



Practice Profile

Charlotte Newell KC is an experienced criminal practitioner, ranked in Chambers & Partners UK Bar and Legal 500 Guides, who has established a substantial criminal practice prosecuting and defending at the very highest level with particular expertise in Prosecution and Defence in cases of homicide.

Charlotte has developed a formidable practice appearing in cases of the utmost gravity in the Crown and Appellate Courts and has with particular expertise in the Prosecution and Defence of serious sexual allegations and cases involving young and vulnerable witnesses. Charlotte is known for early and thorough case preparation as well as an incredible attention to detail, an approachable but no-nonsense advocate who regularly wins praise from the judiciary and those that instruct her. Charlotte is also regularly instructed in multi handed allegations of fraud and money laundering.

Charlotte has a proven track record of successful pre-charge engagement; advising those who have been arrested and awaiting charge on strategic lines of investigation and the drafting of representations to Police and Crown Prosecution Service in order that allegations do not proceed to Court.

Charlotte has led witness familiarization and cross examination training for witnesses in multi-million pound civil litigation.

She is committed to continuing professional education, maintaining and promoting the high standards at the Bar retaining its role as a specialist profession of advocates. To that end, Charlotte has been a pupil supervisor since 2005 and many of her pupils have gone on to take tenancy. A member of the Criminal Bar Association Education Committee, Charlotte is involved in the organisation of lectures, conferences, seminars and webinars to the criminal Bar, notably the renowned bi-annual CBA sexual offences conference. Charlotte recently delivered training to RASSO on s41 YJCEA 1999.

Charlotte Newell is an advocacy trainer for Grays Inn, has lectured the Criminal Injuries Compensation Appeal tribunal on the handling of vulnerable advocates and is a lead facilitator in the vulnerable witnesses advocacy training scheme.

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

Areas of Practice

- Homicide
- Serious & Organised Crime
- Sexual Offences
- General Crime
- Prosecution
- Confiscation, Civil Recovery & Asset Forfeiture
- Cyber Crime

- Regulatory & Professional Discipline
- Terrorism
- 5KBW Criminal Appeals
- 5KBW Criminal Appeals Resources

What The Directories Say

"She is superbly composed and an excellent lawyer. She brings empathy but tempers it with toughness." *Chambers UK 2025*

"Her tactical decisions are impeccable, laying the foundations for effective legal argument. She perfectly balances empathy with a razor-sharp eye for delivering effectively." *Chambers UK 2025*

"Charlotte is tactically astute, her drafting skills are great and her level of preparation for every hearing is unusually impressive. She cuts to the chase when giving tough advice to vulnerable defendants, but demonstrates compassion at the same time. She fights passionately and gets astonishingly good results." *Legal 500 2025*

"Fantastic and such a great brief. She is a down to earth advocate who speaks the language of the jury." *Chambers UK 2024*

"She was the perfect opponent: she took all the right points, her witness handling was excellent and she made the very best of what was a difficult case." *Chambers UK 2024*

"Her advice and guidance were spot on at every stage and she was tactically astute." *Chambers UK 2024*

'Charlotte rightly made the progression from junior to silk as a consequence of her excellent advocacy, mastery of the details of briefs, tactical prowess and ability to charm jurors.' *Legal 500 2024*

'Charlotte has a wonderfully calming and reassuring nature when advising clients. Her advocacy is exceptionally clear and easy to digest, which is essential for a complex criminal case when people's lives are on the line.' *Legal 500 2023*

"Carving a name for herself in silk as both a talented prosecutor and defender." *Chambers UK 2023*

"She deals with sensitive subject matters well and her closing arguments are very persuasive. She is an impressive court performer whom you definitely want in your corner." *Chambers UK 2022*

'An outstandingly skilled advocate, especially in dealing with extremely vulnerable witnesses.' *Legal 500 2020*

"An extraordinary barrister – she's insightful, tactically aware and good on her feet. She commands the respect of the tribunal." *Chambers UK 2020*

'Incredibly hardworking, with a level of preparation that is second to none.' *Legal 500 - 2019*

News

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."



