



PARK  
SQUARE

BARRISTERS

## Vincent Blake-Barnard

Call: 2012 (Solicitor 2003)

### Crime

Vince Blake-Barnard has a broad criminal practice in which he represents both prosecution and defendant. He is a Grade 2 prosecutor, regularly instructed on many matters by local authorities throughout Yorkshire in both the magistrates' and crown courts.

In particular, Vince has vast experience and clients in all matters linked to local-authority work, including benefit fraud, environmental health, food safety, and issues linked to housing and licensing infringements and anti-social behaviour.

In addition to his local-authority practice, Vince has undertaken defence work for a number of business against the Health and Safety Executive, the Security Industry Authority and fire authorities.

### Notable cases:

- R v Moore plus other (2019)– Seven week prison mutiny ay HMP Swaledale involving a total of 21 defendants.
- R v Stanevicius, Marcinkevius plus others (2019)– Multi handed conspiracy to handle.

### Public Access

Vince may accept Public Access work, where he can be instructed directly by a member of the public rather than a solicitor.

### Contact Vince's clerks

Andrew Thornton on 0113 213 5202

Gina Hawkins on 0113 213 5205

Rebecca Wilson on 0113 213 5203



#### Education:

1996 - University of Lincoln,  
BA (Hons) Law & Business

1997 - College of Law, York,  
Legal Practice Course

#### Career:

1983–91 - Royal Navy

1998 - Litigation solicitor, Hull  
City Council

2003 - Principal  
litigation/regulatory solicitor,  
Scarborough Borough  
Council

2007 - Principal  
litigation/regulatory solicitor,  
East Riding of Yorkshire

2012 - Tenant at No 6,  
Leeds

2015 - No 6 becomes Park  
Square Barristers

#### Memberships:

North Eastern Circuit

Park Square Barristers  
6 Park Square East  
Leeds LS1 2LW

T 0113 245 9763  
info@psqb.co.uk  
DX number: 26402  
Leeds Park Square

Park Square Barristers  
Newham House  
96-98 Borough Road  
Middlesbrough TS1 2HJ

T 01642 232523  
clerksteesside  
@psqb.co.uk

parksquarebarristers.co.uk

Hannah Dempsey on 0113 213 5211

Elaine Foster-Morgan on 0113 213 5217

Robyn Nichol on 0113 213 5253

## Personal Injury

Vince Blake-Barnard has a developing practice in personal injury (PI work), professional negligence and industrial diseases. He will advise on liability and quantum, and regularly appears in small-claim, fast-track and multi-track hearings.

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## Contact Vince's clerks

Senior Clerk – Andy Reeves on 0113 213 5252

Talia Webster on 0113 202 8609

Joshua Duree on 0113 213 5246

Mike Alexander on 0113 2135254

Rajan Abdullah on 0113 213 5207

## Commercial & Chancery

## Property

Vince Blake-Barnard has advised and represented social landlords and local authorities in a wide range of housing-related work including possessions, demotions, injunctions and anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs). He also has experience in homelessness appeals.

## Planning, housing & construction

Vince brings his vast experience of local authorities to bear in matters relating to planning enforcement, building regulations and housing enforcement.

“Vincent has a deep knowledge of local-authority regulation.  
His understanding of Trading Standards and environmental

health legislation is very impressive.” — Paul Abbot, East Riding of Yorkshire Council

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## Regulatory & Public

Vince Blake-Barnard has an extensive regulatory and coroner's practice. He specialises in the licensing of the sale of alcohol and of taxis; planning, housing & construction; sports and swimming clubs; and coroners' inquests.

“Vincent is one of the hardest-working, most innovative and determined lawyers I've encountered in 30 years in local government.” — Paul Abbot, East Riding of Yorkshire Council

## Traffic commissioners

Vincent regularly attends before the traffic commissioner representing licence-holders.

## Taxi-licensing

Vince has an extensive practice representing taxi drivers in West Yorkshire against decisions to refuse, suspend or revoke their taxi licenses. Besides representing at appeal, Vince undertakes the initial hearing before the licensing committee – an area in which he excels, having advised such committees for over 10 years in his role as a local-government solicitor. The majority of his clients instruct Vince through Public Access, making representation more affordable.

In *East Riding of Yorkshire Council v Dearlove* [2012] EWHC 278 (Admin), Vince acted in a successful case stated against Beverley Magistrates with regards to test-purchase operations by

the licensing authority against unlicensed taxi drivers.

## Alcohol-licensing

Vince advised several licensing authorities for over 10 years. This experience is invaluable when appearing before licensing committees and the magistrates' court on appeal.

## Planning, housing & construction

Vince brings his vast experience of local authorities to bear in matters relating to planning enforcement, building regulations and housing enforcement.

“Vincent has a deep knowledge of local-authority regulation. His understanding of Trading Standards and environmental health legislation is very impressive.” — Paul Abbot, East Riding of Yorkshire Council

## Sports clubs

Vince has been heavily involved with a number of amateur sporting clubs in relation to their investigations and policies. He regularly represents swimming clubs before the Amateur Swimming Association.

## Coroners' inquests

Vince excels in this area, principally representing families (where his sensitivity is noted), managing to balance their expectations with the needs of the coroner.

Vince is regularly instructed to represent police and families in both Article 2 Middleton or narrower Jamieson inquests. Following Mr Barnard experience within Local Authorities, he has an all round insight in the workings of both Local Authority and Police structures.

Notable inquests include:

- JG (Sheffield Coroners Court) – Represented South Yorkshire Police. JG was the victim of a murder, the defendant had released from custody following a lengthy custodial sentence on licence. The probation service assessed the defendant as a medium risk only. The issue was the level of risk associated and if and when opportunities had been missed to reassess that risk level. The findings of fact and conclusions were not critical of the actions of the police.
- CC (Hull Coroners Court) – Represented South Yorkshire Police. Police were investigating sexual allegations involving JE. On the day the interview was due to take place, JE committed suicide. The findings of fact and conclusions were not critical of the actions of the police.

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- Re GB (deceased) – Represented the family at a 6-week Article-2 inquest. A patient at HMP Doncaster died and it was found that the doctor’s (and other health workers’) actions had contributed to the death.
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- Re NS (deceased) – Represented the family at a 2-day inquest. It was found that the actions of doctors in charge of the medical care at Dewsbury Hospital had contributed to the patient’s death; death by misadventure with a narrative verdict.
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## Appeals

Vince has experience of dealing with fire arm / sexual harm prevention orders appeals for the police and taxi licencing appeals for both private individuals and Local Authorities.

## Legal Professional Privilege

Vince is largely instruct by the Police and other Public Bodies such as HMRC, he also undertakes independent Counsel advisory work, in the capacity of “special counsel” in matters relating to Public Internets Immunity and Legal Professional Privilege.

Often involving large scale operations which spans months rather weeks which include VAT and other frauds.

Dealing with both high profile and sensitive cases involving the above as well as special procedure search warrants and the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000.

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## Contact Vince’s clerk

Madeleine Gray on 0113 202 8603

Patrick Urbina on 0113 213 5250