



New Park Court

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Year of call 2010

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Fiona Lamb only accepts instructions for the defence and she has developed a very busy practice. Fiona goes above and beyond for her clients. She is able to adopt a variety of approaches which allows her to greatly assist those with mental health issues in particular.

Fiona completed a reduced pupillage at Farringdon Chambers in London under the supervision of Ian Henderson (now Q.C). Fiona began tenancy after only 9 months of pupillage. She joined New Park Court Chambers in February 2016 after 16 months of practice on the South Eastern Circuit.

Led Junior Briefs

Representative Cases

- *R v SHA and Others (Carlisle Crown Court) - People trafficking and slavery*
Led by Nick Cartmell in a multi-handed case involving allegations of people trafficking and modern day slavery said to have occurred in a car wash in Carlisle. Trial lasted 4 weeks in November 2019 before the jury were discharged for legal reasons. There will be a re-trial, expected to last 6-8 weeks, starting in May 2020.
- *R v AS and Others – Operation Sanctuary (Newcastle Crown Court) – Grooming and rape*
Led by Nick Cartmell in a multi-handed case involving allegations of rape against a young Complainant following what the Crown had described as years of grooming and sexual abuse. After 6 weeks in trial and

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the discharging of three juries no evidence was offered and the client was acquitted. Case reported in the national media.

- *R v RR Snr and Others – Operation Cluster (Teesside Crown Court) – Slavery and money laundering*
Led by Stuart Graham in a multi-handed conspiracy to traffic with a view to exploitation, forced labour and money laundering. The case involved multiple family members from a Slovakian gang who trafficked homeless people from Slovakia and the Czech Republic to the U.K. and held them as slaves. Fiona was led for 7 weeks and was of primary assistance in relation to ongoing disclosure issues. RR Snr was sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment. Fiona represented the client alone at the 3 day contested POCA hearing.
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tyne-43703961>
- *R v PK and Others – Operation Park (Blackfriars Crown Court) – Multimillion pound cross-jurisdictional fraud*
Led by Bill Ryan in a multimillion-pound cross-jurisdictional fraud involving stolen mobile telephones. Involved approximately 60,000 pages and thousands of hours of undercover surveillance footage. Trial lasted 5 weeks. Fiona represented the client at sentence.
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3384080/amp/Pickpocket-gang-jailed-total-30-years-making-5million-stealing-1-000-mobile-phones-Tube.html>
- *R v BC and Others – Operation Wasabi (Southwark Crown Court) – Conspiracy to defraud*
Led by Martin McCarthy in a 'boiler room' fraud. Secured acquittal on a single count of conspiracy to defraud after 7 weeks in trial. The case concerned the overpricing and selling of coloured diamonds to vulnerable investors amounting to profits for the fraudsters in the region of £1.5m.
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2979670/Boiler-room-fraud-gang-1-5million-duping-investors-buying-coloured-diamonds-TWENTY-times-real-value-spent-Selfridges-Louis-Vuitton-Harrods.html>
- *R v SS and Others (Central Criminal Court) – Misconduct in public office by HMRC officers*
Under the supervision of Jeremy Lynn. Instructed to represent the interests of SS within the role of a Noting Junior during an 8 week misconduct in public office trial by a number of HMRC officers. Notes amounted to over 245,000 words and were provided as a transcript to all Counsel. Case reported in the national media.

Sexual Offences

Representative Cases

- *R v JB (Newcastle Crown Court) - Sexual assault*
Represented JB at his appeal in relation to an allegation that he touched a woman's breasts whilst walking past her in the street. Legal submissions were put forward during the appeal against conviction on the

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basis that JB could not have a fair trial and that the evidence against him could not be relied upon. Ultimately the Bench agreed with the submissions and allowed the appeal. JB was found not guilty. <https://www.chroniclive.co.uk/news/north-east-news/north-shields-dad-sexual-assault-16927273>

