



Lisa Gillespie KC

Year of Call: 2005

Year of Silk: 2020

Lisa is Deputy Principal Crown Counsel. She has been a full time Advocate Depute since 2014, specialising in sexual offending and domestic abuse. During this time she has successfully prosecuted many cases of rape and child sex abuse. Her particular interest is in cases involving witnesses with additional vulnerabilities such as mental disorder or substance abuse. She is part of the senior management team at Crown Office.

Lisa trained at Brodies where, after qualifying as a solicitor in 1999, she spent three years in the Court department. She was then a procurator fiscal depute at Edinburgh for two years, before going to the Bar. Lisa worked for three years on a high profile public inquiry arising from the Troubles in Northern Ireland: she currently holds the highest level of national security clearance. She was Law Clerk to the Lord Justice Clerk Lord Gill: this included carrying out research into complex areas of law and drafting judgments.

As well as a first class LLB, Lisa has an MSc with distinction in Global Crime, Justice and Security, and a certificate in forensic medicine and science, all from the University of Edinburgh.

Areas of Practice

Criminal Trials

FAI & Public Inquiries

Post conviction proceedings

Selected Cases

Raymond Bell: prosecution for murder where death occurred five years after an assault (2022)

Sam Imrie: prosecution for terrorist offences arising from right wing extremism (2021)

John Bermingham: prosecution of a serial sexual offender, resulting in an Order for Lifelong Restriction (2021)

Allan Doherty + Weir Mackay: prosecution for murder where the cause of death was uncertain - see Mackay -v- HM Adv [2020] HCJAC 24

HDJS: prosecution for serious child sex abuse with an international dimension - see HDJS -v- HM Adv [2018] HCJAC 14