

ANNA VIGARS QC

CALL: 1996

SILK: 2017

"A phenomenal silk - one of the best."
Chambers UK 2019

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Anna is a criminal, health & safety and environmental law barrister, who has 18 years experience.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Crime
 - Health & Safety
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CRIME

As an experienced criminal advocate, Anna has undertaken a number of serious and high-profile cases. She has dealt with cases of homicide and serious violence on a number of occasions and regularly undertakes work involving serious sexual offences both from a defence and a prosecution point of view.

RECENT CASES

- **R v S** - The prosecution of a Jehovah's witness foster mother for cruelty towards three children in her care. The children had been deeply traumatised by what had happened to them but had to be called live. The defendant denied that there had been anything wrong with what she had done. Medical and dental experts had to be called to deal with a range of injuries which had been inflicted upon the children over their childhood and teenage years.
 - **R v ADL & Others** - Prosecution of a company, directors and managers of a care home responsible for the care of 40 elderly residents with psychiatric difficulties, many of whom were senile. The prosecution is under the Mental Health Act 1983 and involves allegations of systematic neglect and under-funding.
 - **R v M** - A case involving a father who was well-known for posing a very high risk of physical violence to his family, to the extent that care proceedings were taken in respect of 5 children of the family. Ultimately two of his step-daughters accused him of repeated incidents of sexual abuse and it was that for which he was prosecuted. The case involved the handling of the full history of the Social Services and County Court involvement.
 - **R v C** - The defence of a man who accused of raping a child and indecently assaulting another. Both witnesses are now adults and the complaints dated back almost a decade.
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HEALTH & SAFETY

As an "A" list prosecutor on the newly formed Specialist Regulatory Advocates in Health and Safety and Environmental Law list and a member of the Attorney General's prosecution panel for over five years, Anna has significant experience across a number of regulatory fields. She both prosecutes and defends and has recently acted on behalf of DBERR, DEFRA and HMRC as well as a number of companies and individuals. She has acted as a junior in large scale farming and VAT/tax frauds.

RECENT CASES

- **R v C & C** - Indian restaurant owners managing companies in the face of Court orders following bankruptcy and establishing phoenix companies, trading with prohibited names. Extensive knowledge required of directors' roles, obligations and limitations to their legal conduct and Insolvency Act ramifications.
 - **R v C & C** - Prosecution of a couple who had been involved over an extended period with the importation of cars without declaring them for VAT purposes. The case involved witnesses from Cyprus and Belgium and a very high number of vehicles with a consequent significant volume of documentation.
 - **R v R & S-K** - A multi-million pound fraud on the EU fibre flax subsidy scheme again with an international element and involving the interpretation of EU schemes as they affected UK claimants under the scheme.
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RECOMMENDATIONS

- Chambers UK 2014
 - Chambers UK 2013
 - Legal 500 2013
 - Legal 500 2011
 - Legal 500 2010
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APPOINTMENTS:

- Recorder
 - Specialist Regulatory Advocate in Health & Safety Law - 'A' List
 - Specialist Regulatory Advocate in Environmental Law - 'A' List
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MEMBERSHIPS:

- Criminal Bar Association
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EDUCATION:

- City University, London
 - St Edmund Hall, Oxford
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RECENT NEWS

- James Townsend has been appointed as a Circuit Judge
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