- *R v AB (Newcastle Crown Court) - ABH, voyeurism, sexual assault of a child under 13 years*
Historic case involving five counts of ABH, voyeurism, sexual assault of a child under 13 years and indecent assault. Allegations related to two children who AB had allegedly physically and sexually abused over 20 years ago. Following 7 days in trial he was convicted of one count of ABH and one count of voyeurism. The jury were hung on all remaining counts. There will not be a re-trial.
- *R v KG (Newcastle Crown Court) – Sexual offences against a child by a family member*
Secured a unanimous acquittal on both counts of an alleged sexual assault by an uncle on his 11 year old niece.
- *R v AN (Newcastle Crown Court) – Historic sexual offences against a child by a family member*
Secured acquittals on all 5 counts on the indictment after 3 days in trial. Case concerned a variety of historic sexual offences allegedly committed by an uncle against his young nephew.
- *R v AB (Newcastle Crown Court) – Rape and other sexual offences against children*
Represented AB over the course of two cases for the rape of his 12 year old niece and a number of offences of sexual assault by penetration of two other 12 and 13 year old girls on a different occasion. Pleaded guilty to all offences and was sentenced to 9 years and 6 months' and 4 years' respectively.
- *R v TR (Teesside Crown Court) – Sexual assault by penetration against a child*
Secured an acquittal at appeal of a 12 year old girl accused of assault by penetration of an 8 year old close family friend.
- *R v PS (Sunderland Youth Court) – Attempted rape*
Represented a 16 year old male at trial for the attempted rape of a 20 year old male with learning difficulties. Sentenced to an 18 month YRO.
- *R v DG (Isleworth Crown Court) – Making indecent imagines*
Instructed to represent MM in relation to multiple allegations of making indecent images of children the majority of those being Category A. This was the second time that MM had been before the courts for such matters. The Judge praised Fiona over her handling of both MM and the case.
- *R v JS (Newcastle Crown Court) – Sexual assault*
Represented RE at his appeal of both conviction and sentence in relation to a sexual assault. Fiona represented RE without a solicitor and agreed to work on a pro-bono basis. The sentence was ultimately halved and the Judge commended Fiona on her willingness to act for free to ensure RE got a fair trial.

Violence

Representative Cases

- *R v SK (Teesside Crown Court) – Attempt GBH with intent*

Secured an acquittal on counts of attempted GBH with intent of a prison officer and possession of a weapon inside a prison. Previous convictions for possession of weapons inside prisons and numerous serious assaults on prison officers committed in three different prisons went before the jury. SK avoided an inevitable finding of dangerousness as a result of the acquittals. Case involved uncommon issues surrounding heightened security, handcuffs applications and his notoriety. SK appeared on the Channel 4 documentary, “Prisons”.

<https://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/17780340.durham-prison-inmate-39-used-screw-attack-officer-39/>

- *R v DW (Newcastle Crown Court) – Controlling and coercive behaviour and ABH*

Secured an acquittal on 5 counts from an original 9 count indictment including a guilty plea. Case involved allegations of controlling and coercive behaviour, a number of assaults including ABH and criminal damage. 16 of the most serious of DW’s previous convictions went before the jury. Acquitted of all assaults and avoided an inevitable finding of dangerousness.

- *R v AH (Newcastle Crown Court) – GBH with intent*

AH was unanimously acquitted of both s.18 and the alternative offence of s.20 of the OAPA after 4 days in trial. Allegation was that AH had attacked the IP with a knife causing cuts to his face, neck, shoulder and a puncture wound to his chest. There was CCTV showing a confrontation between AH and the IP moments before the incident was supposed to have taken place. Case involved lengthy cross-examination of the IP.

- *R v MN (Durham Crown Court) – False imprisonment*

Unanimous acquittals on counts of false imprisonment, ABH, common assault and affray. Trial lasted 3 days.

- *R v TI (Newcastle Crown Court) – Dwelling robbery*

Instructed in a 7 day dwelling robbery involving the theft of almost £6,000 described as an “inside job”. The case involved cell site analysis, a vast amount of telecommunications, identification, medical evidence, Facebook posts, enquiries into their validity and the exclusion of some members of the public from the court building for the duration of the trial. Following both Defendants’ convictions the Judge commended Fiona on her conduct throughout the trial and the quality of her closing speech. TI was sentenced to 13 years’ imprisonment.

