



## Ellie Cornish

Associate

✉	<a href="mailto:ecornish@hickmanandrose.co.uk">ecornish@hickmanandrose.co.uk</a>
☎	+44 (0)20 7702 5379

Ellie Cornish has extensive experience in acting for individuals whose human rights have been breached by state bodies, officials and agents.

Ellie currently works alongside Daniel Machover, Toby Wilton and Helen Stone on behalf of a group of the bereaved, survivors and former residents of Grenfell Tower in the Grenfell Tower Inquiry and associated civil litigation.

Ellie has extensive experience advocating on behalf of people who have been failed by state bodies and, in particular, by the criminal justice system. She advises individuals on civil claims for compensation, public law challenges and in police complaints. In inquests, Ellie has represented families of those who have lost their lives following contact with public authorities or whilst in state custody.

Ellie believes in the importance of establishing strong, trusting and comfortable working relationships with her clients, so that they feel supported to engage directly in what can be long and intimidating processes in order to obtain compensation for and acknowledgement of their experiences.

Ellie joined Hickman and Rose's Civil Department in August 2019, having worked as a solicitor specialising in police actions and civil liberties at a number of London firms.

Prior to qualifying in 2015, Ellie also represented parties in care proceedings brought by local authorities, and advised and assisted care leavers and people with disabilities to enable them to access the support and care they were entitled to receive from the state.

This gave Ellie a practical understanding of how the various arms of the state intersect with each other and can interfere with individuals' human rights. This continues to inform the holistic approach she takes to her work.

Ellie is a member of the Police Action Lawyers Group (PALG), the Inquest Lawyers Group (ILG) and is on the Legal Reference Panel for the Centre for Women's Justice.

## Areas of Expertise

### Public Inquiries

Ellie currently represents a group of the bereaved, survivors and former residents of Grenfell Tower, having been involved in the Grenfell Tower Inquiry since December 2017.

For any public inquiry to achieve lasting social change, it is imperative that its individual core participants feel empowered to engage with it. Through her client-focused approach, Ellie supports her clients make their voices heard, to shape and contribute to the processes set up to effect change, and to ensure that lessons are learned and their experiences are never repeated.

### Actions Against State Bodies

Ellie has settled claims for significant financial compensation on behalf of people who have been wrongfully detained and wrongfully prosecuted by the police, assaulted by police or prison officers, and for prisoners who have been seriously assaulted by other prisoners.

Ellie has experience acting for individuals who have been subjected by police to an unlawful 'stop and search' and for people whose homes have been unlawfully entered and searched by the police. In such circumstances, she can assist in obtaining an apology, financial compensation and the prevention of further interference.

### Challenging State Decisions

Ellie is particularly determined to advocate for victims of crime in relation to investigative failures by police forces and the CPS. She has achieved various successes in this area, including challenging a CPS decision not to prosecute in respect of a non-therapeutic circumcision procured by deception. The decision to ultimately charge – and the ensuing criminal conviction – are thought to be the first of their kind.

Ellie has also worked successfully to prevent the unlawful disclosure of DBS information that would have otherwise severely impacted her clients' livelihoods.

### Police Complaints

Ellie helps clients navigate the complex police complaints process, maximising the prospect of a favourable outcome and preventing reoccurrences of their experiences for themselves and others. Where necessary, she can also provide advice and assistance in preparing appeals against the outcomes of police complaint investigations.

## What Others Say

- “Associates to watch” in Civil Liberties & Human Rights – *Chambers UK, 2024*
- “Key Lawyer” in Civil Liberties & Human Rights – *Legal 500, 2021*