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## Practice Profile

***William Davis has considerable experience of serious crime, fraud and confiscation both as leader and junior. He is a Recorder of the Crown Court.***

Widely experienced in complex and demanding criminal cases, he is appreciated for his hard work and enthusiasm, his confident and incisive courtroom style, and meticulous advisory work.

William's Privacy Policy can be downloaded [here](#).

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## Areas of Practice

- Confiscation, Civil Recovery & Asset Forfeiture
- Cyber Crime
- Financial & Corporate Crime
- General Crime
- Homicide
- Military Law
- Prosecution
- Regulatory & Professional Discipline
- Serious & Organised Crime
- Sexual Offences

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## What The Directories Say

"William is a star in the making. He is approachable, balanced, unflappable and extremely helpful. Nothing is ever too much trouble. That said he is determined, steely and focused. William is a great lawyer and first-class advocate. An excellent all-rounder." *Legal 500 2025*

"He's a star of the future." *Chambers UK 2024*

"He's really impressive the way he presents legal arguments and deals with witnesses." *Chambers UK 2024*

'William is a star in the making. He is always calm, collected and in control and he is a first class advocate and lawyer. He is able to deal with multiple issues at once and always in a professional and courteous manner.' *Legal 500 2024*

"He shows great maturity and fairness in court while also being deadly." *Chambers UK 2023*

Will is well-respected by the judiciary due to the structured and engaging nature of his advocacy.' *Legal 500 2023*

"He is a class act with superb advocacy. He is well prepared, never fazed and the complete article." *Chambers UK 2025*

## Appointments:

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- Recorder of the Crown Court
- SFO - Panel List A
- CPS Panel Advocate - Grade 4
- CPS Specialist Panel - Rape & Serious Sexual Offences - Grade 4
- CPS Specialist Panel - Fraud - Grade 4
- CPS Specialist Panel - Serious Crime - Grade 4
- CPS Specialist Panel - Counter Terrorism - Grade 4
- CPS Specialist Panel - Proceeds of Crime - Grade 4
- Regulatory List of Specialist Advocates in Health & Safety and Environmental Law - List A

## News

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### 5KBW wins "Crime Set of the Year 2024" at the prestigious Chambers UK Bar Awards

15 November 2024

We are absolutely delighted to announce that 5 King's Bench Walk was awarded "Crime Set of the Year Award 2024" at the Chambers UK Bar Awards held at Old Billingsgate on 15 November. This is Chambers' 5th nomination for the prestigious Chambers UK Bar Awards in the field of Crime. We are very proud to have won this award for the second time in 5 years.

Commenting on the awards, Heads of Chambers at 5 King's Bench Walk, Sarah Forshaw KC and Mark Heywood KC said:

*"We are absolutely delighted that 5KBW has been recognised once again as the UK's pre-eminent Crime Set. It is testament to the outstanding ability of every member of our Chambers, to our excellent clerking services and to our administrative staff. The shortlists and ultimate awards are the result of extensive research by Chambers and Partners. We could not be more proud.*

*That our own Louise Oakley also carried away the award for 'Crime Junior of the Year' is the icing on the cake. She is, quite simply, a star."*



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## Recent Cases

### R v HU [Central Criminal Court] 2023

Murder

William Davis led by Allison Hunter KC prosecuted the alleged ringleader of one of the UK's deadliest gangs and has been convicted of two murders.

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/22762653/mali-boys-uk-deadliest-gang-war/>

### R v A&MD [Woolwich Crown Court] 2022

Drug Trading via Encrochat

William Davis, leading Sam Willis prosecuted a Metropolitan Police officer's husband who used the EncroChat system to trade large quantities of cocaine and cannabis including drugs packaged with the Hublot luxury watch brand.

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/met-police-pc-agalliu-cocaine-cannabis-encrochat-barnet-kensington-b1042254.html>galliu and McNeil-Duncan

### R v DC [Central Criminal Court] 2022

Manslaughter

William Davis led by Bill Emlyn-Jones KC, prosecuted a man who changed his plea to guilty on the first day of trial and has been given a life sentence with a minimum term of nine years and four months for assaulting his mother, leaving her with fatal injuries.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-64628575>

## **R v SO and Others [Central Criminal Court] 2022**

### Revenge Killing

William Davis, led by Danny Robinson KC prosecuted a teenager who took part in the revenge killing of a 15-year-old schoolboy. He has been sentenced to 10 years.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-11503973/Teenager-16-stabbed-15-year-old-schoolboy-death-revenge-killing-locked-10-years.html>

