

Helen Easterbrook

### **Who am I?**

I am a self-employed barrister who works as part of the Chambers of William Mousley QC, known as 2 King's Bench Walk (2KBW). I represent those charged with criminal offences, whether those instructions come through solicitors or directly through the Public Access scheme, as well as prosecuting on behalf of government bodies such as the Crown Prosecution Service.

The clerking team of 2KBW handle most of my correspondence, whether that is sent to me in physical or digital formats. If you have any questions as to how your data will be handled, please contact me through the clerks.

### **How I use your personal information**

There are three main areas in which I may be using your personal information:

- Preparing your case
- Presenting your case in court
- Writing papers

#### **Preparing your case**

In order to prepare your case fully I will need access to your case papers and quite possibly further information about you held by you or your solicitors. This allows me to consider my advice to you against the wider context of your personal life which may have a significant bearing on proceedings.

#### **Presenting your case in court**

In a similar way to preparing your case, in order to effectively present your case at court I will usually need to make public items of your personal data such as where you work, previous convictions and your marital status. This will allow a judge or jury to understand the context of the allegations being made against you. I will only present information that is relevant to your case and only after having discussed it with you first.

#### **Writing papers**

Following more complex cases, or those raising interesting or new points of law, it is common for barristers to write academic style papers for publication. Should this be the case with any matter I deal with on your behalf then I would anonymise any such information (other than that which was a matter of court record and therefore in the public domain already) before publication.

### **Who I might share your information with**

#### **Other barristers – 'returns'**

Unless instructed on a direct access basis, it is common for barristers to attend court on behalf of each other where the original barrister becomes 'double booked', for example if a trial takes longer than

expected. In these circumstances I would share your case file and any notes I have made in preparation with whoever covers hearings for me. As a general rule, these 'returns' cases are dealt with by barristers from my own chambers who have similar privacy statements to my own and which are available to read on our website.

### Solicitors

Preparing and presenting your case effectively needs close cooperation between myself and your solicitors (unless you are instructing me directly). This close cooperation is usually via email but hard copy letters, telephone calls and face to face meetings are also commonly used. I will usually share all aspects of your case with your solicitors but where this would not be in your best interests I will explain to you what is not being shared and why.

### Experts

Many criminal cases require the use of expert witnesses. If your case requires an expert to be instructed, then some of your personal data will need to be shared with them. It would be unusual for them to be given the full case papers as they are usually required to answer a relatively narrow question and your solicitor will be able to explain this first step to you in more detail. If you are instructing me directly you will be sharing the information directly with the expert.

### Prosecuting agencies (CPS etc)

Barristers are governed by a strict code of professional conduct. One of our core responsibilities is that of maintaining client confidentiality i.e. that I must not share your information and instructions without your consent. In preparing your case however I will often need to discuss the case with those prosecuting you in order to resolve problems before court hearings.

### Court

In presenting your case at court it is almost certain that I will need to share some of your data with court staff and in open court. This will be discussed with you ahead of the hearing to ensure you understand what will be used and how.

### **Your consent**

By instructing me, directly or through solicitors, to deal with your case you are giving me your consent to use your personal data as described above. If you wish to discuss this further, please contact me via my clerks.