

Robert Gardener

Director of Government Affairs

London

Biography

Robert Gardener is a former Civil Servant in the Cabinet Office, Director in the Government of Abu Dhabi, and senior adviser to global corporations, governments and not-for-profit organisations. Robert draws on his experience of both sides of the table to develop strategic and practical approaches towards engaging at the heart of public policy making.

Robert advises organisations on how best to understand relevant policy areas and political perspectives of the British Government and foreign governments, and how to contribute to policy making most effectively. Clients draw on his inside-experience to gain a perspective on the parts of government really driving particular policy areas, the key influences and connections to consider, and how meaningful strategic partnerships with governments in the UK and abroad can help to achieve the relevant policy goals. As part of this advisory work, Robert regularly works alongside lawyers to help provide clarity on regulatory environments, and to help inform current or perspective business decisions on which government policy may have an impact. That is why we are the only firm top-ranked by Chambers UK for both Administrative and Public Law and Public Affairs and by Legal 500 for Administrative and Public Law and Brexit. In addition, the team, led by Charles Brasted and



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Languages

English

Practices

Administrative and Public Law

Gaming Law

Government Relations and Public Affairs

Industries

Aerospace and Defense

Automotive

Consumer

Diversified Industrials

Robert Gardener won the Financial Times Innovative Lawyers Europe 2020 award for most innovative team for their new approach to Public Law and Government Affairs.

Robert is a regular speaker on public policy to officials within Whitehall departments and to visiting foreign government delegations. He has also given podcasts on Brexit, the emerging UK political landscape and the Government's response to COVID-19.

Representative experience

Advising Middle East leadership on cross-border strategic partnerships with international organisations, to maximise the contribution towards economic diversification.

Advising foreign governments, global corporations and not-for-profits on their UK engagement with ministers, senior officials and parliamentarians.

In-house experience in Private Office at Buckingham Palace and Government House Melbourne, the Office of The Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, the British Embassy in the UAE, and at the UN in New York.

Advising corporations on current UK government policy and the cross-party political appetite for any changes to that policy, to support due diligence ahead of prospective corporate activity.

Awards and rankings

- Administrative and Public Law (Tier 1), *Legal 500 UK*, 2021
- Winner of Innovative Team award, *Financial Times Innovative Lawyers Europe*, 2020
- Parliamentary and Public Affairs (Band 1), *Chambers UK*, 2020
- Administrative and Public Law (Band 1), *Chambers UK*, 2020

Education

Energy and Natural Resources

Financial Institutions

Insurance

Life Sciences and Health Care

Technology and Telecoms

Sports, Media & Entertainment

Areas of focus

Brexit

Foreign Government Representation

Judicial Review

Legislation

Pharmaceuticals and Biotechnology

UK Administrative Law

UK Parliamentary Affairs

Education and admissions

Education

LL.B. (Hons), Durham University

Accolades

"extensive government policy knowledge" - *Legal 500 UK*

"Outstanding public affairs team working at the forefront of regulatory and public law." - *Parliamentary & Public Affairs, Chambers and Partners UK*, 2020

Latest thinking and events

- News
 - Stubbing out duty free: understanding, engaging with and challenging UK Government decisions
- News
 - Proposed UK competition law reforms – ‘he ain’t heavy, he’s my micro-economic sibling’
- News
 - ‘Sending out an SMS’ – UK proposes powers for regulating digital markets
- Press Releases
 - Hogan Lovells comments on the UK Government's Subsidy Control Bill
- News
 - UK publishes Online Safety Bill: a new era in digital regulation
- News
 - UK National Security and Investment - now is the time to Act