
The Public Defender Service can provide the following assistance:**Advocacy Team:**

1. **CAN** accept instructions from the Court for the Appointment of an Advocate under the provisions of section 38 of the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999 where the Defendant/Appellant is Prohibited by Law or by Order of the Court from Cross-Examining Particular Witnesses in Person under Sections 34, 35 & 36 of the Act.
2. **CAN** accept instructions from the Court for the Appointment of an Advocate under Section 4A of the Criminal Procedure (Insanity) Act 1964 (Archbold 2024 4-233) on a finding of fact jury trial, to represent the defendant who is under a disability.
3. **CAN** accept instructions and represent any defendant who is eligible for legal aid or has the benefit of a Representation Order. In particular, we can represent defendants where an existing representation order is transferred to the PDS by the Court. However, it must be borne in mind that a defendant must agree to the PDS representing them.
4. **CAN** accept instructions from any firm of solicitors to act for a defendant on a privately paying basis.
5. **CANNOT** accept instructions from any defendant directly. Defendants must first agree that the PDS can represent them and then instruct a firm of solicitors.

Solicitors Team:

1. **CAN** accept instructions and represent any defendant who is eligible for legal aid or has the benefit of a Representation Order
2. **CAN** assist Courts by taking over cases where the Court deems it necessary for another legal team be instructed, where the Representation Order can be transferred.

**Robin Driscoll, Charlotte Forey, and Emily Radford are the PDS Clerking Team
and will be able to assist with any enquiries or request for PDS assistance.**

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