



# Khan Solicitors

## Client Information Sheet

### Motoring Offences

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## Introduction

As part of our professional rules, we aim to ensure that anyone wishing to use our services has the information they need to make an informed choice of legal services provider, including understanding what the costs may be.

## Why instruct Khan Solicitors?

Khan Solicitors specialise in criminal defence in all areas of Criminal Law. We undertake both legally aided clients and those who are privately funded. We strive to ensure our clients have expert assistance at the point of arrest, the Magistrates and Crown Court as well as appeals in the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court.

Based in Bradford and with an office in Sheffield, we are accredited against the Law Society Lexcel standard. Our approach to clients is one of friendliness and efficiency. Our clients are made to feel welcome but also confident that their legal issues are dealt with in a manner that both expedient and competent. We strive to create the right impression by being as available and as approachable as possible. We can offer appointments outside normal working hours and are available 24 hours a day 365 days a year for emergencies and clients who have been arrested. We feel it important that our clients to have access to a solicitor at all times and we ensure that as a firm we work as efficiently as possible to deliver an excellent service to all our clients.

There are many driving offences which can vary from minor offences to major offences and so can the punishments. We can help with drink/drug driving, mobile phone offences, speeding, dangerous driving and driving without insurance to name a few. These laws are in place to protect you, however if you have fallen victim too such an offence then we are here to help you. At Khan Solicitors we are trained to handle every issue promptly and professionally, to help put your mind at ease.

## Our Motoring Offences Team

### Shakil Ahmed

#### Director-Solicitor and Head of Motoring Offences Team

Shakil Ahmed is a senior lawyer and director of the firm. He has been a practising solicitor since 2007 and has vast experience within our criminal law team. Shakil is duty qualified and a leading lawyer in our Magistrates' Court department. He represents clients with matters at the Magistrates' Court on a daily basis and regularly defends clients for driving offences.

Shakil is also one of our senior trial advocates. He has successfully defended clients in numerous criminal trials including driving offences. A conscientious approach to the preparation of your case prior to the hearing will ensure your case is defended and delivered strongly to the Court. This will mean that you will have ample opportunity to discuss your case prior to any hearing and discuss how best to put forward your case to the Court.

He has experience in providing expert advice and representation in relation to exceptional hardship hearings and has successfully argued this for many of our clients. You can be assured that your case will be given the attention and care you require from Shakil.

## **Sarah Aslam Solicitor**

Sarah Aslam is a qualified duty solicitor. She has been a practising solicitor since 2012 and has extensive experience in niche areas within the criminal law department. She attends Magistrates Court for driving matters, where she contests road traffic prosecutions and also mitigates on behalf of clients. She has obtained positive results at special reasons hearings, exceptional hardship hearings and failure to provide information on the identity of the driver.

## **Motoring offence, summary only<sup>1</sup>, Guilty Plea**

### **Our Fees**

Fixed Fee: £150 + vat

### **What is included?**

- Attendance and/or preparation;
- Considering evidence;
- Taking your instructions;
- Providing advice on likely sentence;
- Attendance and representation at a single hearing at the Magistrates Court.

### **What is not included?**

- Instruction of any expert witnesses;
- Taking statements from any witnesses;
- Advice and assistance in relation to a Special Reasons<sup>2</sup> or exceptional hardship hearing<sup>3</sup>;
- Advice or assistance in relation to any appeal.

### **Key stages involved**

The key stages of your matter are based on the presumption that you have entered a guilty plea and have a date for your hearing. They typically include:

- Meet with you to provide instructions on what happened;
- Consider initial disclosure, and any other evidence and provide advice;
- Arranging to take any witness statements. This would be charged on an hourly rates basis at the charging rates set out in the table below;
- Explain the court procedure to you so you know what to expect on the day of your hearing, and the sentencing options available to the Court;
- Conduct any further preparatory work, obtain further instructions from you, if necessary, and answer any follow up queries you have;
- Attend court on the day, meet with you before going before the court. We anticipate being at court for half a day.
- Discuss the outcome with you. If advice is required on appeal, this will carry an additional cost.

Description	Hourly rate	+ VAT
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Directors, consultants and Solicitors with over 4 years' experience	£201.00	20%
Other Solicitors and Legal Executives (FCILEX)	£177.00	20%
Trainee Solicitors	£146.00	20%
Paralegals	£111.00	20%

## Not Guilty Pleas and Trial and other hearings

- Full Day Trial at the Magistrates Court £1200 plus vat (this includes all the preparatory work attendances upon and witnesses and attendance at Court).
- Half Day Trial at the Magistrates Court £600 plus vat (this includes all the preparatory work attendances upon and witnesses and attendance at Court).
- Special Reasons or exceptional Hardship hearing £500 plus vat (this includes all the preparatory work attendances upon and witnesses and attendance at Court).

Please note we cannot provide a timescale of when your hearing will take place, as this depends on the court listing for that day.

## Notes

1. A summary only offence is an offence which can only be tried in the magistrates' court. There are exceptions. Under the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (CJA 1988) offences specified in the Act can be tried on indictment by a jury if they are linked to an offence triable only in the Crown Court. The principal summary only offences are:
  - driving whilst disqualified
  - careless and inconsiderate driving
  - failing to give information as to the identity of the driver
  - failing to stop or report, and
  - speeding.
2. Special Reasons pertain exclusively to situations where the accused has been found or has pled guilty and now faces disqualification unless he/she can persuade the Court that the circumstances of the offence are such that it would be unjust to impose a ban.
3. An exceptional hardship hearing is where the accused has been found or has pled guilty and now faces disqualification unless they can persuade the Court that a disqualification would cause them or others exceptional hardship

**Updated:** March 2020