

Alistair Mills

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Alistair Mills joined the Yong Pung How School of Law in 2026, having previously been the inaugural Dias College Assistant Professor in Law at Magdalene College, Cambridge, and an Affiliated Lecturer at the Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge. Before that, he was in private practice as a barrister at Landmark Chambers, in London. During that time, he was on the (UK) Attorney General's London Civil Panel of Counsel (C Panel, then B Panel).

Alistair's research focuses on administrative law. Recently, he has been focused on the role of courts in relation to administrative policies and guidance. He is interested in issues relating to planning law, and what can be learned from taking a context-sensitive approach to administrative law. His work has been published in journals including *Legal Studies*, *Public Law*, *Civil Justice Quarterly*, *The Journal of Environmental Law*, and *The Lloyd's Maritime and Commercial Law Quarterly*. His paper at the 2022 Society of Legal Scholars Annual Conference was shortlisted for the Best Paper Prize.

Alistair is Co-Editor of the journal *Judicial Review* and the Co-Editor (with David Blundell KC and Miranda Butler) of *The Law and Practice of Human Rights* (LexisNexis: 2025). He is an Assistant Editor of *The Encyclopedia of Planning Law and Practice* (Sweet & Maxwell). He is the author of *Interpreting the NPPF: The New National Planning Policy Framework* (Bath Publishing: 2018).

He is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, and enjoys teaching both public law and the law of contract. He won a number of prizes as a student, including the University of Oxford's Eldon Law Scholarship, a Bedingfield Scholarship from the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn, and the ECA Wade Prize in Administrative Law from the Cambridge Faculty of Law.

PREVIOUS WORK HISTORY

Magdalene College, Cambridge

Official Fellow and Dias College Assistant Professor in Law 2021-26

(Retitled from 'Dias College Lecturer in Law' in 2022)

Director of Studies in Law 2022-26

External College Lecturer in Law 2012-21

University of Cambridge

Affiliated Lecturer, Faculty of Law 2023-26

Senior Teaching Associate, Department of Land Economy 2023-24

Landmark Chambers

Member, Landmark Chambers 2013-21

Pupil barrister, Landmark Chambers 2011-13

SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS, PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS, RECOGNITION AND PRIZES

Fellowship of Higher Education Academy 2025

Shortlisted for Best Paper Prize, SLS Annual Conference 2022

Ranked for Planning in Legal 500 London Bar 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

Listed in *Planning Magazine* top planning barristers under 35 2019, 2020, 2021

Eldon Law Scholar, Oxford University 2011

Trinity Chambers Prize for Best Overall Performance on BPTC, Northumbria University (jointly awarded) 2011

Bedingfield Scholar, Gray's Inn 2010

AHRC Funding for BCL, Oxford University 2009

ECS Wade Prize in Administrative Law, Cambridge Faculty of Law 2008

Member of Administrative Law Bar Association, UK Environmental Law Association, Ecclesiastical Law Society, and Selden Society

BOOKS

The Law and Practice of Human Rights – David Blundell KC, Miranda Butler and Alistair Mills (LexisNexis, 2025)

A Practical Guide to Permitted Changes of Use, 4th edn – Martin Goodall, Alistair Mills, David Evans (contributing eds), (Bath Publishing, 2022)

Interpreting the NPPF: The New National Planning Policy Framework (Bath Publishing, 2018)

ARTICLES IN PEER REVIEWED / REFEREED JOURNALS

‘Time Limits for Challenging Administrative Policies and Guidance’ [2026] *Civil Justice Quarterly* 1

‘Committees Giving Reasons: Attribution and Sufficiency’ [2025] *Public Law* 124-144

‘Judgement and Judgments: The Role of Courts in Proportionality Challenges in the United Kingdom [2024] *European Human Rights Law Review* 374-391

‘Judicial Review Challenges to Secondary Legislation in England and Wales: Courting Controversy’ (2024) 45(1) *Statute Law Review* (12pp)

‘The Interpretation of Policies in Administrative Law: the Significance of Audience’ [2024] *Legal Studies* 295-312

‘Meeting Lofty Aspirations? English National Planning Policy, International Law, and Climate Change’ (2023) 13(3-4) *Climate Law* 163-187

‘The Interpretation of Planning Policy: The Role of the Court’ (2022) 34(3) *Journal of Environmental Law* 419-440

