CHECKLIST

Challenging a conviction: practical steps to take now

- [ ] Collect all documents from your trial, including the indictment, witness statements and the judge's directions to the jury.
- [ ] Write a clear account of what you believe went wrong and what evidence supports your view.
- [ ] Instruct a solicitor with experience in criminal appeals to review your case and advise on the prospects.
- [ ] Lodge your appeal application within the time limit set by the court; if late, explain the delay in full.
- [ ] If the Court of Appeal refuses your appeal, gather any new evidence and consider applying to the Criminal Cases Review Commission.
- [ ] Keep detailed copies of every document, letter and court order throughout the process.
- [ ] Check whether legal aid covers your appeal work and apply as soon as possible if you meet the criteria.