Coercive Control, Child Cruelty and Assault

25 April 2024

Charlotte Newell KC represented a man charged with coercive control, child cruelty and assault. The case included pre-recorded cross-examination of two child witnesses. Following cross examination of the complainants the Crown offered no evidence on all counts. Instructed by Mohammed Gaffar of Londonium Solicitors.

Honeytrap Murder

11 December 2023

5 people jailed for killing Vishal Gohel in "honeytrap" murder. Charlotte Newell KC leading Simon Wilshire of 4BB Chambers prosecuted. Instructed by CPS Thames & Chiltern.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-beds-bucks-herts-67658627>

Five Found Guilty of 'Honeytrap' Killing

13 July 2023

Charlotte Newell KC led Simon Wilshire of 4 Breams Buildings in the prosecution of six people in a 'honeytrap' killing. Five have been found guilty following an eight week trial at St Albans Crown Court. Sentencing will take place in September. Instructed by CPS Thames & Chiltern

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-beds-bucks-herts-66180232>

Sixteen people convicted in a major CPS complex casework prosecution

10 May 2023

Charlotte Newell KC led Patrick Duffy of 23 Essex Street and secured convictions of sixteen people in a major CPS complex casework prosecution. The West-London based organised crime group were involved in international money laundering and people smuggling.

<https://nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/money-laundering-and-people-smuggling-network-dismantled-by-the-nca>

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-12064115/Three-women-gang-16-people-traffickers-snuck-42M-drug-cash-Dubai.html>

Recent Cases

R v A Youth [Liverpool Crown Court] 2022

Prosecution of 14 year old boy for murder of 12 year old girl in Liverpool City Centre

Charlotte Newell QC and Frederick Hookway successfully prosecuted one of Britain's youngest murderers for the fatal stabbing of a 12 year old girl stabbed to death in Liverpool City Centre.

Ava White: Boy who killed girl, 12, in Snapchat row gets life - BBC News

R v IK [Oxford Crown Court] 2022

Rape

Successful defence of man accused of raping his wife.

R v RH [Inner London Crown Court] 2022

Murder of teenager by best friend

Charlotte Newell QC successfully prosecuted teenager for stabbing his best friend to death in front of his mother and brother. Witnesses and Defendant both vulnerable and requiring intermediaries and adaptations to the Court process.

Nineteen-year-old guilty of stabbing a teenager in front of his family – Southwark News

R v AT & Ors [Central Criminal Court] 2022

Unlawful killing following mass brawl in south – East London

Charlotte Newell QC led James Brown in this trial at the Central Criminal Court.

Mum's life 'shattered into pieces' after Chilsehurst plumber Frankie Bulbrook chased and killed in mass brawl (msn.com)

R v B & M [Snaresbrook Crown Court] 2021

Rape and sexual abuse by male in his 60s offering “sugar daddy” arrangements with teenage girls

Charlotte Newell QC and Catherine Farrelly successfully prosecuted professional male in his 60s who groomed and abused a series of young girls offering “sugar daddy” arrangements, deploying BDSM abuse and introducing his brother into “threesome” sexual activity.

John Bancroft: Essex man sentenced to 25 years for using dating apps to sexually exploit seven teenage girls | UK News | Sky News

R v B [Woolwich Crown Court] 2021

Domestic homicide

Charlotte Newell QC successfully prosecuted Romanian man for the murder of his girlfriend who he had brought to the UK to work in prostitution.

Vasile Bratu: Abusive husband stabbed wife to death with scissors after haircut row | Evening Standard

R v C [Croydon CC] 2021

Defence of historic sexual abuse of young males

Charlotte Newell QC instructed by Diana Payne of Blackfords represented elderly man accused of the rape and sexual abuse of numerous boys and young men over a 40 year period.

