



# PHILIP ASTBURY

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Nationwide

## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

### Crime

Philip is frequently instructed in multi-handed conspiracies involving serious organised crime. He has experience being led, and appearing as a leading junior. He is a level 4 prosecutor and is included within the CPS rape panel. He often defends and prosecutes rapes and serious sexual allegations in the Crown Court, and has been instructed to defend in a number of historic institutional abuse cases across the country.

## DIRECTORIES

"Highly experienced in fraud and complex criminal casework". – Legal 500 2009

## MEMBERSHIPS

Criminal Bar Association

## PROFILE OVERVIEW

Philip Astbury practises exclusively in criminal law.

Combative and persuasive in equal measure, Philip is instructed across the entire spectrum of criminal work by both defence and prosecution.

## NOTABLE CASES

**Operation Mainframe (2018):** Defending conspiracy to supply controlled drugs between the North West of England and Scotland.

**Operation Manhattan (2018):** Defending conspiracy to distribute Class A drugs across the UK.

**Operation Portrayne (2018):** Prosecuted a conspiracy to supply cocaine between Organised Crime Groups in Liverpool and Glasgow. Associated prosecution of those who laundered the substantial cash proceeds via the "Hawala" banking system.

**Operation Milden (2017):** Prosecuted the importation of controlled drugs from Spain into the UK, via France and the Channel Tunnel.

**R v Daniels Waste Management (2017):** Defended environmental offences involving the export of dangerous pollutants to West Africa, featured in a BBC Panorama investigation.

**Operation Waterscape (2016):** Prosecuted a series of shootings across the region together with drug trafficking offences which lay behind the conflict.

**Operation Camaro (2015):** Defended allegations of the supply of automatic firearms between organised crime groups.

**Operation Airdrie (2015):** Defended a conspiracy to manufacture adulterants for use in the illicit drug trade on an industrial scale.

**Operation Firethorn (2012, 2013 and 2014):** Prosecuted a series of sophisticated conspiracies to counterfeit currency, creating over £750,000 in forged £20 notes which entered the UK economy.

**R v Ash (2013):** Defended a conspiracy to possess explosives involving a significant quantity of antitank landmines stolen from the MOD.