



## Dan Taylor

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Dan is a tenacious and persuasive advocate, who prides himself on his meticulous attention to detail, strategic approach to cases and excellent client care skills. He is regularly instructed in cases across a broad range of criminal offences, including those of murder, serious violence, dishonesty, large-scale conspiracies and sexual offences, both as a led junior and junior alone. As one of the first group of individuals to complete the Bar Council vulnerable witness training, many of the cases he is involved in feature young and/or vulnerable witnesses or defendants.

In addition to his thriving defence practice, Dan is regularly instructed to prosecute on behalf of the Crown Prosecution Service, for whom he is a Grade 3 prosecutor, local authorities and regulatory bodies across England and Wales. He is also qualified to accept instructions from members of the public under the Direct Access provisions.

### Crime

### Homicide

#### Homicide

Dan now receives instructions from the prosecution and defence in the most serious of cases, involving allegations of murder, attempted murder and manslaughter.

- Operation Kirkley [2019] Instructed as junior alone on behalf of a defendant charged with assisting an offender, the principle defendant having been charged with murder. The case involved complex telephone and cell-site evidence and in excess of 28,000 pages of served evidence. [PRESS REPORT [BBC](#)]
- Operation Header [2019] Instructed as junior alone on behalf of a defendant charged with attempted murder and conspiracy to cause GBH, arising out of a shooting on a traveller's site. Following extensive legal argument at the conclusion of the Crown's case, the prosecution accepted a plea to conspiracy to commit violent disorder in satisfactory resolution of the

indictment.

- Operation Veralum [2018] Led by Angela Rafferty QC for the prosecution of a case involving offences of murder and attempted murder. The case received national press coverage. [PRESS REPORT [\[BBC\]](#)]
- Operation Ferguson [2018] Led by Angela Rafferty QC for a defendant charged with murder, having stabbed the deceased 65 times. On the first day of the trial, the prosecution accepted a plea to manslaughter, by way of diminished responsibility. The Judge imposed an order under section 45A of the Mental Health Act 1983, rather than a sentence of life imprisonment. [PRESS REPORT [\[BBC\]](#)]

## **Violent crime**

Dan has dealt with a range of offences of serious violence for the prosecution and defence, often with a gang and/or drugs background, including those of GBH, aggravated burglary and offences involving firearms.

- Operation Mace [2019] Led junior for the prosecution in a case involving seven defendants charged with aggravated burglary and robbery. All defendants were convicted after a six-week trial and sentenced to a total of 127 years imprisonment. [PRESS REPORT [\[BBC\]](#)]
- Operation Juno [2018] Led by Chris Paxton QC for the prosecution in the case of a man who was alleged to have sent an improvised explosive device (IED) to his step-mother's house. The case involved complex evidence from a Home Office accredited expert on explosives.
- R v AH [2017] Successful defence of a young man charged with a S18 stabbing in Essex, on the basis of self-defence.
- R v GG and another [2017] Led by Angela Rafferty QC for the prosecution in a case involving allegations of child cruelty, described by the Judge as "sadistic" in his sentencing remarks. The case involved evidence from a five year-old girl, with a novel cocktail of special measures. [PRESS REPORT [\[BBC\]](#)]
- R v TB [2015] Successful defence of a man charged with a S18 multiple stabbing. The defendant, said to be a member of a rival drugs gang to the complainant, was positively identified as the individual responsible for the attack and made 'no comment' during the course of his police interview.

## **Sexual offences**

Dan prosecutes and defends in cases involving allegations of a sexual nature, including those of rape, assault by penetration and the possession of indecent images. Such cases often involve the examination of young and/or vulnerable witnesses and careful consideration of the Advocates

## Toolkit for vulnerable witnesses.

- R v PK [2019] Instructed on behalf of a defendant charged with paying a girl, under the age of 16, for sexual services (ongoing).
- R v SC [2019] Successful defence of a man charged with indecent exposure. His previous convictions for like offences were admitted in evidence before the jury.
- Operation Numeric [2019] Led by Jeremy Benson QC for the prosecution in a case involving allegations of historic sexual abuse made against a high-profile football coach. The defendant died in a car crash on the first day of his trial.[PRESS REPORT[BBC]]
- Operation Summerdale [2017] Defence of a Romanian man charged with the attempted rape of a stranger in Ipswich town centre. The case attracted considerable local media attention. [PRESS REPORT[BBC]]
- Operation Ramie [2017] Led junior for the defendant in a multi-handed case alleging historic inter-familiar child sexual abuse. The defendant had an IQ of just 43 and was diagnosed with 'paedophilia'. Following extensive legal argument over four days, the prosecution offered no evidence on all counts.
- R v JP [2017] Defence of a youth charged with rape. On the first day of the trial, the prosecution accepted a plea to a section 9 offence, as a satisfactory alternative to rape. The defendant was sentenced to a community order.
- R v JP [2016] Successful defence of a youth charged with one count of assault by penetration said to have been committed against a 10-year-old girl, during the course of a sleep-over. The case involved the careful cross-examination of a vulnerable child witness, during which she accepted that she may have dreamt the incident.