<http://www.shieldsgazette.com/news/crime/men-jailed-for-13-years-each-after-violent-robbery-on-businessman-at-his-own-home-1-8569698>



- *R v NW (Snaresbrook Crown Court) - ABH*

Unanimously acquitted on both counts of ABH and common assault against two youths. Allegation was that NW had head-butted one male and punched another four times to the face in an unprovoked attack. Head-butt resulted in the loss of two front teeth. Identification was not an issue. Fiona rapped a verse from the song by Shaggy, 'It Wasn't Me' during her closing speech. Jury took less than 15 minutes to return verdicts of not guilty.

- *R v JB (Bradford Crown Court) – Racially aggravated GBH*

First on the indictment in a two-handed racially aggravated GBH. Trial lasted 4 days. IP suffered "life changing injuries" in what the Judge described as a "sustained and racist attack". JB was sentenced to 2 years' imprisonment.

- *R v SW (Durham Crown Court) – Possessing a firearm with intent*

Represented SW for possessing a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence which carries a minimum sentence of 5 years'. Persuaded the Crown to accept a plea to affray on the morning of trial and SW was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment.

- *R v BM (Newcastle Crown Court) – GBH with intent*

Represented a client charged with s.18 following a serious stabbing at a block of flats in Whitley Bay. BM pleaded guilty to the lesser offence of s.20. A lengthy Basis of Plea was submitted. BM was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment suspended for 18 months'.

- *R v JF (Carlisle Crown Court) - ABH*

Instructed to represent JF in relation to an offence of ABH during a domestic violence incident. Case involved legal argument in relation to third party confessions and hearsay evidence involving Facebook messages. Fiona was praised by both the Judge and the Prosecutor for exercising "exceptional judgment and skill" in relation to a "very complex case".

<https://www.newsandstar.co.uk/news/16759763.thug-attacked-ex-after-she-called-him-by-another-mans-name/>

- *R v BG (Camberwell Green Youth Court) - GBH*

Acquitted of GBH resulting in a broken eye socket. BG forwarded pre-emptive self-defence along with his co-defendant.

- *R v PS (Central Criminal Court) – ABH*

Fiona's first Crown Court trial was in Court 1 at the Old Bailey. Instructed in a 3 day ABH trial involving pre-emptive self-defence where PS had stopped his car at the side of the road, chased the IP who was on foot and attacked him.

- *R v MH (Camberwell Green Youth Court) - Robbery*

Involved cross-examination of a 15 year old witness. Despite numerous previous convictions for robbery being before the District Judge and the fact that MH was picked out on an I.D. parade, MH was acquitted of



a single count of robbery.

Fraud and Dishonesty

Representative Cases

- *R v DB and Others – Operation Minted (Durham Crown Court) - Conspiracy to sell counterfeit tobacco*
DB was three out of five on the indictment. He was charged with three counts including conspiracy to sell/supply counterfeit tobacco products. The case involved a high page count with a huge volume of undercover surveillance footage following a lengthy investigation by Durham County Council. The estimated turnover of the conspiracy was in the region of £1.2m. DB entered guilty pleas to supplying tobacco without a combined health warning in relation to the tobacco products stored in his loft. All Defendants were sentenced to immediate custody with DB sentenced to 10 months'.
<https://www.durham.gov.uk/article/18626/Family-jailed-after-selling-counterfeit-cigarettes>
- *R v AC (Teesside Crown Court) – Fraud against elderly mother*
Unanimously acquitted after 5 days in trial. The allegations were that AC had stolen and fraudulently obtained over £16,000 from her mother. At the time of the alleged offences the IP was suffering from dementia and cancer. The IP was deceased at the time of trial and her evidence was adduced as hearsay. The IP's son gave evidence against AC as well as a number of carers. AC accepted making the withdrawals which she said she had done with the IP's permission.
- *R v RA (Newcastle Crown Court) – Fraud and theft from grandmother*
Case involved fraud and theft of over £40,000 by RA from his elderly grandmother who suffered from dementia. RA acted as a carer for his grandmother and withdrew funds which were provided to other members of the family. The judge described RA as being in a "position of responsibility for which he was not suited". RA was sentenced to a 10 month custodial sentence suspended for 12 months.
http://www.chroniclelive.co.uk/news/north-east-news/robert-appleton-northumberland-grandmother-theft-13895854#ICID=ios_ChronicleNewsApp_AppShare_Click_Other
- *R v NS (Newcastle Crown Court) – Benefit fraud*
Benefit fraud, unanimously acquitted.
- *R v JM (Teesside Crown Court) – International fraud involving false eBay sales*
Secured a Suspended Sentence Order for JM who pleaded guilty to committing fraud to the value of £13,000 through false eBay sales. The fraud was committed on an international scale involving Losers from New Zealand, Australia and Germany.
- *R v DS & Others (Isleworth Crown Court) – Multi-handed theft and handling*
First on the indictment and secured the only acquittal in a four-handed theft and handling stolen goods

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case. The stolen goods were found in his house.

