CHECKLIST

Criminal solicitor selection checklist

- [ ] Confirm the solicitor holds Law Society Criminal Litigation Accreditation or duty solicitor status
- [ ] Ask how many cases like yours they have handled and what the outcomes were
- [ ] Clarify who your main point of contact will be and how quickly the firm responds to messages
- [ ] Request a written breakdown of fees or confirm your legal aid eligibility before instructing
- [ ] Ask what evidence they would gather and what the key issues in your case are
- [ ] Check whether they hold higher rights of audience if your case may reach Crown Court
- [ ] Meet or speak to more than one solicitor before making your final choice
- [ ] Read the client care letter carefully and ask about anything unclear before signing