## Fraud and Corporate Crime

Dan has developed a sound practice in white-collar and corporate crime. He has gained particular experience of prosecuting and defending high-value cases of benefit and mortgage fraud, as well as large-scale conspiracies and proceedings under POCA 2002.

- Operation Wastebasket [2019] Led junior for the prosecution in a multi-handed, high-value fraud, concerning the manipulation of the Joint Personnel Administration system, used by the Ministry of Defence, governmental and UK service personnel. One defendant pleaded guilty at PTPH and the remaining four were convicted after trial. [PRESS REPORT[DAILY MAIL]]
- Operation Sabbath [2018] Led junior in a case prosecuted by the East of England CCU, concerning two 'boiler room' frauds, purporting to sell coloured diamonds and binary trades. The value of the frauds was in excess of £500,000. 12 of the 13 defendants were convicted.
- Operation Solitaire [2017] Led junior in a multi-handed case involving a high-value rare earth metal investment fraud. The main conspirator received a sentence of six years imprisonment

after trial.

- Operation Hornet [2015] Assisted in the disclosure exercise of a high profile, high value banking fraud involving employees of HBOS. [PRESS REPORT[[BBC](#)]]

## **General crime**

Dan prosecutes and defends a variety of cases on a daily basis in the Crown Court. These cases often involve multiple defendants, complex points of law and/or a significant quantity of served evidence.

- R v MM and another [2019] Instructed on behalf of a defendant charged with offences of assisting unlawful immigration into the UK. The defendant is alleged to have smuggled a family of Afghan nationals into the UK via Calais (ongoing).
- Operation Mexico [2019] Led junior for the prosecution in a multi-handed case involving numerous 'millennium' burglaries, committed across a number of counties in the south-east of England. The case involves a considerable volume of cell-site material and telephone evidence (ongoing).
- Operation Hawkesbury [2018] Defence of an individual charged with conspiracy to burgle. The case concerned over 250 dwelling and non-dwelling burglaries committed across five counties, over the course of 11 months. [PRESS REPORT[[BBC](#)]]
- Operation Jumfru [2018] Defence of an individual charged with conspiracy to remove criminal property from the United Kingdom. Although the value of the laundered cash was in excess of £7 million, the defendant received a sentence a little in excess of two years imprisonment. [PRESS REPORT[[ITV](#)]]
- Operation Portugal [2017] Instructed on behalf of multiple defendants charged with conspiracy to supply Class A drugs across London, Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk. The operation remains one of the largest of its kind in the region.

## **Courts martial**

Dan has previous military experience and is regularly instructed in cases involving service personnel across all branches of the UK armed forces.

- R v GJ [2019] Dan is currently instructed on behalf of a Chief Petty Officer charged with negligently performing a duty (ongoing).
- R v PW [2018] Successful defence of an RAF Corporal charged with offences of GBH and ABH. The defendant was acquitted following a successful half-time submission on the issue of identification.
- R v TJ [2018] Defence of a private in the Parachute Regiment charged with GBH on a taxi-driver.
- R v PY [2018] Instructed on a private basis on behalf of an Army Sergeant, charged with breach

of curfew, whilst on tour in Kenya. Following extensive and detailed written submissions to the Service Prosecuting Authority, proceedings against the defendant were discontinued.

## **Appellate Work**

Dan has appeared in the Court of Appeal in relation to appeals against conviction and sentence.

- R v LT [2019] EWCA Crim 58 Successful appeal against a terminating ruling. The Court of Appeal determined that the Judge had wrongly excluded identification evidence having incorrectly interpreted the provisions of R v Alexander and McGill and R v McCullough, concerning identifications through social media. The defendant was convicted following a re-trial.
- R v DG [2018] Appeal against sentence for a defendant convicted of attempted rape. 12 years imprisonment was reduced to 10 years imprisonment on the basis that the Judge had given insufficient discount for the offence being an attempt.

## **Education**

2012- BPTC, Manchester

2011- CPE, BPP Law School

2009- BA (Hons) History and Politics, University of York

## **Memberships**

Gray's Inn

Criminal Bar Association

South Eastern Circuit

Essex Bar Mess