## **R v Keet and Others [Kingston Crown Court] 2022**

### Britain's Biggest Ever Amphetamine Factory

William Davis leading Dickon Reid prosecuted a man who ran Britain's biggest ever amphetamine factory producing £10m of the drugs a month. He was sentenced for 18 years.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-12073391/Gang-boss-ran-Britains-biggest-amphetamine-factory-jailed-18-years.html>

## **Operation Kandla 2022**

### Health & Safety Prosecution under the Medicines Act 1968

Mark Heywood KC led William Davis in the prosecution of a company that manufactures total parenteral nutrition, which is supplied to vulnerable patients receiving nutrition intravenously. In 2014 a contaminated batch was supplied to hospitals treating severely premature babies. 19 babies developed infections as a result, and one died. After protracted and contentious litigation, the defendant company pleaded guilty to a health and safety offence and to offences under the Medicines Act 1968. The company was sentenced in April 2022.

BBC News Article.

## **R v TP and AP [Inner London Crown Court] 2021**

### Prosecution of brothers for historic familial rape

Charlotte Newell QC and William Davis successfully prosecuted brothers for historic rape and abuse of their 3 sisters.

## **R v Gopaul and Bannerman [C.C.C.] 2020**

### Homicide

Anthony Orchard QC led William Davis for the prosecution in a murder trial following an incident outside a nightclub in which a man was stabbed. After the killing the Defendant fled to Cyprus with the assistance of a friend, who was convicted of assisting an offender. The Defendant was extradited to the UK in 2019.

Press coverage:

### **R v Bryan & Ahwan [Kingston] 2020 2020**

Murder

Anthony Orchard QC led William Davis in the prosecution of two defendants for an incident in Kingston town centre in which a van was deliberately driven at one males, and another was fatally stabbed.

Press Coverage [here](#).

### **R v SA [C.C.C.] 2020 2020**

Murder

Anthony Orchard QC led William Davis in the prosecution of a defendant in connection with an incident at an all-night party in Aldgate in which one man was fatally stabbed, and three others were injured.

### **R v. Biomy & Yusuf [Inner London] 2020**

Gangland Revenge Killing

William Davis was Junior Prosecution Counsel (led by Brian O'Neill QC) in a gang-related murder, carried out in revenge for the attempted murder of the main Defendant by members of a rival gang.

News report [here](#).

### **R v Jalal Uddin [C.C.C.] 2019**

Murder of wife by stabbing

Danny Robinson QC led William Davis in this prosecution for murder of a Defendant who stabbed his wife at least 58 times in an attack described by the pathologist as involving "extreme" force.

News Report [Here](#).

### **R v Muhammed Hussain [C.C.C.] 2019**

Murder

William Davis was Junior Prosecution Counsel (led by Louis Mably QC) in prosecution for murder of a Defendant who stabbed his neighbour after a confrontation in the street.

News report [here](#).

## **R v Anwar Hussain & ors [Southwark] 2019**

MTIC Fraud

Jonathan Polnay led William Davis in this long running MTIC fraud involving five companies and tax losses of around £13M. There were multiple trading chains supported by a wealth of forged documentation, and the proceeds of the fraud were transferred offshore via banks in Eastern Europe and Hong Kong.

## **R v. McLeod & ors [Croydon] 2018**

£700K fraud against the Redundancy Payments Service

William Davis led in the prosecution of a group of accountants who committed a £700K fraud against the Redundancy Payments Service (RPS), a government agency that makes payments to workers owed money when their employers become insolvent. The Defendants arranged for 105 false applications to be submitted, in some cases supported by false identifies and forged documents. This was the first ever prosecution for fraud against the RPS. In a separate investigation, William Davis again led in the prosecution of Lennox McLeod for a VAT fraud committed during the same period as the RPS case. The defendant took over the VAT affairs of a company after the death of its director and falsely claimed over £100K in VAT refunds.

HMRC press release here:

## **R v. Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd [Maidstone] 2018**

Health & Safety Breaches by Network Rail

William Davis prosecuted Network Rail for breaches of health and safety regulations at East Farleigh Level Crossing following an accident in which a signaller was seriously injured. The trial involved complex expert evidence about the process of risk assessment at level crossings and the mathematical modelling used. The jury heard evidence from signallers working at East Farleigh, their line managers, and from Network Rail's director of public and passenger safety. Network Rail were convicted at trial and fined £200,000.

