



Clea Topolski.

Year of call

Barrister • 2008

clea.topolski@crucible.law

What others say:

'A dedicated advocate who will go the extra mile'

Crime – Leading Juniors (Legal 500 – 2020)

Clea Topolski ranked as *'Up and Coming'*

Strengths: 'Impressive in her handling of prison-related matters. She is committed and shows good judgement.'

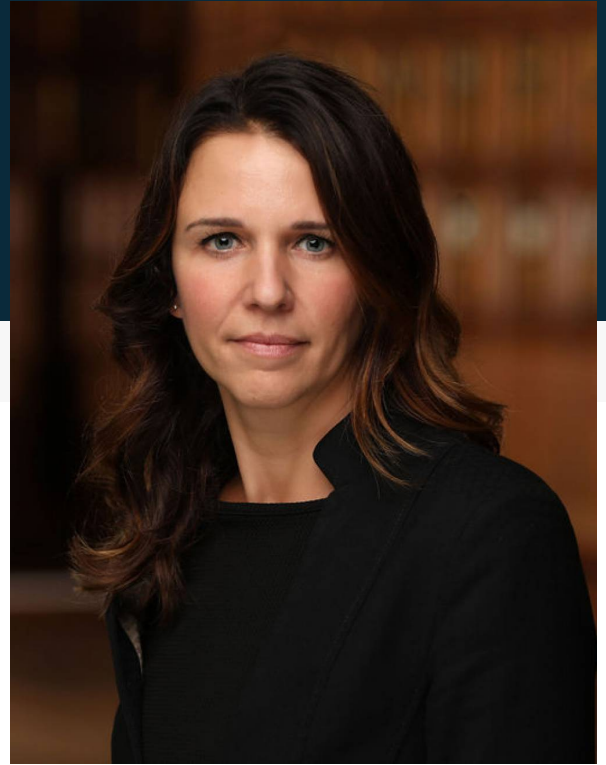
Chambers & Partners, Crime in London (Bar)

Practice Profile:

Clea Topolski has an extensive general crime and extradition practice spanning over 12 years having been called to the Bar in 2014 after qualifying as a solicitor six years previously.

Clea has an exclusive defence practice in serious crime and is regularly instructed in cases involving serious violence and organised crime. She is often instructed in high profile murders, serious sexual assaults and high value frauds. She has extensive experience in cases involving alleged gang related activity that often involve large scale conspiracies to supply significant quantities of class A drugs as well as conspiracies to rob or murder.

She always applies her meticulous case preparation with any case she is instructed on. Her manner and



Qualifications:

- LL.B (Hons), University College London

Professional memberships:

- Criminal Bar Association

Other details:

- She is a member of both Amnesty International and Liberty.
- When she is not working, she enjoys spending time with her family, including her two young children, and is a keen runner.

professionalism puts both the lay and professional client at ease, whatever the case.

She is often commended for her witness management and cross-examination.

Clea is a founding member of a programme to give pupils from non-traditional backgrounds, access to life at the criminal Bar. Through this programme, Chambers have developed a relationship with two secondary schools in London, which gives interested students an opportunity to undertake mini-pupillages with members of Crucible Chambers. The programme has been a resounding success.

Clea is also Pupil Supervisor.

Serious crime:

A specialist in serious violent crimes, she is well-known for her client care and ability to provide advice regarding often complex cases in a friendly and clear manner. She has substantial experience dealing with vulnerable clients, whether suffering from mental illness or of a young age.

Notable serious crime cases:

R v L 2020

Kingston Crown Court – instructed in a multi-defendant conspiracy to rob and possess firearms case involving the targeting and robbing of cash in transit vehicles.

R v T 2020

Central Criminal Court – led junior in a two-handed murder resulting in acquittal.

R v L 2020

Kingston Crown Court – large scale conspiracy to supply class A drugs.

R v C 2020

Defended the female defendant in a kidnapping case, when her role was to be a visual assurance to the female complainant getting into a fake taxi-cab.

R v M 2019

Defended in a serious kidnapping case, when the complainant was a drug dealer targeted for his drugs and money.

R v D 2019

Kingston crown court successfully argued a stay of proceedings as an abuse of process in a multi-handed s18 trial.

R v F 2019

Maidstone Crown Court defended in the first of three trials of a large-scale prison mutiny case. One of the few defendants to be acquitted of Criminal Damage

R v T 2019

Blackfriars Crown Court – defended in the original trial of this modern slavery case which resulted in a hung jury in January. Made a successful half time submission in the re-trial in October.

R v S 2018

Led junior in a murder committed in a domestic setting, with a 12 year old as the Crown's key witness.

R v SS 2018

Successfully defended a man charged with possession of a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence.

R v D 2018

Multi-handed s18 assault.

R v D 2016

Represented a man in a large conspiracy to burgle residential properties spanning over 5 years.

Serious Sexual offences

R v P 2020

Inner London Crown Court – instructed in a multiple complainant historic sexual assault case.

R v B 2018

Historic sexual assault on the step-child in the familial home

R v J 2018

Historic sexual assault and buggery of children

R v H 2017

Defended a man charged with multiple rapes, false imprisonment and assault which included careful cross-examination of a witness with learning difficulties.

R v R 2016

Successfully defended a man charged with sexual assault

Extradition:

She has a growing practice in extradition where she represents clients from final hearings to appeals in the High Court.



