


Richard Littler KC

Call 1994 | Silk 2019



Clerks

 Nick Buckley
 0161 817 2757

 Dave Haley
 0161 817 7118

 Andy Leech
 0161 817 2770

 Anthony Brown
 0161 833 2722

Memberships

- Criminal Bar Association
- ARDL
- PPA

Education

- LLB Manchester University
- Inn: Grays

Inquests

Death in Custody Inquest (2022) – 6 week Inquest touching upon the death of KHB, a detained person in police custody, at Preston Coroner’s Court acting for PC Price, one of the arresting officers. No adverse findings made against this officer.

Inquest representing Naveed Gill (2019) – defending in an inquest concerning death following car accident alleging defective vehicle responsible and defending those responsible for service/ repairs to vehicle. No adverse findings.

Richard is not only Head of the Manchester Criminal Department but also Head of Professional Discipline within chambers.

Inquests Cases

Illustrative cases include:

Richard represented the interests of a nurse at an inquest alleged to have been responsible for the death of a new born baby. The case attracted national media attention. It was alleged that the death was a direct consequence of the treatment administered by the nurse. Complex issues of neglect, causation and expert evidence. The conclusion reached was natural causes.

Richard was involved in a long inquest in 2014 at Wakefield Coroner's Court touching into the death of a baby in 2009 at Leeds Royal Infirmary. There were a number of medical interested persons. Richard represented the most senior Intensive Care Consultant who was criticised for deciding not to admit the baby into Intensive Care (PICU) sooner. There had been a catalogue of errors made by junior medics and Registrars and all were attempting to attribute blame elsewhere. Richard challenged the quality of the investigation by the Trust and exposed the fact that in 2009 fatalities in PICU were higher, the numbers of doctors and nurses were lower, there was no bed space in PICU in 2009 and medical personnel were regularly being forced to breach hospital policy and procedure to treat patients effectively. The Coroner found there had been neglect and that was inevitable but importantly the neglect was systemic within the hospital with a lack of resources being a huge contributing factor and importantly individual departments or doctors were not blamed. The case received National media attention and was raised in the House of Commons.

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Recommendations

What do Chambers and Partners and Legal 500 have to say?

“Richard has a fabulous manner with his clients and is able to adapt his style from the formality of the court room to that of the conference, communicating advice to client in a practical, understandable, and direct manner. He is a fearless and compelling advocate and does not shy away from making the tough submissions.”

The Legal 500 2025

“Richard is a passionate advocate with a true commitment to those he represents.”

“Richard is very easy to work with, provides a great service and gets good outcomes.”

“He is very friendly, approachable and has a good manner with clients. He listens and his advocacy in court is fantastic.”

“An outstanding advocate, he is extremely hard-working, easy to work with and has great client care.”

“Richard is an excellent silk. He is accommodating and approachable with the most vulnerable clients.”

“Richard is very friendly and approachable and has a good manner with the client.”

“Richard is a very impressive jury advocate, and he is able to take difficult circumstances and make it sound persuasive.”

“Richard is a passionate advocate with a true commitment to those he represents.”

Chambers and Partners 2025

“Richard is a very hard working silk – his advocacy, both written and verbal, are excellent. He is an excellent advocate that juries warm to, and clients are delighted to have him on their side.” **The Legal 500 2024**

“His attention to detail is great and his advocacy is amazing. He has incredible knowledge of the law.” **Chambers and Partners 2024**

Ranked Tier 1 for Professional Disciplinary Law Ranked Tier 2 for Crime (General and Fraud) **The Legal 500 2023**

“He has a wonderful calming manner with clients.” **Chambers and Partners 2023**

“An exceptionally bright KC.” “He is a brilliant advocate with an excellent manner with clients.” **Chambers and Partners 2022**

“Richard Littler KC is another stand-out name and displays expertise in cases involving terrorism, organised crime and fraud.” **The Legal 500 2022**

“A leading advocate in the criminal and regulatory arena.” “His broad practice includes cases of serious violence and terrorism.” **The Legal 500 2021**

“His broad practice includes cases of serious violence and terrorism.” **The Legal 500 2020**

What others say about Richard?

“I have worked with Richard for many years, dealing with some of the most serious and complicated cases. He is fearless in his defence of clients, meticulous in preparation and consistently gets brilliant results.” **Damian Wall Senior Partner & Criminal Defence Lawyer Complex Crime.**

“..his attention to detail has been exceptional. The hard work and commitment he gives to the cases is proven by the great results that he receives. His client care is wonderful and the clients not only want to use him again but recommend his services to others, which in itself is a sign of the quality of his work.” **Kerry Morgan Senior Partner & Criminal Defence Lawyer Complex Crime.**

Beyond the Bar

Richard has written many published legal articles, regularly presents lectures to fellow professionals, attends schools and universities to meet with students and is currently part of a professional committee advising and contributing towards a government report on ADHD in the Criminal Justice System: A case for Change (a topic Richard has a strong personal interest in).

He is also a keen musician and has played lead guitar in a number of bands performing at venues such as Kendal Calling Festival, the Cavern, Band on the Wall, the Deaf Institute and other well-known venues. He and the charity punk band Red Corner raised money for important charities and performed at the Manchester Legal Awards Ball in 2018.