
Fairbrother & Darlow

Solicitors

Criminal Law

Legal Representation in Criminal Cases

Criminal law can be a complex subject. People are usually best advised to seek legal advice. Suspects detained or questioned at the **police station** are entitled to free legal advice. They may consult a Duty Solicitor or a solicitor of their own choice. If you know that you have to attend the police station, or attend court, you can seek legal advice beforehand. Then you can be advised before you go to the police station or the court, and be accompanied when you go there.

At Court

Duty solicitors can give free advice at Magistrates' Courts and Youth Courts, but only in certain cases. This form of advice is only available in these courts, and is not available in the Crown Court. It is obviously better, where possible, to seek legal advice beforehand. If you intend to be represented at a court hearing it is advisable to consult a solicitor as soon as possible. The sooner you are represented the better. You may be entitled to **Legal Aid** and any application for this may take a few days to be processed by the court.

Legal Aid and Fees

You may be entitled to free legal aid, depending on your financial circumstances and the nature of your case. Your entitlement to legal aid is based upon both the merits of your case and also upon your financial position. Fairbrother and Darlow can advise you as to whether you are likely to qualify for legal aid.

Contingency, or conditional, fee arrangements are not available in criminal cases. Nor do insurance policies generally cover such cases. If you do not qualify for any type of free assistance, you will be responsible for your legal fees.

Fairbrother & Darlow can assist with:

- Advice and representation at Police Stations
- Representation at the Magistrates' and Crown Courts in connection with all criminal matters
- Department of Work And Pensions investigations and prosecutions
- Inland Revenue investigations and prosecutions
- Customs and Excise investigations and prosecutions
- Bail applications
- Motoring offences

At Fairbrother & Darlow, we believe that you have the right to the best legal advice and representation. For expert advice on a range of criminal matters please contact us.