

# ANNA VIGARS KC

Call 1996 | Silk 2017

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Anna Vigars KC is a criminal practitioner with over twenty years' experience. She also has extensive experience of health and safety cases.

Anna is often instructed in heavyweight criminal cases, including those of murder and manslaughter. She boasts particular expertise in cases involving serious sexual allegations and those with significant health and safety elements. She brings confidence to cases with multiple defendants and complainants. She has experience of sensitive cases involving offences such as female genital mutilation and child sexual exploitation.

Strengths: "Anna's grasp of statute, practice direction and procedure is extraordinarily good, and she can respond really quickly on her feet." "She has a very considered manner, which inspires confidence in clients and the court alike. She's also very easy to work with, is always well prepared, and is extremely skilled in the courtroom."

## Expertise

### Crime

Since becoming a KC in 2017, Anna has prosecuted and defended cases involving allegations of murder, the multiple rape of children and vulnerable people, and human trafficking.

She is very experienced, both in leading a team dealing with the prosecution of multiple defendants and also gaining the confidence of frightened or challenging defendants facing the most serious allegations.

Before taking Silk, Anna had already been instructed in a number of multi-handed prosecutions of child sexual exploitation as leading prosecution junior. She had also been instructed in cases of homicide.

### Featured Crime cases

## **R v B & Others**

The prosecution of 14 defendants for offences including rape and exploitation of a vulnerable young woman and for their roles in the control of drugs to a Devon seaside town. Members of the group had effectively controlled the town for many years by intimidation and violence and witnesses were frightened of them. Complex questions of consent engaged in the legal arguments around the trial.

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## **R v B**

Defence of a woman charged with the murder of her neighbour, an elderly man who had shown her kindness and supported her in practical terms. Her position was that she had been sexually assaulted by him.

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## **R v G**

Prosecution of a 17 year old for attempted murder and rape of a 10 year old snatched on her way home from school.

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## **R v D**

Prosecution of an 18 year old for obtaining a gun and ammunition over the dark web; he had intended to use them to stage a school shooting, as demonstrated by his internet activity.

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## **R v C**

Defence of an asylum seeker from North Africa accused of multiple rapes of both men and women. The defendant had complex language, cultural and intellectual difficulties. Severe mental health difficulties and other vulnerabilities on the part of the complainants.

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## **R v S, B & B**

Prosecution of a multi-handed murder and the sister of one defendant who had triggered the attack having been offended by the deceased and having called her brother and his friend to come to her aid.

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## **R v L**

Defence of a man accused of killing his partner and destroying her body.

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## **R v R**

Defence of a Brazilian man who chose to remain mute and keep his eyes closed throughout his trial, having given extensive instructions on earlier occasions.

## Health & Safety

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Both as a junior and in Silk, Anna has prosecuted and defended indictments arising out of health and safety incidents in a wide variety of different settings.

She enjoys combining her depth of criminal advocacy experience with the commercial realities facing defendant companies.

### Featured Health & Safety cases

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#### **HSE v S & S**

Prosecution of a firm arising out of the death of a contractor using lifting equipment hired out.

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#### **HSE v T & Another**

Prosecution of two firms, one of them a well-known multinational, for an incident arising out of a fall from height at a major industrial plant in South Wales.

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#### **CQC v AWP**

Defence of an NHS mental health trust for the fall from a roof of an inpatient.

## Education

- City University, London
- St Edmund Hall, Oxford

## Appointments

- Recorder

## Memberships

- Criminal Bar Association