‘The Uncertain Future of *Walford v Miles*’ [2011] *Lloyd’s Maritime and Commercial Law Quarterly* 528-545 (with Rebecca Loveridge)

OTHER ARTICLES

‘Aspirations, Enforcement & remedies’ (2025) 175 8133 *New Law Journal* 9

‘Visibility of Processes and the Visibility of Justice’ [2025] *Judicial Review* 117

‘The Scottish Parliament, the Supreme Court, and an Independence Referendum?’ [2023] *Judicial Review* 43-60 (with Matthew Psycharis)

‘Themes in Recent Cases on Permitted Development Rights in Planning’ [2019] *Judicial Review* 296-314

‘The Environmental Civil Sanctions Regime’ [2019] *Judicial Review* 1-18

‘An Update on Consultation’ [2015] *Judicial Review* 160-170

‘Costs, Permission and Interested Parties’ [2014] *Judicial Review* 173-179

'The "Makes No Difference" Controversy' [2013] *Judicial Review* 124-133

BOOK CHAPTERS

'The Aftermath of Successful Planning Claims' in Dan Jasinski and Noel McGuirk (eds) *Citizens, the State and Justice* (Routledge, 2026)

'History and International Context of Human Rights Protection' (with Admas Habteslasie) in *The Law and Practice of Human Rights* – David Blundell KC, Miranda Butler and Alistair Mills (LexisNexis, 2025)

'Domestic Human Rights Practice' (with Richard Moules KC and Jacqueline Lean) in *The Law and Practice of Human Rights* – David Blundell KC, Miranda Butler and Alistair Mills (LexisNexis, 2025)

'Remedies and Damages' (with Galina Ward KC and Georgie Fenton) in *The Law and Practice of Human Rights* – David Blundell KC, Miranda Butler and Alistair Mills (LexisNexis, 2025)

'Public Health' in *NHS Law and Practice* – David Lock QC and Hannah Gibbs, eds (Legal Action Group, 2018)

Responsible for commentary in *The Encyclopedia of Planning Law and Practice* (Sweet & Maxwell, loose-leaf) regarding the National Planning Policy Framework, and neighbourhood planning

Contributing to chapters in *Garner's Environmental law* (LexisNexis, loose-leaf)

CASE NOTES AND BOOK REVIEWS

'Leaving Legislation to the Legislature' [2026] *Judicial Review* (online)

Review of *Administrative Law in Action: Immigration Administration*, Robert Thomas [2024] CLJ 608-611

'Administrative Law Principles in Context: Environmental Assessment Goes up in Flames' [2024] CLJ 401-404

Review of *Immigration Judicial Reviews: An Empirical Study*, Robert Thomas and Joe Tomlinson [2024] *Judicial Review* 138-144

'Undue Reticence on Undue Influence?' [2023] CLJ 21-24

Review of *Executive Decision-making and the Courts: Revisiting the Origins of Modern Judicial Review*, TT Arvind et al (eds) [2022] CLJ 433-436

'Friends of the Earth: At the Intersection of Environmental and Administrative Law?' (2021) 33(2) *Journal of Environmental Law* 461-465

Review of *The Anatomy of Administrative Law*, Joanna Bell [2021] CLJ 399-402

'Judicial Pushback – National Airports Policy Grounded' [2020] CLJ 208-211

Review of *Legitimate Expectations in the Common Law World*, Matthew Groves and Greg Weeks (eds) (2018) 134 LQR 334-337

Review of *Reconstructing Judicial Review*, Sarah Nason [2017] *Judicial Review* 326-328

Review of *The Fall of the Priests and the Rise of the Lawyers*, Philip Wood [2016] CLJ 644-646

'Awards by the Financial Services Ombudsman and subsequent litigation' (2014) 30 *Journal of Professional Negligence* 162-167

Review of *The Nature of Legislative Intent* by Richard Ekins (2014) 18(1) Edin LR 170-172

'Regina (Buckinghamshire County Council and others) v. Secretary of State for Transport' *Rev Euro Comp & Int Env Law*, 23: 275-280 (with James Maurici QC)

'The Requirement of an Oral Hearing in Judicial Review Claims' [2012] *Judicial Review* 326-329

Review of *God, Justice, and Society: Aspects of Law and Legality in the Bible*, Jonathan Burnside (2012) 16 Edin LR 470-472

'Lawyers Funding Litigation: A Costly Business' (2012) 28(2) *Journal of Professional Negligence* 134-136

'The fitness of the fitness to practise panel' (2011) 27 *Journal of Professional Negligence* 230-235

'Taking a (taxi) stand on legitimate expectations' (2011) 70 CLJ 287-289

SYMPOSIUM AND SPECIAL ISSUE

Co-organised the symposium, 'Seeing Justice Done', a partnership with University of Worcester Constitutions Rights and Justice Research Group, in December 2024, with Chris Monaghan.

