

Human Rights

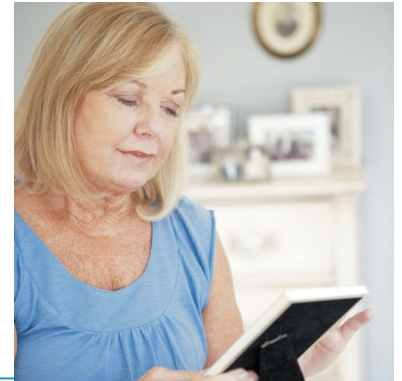
A guide to human rights and how we can assist

Expert advice

Human rights are a set of core principals which protect individuals' rights and freedoms. They're set within the European Convention of Human Rights and the Human Rights Act 1998 incorporates them into UK law.

Public authorities such as courts, local governments, hospitals, publicly funded schools, and other public bodies all have to comply with the Human Rights Act, to ensure the protection of individuals' rights and freedoms.

Slater and Gordon has a team of specialists who can assist those who believe that their human rights have been violated. Our human rights lawyers have extensive knowledge and experience in human rights law.



What obligations do the local authorities have in respect of human rights?

Public authorities have three core obligations:

- **negative obligation** - not to intentionally infringe an individual's human rights
- **positive obligation** - to ensure that an individual's rights are protected by putting in place adequate safeguards, procedures and legislation
- **procedural obligation** - if there is a possibility that there has been a breach of an Article, the state conduct an effective investigation into what has happened

What are the Articles?

The European Convention of Human Rights lists the fundamental human rights and each right is a separate Article in the Act.

Some of the most frequently violated Articles include:

- Article 2 - right to life
- Article 3 - prohibition of torture
- Article 8 - right to respect for private and family life
- Article 9 - freedom of thought, conscience and religion

What remedies are available?

When bringing a civil claim, the law considers whether there's been a potential breach which will enable you to bring a claim under the Human Rights Act against the public authority at fault.

What sort of cases may involve human rights?

Types of cases involving public authorities which may involve human rights include:

- Medical negligence
- Death in prison
- Cases under the Mental Health Act
- Community care
- Abuse
- Personal injury
- Military cases
- Inquests

How can Slater and Gordon help?

Slater and Gordon has specialists with expertise in human rights, medical negligence and personal injury. We are also members of The Human Rights Lawyers Association.

As soon as we know the best way to proceed with your case, we'll ensure you get the right lawyer to provide the best possible outcome to your case. We understand the difficulties which can be faced when your human rights have been violated and will be with you every step of the way.

We're dedicated to challenging discrimination and protecting the rights of our clients and are not afraid to push the boundaries to achieve justice. We've taken many cases to the Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court and the European Court of Justice, and have won.

If you think your human rights have been violated and you may have a case, please call our team of experts.

Please feel free to discuss your own position and concerns. Contact your nearest office on:

T: 0800 916 9015
E: enquiries@slatergordon.co.uk
W: www.slatergordon.co.uk

Slater and Gordon is one of the UK's leading and largest legal practices with offices throughout England, Wales and Scotland.

Slater and Gordon (UK) LLP is authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority. The information in this factsheet was correct at the time of going to press - June 2016.