

Ruth Keating – Barrister 39 Essex Chambers. Ruth acts in and advises on a variety of environmental law cases, including those brought by campaigning groups.

She recently lectured on an MSc course on environmental campaigning, is an editor of the Sweet & Maxwell Environmental Law Bulletins and has co-authored, with Nigel Fleming QC, the chapter on Climate Change Litigation in the UK in the forthcoming book 'Climate Change Litigation: Global Perspectives'.

She was previously a researcher at the Law Commission and a Judicial Assistant to Lady Arden and Lord Kitchin at the Supreme Court.

Melanie Strickland is a community activist and campaigner. She has taken part in various high profile direct actions for climate and social justice, including peacefully stopping a deportation flight in 2017. 11 people remain in the country as a result, including parents of dependent children and trafficking survivors. The 'Stansted 15' were subsequently convicted with a terror-related offence, which was quashed earlier this year. Melanie also took part in direct action against the climate crime of expanding Heathrow Airport in 2015, avoiding prison following a huge campaign in 2016.

Melanie is also a practising solicitor of 12 years. In her free time, she volunteers at gardens and food redistribution projects.