David Sandiford

Call 1995

Clerks

Leigh Daniels
0161 817 2768

Olivia Cleere
0161 817 7138

Appointments

Attorney General's "A" Panel of Regional Counsel

Memberships

APIL
AVMA
Friends of Headway
Spinal Injuries Association

Education

- Educated at Bolton School and Oxford University (St. Edmund Hall) PGCE Cambridge University (Homerton)
- Called 1995 (Grays Inn), Karmel Scholar and Junior Award Winner

Civil Actions involving the Police

David has 25 years experience of appearing in civil actions involving the police, ranging from malicious prosecution, misfeasance in public office, false arrest/imprisonment and assault through to human rights cases including the right to peaceful protest. He has advised in Equality Act cases and alleged breaches of the investigative duty.

His work also covers EL/OL claims often involving substantial quantum disputes, and also 'fleet' claims from arising from emergency vehicles being involved in RTAs.

He has advised on a range of operational matters and issues arising from human trafficking, slavery and servitude.

He acted in one of the first Slavery and Trafficking Risk Orders to be sought nationally.

Police Cases

A flavour of practice:

X v – (1) Chief Constable of Y Constabulary & (2) the Director of Public Prosecutions – malicious prosecution, false imprisonment, misfeasance in public office, Art 5, 6 & 8, psychiatric injury – instructed by Defendant

Re Y – Misfeasance in public office, issues of vicarious liability, QDB

Re X – Equality Act, policing of protestors

Re H – false arrest, false imprisonment, football related disorder

Re A – false arrest, false imprisonment, drug related

Re S – claim arising from alleged breach of the investigative duty – child slavery

Re X – claim arising from alleged harassment and assault by fellow officers

Re S – false arrest, malicious prosecution, breach of confidence

Re C – custody time limits, mental health, issues around delay, inter agency protocol & procedure

Re H – injury to officer in course of search, liability and pension loss issues

Re F – human rights, Data Protection Act, issues of privacy around photographic witness appeals

Re A – advice on execution of warrants, human trafficking, prostitution

Re B – issues around lawfulness of notification requirements for sex offender, human rights, damages

Recommendations

"David is a very good practitioner. He's very reasonable and deals with complex cases very sensitively."

"Sandiford is a very pleasant advocate and opponent. His low-key demeanour works very well in inquest settings."
Chambers and Partners 2025

"David is very thorough. He explains the law and relevant factors in a way that the client can understand and appreciate."
The Legal 500 2025

Ranked tier 2 for Personal Injury

Ranked tier 2 for Administrative and Public Law (including Civil Liberties and Human Rights)

Ranked tier 2 for Inquests and Inquiries
The Legal 500 2024

'David is always thoroughly prepared and gets to the detail of each case. His calm and measured approach helps to achieve some excellent results and makes him extremely popular with clients. He is an excellent advocate, approachable and responsive.'
The Legal 500 2023

"David handles bereaved families with great respect and compassion. He is impressive on his feet and families are immensely reassured by his presence in conference and in the hearing." **The Legal 500 2022**

"David has undertaken a number of Joint Settlement Meetings for high value military claims, has produced sound advices and produced good results. David is a good advocate."
The Legal 500 2022

"David is cool, calm and collected. He is very approachable and always willing to help." **The Legal 500 2022**

"Extremely effective at explaining complicated matters in straightforward terms for clients, articulate and personable at all times. Cuts through medical terminology in a straightforward manner when dealing with medical experts. Gives concise direct advice on paper with a thorough grasp of all the issues."
The Legal 500 2021

"Well-prepared with great attention to detail."
The Legal 500 2021

"Particularly strong in inquests involving the criminal justice system. He represented the National Probation Service at an inquest into the death of a man who was killed by an individual that was on license for another murder at the time of the attack".
The Legal 500 2020

"Well versed in handling high-profile inquests involving police forces and deaths in custody"
The Legal 500 2019

"Noted for his expertise in inquests involving the police"
The Legal 500 2017

Beyond the Bar

A lover of sport, culture and the arts. Oxford cricket Blue 1991 (HS 83 v Yorkshire) and playing member of the MCC for over 25 (MCC 'A' Tour to Fiji and Hong Kong 1997). Keen skier. Supporter of girls' and boys' sport. Away from sports he has an appreciation of art, collecting the work of local 20th century artists and new emerging talent. He has a love of landscape and, as a proud Lancastrian, the industrial architecture and heritage of the North West of England.