



# Graham Gilbert

**Year of Call:** 2015

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## Trading Standards

Graham prosecutes and defends across a variety of trading standards matters, as well as associated areas. He appears for both prosecuting agencies, individuals, and companies. He is particularly adept at matters involving unusual or tricky points of law, which he combines with strong advisory and advocacy skills which can be deployed throughout both the investigative and litigation process.

### Work Highlights include:

- **A v TS:** provide urgent (same day) advice to a multinational company on its obligations during an investigation by trading standards.
- **R v Skelton (2023):** successfully prosecuted a defendant builder charged with multiple offences arising from his work.
- **R v Bodie:** appeared successfully for the prosecuting authority in a case concerning multiple offences of fraud by a local builder.
- **R v Lankshear:** successful prosecution on behalf of a Local Authority of two traders for a variety of offences.
- **R v B:** represented a local council in a prosecution for tenant-related offences.
- **R v STC:** appeared before the Court of Appeal (and the Crown Court) for an unusual prosecution under the Knives Act 1996. It was the first time the Court of Appeal had considered the legislation.
- **R v Buggins:** prosecution of a gas engineer for fraud offences.

### Food Safety

Graham has a long history of representing individuals and companies charged with offences relating to hygiene and food safety. He also represents regulatory bodies, including local authorities charged with upholding standards.

### Recent Work Highlights Include:

- **BCC v MSK Ltd:** represented an Indian restaurant charged with offences arising from a rodent infestation.
- **BCC v IS Ltd:** appeared on behalf of a convenience store chain facing offences relating to registration and cleanliness.
- **WRS v C:** acted on behalf a café charged with hygiene offences following a flooding incident on the site.
- **R v GST:** represented a turkey farmer charged with various food hygiene-related offences.
- **ADC v RF Ltd:** provided advice to a local authority on the interplay between food safety offences and the proceeds of crime.
- **BCC v TF Ltd & MA:** represented both the holding company and director of a cash and carry for multiple food hygiene offences.

## Environmental & Animal Welfare

Graham's expertise covers many areas of environmental offence and in particular experience of animal welfare matters, with recent work including representing companies, boarding kennels, and private individuals. Alongside this, he has also appeared in matters concerning maritime law and other environmental offences, such as fly-tipping, nuisance, and planning law.

Work Highlights include:

- **HCC v G:** appeared on behalf of a New Forester charged with various animal welfare and associated regulatory offences linked to his small-holding and stock.
- **RSPCA v W:** represented an elderly widow charged with multiple offences by the regulator arising from her husbandry of a range of animals.
- **WCC v DF Ltd:** appeared on behalf of a kennels charged with breaching the term of its licence by its local authority.
- **LDC v B:** acting on behalf of a rescue centre alleged to have maltreated the animals under its care.
- **RSPCA v Golden Retriever Experience:** appeared for Mr Grant St James, the owner of the popular Golden Retriever Experience, throughout the proceedings before the West Somerset Magistrates' Court. He was instructed by Paul Loughlin, a partner with law firm Stephensons.
- **R v Turner:** appeared for the Crown in a prosecution of an individual for an offence involving a dangerously out of control dog which bit the face of a care-worker.
- **UP Ltd v NCC:** appeared for the local authority in an appeal against a noise abatement notice brought by a global manufacturer of cricket bats. The matter was resolved to the satisfaction of both parties.
- **AWMG v CBC:** advised on an appeal against an enforcement notice issued by the local authority regarding the removal of trees from a specified area of land.
- **BCBC v C5:** represented the defendant company at trial for a breach of a condition notice.
- **LHM v H:** instructed for the prosecuting harbour master in various matters concerning breaches of the harbour regulations.
- **R v c5BC:** appeared for the defendant company for allegations contrary to the planning regulations.
- **R v CM:** appeared on behalf of a local authority charging multiple owners of an Indian Restaurant with several breaches of a prohibition order.
- **CPS v L:** Dangerous Dog Destruction Order overturned on appeal after legal argument prepared by Graham.
- **ND Ltd v FBC:** representing a bar with a music licence for alleging the breaching the terms of it.
- **V v LBW:** Instructed in an appeal against a noise abatement notice served on a private landlord. The matter was resolved out of court, with the notice withdrawn.
- **BCBC v C:** Appeared for the defendant in a prosecution brought under the Town & Country Planning Act 1990
- **BMGCC v Caerphilly County Borough Council:** Appeal against a Noise Abatement Notice.
- **Dorset CC v K:** Fly-tipping offences.
- **G v Hyde Housing Association:** Statutory nuisance proceedings.
- **Test Valley Borough Council v W:** Successful prosecution on behalf of the Council for breaches of a noise abatement order.
- **R v B:** Appeared for the defendant in an allegation of an offence of nuisance.

## Recommendations

'Graham is a hardworking barrister of high quality. He is intelligent and scrupulously fair. His advocacy is concise and persuasive.'

**Legal 500 2026/**Crime (General and Fraud)/ Leading Juniors/ Western Circuit

Graham Gilbert –3PB ‘Graham is a hard-working and highly effective advocate. He is extremely bright, and his case preparation is second-to-none.’

**Legal 500 2025/**Crime (General and Fraud)/ Leading Juniors/ Western Circuit

"Graham Gilbert recently represented our son in Crown Court hearing in Portsmouth. We met Graham on the day of the hearing, and he immediately put us at our ease. He provided us with clear information on what was happening and stayed in touch with us throughout the day (when the hearing wasn't taking place) keeping us updated on the inevitably slow, court proceedings. After the hearing, when we could speak with our son, our son told us how helpful and clear Graham's advice had been. Being at your son's Crown Court hearing is a stressful event but we were in great hands and Graham's counsel got our son the best result at court. Graham is an excellent barrister and we have no hesitation in recommending him." - **Client**

"Just wanted to thank you for all of the hard work you put into what turned out to be a far from straightforward case! I could not have asked for a more thoroughly prepared case and very impressive legal argument which eventually lead to an excellent case outcome. Your client care was first class and I appreciated the ease and speed with which I could reach you for advice." - **Instructing solicitor feedback**

"I am so grateful to you and Graham for all your help. You are absolutely right, its a great outcome and the legal advice and support made all the difference. Graham Gilbert was excellent." - **Client feedback** to instructing solicitor.

"Graham Gilbert was very professional and charming. Would recommend him highly." - **Client feedback** to instructing solicitor.

"Once again thank you for all your thorough help in this successful prosecution and the hours of hard work sifting through the late disclosure of the evidence bundle the night before trial." - **Feedback from Environmental Health Officer.**

## Academic qualifications

- BPTC - City Law School - Very Competent
- GDL - City Law School - Commendation.
- BA Hons Ancient History - University of Exeter - 1st Class

## Scholarships

- City Law School: 7 Bedford Row Criminal Law Prize Essay
- University of Exeter awarded a Dean's Commendation for "outstanding academic achievement"

## Professional qualifications & appointments

- CPS Prosecutor – Grade 3

## Professional bodies

- Western Circuit
- Sport Resolutions Pro Bono Panel
- Criminal Bar Association
- Bar Pro Bono Unit
- Health & Safety Lawyers Association (HSLA)