- *R v ID (Newcastle Crown Court) – Theft of £100k from mother-in-law*

ID pleaded guilty to stealing over £100,000 from his mother-in-law before her death. Case involved complex issues involving the moving of money and a forensic analysis of income and expenditure over multiple accounts. Case settled following the acceptance of a Basis of Plea. ID sentenced to two and a half years' custody. There was large scale media coverage of the case.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6750663/World-War-II-heroine-stopped-train-bomb-95-000-stolen-family.html>

- *R v CH (Newcastle Crown Court) – Blackmail*

CH pleaded guilty to blackmail after setting up a fake profile on an escort website. When the IP requested some nude photographs CH blackmailed the IP out of over £1,000 before he eventually went to the police. CH was sentenced to 27 months' in custody.

http://www.chroniclelive.co.uk/news/north-east-news/colin-hawkins-newcastle-escort-sunderland-16664598#ICID=ios_ChronicleNewsApp_AppShare_Click_MailShare

Other

Representative Cases

- *R v KO and Others - Operation Withington (Newcastle Crown Court) - Importation of Class A drugs*

Secured a unanimous acquittal after 5 days in trial for an offence of importing a Class A drug (Opium) from Iran. KO accepted making 6 phone calls to DHL seeking delivery of the package which contained a gear for a commercial food mixer with 1.65kg of Opium hidden inside.

- *R v KYY & Another – Operation Junyell (Newcastle Crown Court) – Assisting unlawful immigration*

Secured a unanimous acquittal after 5 days in trial for offences of assisting unlawful immigration to a member state and possession of another's identity documents. Case involved thousands of pages of evidence including telephone data. Co-defendant was sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment.

- *R v KS (Newcastle Crown Court)*

Represented a client charged with burglary after he forced entry into his ex-partner's house and damaged items within after she exposed their affair to his wife on Christmas Day.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4433030/Married-man-37-trashed-home-Avon-rep-mistress.html>

- *R v TD (Newcastle Crown Court)*

Represented TD who entered two guilty pleas to cultivation of cannabis. Following unnecessary delays an abuse of argument was made on behalf of TD. The argument was successful, the indictment was stayed and the case dismissed.

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- *R v CF (Teesside Magistrates Court)*

Represented a man charged with intimidation under the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992. After submitting a lengthy skeleton argument and following legal argument the Crown was forced to offer no evidence. Enquiries subsequently undertaken in relation to a malicious prosecution argument.

What the directories say

"Fiona's guidance, advice, belief in me and reassurance over the last 12 months has been a pillar of hope for me throughout this ordeal. It fills me with relief that there is still a barrister who actually cares about people's freedom and wellbeing. Fiona's sincerity, honesty, knowledge of the law and tenacity will take her far. Fiona has done more for me off her own back than anyone ever has, and for that, I am forever grateful"

From a client Fiona represented at his appeal against conviction without a solicitor (Direct Access) and on a pro-bono basis who was reconvicted.

"Fiona's warmth and personable qualities to me before and after the case were very much appreciated. Fiona is a proficient and very effective barrister."

From a client unanimously acquitted of sexually assaulting a child family member

"She is plainly a fighter."

"Fiona is particularly adept at dealing with difficult clients with mental health difficulties, she is well liked by clients and is very much at ease with vulnerable clients."

"Fiona gives every case her full attention and she has established herself as very reliable Counsel... she is incredibly hardworking."

"Fiona was instructed as a noting junior in a very serious and complex conspiracy and I was highly impressed with her professional integrity, hard work ethic and high standards for client service."

"Fiona's warmth and personable qualities to me before and after the case were very much appreciated. Fiona is a proficient and very effective barrister."

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