



New Park Court

Alec Burns

#### Leeds

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## Alec Burns

Year of call 1988

For enquiries please call +44 (0)191 232 1980 or email

Alec Burns practices exclusively in crime. He prosecutes and defends in the all types of criminal cases. Most of his work tends to be with the most serious offending. In recent years a large proportion of his practice has involved offences of a sexual nature. Alec is known for being short and to the point, though understanding.

## Crime

Alec has a broad criminal practice, both prosecuting and defending in cases varying from shoplifting to murder. In recent years his caseload has been made up of more serious offending; sex offences, serious violence and fraud. He also has wide experience of dealing with the ancillary matters inevitably linked to such cases: Public Interest Immunity, Proceeds of Crime Act, applications, anonymity of witnesses and the general public interest in whether a prosecution should happen at all.

In the recent past he has been briefed in cases of: multimillion pound fraud, Rape of children historic and recent, Rape due to the intoxication of the victim, and near fatal violence.

Having been successful in securing several clients unduly lenient sentences Alec has been involved in a number of Attorney General's References. For example Attorney General's Reference No.78 of 2010 [2011] 2 Cr.App.R.(S.) 109 (p.621), involved the consideration as to the extent current guidelines in sexual offences could be applied to historic offences. It was decided that they could not be applied. That would be to apply guidelines for offences which now carried a longer sentence, a breach of Article 7. However, sentences should reflect what is now known about the harm such offences cause to the victims and their communities.

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# Appointments & Memberships

CPS Level 4 Prosecutor

RASSO Approved

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