



## Practice

Anna is fast establishing a reputation as an insightful, courageous and effective advocate, who is accessible to clients, and a strong strategic thinker. She has extensive experience of successfully representing clients whose cases challenge public policy and seek to achieve social justice. Anna's areas of expertise include criminal defence and inquests as well as civil actions against the police and public law.

## Criminal Defence

In her most recent notable case Anna represented Claire Finch, who was unanimously acquitted by a jury of brothel keeping despite her acceptance that she worked collectively from her own home providing sexual services. The case challenged the criminalisation of prostitutes working collectively for safety as Anna successfully argued that the jury could acquit Ms Finch if they found it was too dangerous for her to work alone. Her acquittal has prompted calls for a review of brothel keeping legislation and was reported by the BBC, The Times, The Guardian and The Daily Telegraph.

Anna is frequently instructed to represent political protestors in cases that litigate the boundaries of the state's incursion into civil liberties. In 2008, she represented one of the "EDO 5" who were all acquitted by a jury of charges arising from a peaceful protest at the premises of EDO/MBM. Anna has also been involved in litigation surrounding "FIT Watch" protestors and their challenge to the filming of those attending protests by police officers. She has also represented those taking part in demonstrations at the sites of Sequani, Carmel Axxgrexco, Raytheon and Erynys as well as those who attended the Climate Camp at Kingsnorth. As a result, Anna is experienced in the cross-examination of professional witnesses, particularly police officers.

In 2009 Anna was appointed by Reprieve, the death penalty organisation founded by Clive Stafford-Smith, to represent Samantha Orobator who was facing the death penalty in Laos for drug offences. During her time in Laos, Anna was able to secure the swift release and repatriation of Samantha back to the UK as a result of strategic lobbying of both the Foreign Office and the Laos Government in an intense campaign that attracted significant international media attention. The evidence that Anna gave to the High Court in London helped to secure Samantha's release from prison in early 2010.

As well as being an advocate in her own right, Anna has a reputation as a hard-working and efficient led junior. She has been instructed in a number of complex multi-handed cases, and along with Michael Hall, represented one of 25 defendants tried at the Liverpool Crown Court as part of Operation Greengage, a SOCA investigation into a conspiracy to import £10m worth of cocaine and firearms. The investigation was one of the largest ever conducted in the Northwest of England.

## Inquests

Anna's inquest practice includes controversial deaths in state custody. In 2007 Anna was led by John Cooper QC appearing for the family at the inquest into the

### Year of Call

2006

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### Education

LLB/LLM Human Rights,  
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### Practice Areas:

Anna Morris is a member of the following Practice Areas:

- Civil Law
- Claims Against The Police & Public Authorities
- Crime
- Extradition Law
- Inquests
- International Advice and Litigation

### Garden Court Chambers

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death of one of the soldiers who died in questionable circumstances at the Deepcut barracks in Surrey. More recently, Anna was instructed by Farleys Solicitors to represent the family of Lisa Marley who took her own life at HMP Styal, and also represented the family of Eilidh Cairns, a young cyclist who lost her life when she collided with an HGV in Notting Hill. Her death has prompted calls by cycle safety campaigners for the right of safe passage of cyclists on London's roads.

### **Civil Actions Against the Police**

Anna is currently instructed in a number of claims against the police authorities in damages for assault, false imprisonment and misfeasance in public office. Her protest work often leads to referrals for claims for false imprisonment and assault.

### **Publications**

Anna contributed chapters on criminal justice and police disciplinary procedures to *Blackstone's Guide to the Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008* edited by Maya Sikand, Oxford University Press (Published January 2009) and was a contributor to Colin Wells', *Abuse of Process*, Legal Action Group (2006). She also writes regularly for *Socialist Lawyer*.

### **Campaigning Work**

Anna combines a demanding practice with her commitment to social justice campaigning. She is the Vice Chair of the Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers as well as a member of the following organizations: Inquest Lawyers Group, Police Action Lawyers Group, Young Legal Aid Lawyers, Legal Action Group, Lawyers for Liberty, Criminal Bar Association.

Profile updated June 2010