead judge of the then newly formed Planning Court. In April 2018 he was appointed Vice-President of the Unified Tribunals and President of the Upper Tribunal (Administrative Appeals Chamber). He became a Patron of UKELA in July 2017, and in the same month he was made an Honorary Fellow of St John's College, Oxford. At the Bar he practised mainly in the law relating to planning, the environment, local government, and compulsory purchase and compensation. He was a founding member, and is now an Honorary Member, of the Planning and Environmental Bar Association. As a High Court judge, he sat mostly in the Administrative Court and latterly the Planning Court. In the Court of Appeal, he is the Supervising Lord Justice for Planning and Environmental law.

Dr Kim Bower joined Exeter Law school as a Lecturer in Law (Education & Research) in November 2019. She was previously a Max Weber Fellow at the European University Institute (Florence), a Lecturer at the University of Strathclyde (Glasgow), and a Teaching Fellow at UCL (London and Adelaide). Kim is also qualified as an attorney and solicitor and worked as a claimant public interest lawyer in London and Johannesburg. Kim's research interests include climate law - with a particular interest in climate litigation - energy and environmental law, human rights, and private law. She has published several highly praised articles, particularly in the field of climate litigation. Kim is currently working on a monograph about climate litigation, under contract with Cambridge University Press.

Vanessa Havard-Williams is leader of Linklaters' global environmental and climate change practice, co-ordinator of its firmwide ESG practice, and a founding partner in our Risk and Resilience and Crisis Management team. She is recognized as an expert in the areas of human rights, environmental law and governance, her breadth of experience in compliance and crisis management and the ability to help clients deal with complex issues. Current work includes helping financial institutions to engage with incoming regulation on sustainable finance and prudential climate requirements, helping corporates to develop climate transition plans and engage with their shareholders on these, and to build their climate disclosures, and supporting clients with issues relating to governance, board effectiveness and managing sustainability issues including in the supply chain. She is a Member of the Export Credit Advisory Group to UK Export Finance and an Advisory Board member for the Oxford University MSc in Law and Finance.

Samantha Atukunda K. Mwesigwa is a lawyer from Uganda. She runs a private practice law firm based in Kampala Uganda. She is also the director and legal counsel of Greenwatch. Greenwatch is an environmental law advocacy NGO established in 1995. Greenwatch has spearheaded many public interest environment litigation cases that have contributed to the environmental law jurisprudence in Uganda. Before she joined Greenwatch as director and legal counsel Samantha, worked at the Centre for Environmental Rights in Cape Town South Africa. She holds a Masters of Laws in Environment and Natural Resources from the University of Oregon.