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 SJ [Kingston Crown Court] 2021

Successful defence of severely disabled woman accused of facilitating the rape of a child

Charlotte Newell QC defended a young woman with significant physical disabilities, wheelchair bound and non-verbal accused of facilitating the rape of a child by her boyfriend. Charlotte together with Talitha Gilpin of Birds solicitors prepared sought targeted expert reports as to the Defendant's susceptibility to abuse establishing that she too was a victim of coercion and abuse. Following comprehensive representations the Crown offered no evidence.

R v R [Central Criminal Court] 2021

Murder of homeless woman during covid lockdown

'Vicious' attacker murdered 'gentle' homeless woman as she slept outside Plaistow church | Evening Standard

R v MA [Isleworth Crown Court] 2021

Murder of vulnerable male cuckooed by serial liar and drug user

Charlotte Newell QC prosecuted the murder of this vulnerable male. Defendant chose to represent himself part way through trial.

Frail 55-year-old man murdered by fake nephew who took over his life in three weeks (yahoo.com)

Operation Suina [Kingston] 2019

£8m nationwide Drug Supply operation

Charlotte Newell led Dickon Reid in this 2 month Prosecution of an organised crime network involving 11 Defendants for a multi-million pound nationwide Class A drug dealing operation, the proceeds of which were laundered through a series of sham companies.

News report here.

R v. Donovan & Woolcock [C.C.C.] 2019

Loss of control murder

Anthony Orchard QC led Charlotte Newell for the prosecution in a murder trial involving two cousins for the murder of their great uncle. The first defendant alleged loss of self-control; both defendants convicted following a trial.

BBC report here.

R v W & ors [C.C.C] 2018

14 year old cleared of Murder

Charlotte Newell, together with Mark Cotter QC successfully defended a 14 year old boy accused of Murder, possession of an offensive weapon and attempted GBH. Client was alleged to have been one of a group armed with zombie knives and an axe who attacked two young men on a London street. Found not guilty after trial of all charges.. Instructed by Lisa Towell of Blackfords Solicitors.

News report here

Operation Patipo [Woolwich] 2018

Large Scale Importation of firearms, ammunition and Class A drugs

Charlotte Newell represented this young woman accused of conspiracy to possess firearms and live ammunition with intent to endanger life and conspiracy to possess large amounts of Class A drugs importing them in to the UK via the Eurotunnel. Found not guilty on all charges after trial. Instructed by Bark and Co

Operation Bloomeria [2017-2018] 2018

Prosecution of a network of paedophiles

Charlotte Newell was instructed by CPS International & Organised Crime division Prosecuted this network of individuals for offences by paedophiles including streaming child sexual abuse on an online conferencing platform including the live streaming of a rape of a child in the USA.

BBC news report here.

R v. Kibusi & ors [C.C.C.] 2017

Revenge Execution

Anthony Orchard QC led Charlotte Newell in this prosecution of 3 men for the "Revenge Execution" of a rival gang member following a knife fight the previous day. The victim was shot in the chest with an automatic pistol at close range during broad daylight in a street in Ilford East London. They were each sentenced to life imprisonment with a minimum of 30 years.

News report here.

R v B [Canterbury] 2017

Historic Sex Abuse

Charlotte Newell represented this vulnerable adult with learning difficulties accused of historic sexual offences towards his learning disabled daughter. He was cleared of all charges following trial. Instructed by Bond Joseph Solicitors.

R v S [Snaresbrook] 2017

Coercive & Controlling Behaviour towards wife

Charlotte Newell successfully defended this husband who faced a four day trial, charged with "Coercive & Controlling Behaviour towards his wife". The defendant was acquitted of all charges. Instructed by ABV Solicitors.

