



## Brain & Spine Foundation – Contact Sheet

As one of the largest full-service law firms with 17 offices across the UK, we can support you and your members. Whether they need legal or financial advice, our experts are here to help.

Our colleagues nurture the growth and development of our partnerships to improve the experience a client receives when seeking legal or financial advice. We're here to offer you and your members the expert hand with the human touch.

### Serious Injury



**Claire Howard**  
Partner

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Claire's a partner and the head of our Serious Injury team in Southampton. She specialises in helping those who've suffered life-changing injuries, including brain or spinal injury. These injuries can result from road traffic collisions, accidents at work, falls from height, defective products or even chemical exposure.

### Medical Negligence



**Lindsay Tomlinson**  
Partner

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Lindsay's a partner in our Medical Negligence team covering Birmingham, Staffordshire and the West Midlands. She has over 20 years' experience supporting those with spinal cord injuries and delays in diagnosing cauda equina syndrome. She also supports those who've suffered avoidable acquired brain injuries, and makes sure they receive care for life.

## Public Law and Human Rights



### Yogi Amin

Partner

+44 (0)114 274 4938  
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Yogi's a partner and the national head of the Public Law and Human Rights team that specialises in community care, mental capacity disputes, medical disputes, education law, judicial review and civil liberties law. He's also an accredited legal representative appointed by the Court of Protection to represent vulnerable individuals.



### Mat Culverhouse

Partner

+44 (0)161 838 2390  
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Mat's a partner who specialises in community care, healthcare and mental capacity law. He acts for clients who have ongoing difficulties with social services, the NHS and other public bodies – he has experience in judicial review cases, and has supported children and adults looking for care from local social services and the NHS.



### Oliver Studdert

Partner

+44 (0)207 421 3939  
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Oliver's a partner in our London team, and has 20 years' experience supporting clients with children's rights, as well as community care and public law matters – fighting to make sure people get the support they're entitled to. Oliver also practices in the Court of Protection (health and welfare).



### Fiona McGhie

Partner

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Fiona's a partner and leads our Civil Liberties Special Interest Group. They support claims of wrongful arrest, false imprisonment, assault and breaches of the Human Rights Act. They also represent bereaved families at the inquests into the deaths of loved ones who've died whilst detained by the state.

## Court of Protection



### Katie Strong

Partner

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Katie's a partner who manages the Court of Protection team in our London office. She helps manage multi-million-pound settlements through the Court of Protection, Deputyship, or a Trust, for those who lack capacity. Katie also provides expert witness statements on professional deputyship or trust management to help recover costs.



### Natalie Smith

Senior Associate

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Natalie's a senior associate solicitor who helps manage funds for those who're unable to deal with their own financial affairs. She often supports those with brain injuries, to manage compensation in their best interests. Natalie also advises people who currently act, or want to act as a Deputy for their loved ones, as well as those who've set up Personal Injury Trusts.

### Education Law



#### **Esther Salter**

Associate

+44 (0)129 374 2709  
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Esther's an associate solicitor specialising in helping parents, students and Local Authorities in SEND First Tier Tribunal appeals. She's also experienced in exclusions, admissions, School, Local Authority and Local Government Ombudsmen complaints, as well as discrimination cases and judicial reviews.

### Family Law



#### **Emma Benson**

Senior Associate Solicitor

+44 (0)121 203 4023  
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Emma's a senior associate solicitor, and has a range of experience in all family matters. This includes divorce, separation and resolving financial issues, wealth protection and arrangements for children. Our Family Law team work alongside our Personal Injury teams to develop a key understanding of the needs of clients with a serious injury.

### Lifetime & Estate Planning Team



#### **Christine Thornley**

Partner

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Christine's a partner and is the head of our Manchester team. She specialises in Wills, trusts, probate, inheritance tax and lasting powers of attorney – with significant experience supporting those who've suffered brain injuries and their families. She also helps to protect client's assets, and preserve their means tested benefits.

### Employment Team



#### **Mollie Patterson**

Solicitor

+44 (0)113 394 6769  
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Mollie's a solicitor in Leeds, with experience helping both employees and employers through claims of unfair dismissal, discrimination and whistleblowing. Alongside giving advice on employment issues such as grievances, disciplinarys or managing sickness absence, Mollie also runs a HR futures group, bringing HR professionals together.

### Financial Planning



#### **Edward Tomlinson**

Head of Financial Planning

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Ed leads our Financial Planning team in Sheffield. He works alongside our asset and wealth management groups to make sure our clients' financial interests are protected. Ed's also experienced in supporting the Courts on the structure of claimant's settlements.

## Business Development



**Lynne Carrick-Leary**  
Senior Business Development Manager

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Lynne leads on the development of the strategic business plan for the national Serious Injury team. She works to build longstanding partnerships and has worked with a number of valued charity relationships across the country, including Back-Up, Headway, The Children’s Trust, Spinal Injuries Association, Brake, and RoadPeace.



**Alex Tilbury**  
Senior Business Development Manager

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Alex leads on the development of the strategic business plan for our national Medical Negligence team. She works with a number of highly valued charities including Brainwave, Cauda Equina Syndrome Association, Different Strokes, Meningitis Now, Support Dogs, and the UK Sepsis Trust.



**Thomas Eve**  
Business Development Manager

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Thomas leads on the development of the strategic business plan for the national Court of Protection, and Public Law and Human Rights teams. He builds longstanding partnerships for the team and has experience with many support groups and charities. Thomas also works alongside our teams to improve members’ experience when they seek legal advice.



If I needed anything, I could always pick up the phone and speak to the team. I was never sitting around panicking, the communication was top notch.

**Ainsley**  
Our client

