Charlotte Rimmer

Call 2005

Clerks

Nick Buckley
0161 817 2757

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Memberships

Northern Circuit

Education

University of Durham LLB (hons) 2003
University of Northumbria BVC 2004

Criminal

Charlotte specialises in criminal and regulatory law. She has an impressive reputation for delivering results against the odds in serious and complex cases. Consistently recommended by the leading legal publications for her 'approachability', 'unflappability' and 'superb trial advocacy' Charlotte's busy practice is dominated by jury trials of the utmost gravity.

Particularly known for her work involving organised crime, complex conspiracy, homicide and serious sexual offending,
Charlotte receives instructions from leading solicitors across the country. Recent instructions include Rochdale and Kirklees grooming trials, attracting national media interest. Charlotte also regularly deals with multi-handed organised crime cases and has vast experience conducting confiscation proceedings, including contested proceedings and standalone civil applications.

Charlotte also undertakes a range of regulatory work. She is instructed to represent Police Officers faced with alleged breach of professional standards. She is also instructed by the General Medical Council to present Fitness to Practice Cases. Charlotte receives a substantial proportion of private client instructions, particularly from professional lay clients (Police Federation and Foster Care Network) but also from a wide range of private clients seeking the best possible representation.

Meticulous in preparation and tactical from the outset, Charlotte welcomes early instructions on cases and has a track record for persuading prosecutors to reconsider charging decisions. With a forensic approach to complex disclosure, Charlotte routinely prompts revelation of material which very often leads to acquittals, either prior to trial or through robust cross examination. Charlotte also has an enviable track record at the Court of Appeal with several victories in 2024 in Appeal Conviction cases.

Cases

R v G (2020): Defending allegation of rape and domestic violence. Complainant called the police after escaping the crime and reported extensive bruising. Successful section 41 application at trial and challenge of forensic examiner. Acquitted of rape and one assault in the face of what had at first appeared to be compelling evidence. The defendant was released (time served) on the day of the verdicts.

R v M et al (2020): Prosecuting allegation of murder, led by Nicholas Johnson QC, in a case where two offenders carried out a revenge attack after being involved in a dispute with the deceased moments earlier regarding the treatment of a young boy. Both defendants convicted after trial of murder.

R v C (2020): Successful defence of inter-familial allegations dating back some 40 years where the complainants accused the defendant of gross indecency. The case involved extensive third party material including mental health records and counselling notes as well as the complexities of advising upon potential sentence combining sentencing powers from historic legislation with current sentencing practice.

R v F (2020): Secured full acquittals in case concerning child cruelty and domestic violence. The defendant faced counts of section 47 assault upon his ex-partner and their child, as well as coercive and controlling behaviour upon his partner and child cruelty charges in respect of three of his four children. The case involved extensive third-party material from school and social services with allegations of a catalogue of domestic abuse over many years. At trial the defendant was acquitted of all charges.

R v T (2020): Successful defence in case involving allegations of sexual assault upon a 17-year-old with the issue of consent. This case conducted using ground rules and section 28 cross examination and through careful and sensitive cross examination the credibility of the complainant was undermined and a full acquittal resulted.

R v H (2019): Child Sexual Abuse Panel referral of a case from the 1970s that was refused charge in 2008 and referred for reconsideration. After careful consideration and various additional inquiries there was sufficient evidence to charge the case (decision approved by the CCP).

R v M (2018): Pre-charge appeal case with charges of sexual abuse authorised against grandmother of 3-year-old complainant. Subject to challenge as to prospects of conviction – case resulted in conviction after trial and 6-year custodial sentence.

R v J et al (2016): Worked closely with reviewing lawyer in conspiracy to defraud prosecution of two senior academics who were alleged to have made false claims for consultancy work. VHCC involving voluminous material from the records at the institution.

R v S (2016): Oversight of referral to the DPP of this transmission of HIV case, which are notoriously complex to prosecute given the various elements that must be established including knowledge of risk and causation. The defendant was convicted and received 4 years in custody.

R v R (2015): Oversight of modern slavery prosecution under pressure from resident judge to drop proceedings. Consultation with CPS HQ and review of legislation and Convention on Forced Labour led to appropriate challenge of the Judge and pursuit of the case through to hung jury.

R v I (2014): Referral of advice to DCCP for fatal road traffic collision (responsible for referral of all fatal road traffic cases as Head of Crown Unit). This case involved a collision with a pedestrian at a set of traffic lights and as part of the review the collision reconstruction report was challenged and an expert instructed to establish average speeds far in excess of those initially identified which led to a conviction.

R v G (2014): Advice given on appeal by the police in respect of a gross negligence manslaughter allegation. The suspect was alleged to have supplied the victim with opiates which pathology confirmed had caused an overdose.

R v B et al (2014): Prosecution of 9-handed child sexual exploitation case involving a very vulnerable teenage victim in care, including allegations that both parents had facilitated the abuse (charged under s46 SCA 2007). The case involved careful rapport building with the complainant, including several meetings with her and the OIC at her care home. This VHCC case also concerned voluminous undermining third party material, cell site and complex digital communications evidence.

Recommendations

“She is incredible.”
Chambers and Partners 2026

"Charlotte has an exceptional grasp of the issues in the case. She is particularly adept at cross-examining vulnerable witnesses."
The Legal 500, 2026

"Charlotte is a rare diamond in that she has it all. She comes to court always fully prepared and knows every detail of her case, she has a wonderful manner with clients which ensures that even the most vulnerable clients are heard and their interests protected, and she is a dynamic advocate in court and has the ability to navigate complex legal issues quickly as and when they arise."
The Legal 500, 2025

"She is thorough, very approachable and excellent with clients. She has a very good bedside manner and uses her knowledge and experience to her advantage."
Chambers and Partners 2025

"Charlotte is extremely well-organised, she knows the cases inside out, and is extremely good with clients. She is a superb trial advocate, and she is a tough examiner of witnesses but always maintains a fair attitude."
The Legal 500, 2024

"She is very good in front of a jury and incredibly hard-working."
Chambers and Partners 2024

'Charlotte is incredibly thorough and always completely prepared, down to the last detail of a case. She is unflappable as an advocate and reassuring in conference. Clients have confidence in her, because she is so obviously well prepared. She has had some excellent results in really very difficult cases.'
The Legal 500, 2023

"Charlotte is meticulous and has an eye for detail."
"Charlotte is an exceptional barrister."
"She is hard-working and has excellent client care skills."
Chambers and Parterns 2023

"Charlotte's command of a brief is genuinely impressive. She is always meticulously prepared and live to even the minutiae of a case right from the start. She has a highly analytical mind and thinks tactically from the outset. Clients are put at ease by her calm manner, her confidence in a case and her obvious skill."
The Legal 500, 2022

"Charlotte is tenacious, methodical, well prepared, and has a great eye for detail. She has good legal thought process which generates a confidence that her judgement is sound."
The Legal 500, 2021

Beyond the Bar

Charlotte is an avid football fan and has played competitively since a young age in various national leagues and international tournaments. She follows Blackburn Rovers, which is invariably a tumultuous pursuit. With two young daughters opportunities for hobbies are limited, but with any spare time Charlotte enjoys mountain biking in the Peak District, reading and playing the piano.