Media reports:

BBC News

Kent Online

## **Operation Eric [Chelmsford] 2018**

£3.6m Alcohol duty & VAT evasion fraud

William Davis led Dickon Reid in the prosecution of five defendants charged with a £3.6m alcohol duty and VAT evasion fraud. The ringleaders were importing beer, wine and spirits from Europe using sophisticated mirror loads. Evidentially, the case was complicated and comprised numerous strands including surveillance, phone evidence, CCTV, business records and expert evidence relating to cell site, handwriting and tachographs. The two leading defendants received sentences close to the statutory maximum. Instructed by CPS Special Casework.

News Report Here

### **R v. Wojtkowiak [Maidstone] 2018**

£1m Revenue Fraud Operation

William Davis acted for the crown in this case that was a revenue fraud prosecution and instructed by the CPS Specialist Fraud Division. The Defendant was a Polish lorry driver caught with four million cigarettes concealed in a lorry carrying parts for a destined for a major car plant in the UK. The total revenue evaded was over £1M.

### **R v. IH & ors [C.C.C.] 2017**

Perverting the Course of Justice / Homicide

William Davis was defence Counsel for a Defendant charged with perverting the course of justice. The Defendant was accused of enabling the main suspect in a murder enquiry to evade police in the hours following the murder and to avoid arrest for a period of five months by making false witness statements and arranging accommodation for him.

### **R v Ruta Sperskaite & ors [Croydon] 2017**

Sham Marriages Prosecution

William Davis was Instructed as Junior Defence Counsel for one of six Defendants charged with conspiracy to facilitate unlawful immigration by arranging sham marriages. The Defendants were Lithuanian and arranged for women to travel to the UK to marry non-EEA nationals.

Evening Standard report here.

Telegraph report here.

Daily Mail report here.

### **R v. Giang Huong Tran [Stafford] 2017**

Prosecutions brought under the Modern Slavery Act 2015

William Davis was Defence Counsel in one of the first prosecutions brought under the Modern Slavery Act 2015 for subjecting victims to forced or compulsory labour. The Defendants were Vietnamese and owned nail bars in Bath and Burton-upon-Trent. The police found young Vietnamese girls working there who had entered the UK illegally and were alleged to be working without pay in return for food and accommodation. The case is to be the subject of a BBC documentary series in 2018.

BBC report here.

### **R v Mehdi Khashi [Chelmsford] 2016**

Rape, sexual activity with a child, inciting prostitution, and supplying controlled drugs.

William Davis was Junior Defence Counsel for one of a group of Defendants accused of serious sexual offences

against three different complainants, including rape, sexual activity with a child, inciting prostitution, and supplying controlled drugs.

News report here.

### **R v Tahir Mahmood [Leeds] 2016**

25 Defendants alleged to have committed serious sexual offences against young girl.

William Davis was Defence Counsel for one of 25 Defendants alleged to have committed serious sexual offences against a vulnerable young girl. The investigation resulted in a series of four trials heard in 2016, and formed part of the pilot scheme for pre-recorded cross-examination.

BBC report here.

### **R v Mirza Hussain & ors [Croydon] 2015**

Conspiracy to facilitate a breach of immigration law

William Davis was Junior Prosecution Counsel. The Defendants were charged with conspiracy to facilitate a breach of immigration law. They conspired to provide forged Dutch passports to non-EU nationals enabling them to make false applications for Home Office residence certificates.

News report here.

### **R v Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust [Maidstone] 2014**

HSE Prosecution of NHS Trust

William Davis was Prosecution Counsel instructed by the Health and Safety Executive. A patient was injured during routine surgery. He received severe burns from a warming mattress on the operating table when a saline bag was placed on the temperature sensor, causing the mattress to overheat. The subsequent investigation revealed serious failures in the procurement process for the equipment, and in the training offered to staff.

BBC report here.

### **R v Anthony Okoh [Woolwich] 2014**

Multi-handed prosecution for conspiracy to facilitate a breach of immigration law

William Davis was Junior Prosecution Counsel in a multi-handed prosecution for conspiracy to facilitate a breach of immigration law. The Defendants established and ran a company providing security guards to the construction industry. They employed illegal immigrants to work as security guards and exploited them, requiring them to work excessively long hours for paltry wages.

News Report here.

### **N.M.C v Janice Harry [NMC] 2013**



#### Fitness to Practice Prosecution

William Davis was Instructed by the NMC to prosecute the former Director of Nursing at Mid-Staffordshire NHS Trust at a fitness to practise hearing. The Registrant was found guilty of misconduct for, inter alia, failing to ensure adequate staffing levels and an appropriate skill mix at Stafford Hospital resulting in dangerous conditions for patients

BBC report here.