R v. S&H [Snaresbrook] 2017

Ultra Orthodox Jewish man charged with Kidnap and Rape of ex-wife

Charlotte Newell prosecuted this Ultra Orthodox 62 year old jewish man who was jailed for 13 years for the kidnap

and rape of his ex-wife after refusing to grant her a religious divorce. He held her in a secret dungeon in Hackney, East London.

Daily Mail report.

R v. Sroka [C.C.C.] 2017

Murder of girlfriend by jilted lover

Anthony Orchard QC led Charlotte Newell for the prosecution in this Old Bailey murder trial involving the brutal killing of a 29 year old woman by her jealous boyfriend when he discovered a Post Office redirection letter confirming she was leaving him.

R v. Miakheel [C.C.C.] 2016

Murder.

Charlotte Newell was Led by Brendan Finucane QC for the Prosecution in the case of a 15 year old Boy charged with murder after a fatal stabbing in the midst of a drug deal.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-35469598>

R v. Huckle [C.C.C.] 2016

Child sex offences

Charlotte Newell was Led by Brian O'Neill QC in this Prosecution of prolific sex offender Richard Huckle dubbed "Britain's worst paedophile" for offences spanning a decade with numerous victims including babies and toddlers. 22 life sentences with a minimum term of 25 years imposed.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-36458472> <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3620004/Britain-s-worst-paedophile-Richard-Huckle-admits-scores-attack-children.html>

R v. Fruen [C.C.C.] 2016

Murder

Charlotte Newell was led by Simon Dennison QC in this Prosecution of a neighbour dispute which led to a fatal stabbing at the end of Christmas day.

http://www.bucksfreepress.co.uk/news/14564713.Mottingham_man_guilty_of_manslaughter_after_stabbing_neighbour_to_death_on

R v. Arthy & ors [C.C.C.] 2016

Conspiracy to import Firearms

Charlotte Newell appeared for the defence of a female defendant accused and cleared of conspiring to import vast amounts of automatic weaponry after a lengthy Old Bailey trial. Instructed by Thos Boyd Whyte.

<http://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/663359/harry-shilling-michael-defraime-cuxton-marina-rochester-kent-michael-topolski>

R v. A & A [Portsmouth] 2015

Child Cruelty

Charlotte Newell successfully defended the wife of a couple on allegations of child cruelty against 3 of their 10 children including falsely accusing a 9 year old boy of sexually abusing his siblings. Instructed by Edward Hayes LLP.

R v. Steinmetz [Snaresbrook] 2015

Rape & Kidnap

Charlotte Newell appeared for the Prosecution in the trial of Haredi Jewish man who imprisoned and raped his ex-wife in a home made "dungeon". Prosecuted to conviction in the absence of the victim.

<http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/orthodox-jewish-man-who-tied-raped-ex-wife-london-sex-dungeon-makes-legal-history-1510132>

R v. Phillips & ors [C.C.C.] 2015

Murder

Anthony Orchard QC led Charlotte Newell for the Crown in this Old Bailey Hackney Gangland murder.

News report here.

R v. Kharrahassan & ors [C.C.C.] 2014

Importation of £5m of Cocaine

Sarah Forshaw QC leading Charlotte Newell represented a greengrocer who was charged and cleared of smuggling £5m of cocaine in fruit and vegetables. Co-defendants sentenced to 17 years. instructed by Bark & Co.

Daily Mail report here.

R v. Raison & Dent [Snaresbrook] 2014

Child sex offences

Charlotte Newell acted for the Prosecution in case involving a woman who had been persuaded to abuse her own children by a paedophile she met on the internet.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2559456/Pregnant-woman-abused-nine-month-old-baby-five-year-old-girl-paedophile-met-internet-jailed-six-years.html>

R v. M [Maidstone] 2014

Child sex offences

Charlotte Newell was instructed in the successful defence of an 85 year old former police officer suffering from Alzheimer's and accused of molesting a 4 year old child in 1966. Instructed by Thos Boyd Whyte.