Co-edited special issue of *Judicial Review* (2025), 'Justice Seen to be Done'.

IMPACT OF RESEARCH

'Costs, Permission and Interested Parties' [2014] *Judicial Review* 173 was cited by the UK Supreme Court in *CPRE Kent v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government* [2021] 1 WLR 4168.

My paper, 'Reconfiguration of NHS Services, Patient Engagement Duties on CCGs and NHS Trusts and the Role of Local Authorities' was cited in the UK House of Commons Library Briefing Paper No. 8105 'Reconfiguration of NHS services (England)', pp9-10.

REVIEWING

Reviewed for:

- *Oxford Journal of Legal Studies*
- *The Journal of Environmental Law*
- *European Human Rights Law Review*
- *Common Law World Review*

TALKS, SEMINARS, WEBINARS AND WORKSHOPS (NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST)

'Administrative Law: Context and Logic', May 2026, lunchtime seminar at Centre for Public Law, Cambridge Law Faculty

'The top human rights cases of the 2020s', October 2025, Landmark Chambers Human Rights Law Conference (with David Blundell KC and Miranda Butler)

'Conceptual Foundations of *Wednesbury* unreasonableness', April 2025, ICON-S Great Britain and Ireland PGR and ECR Workshop (Guy Baldwin)

'From the Outside In and the Inside Out: Administrative Policies and Administrative Law', January 2025, lunchtime research seminar at Cambridge Law Faculty

'Visibility of Process and the Visibility of Justice', December 2024, paper at online symposium, 'Seeing Justice Done', University of Worcester Constitutions Rights and Justice Research Group and Magdalene College, Cambridge

'The Democratisation of Private Nuisance', October 2024, lunchtime seminar at Centre for Private Law, Cambridge Law Faculty

'Challenges to Secondary Legislation', July 2024, talk at Administrative Law Bar Association Annual Conference

'Is Planning Law Really Property Law?', March 2024, paper at Modern Studies in Property Law Conference

'Proportionality and Planning Judgement: Unstoppable Force Meets Immovable Object?', September 2023, European Human Rights Law Conference, University of Cambridge

'The Aftermath of Successful Planning Claims', September 2023, Rights and Justice: In Theory and Practice Conference, University of Worcester

'Climate Change, Sustainable Development, and Domestic Planning Policy', December 2022, The Climate Change Regime and Public International law, PhD/Early Career Researcher Workshop, Lauterpacht Centre for International Law

'Permitted Development: Understandings and Pitfalls', November 2022, talk at seminar, Royal Town Planning Institute East of England

'The impossibility of the duty to give reasons?', October 2022, lunchtime seminar at Centre for Public Law, Cambridge Law Faculty

'“Not Like That”: The Interpretation of Policies, Legislation, and Contracts', September 2022, Society of Legal Scholars Annual Conference

'The Interpretation of Policy', March 2022, lunchtime seminar at Centre for Public Law, Cambridge Law Faculty

'[The Environment Act 2021] Overview of Legislation and Policy', November 2021, seminar by Bath Publishing

'Two Current Issues in Planning: Interpretation of Policy and Time Limits', October 2020, talk at online workshop 'Administrative Law Scholarship & Doctrinal Realities: Are Our Intellectual Frameworks Fit for Purpose?' Oxford Law Faculty

'Recent Cases on the NPPF', October 2019, talk at seminar, Royal Town Planning Institute South East

'The New NPPF and Housing', October 2018, talk at seminar, Royal Town Planning Institute South East

'Water Abstraction Licensing', September 2018, talk at seminar, United Kingdom Environmental Law Association

'Reasons in Planning Law', February 2018, talk at seminar, Central Government